



From the Pastor's Desk:

We are told today that Jesus "did not need anyone to testify about human nature. He himself understood it well." Certainly, the story about greedy people making the Temple into a marketplace is an illustration of human nature.

The first reading from the Book of Exodus is the best illustration of all. Here is the story of God delivering the Ten Commandments to his people. Our God, who created us and gave us the terrifying gift of free will, knows his people very, very well. Here is his gift to us - laws to guide us. We might rail against them, resent them, or totally miss seeing what a valuable gift they are. Thanks to that initial gift of free will, we can certainly ignore them and even break them. No matter! They are indeed a gift, whether we ever recognize that or not. When we can see the freedom God has given us by providing laws to govern our human natures, we can join with the psalmist in singing, "The law of the LORD is perfect, refreshing the soul."

READINGS FOR THE WEEK

- Monday: 2 Kgs 5:1-15b; Lk 4:24-30
- Tuesday: Dn 3:25, 34-43; Mt. 18:21-35
- Wednesday: Dt 4:1, 5-9; Mt 5:17-19
- Thursday: 2 Sm 7:4-5a, 12-14a, 16; Ps 89; Rom 4:13, 16-18, 22; Mt 1:16, 18-21, 24a or Lk 2:41-51a
- Friday: Hos 14:2-10; Mk 12:28-34
- Saturday: Hos 6:1-6; Lk 18:9-14
- Sunday: 2 Chr 36:14-16, 19-23; Ps 137; Eph 2:4-10; Jn 3:14-21

QUESTION OF THE WEEK:

(Based on today's Bible readings)

Adult: What are some ways I can cleanse and purify my heart's intentions this week?

Child: How can I pray to God more often each day?

Teen: What experiences have deeply angered or frightened me? What is right about Jesus' anger at the buyers and sellers in the temple?



From Deacon Don's Desk:

From last week: The readings regarding Abraham's preparing to sacrifice his son Isaac left us uncomfortable, unsettling to say the least. How was God to promise Abraham that he would be given descendants as numerous as the stars if he killed his only son? One answer: We try to be faithful, but did we hear God correctly? Barbara Reid O.P. wrote in the America magazine, "In Rabbinic tradition, some sages interpret this text not as a test of Abraham, but of his misunderstanding: 'What, do you think I meant for you to slay him?' No! I said only to take him up ... and now I say take him down." (Gen.Rab.56:8). This is one way to look at this, but another is that Abraham had been highly favored and dedicated to God, he would do whatever God said. Abraham persevered in faith. A parishioner said he felt for Isaac. What did Isaac feel all this time especially after being bound and placed on the altar? Interesting question. Through it all God proves His loyalty to us and gives us His only Son to prove His great love for us. God says: "This is My beloved Son, **listen** to Him."

Remember St. Joseph Day: March 19. He is our patron saint and patron of all Carmelite monasteries. Great devotion began in the 15th century after persecutions. St. Francis Xavier spread the devotion. St. Joseph is the model of contemplation, devotion to duty, simplicity, humility, silence, gratitude and celibacy. He is the patron of all saints. St. Francis De Sales' greatest homilies were on St. Joseph. The man to whom God entrusted His only begotten Son, God also entrusted as the spouse of the Mother of God. Pope John Paul II in 1989 wrote about the "Guardian of the Redeptor."

Our St. Joseph Prayer: St. Joseph, be our guide and pattern, faithful to your sacred trust; strong protector of the Virgin and the infant Jesus, guide us, protect our parish family and grant us the grace to follow in your footsteps as servants of the Body of Christ. We ask this in Jesus' name. Amen.

Small Church Community

Scripture Focus: In John's Gospel one of the first things Jesus does as he begins his work is to drive the money-changers out of the temple. His life and his work that follows are summed up in the statement, "Zeal for my Father's house consumes me." Everything Jesus does is based on the loving relationship he has with his Father. Here his actions express his desire to purify the relationship of the children of Israel with the God who called them into covenant. Throughout John's Gospel, Jesus will invite others into the relationship he shares with the Father.

Life Focus: * When have you felt so strongly about a person or cause that you acted on his/her/its behalf? * *Relate a time when something you valued deeply was not respected, especially by members of your family or church. How did you deal with that?* * Speak of an experience when you were upset with the Church. How did you deal with it? * *What are the choices and priorities you are making today that keep your life a marketplace?* * What actions and attributes need to die in you so you can come to Easter?

3rd SUNDAY OF LENT



LAWS & WORSHIP

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

Elementary Program: Open House today! Please come to the hall after the **9:00 or 10:30 Mass** to view all the great displays for our various classes. **Coffee & donuts** will be hosted by our **Middle School** students.

Stations of the Cross: Our annual Stations of the Cross held on the field will take place on Sunday, **March 22**, at **11:00 am**. We invite the parish community to join us in praying as the children dramatize each station.

Confirmation Year 1: Next session is **March 22**, starting with the 12:30 pm Mass. Session in hall until 3:30.

Sponsor Meeting for Year 1 on Monday, **March 16**, at **7:00 pm** in the hall. The Rite of Promise will be held on **March 22** at the 12:30 pm Mass.

Confirmation Year 2: The Rite of Affirmation takes place today at the 12:30 pm Mass.

Early Childhood: Regular class and Religious Education Open House today after class! Please join us after Mass in the hall for children singing and a display of all of our classes' work and activities for the year. Thank you to our teachers and aides for all your hard work! Please register your incoming 3, 4 or 5 year old for Sunday School year 2009-2010 today. Consider joining our program as a teacher, too! **Feed-A-Baby** items collected today.

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.

St. Joseph Lenten Calendar 2009

Sun. Mar. 15 Third Sunday of Lent - Parish Mission starts

Mon. Mar. 16 Parish Mission 7:00 pm

Tues. Mar. 17 Parish Mission 7:00 pm

Wed. Mar. 18 Parish Mission 7:00 pm

Thurs. Mar. 19 St. Joseph Feast Day - Parish Mission
Reconciliation Liturgy

Fri. Mar. 20 Stations of Cross 7:30 pm

Sun. Mar. 22 Fourth Sunday of Lent

Religious Ed Stations on field 11 am

Fri. Mar. 27 RE Soup Night/Parish Retreat 4-9 pm

Stations of Cross 7:30 pm

Sun. Mar. 29 Fifth Sunday of Lent

Thurs. Apr. 2 Eucharistic Adoration 6 pm to 8 pm

Fri. Apr. 3 Stations of Cross 7:30 pm

Sun. Apr. 5 Palm Sunday

Mon. Apr. 6 Chrism Mass

Cathedral of Our Lady of the Angels

Thurs. Apr. 9 HOLY THURSDAY

Morning prayer - Liturgy of the Hours 8 am

Mass of the Lord's Supper 8 pm

Adoration of Blessed Sacrament until 11 pm

Fri. Apr. 10 GOOD FRIDAY

Morning prayer - Liturgy of the Hours 8 am

Liturgy of the Lord's Passion 1:30 pm

Stations of Cross 7:30 pm

Sat. Apr. 11 HOLY SATURDAY

Morning prayer - Liturgy of the Hours 8 am

Easter Vigil Service - 8 pm

Sun. Apr. 12 EASTER SUNDAY - HE IS RISEN!

**St. Joe's Social Seniors Group**

Thanks to all who attended our "Mini Retreat." What a great day to spend with Jesus! Father Frank and Father Jim were outstanding in their spirituality and humor.

Mar. 16 - Our fun and games back. We will be taking sign ups for our Death Valley adventure.

Apr. 6 - regular games and announcements

Apr. 20 - Fun and games

May 12-14 - 3 day, 2 nite Death Valley Adventure. Cost includes bus driver tip, per person \$363 double occ, single sup, \$493. Call Olga for more information and flyers 596-6981. **Trip is open to everyone**, tell friends & family.

Any questions or additional information, call Betty 596-8287 or Olga 596-6981.

Lenten Soup Dinner and Stations of the Cross

Religious Education will be hosting a "Soup Nite" on Friday, **March 27**, at **6:00 pm** followed by a family-oriented Stations of the Cross at 7:30 pm. There will be Lenten activities for parents and children to work on as well as delicious home-made "no meat" soups, salad, and bread. Everyone is welcome to join in for this Lenten evening of food, community, and prayer. If you would like to donate your favorite soup, please call the religious education office, **598-0519**.

Save the Date - Vacation Bible Camp July 6-10 here at St. Joseph. Theme: Son Rock Kid's Camp. Volunteers needed. More info next week. Questions: **598-0519**.

Catholic Apologetics Class on every other Monday from 9:30 - 11:30 am or Tuesday from 7 - 9 pm in the PAC.

Mar. 23 & 24 - challenges to the cannon of the Bible, Biblical interpretation, justification and salvation

Apr. 13 & 14 - challenges to Baptism, purgatory, Confession and the crucifix

Apr. 27 & 28 - challenges to the Marian Doctrines and praying to saints

We use Scripture and the Fathers of the Church. Bring your Bible and your questions. For information, contact Richard Dana, 420-9976.

Respect Life - Thanks to the 134+ parishioners who signed postcards to fight the FOCA anti life bill. Please join us the **2nd & 4th Monday** of every month @ **7:30pm** in the Blessed Sacrament Chapel to continue to pray for our leaders and their impact on the future of life. In the words of Olivia Payne, 6th grader at St. Joseph School, "I may not know much, but I think you should not sign the Freedom of Choice Act bill, and this is why: Mothers or future moms should not have a "right" to end life or end God's creation. Plus, what if your mom killed you in her womb? You would not be Mr. President Obama."

Volunteers Needed!!!!

If you would like to do some community service, delivering, cooking and serving dinner for **Project Achieve** the third Monday of the month, please contact Olga at the rectory, 594-4657. You are welcome to help out every month, once in awhile, or just one time.

Chrism Mass Monday, **April 6**, at 7:00 pm at the Cathedral of Our Lady of the Angels. Call Deacon Don for carpooling arrangements, 598-5202.

WEEKLY OFFERING		Last Sunday: \$11,339
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Save the Dates!!
April 24, 25, and 26
 The St. Joseph Parish Fair is coming.
 Lots of fun: rides, games, prizes and lots of food! *
JOIN US FOR THE FIESTA

Did You Know? Always Keep an Up-to-Date Photo of Your Child - Picture this: A good photo could save a child's life. One of the most important tools for law enforcement in the case of a missing child is an up-to-date (take a new one every six months), good-quality photograph. The photograph should be a recent head-and-shoulders color photograph of the child in which the face is clearly seen. It should be of school-portrait quality, and the background should be plain or solid so it does not distract from the subject. When possible, the photograph should be in a digitized form and available on a compact disk (CD), as opposed to just a hard copy. This minimizes the time necessary to scan, resize, and make color corrections before disseminating it to law enforcement. The photograph should have space for accurate, narrative description useful to identify the child, such as name, nickname, height, weight, sex, age, eye color, identifying marks, glasses, and braces. For more information, please visit: www.missingkids.com. For particular help, you may call Assistance Ministry, 213-637-7650.

Letter stating donations for tax purposes:
 If you would like a letter to substantiate your tax deductible donations to the parish for 2008, please call the rectory, 594-4657, leave your name and phone number, and we will be happy to send your letter to you. Thank you.

VIRTUS RE-CERTIFICATION - All those who attended the Virtus adult awareness session in the years **2003-05** will need to attend a mandatory re-certification session. A session has been planned for Wednesday, **March 25**, from **7 - 8:30 pm** in the hall. If you have any questions, please call the religious education office at 598-0519.

Sign up for the Fair Popcorn Booth, the best deal in town. Call for the best times now.



We will be collecting NEW or "gently used" BOOKS for our Easter Food Basket families. Bring the books to Mass on March 21/22 and March 28/29. Call us with questions. We plan to donate books to the 69 families with the food baskets. We want to focus on reading for these families instead of sweets. Your help is appreciated by these families and the volunteers - and more volunteers are needed and welcome. Call for details.

We need drivers for Easter delivery on April 4; please call Patty Brio, 425-5964.

FEED-A-BABY drive this weekend, March 14 & 15, collecting nonperishable food and diapers for the needy infants in Long Beach. Large size diapers are needed most. Thank you for your generosity.

The HOMELESS KITS can be returned to the back of church.

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!

Call about your "Tom's Team" donations and questions. Tom: 799-0921. We are still in the "start up" mode. John & Jan Minter 430-5839.

Knights of Columbus Council 3629 is selling raffle tickets, \$1 each, to support the Rancho San Antonio Boys Home. First prize \$5000. Call Tom Neton, 714-271-8642.

Volunteers Needed to read to children waiting for appointments at L.B. Memorial, 2 hour commitment. Contact Julie, 933-0511. Questions: Pat Morrison, 598-0978.

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.

Mass Intentions



SATURDAY, March 14

5:00 PM - Marlene Sergeant, living

SUNDAY, March 15

7:30 AM - † John Fay

9:00 AM - St. Joseph Parishioners

10:30 AM - † Ernest J. Kujak

12:30 PM - † Tom Burke

MONDAY, March 16

8:00 AM - † Rosemary Zilliox

TUESDAY, March 17

8:00 AM - † Mrs. O'Shea

WEDNESDAY, March 18

8:00 AM - † Jan Ginnett

THURSDAY, March 19

8:00 AM - Hung Hoang, living

FRIDAY, March 20

8:00 AM - † Dick Kocovar

SATURDAY, March 21

5:00 PM - † Martha Aimone

SUNDAY, March 22

7:30 AM - † Zenaida Andrada

9:00 AM - St. Joseph Parishioners

10:30 AM - † Joseph Demers

12:30 PM - † Jan Ginnett

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:

Amy Mann	Glen Warren
Nick Compton	Joseph Comfort
Irene Avila	Scott Williams
Justin Ray	Timothy Ring
Kenneth Mack McDonald	Adam Mariano
Lynne Norris	Chris Shaw
SSg. Rob Beckwell	Vincent Vezzetti
Kimberly Allen	

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, Joy Mann, Richard Parent, Marlene Muccino, Aurel Demian, Daniele Pieters, Josephine Keller, David Dresnick, Bobby Knight, Conrado Uyan, Skyler Weinberg, Maria Luisa Garcia, Tracey Rossello, Kristen Tuasonand, Alexi, Karl Parize, Elijah Carbonell, Kit Escoto VanWyk, Maureen McDonough, Arin Zack, Msgr. Marc Trudeau, Stormy Leiva, Gloria Castaneda, Bobby Rubly, Betty Chappell, Mary Harding, Elizabeth Jackson, Justin Ferriese, Virginia Souza, Jon Zack, Betty Galaz, Gloria Gonzales, Don Miller, Chuck Greening, Jean Boolish, Patricia Morand, Gayle Buol, Nicole Pisula-Stanton, Odete Salvate, Rosemary Doran, Gerry Kohnan, Annette Haddad, Marge Hamilton, Michelle Smith and Johnny & Cody LaRicca.

LITURGY

DIRECTOR of LITURGY	Fr. William	594-4657
ALTAR CARE	Mary Jelnic	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

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

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

562-598-0519

DIRECTOR of RELIGIOUS EDUCATION	Virginia Young
SECRETARY	Veronica Gibb

CHILDREN'S MINISTRY

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
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PARISH ORGANIZATIONS

PASTORAL COUNCIL	Tim Clark	431-4385
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