



From the Pastor's Desk:

There is one good thing to be said for King Herod - he did put his faith in the words of the prophets of his Jewish faith. He was one of the chosen people. He had the Word of God available to him. He was only a few miles from the Savior of the world. The strangers who arrived looking for the newborn king of the Jews had no such blessings. They had traveled months and miles based only on the evidence of a new star in the night sky. What they perceived as promise, Herod saw as threat. From his earliest years Jesus caused contradictions like that. Strangers from the East brought him glittering gifts; the current king of the Jews brought him danger, upheaval and grief. Herod clearly believed the prophecy that this newborn baby would one day be a ruler who would shepherd Israel. How tragic that this faith could not lead Herod to hope and love.



From Deacon Don's Desk:

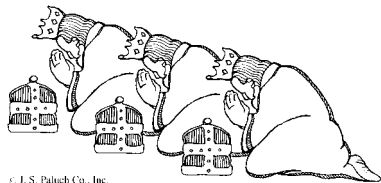
Time seems to move swiftly. Lest I forget - our special THANKS to those who helped with the environment in decorating our church: Theresa and Amy Smith, Cybil Van Deiss, Alexis, Alex, Jan and John, Christina and Steve, Natalie, Vivian and Ping. If I forgot anyone, please forgive me. We are brought up that time is a prized commodity; we don't want to waste time, we have to be in control. But God the Creator of time put into us a sense of creativity that is a gift and its use is not a waste of time. Eucharistic Adoration will have gone by the time you read this, but it still is there for you to just BE. It's a time to "waste" with our Lord. Take that time and just BE with Him, even if it is just a few minutes after Mass. God took the initiative by the birth of His only begotten Son that tells us how much He loves us. God doesn't send us "presents" but becomes present to us.

The ball is in our court now. We need to reflect that love as the moon reflects the sun's rays. So, we too need to reflect the Son's love for all.

As an aside: Did you know that St. John Neuman (feast day Jan. 5) was the promoter of parochial schools and authored two German catechisms and was our first American Bishop canonized? Also, a recent study shows, there are about 2.2 million enrolled in Catholic schools and it's estimated that this saves the US taxpayers almost 20 billion dollars based on an average of \$8700 cost per student in public schools.

A Blessing for Homes at Epiphany: We gather at the manger scene and begin with the sign of our faith. We pray, Lord God of heaven and earth, You revealed Your only begotten Son to every nation by the guidance of a star. Bless this house and all who inhabit it. Bless us with health, goodness of heart, and gentleness. Fill us with the light of Christ, that our concern for others may reflect Your love. We ask this through Christ our Lord. Amen.

All kings shall pay him homage, all nations shall serve him.
—Psalm 72:11



READINGS FOR THE WEEK

- Monday: 1 Jn 3:22 — 4:6; Mt 4:13-17, 23-25
- Tuesday: 1 Jn 4:7-10; Mk 6:34-44
- Wednesday: 1 Jn 4:11-18; Mk 6:45-52
- Thursday: 1 Jn 4:19 — 5:4; Lk 4:14-22a
- Friday: 1 Jn 5:5-13; Lk 5:12-16
- Saturday: 1 Jn 5:14-21; Jn 3:22-30
- Sunday: Is 42:1-4, 6-7 or Is 55:1-11; Ps 29 or Is 12:2-6; Acts 10:34-38 or 1 Jn 5:1-9; Mk 1:7-11

WEEKLY OFFERING



Last Sunday:
\$8947

EPIPHANY OF OUR LORD



JESUS' ROYAL MESSIAHSHIP OF BOTH JEWS AND GENTILES

Small Church Community

Scripture Focus: Epiphany means "manifestation," a revelation of Jesus as truly God. Matthew and Luke show this child to be divine through stories of "signs and wonders" when Jesus was an infant. Matthew's account of the visit of the three magi also shows the Church's mission to the Gentiles. Matthew's audience, largely Jewish Christians, was struggling to accept the presence of Gentile Christians in their community. Matthew shows in this Gospel passage that the salvation of Gentiles as well as Jews was indeed God's plan.

Life Focus: * What helps you stay focused on God's presence in everyday situations where God is usually not mentioned? * *From your experience, when have you come to appreciate people you used to pass by or not notice?* * Who and what on your journey has helped you to know and understand Jesus and his message better? * *How do we reconcile the material gifts we have in our lives with the simple life-style of Jesus?* * Who or what event was the star that led you to a better understanding of Jesus? * *What gifts do you bring to the Christ Child?*

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

Elementary Program: Welcome back!

Sacrament Program: The second workshop for our Year 1 families will take place on Sunday, **January 25**, at **2:00 pm** in the hall.

Teaching Touching Safety: Our first session for the Teaching Touching Safety Program will be presented to our Kg. (Early Childhood), Grades 1, 2, 3, 4 and 5 on **January 11** during regular class time. We need all permission forms signed for the children to participate in this program. An "opt out" form is also available.

Middle School: Classes resume on **January 6**.

Confirmation Year 1: Next session is **January 11** starting with the **12:30 pm** Mass. Candidates will go to the hall at 1:30 pm until 3:30 pm.

Confirmation Year 2: Winter Session will begin the week of **January 11**.

Early Childhood: Regular class today. Welcome back and many blessings for you and your loved ones in 2009.

Sunday Nursery: The nursery will be closed at 10:30 am Mass every other Sunday. If you are interested in helping in the nursery, please contact Shannon, 430-6840.

Religious Education Congress in Anaheim is ready to enrich and revitalize us once more. Sponsored by the Office of Religious Education at the Archdiocese of Los Angeles, Congress draws in excess of 40,000 participants over the course of this internationally acclaimed 4 day event. The annual Youth Day draws 15,000 youth from all over Southern California and beyond. Congress' international presence continues to grow, with participants attending from many different countries. This year there will be more than 280 workshops to choose from, covering topics and interests from spirituality and personal development to biblical studies, theology and catechesis. This year the Congress is **Feb. 26** (Youth Day) - **Mar. 1** and focuses on the theme **Love Unfolding...Igniting our Yes!** Over the weekend participants will enjoy morning praise, workshops, evening liturgies and a variety of prayer experiences with internationally renowned leaders in the areas of liturgical music and worship. Concerts at noon-time and evening offer delightful experiences which engage and renew participants! Don't miss out! Register now for this spirit-filled and enriching weekend! For more information or to register stop by our religious education office for a guidebook, or call the R.E. Congress info line, 213-637-7348. Information and online registration is also available at www.RECongress.org.

Office of Family Life Separated, Divorced and Widowed Ministry presents Msgr. Jim Gehl, pastor of St. Bede's, former Office of Family Life director for seven years, "Journey to a New Life" Saturday, **Jan. 17**, registration 8:45-9:30, tour, workshop & Mass from 9:30 - 2:30, Cathedral of Our Lady of the Angels. Cost: \$25 - **RSVP by Jan. 12**, \$30 at the door, includes: materials, continental breakfast, lunch and parking. For info please call Julie Auzenne, 213-637-7249 or email jmonell1@altrionet.com.



St. Joe's Social Seniors Group New members are welcome.

We wish all a very Happy New Year. We are looking forward to a fantastic new year!

Jan. 5 - Correction - not Jan. 6 as stated in last week's bulletin. Regular meeting with fun & games.

Jan. 11, 12, 13 - Laughlin trip with a stop at AVI Indian Casino 3 days, 2 nites. Many buffets and special party with door prizes, live music and dancing. Cost includes bus driver tip. Double Occ - per person \$103. Single Supplement, \$123. Stand-bys only. **Bus leaves at 8:00 am.**

Jan. 19 - Regular meeting and fun.

Feb. 9 - Casino Trip to Fantasy Springs, bus leaves at 8:00 am. Sign ups at the Jan. 19 meeting. Call Olga for more information.

Any questions - call Olga 596-6981 or Betty 596-8287.

Adult Confirmation Course starting **January 12** through April, 7-9 pm, St. Margaret Mary Church, Lomita. Please contact our Religious Education department, 598-0519, for a registration form and other information.

QUESTION OF THE WEEK:

(Based on today's Bible readings)

Adult: Where has the light of faith led me over the past year?

Child: What gift would I like to give to the baby Jesus?

Teen: How am I searching for God in my life?

Beginning Experience, part of the Office of Family Life in the Archdiocese of L. A., retreat, **Jan. 30 - Feb. 1**, at the Aldersgate Retreat Center in Pacific Palisades, for people who are experiencing the loss of a loved one through separation, divorce, or death, to help the grieving person move from the darkness of grief into the light of a new beginning and new hope, rooted in the Christian tradition. For more information, call Brenda Mikhail, 818-352-5265, or email brendamikhail@msn.com. You may also call Dianne Lundquist, 949-551-4504.

Respect Life - Is an hour too much time to pray for sanctity of life from womb to tomb, for an end to abortion, for our country in this new era? Please join us every **2nd and 4th Monday** at 7:30 pm (look on your calendars) in the Blessed Sacrament chapel to exercise the power of prayer Jesus gave us. Bring the concerns on your heart. *Isaiah 49:15-16, "Can a woman forget her nursing child, or show no compassion for the child of her womb? Even these may forget, yet I will not forget you. See, I have inscribed you on the palms of my hands..."* Please contact Marian Stein for questions, 429-0246.

100 cup coffee pot is missing from the kitchen in the Fr. Walter Martin Hall. Please return!

Basketball Freethrow Competition

The Knights of Columbus invite all girls and boys ages 10 to 14 to take part in their annual basketball freethrow competition. The competition will take place during the month of January. Watch the school bulletin board for the date and time of your school. Trophies will be awarded to the winners in their age group. Girls will compete against girls and boys against boys.

Mary & Joseph Retreat Center

Day Retreats - Please call Gerry Ericsson, 310-377-4867 Ext. 234 for information.

Who Moved My Life: Laughing and Crying with God in a Time of Change, Frank J. Ferrante, C.M.F., Saturday, **Jan. 17, 9 am to 4 pm**. We will focus on issues of personal and spiritual growth in a time of change. The importance of our God concept and the utilization of a Spirituality Grid for understanding ourselves and our God will be presented. Cost: Paid in full before Jan. 6: \$65, after Jan. 6: \$75.

God Loves Us: Rediscover the Original Whisper, Fr. Richard Danyluk, SS.CC. **Retreat for Seniors**, Wednesday, **Feb. 11, 9:30 am to 1:30 pm**. More info next week. Cost: Paid in full before Jan. 21: \$55, after Jan. 21: \$65.

Comments, Suggestions, etc. - We are interested in what you have to say. Do you have comments, suggestions, praise, or constructive criticism? Would you like to volunteer in one of our ministries? You may contact the Parish Council chair listed in the bulletin, drop us a note in the suggestion box located in the hallway between the church and the school, or send us an email via our website: www.stjosephparishcommunity.com.

Welcome to St. Joseph Parish

Whether you are a long-time resident, newly arrived, or a visitor, we wish you the Peace, Joy and Love of Christ.

Everyone 18 years and older is invited to register and become a member of our parish community. If we can help you in any way, please call us at **562-594-4657**.

Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone #: _____

- I would like to register
- This is a change of address and/or phone
- I am moving out of the parish
- I would like to learn about becoming a Catholic
- I would like information about Religious Education

Please drop in the collection basket or rectory mailbox.

THANK YOU!!! THANK YOU!!!

Thanks is due to the gift providers, sorters and haulers... and to Coke's Torrance employees (they collected and donated canned



goods after reading the Press-Telegram report about MFBW Gift Basket delivery at Thanksgiving).

ATTENTION!! Catholic Charities wants to thank the St. Joseph Seniors for the sandwiches they make and bring EVERY Wednesday, about 200-250 sandwiches! What is one thing that we do for someone else every week? Thanks to our senior group of volunteers!

Please **HELP** with donations in the SKIP-A-MEAL BLUE ENVELOPES. We are up to 69 families for our gift basket program because of the great need. We are also helping with seed money for young Catholics to help Project Achieve with breakfast. If you can HELP a little more in a blue envelope, it will all go to our needy neighbors in Long Beach.

Please join "Tom's Team." Deacon Tom has a list of people who are interested in providing furniture and other assistance to those who cannot afford it. Email Deacon Tom at patandtom@charter.net, or call Tim, 431-4385 or John/Jan.

YOUR BLUE ENVELOPES ARE SO APPRECIATED!! Please **make checks to St. Joseph Church, memo: SKIP-A-MEAL**. Thank you for all you do and share with our needy brothers and sisters in Long Beach!

John & Jan Minter 430-5839.

Safeguard the Children - Fingerprinting Schedule

The following dates are for the Jan. fingerprinting schedule in the San Pedro Region for those who volunteer with our parish children. Please call for an appointment:

Jan. 21 - Sts. Peter & Paul, Wilmington, 310-834-5574

Jan. 22 - St. Matthias, Huntington Park, 323-277-1188

Jan. 24 - Our Lady of Refuge, Long Beach, 562-498-6641

St. Anthony High School, the only Catholic, co-educational, college preparatory high school in Long Beach will be holding their Open House on Sunday **January 11**. For info: www.longbeachsaints.org or 562-435-4496 .

Pilgrimage in the Footsteps of St. Paul - Italy, Greece, Turkey and a 3 day cruise of the Greek Islands, **Mar. 12-25**. Chaplain, Fr. Michael Philen, CMF. Cost: \$4678 includes taxes, tips, meals and a shore excursion in Patmos. Please call Janice Herlihy, 594-6357 or Blaine Kramer, 598-4551, for more information.

Have you remembered St. Joseph Church in your will or trust? For further information, please contact H. Richard Closson, Director, Trust & Estate Programs, www.estateplanning.com/trustsacc, 213-637-7472, HRClosson@la-archdiocese.org. Our correct legal title is: The Roman Catholic Archbishop of Los Angeles, A Corporation Sole for the benefit of: St. Joseph Catholic Church.

Mass Intentions



- SATURDAY, January 3**
 5:00 PM - † Botelho and Salvate families
- SUNDAY, January 4**
 7:30 AM - † Rosaleen Powers
 9:00 AM - † Jesus Sagun
 10:30 AM - † John Murach
 12:30 PM - St. Joseph Parishioners
- MONDAY, January 5**
 8:00 AM - † Jane Mais
- TUESDAY, January 6**
 8:00 AM - Rita Smith, Special Intention
- WEDNESDAY, January 7**
 8:00 AM - † Lydia Farrell
- THURSDAY, January 8**
 8:00 AM - Chrissy Marshall, living
- FRIDAY, January 9**
 8:00 AM - † John Fay
- SATURDAY, January 10**
 5:00 PM - † John DeRuyter
- SUNDAY, January 11**
 7:30 AM - Ricky Jennen, living
 9:00 AM - † Kellee Murchison Bennett
 10:30 AM - St. Joseph Parishioners
 12:30 PM - † Alicia and Amanda Attardo

Please remember in your prayers the men and women of the Armed Forces who are currently serving our country in the Middle East and elsewhere, especially those of our parish families, including:

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|-----------------------|--------------|
| Vincent Vezzetti | Amy Mann |
| Glen Warren | Nick Compton |
| Joseph Comfort | Irene Avila |
| Scott Williams | Justin Ray |
| Timothy Ring | Chris Shaw |
| Kenneth Mack McDonald | Adam Mariano |
| Lynne Norris | |

We would like to have a framed picture of your loved one serving in the Service to display in the back of the church. Please include a number so we can contact you.
 To add a name to the list, please call the rectory, 594-4657.

PLEASE PRAY FOR . . . Eugene & Marjorie Dryer, Stacey Cormier, Jeanne Sexton, Bert Willis, Mary Mariano, Hugo Jorda, Jim Correira, Joy Mann, Richard Parent, Marlene Muccino, James Clinton, Aurel Demian, Daniele Pieters, Josephine Keller, David Dresnick, Bobby Knight, Conrado Uyan, Skyler Weinberg, Maria Luisa Garcia, Tracey Rossello, Kristen Tuasonand, Alexi, Karl Parize, Elijha Carbonell, Kit Escoto VanWyk, Maureen McDonough, Arin Zack, Msgr. Marc Trudeau, Stormy Leiva, Gloria Castaneda, Tom Burke, Bobby Rubly, Betty Chappell, Mary Harding, Elizabeth Jackson, Justin Ferriese, Paul Gordon, Virginia Souza, Jon Zack, Betty Galaz, Gloria Gonzales, Don Miller, Chuck Greening, Jean Boolish, Patricia Morand, Gayle Buol and Anne Castro.

LITURGY

- | | | |
|---|---------------------------|----------|
| DIRECTOR of LITURGY | Fr. William | 594-4657 |
| ALTAR CARE | Mary Jelnick | 429-2529 |
| EXTRAORDINARY MINISTERS of HOLY COMMUNION | Gene Ensich | 421-0147 |
| LECTORS | Bill Smith | 431-2495 |
| USHERS | Ron Steiner | 431-7703 |
| ALTAR SERVERS | Ann Crowley | 594-7575 |
| | annbakercrowley@yahoo.com | |
| DIRECTOR of MUSIC | Vivian Doughty | 422-5430 |
| CHURCH SACRISTANS | Lily & Joe Dang | 493-2198 |

ST. JOSEPH SCHOOL

562-596-6115

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|----------------|----------------------------------|
| PRINCIPAL | Brid Considine |
| VICE-PRINCIPAL | Carole Dellavalle |
| SECRETARIES | Bridget Paluska & Julie Gianessi |
| PTO PRESIDENT | Nancy Gallegos |

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

562-598-0519

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|---------------------------------|----------------|
| DIRECTOR of RELIGIOUS EDUCATION | Virginia Young |
| SECRETARY | Veronica Gibb |

CHILDREN'S MINISTRY

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|-----------------------------------|-------------------|----------|
| ELEMENTARY, MIDDLE SCHOOL | Virginia Young | 598-0519 |
| CONFIRMATION | Marianna Wescott | 598-0519 |
| EARLY CHILDHOOD | Shannon Carpenter | 430-6840 |
| LITURGY/CHILDREN | Virginia Young | 598-0519 |
| RCIC (Children) | Virginia Young | 598-0519 |
| SUNDAY NURSERY | Shannon Carpenter | 430-6840 |
| BEREAVEMENT MINISTRY FOR CHILDREN | Mimi Bloeser | 597-0785 |

ADULT MINISTRY

- | | | |
|-----------------------------|----------------------|--------------|
| RCIA | Peter Baine | 598-4130 |
| BIBLE STUDY | Rita Smith | 714-761-4376 |
| BAPTISM PREPARATION | Roman & Julia Escoto | 425-4834 |
| | Terri Traucht | |
| SMALL CHRISTIAN COMMUNITIES | Don & Tina Gath | 598-5202 |

EUCCHARISTIC MINISTERS TO THE SICK

- | | |
|--------------|----------|
| Nancy Miller | 429-2546 |
|--------------|----------|

PARISH ORGANIZATIONS

- | | | |
|-----------------------------|---------------------------------|----------|
| PASTORAL COUNCIL | Phil Gray | 425-4301 |
| FINANCE COUNCIL | Randall Ely | 430-0142 |
| | rely5@verizon.net | |
| WEBSITE COORDINATOR | Mike Santy | 799-0660 |
| | msanty@verizon.net | |
| | www.stjosephparishcommunity.com | |
| MOVEMENT FOR A BETTER WORLD | John & Jan Minter | 430-5839 |
| BEREAVEMENT MINISTRY | Dave Desmond | 429-3316 |
| RESPECT LIFE COUNCIL | Michelle Needham | 922-5065 |
| SENIOR GROUP | Betty Maligie | 596-8287 |
| TOGETHER IN MISSION | Victoria Higgins | 597-6979 |
| KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS | Ron Steiner | 431-7703 |
| ENGAGED ENCOUNTER | Jim & Theresa Murphy | 431-5025 |
| MARRIAGE ENCOUNTER | Tom & Pat Halliwell | 799-0921 |
| NATURAL FAMILY PLANNING | Greg & Beth Gath | 377-5877 |
| SAFEGUARD THE CHILDREN | Mimi Bloeser | 597-0785 |
| PRECIOUS LIFE SHELTER | Don Gath | 598-5202 |
| CUB SCOUTS | Tom Neton | 429-2030 |
| BOY SCOUTS | Bill Higbee | 425-6124 |

BULLETIN NOTICES DEADLINE - MONDAY 1:00 PM
 PLEASE SUBMIT NOTICES IN WRITING WITH NAME & PHONE