




From the Pastor's Desk:

There is a poignant, painful contrast between today's first reading and the rest of the Scripture passages. Speaking through Jeremiah, God sounds so joyful and hopeful. Things are going to be different between God and the chosen people!

Sure, they broke the covenant with God before, but this time they will keep it. God will place his law within them, writing it on their hearts. God will be their God; they will be his people. God will forgive their evildoing and forget their sins.

Only in Jesus could any of this ever happen. God continued to forgive his people; they continued to sin. Paul tells us that it was Jesus, Son of God though he was, who had to suffer so as to be made perfect. Then he could be the source of eternal salvation for everyone else. Lest we want to soften this message or somehow think any of this was easy for Jesus, we read his own words. He knew his hour was coming. He knew he had to suffer and die.



EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION

Thursday, April 2, 6-8 pm



From Deacon Don's Desk:

"When you reap the harvest of your land, you shall not be so thorough that you reap the field to its very edge, nor shall you glean the stray ears of grain. ... These things you shall leave for the poor and the alien. I the Lord, am your God."

Leviticus 19:9-10 In other words, my friends, we are not to be gluttons but save something for the poor.

Our Seniors were ready and prepared the meal for Project Achieve last Monday. Thank you, Seniors. They are a model of charity that we can all follow.

I had the honor of bestowing the blessing to our St. Joseph baseball teams Saturday, the 21st. I encouraged the young ball players to "always do your best" and to listen to their coaches and parents. Be the best person you can be, and most importantly, **give God the glory.**

We are in the last two weeks before Easter. I encourage you to attend the **Eucharistic Adoration** this coming Thursday, 6-8 pm. Then Friday come to the Stations of the Cross and imagine yourself in the events of that day and witness the depth of the love that God has for you and me. Translate that suffering into the love He shows you.

Our Prayer: Lord Jesus You ask us to repent of our sins and believe the Kingdom of God is at hand. Teach us to do God's will. You invite us to follow You on the way of the cross. Help us to turn away from sin and live the Gospel. We ask this in Your name. Amen.

QUESTION OF THE WEEK:

(Based on today's Bible readings)

Adult: What actions of sacrifice in my life are producing lasting benefit for myself and others?

Child: What are some ways I can grow in love of Jesus?

Teen: What is one thing I can do or stop doing that will help me have a better friendship with Jesus?


READINGS FOR THE WEEK

- Monday: Dn 13:1-9, 15-17, 19-30, 33-62 [41c-62]; Jn 8:1-11
- Tuesday: Nm 21:4-9; Jn 8:21-30
- Wednesday: Dn 3:14-20, 91-92, 95; Jn 8:31-42
- Thursday: Gn 17:3-9; Jn 8:51-59
- Friday: Jer 20:10-13; Jn 10:31-42
- Saturday: Ez 37:21-28; Jn 11:45-56
- Sunday: Mk 11:1-10 or Jn 12:12-16 (procession); Is 50:4-7; Ps 22; Phil 2:6-11; Mk 14:1 — 15:47 [15:1-39]

Rest in Peace

Died in Christ:

Albert Day
Leo DeRuyter



5th SUNDAY OF LENT



DEATH AS A METAMORPHOSIS

Small Church Community

Scripture Focus: In today's Gospel Jesus speaks of real resurrection. And he tells his followers that the only way to come to this life of glory is by dying. The image of the grain of wheat offers a powerful example of this reality. A single seed is limited and alone. But if the seed dies to its present state, it will grow into a stalk filled with seeds. The message for us is that the present is good, but because Christ has brought an end to death through his own death and resurrection, we can look forward to a future that will be far more than our limited lives here and now.

Life Focus: * Relate a time when you lost out but later were strengthened by this experience. * Describe an experience in your life when seeds fell fruitlessly but later blossomed. * What struggles have you let go of? What struggles did you surrender to? * Whose life and struggles encourage you?

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

Elementary Program: No class Easter Sunday, **April 12.**

Middle School: No class on **April 13** for Easter vacation and **April 21** for Open House at the various schools.

Sacrament Program: The sacrament workshop in preparation for First Communion will take place on Sunday, **April 5**, from **2 - 4:30 pm** in the hall. This workshop is required for parents and children in the school and religious education program.

Confirmation Year 1: Retreat Day - **April 4!** Meet in the hall at 10:30 am.

Early Childhood: Regular class today. **Family Easter Baskets** items collected today. Next week: Easter Celebration! Remember to sign up for item to bring next week, bring in your 12 filled eggs for our Easter Egg Hunt and wear your Sunday School shirt. Sign up for your shift at the parish fair!

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.

Save the Date - Our annual **Vacation Bible Camp** will take place this year here at St. Joseph during the week of **July 6-10**. Please mark your calendars for this fun-filled week. This year's theme is "Son Rock Kid's Camp!" We will be joined once again with St. Cornelius, St. Maria Goretti, and St. Cyprian in offering a week of arts and crafts, bible stories, music, snacks, and games. Registration forms will be available from the religious education office in May. Volunteers will be needed. Please contact our office if you are available to help out, **598-0519**.

You are invited to attend a series of classes on **Natural Family Planning** taught by the Couple to Couple League. You'll learn a method of family planning that is safe, effective, and morally acceptable. For more information call Greg and Beth Gath, 377-5877, or email at bethandgreg@verizon.net.

St. Joseph Lenten Calendar 2009

- 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

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.

Canadian Rockies - Come join the St. Joseph Seniors on a great trip. **Everyone is welcome - open to all**. Call your friends and family. Carl Andreas driver, 13 nights, baggage handling (one bag/person), gratuities, guides, city tours of Victoria, Vancouver & Banff, Jasper & Banff National Parks, Ice Explorer ride on the Columbia Ice Fields, Lake Louise, 2 ferry cruises, 13 breakfasts, 2 deluxe dinners - \$2289 Dbl/Triple, Single \$3265. Flyers w/ itinerary are long. Reservations: Olga 596-6981.

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

Chrism Mass at the Cathedral of Our Lady of the Angels - Monday, April 6

7:00 pm. We have just a few places left in our cars. If you want to attend the Chrism Mass with others from St. Joseph, call Deacon Don or Tina to secure your place, 598-5202 or 498-6701. We will meet in the parking lot at 5:15 pm and leave promptly at 5:30 pm.



Please pray for our elect as they journey to that great Easter vigil when they will be in full communion with the church.

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

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.

Pancake Breakfast! Boy Scout Troop 120 is sponsoring a pancake breakfast **March 29** from 8 am to 12 noon. Cost is \$4.00 per person. Come support our scouts!

JOIN US FOR THE FIESTA
April 24, 25, and 26
 The St. Joseph Parish Fair is coming!
 Loads of fun rides, games, prizes and tons of food!
Save the Dates!! See You There!!

Congratulations to St. Joseph High students from our parish who have earned honor roll status for the first semester: **Bailey Abeyta, Cecelia Chostner, Raquel Demirakian, Elizabeth DeRuyter, Jessica Ohde, Kelly Schrock, Amy Smith, Hillary Stabelfeldt, Megan Wingfield, Megan Zembal, & Elizabeth Lyon.**

Together In Mission - A big thank you to the **242** families who have made a pledge to this archdiocesan campaign. We have **passed** our parish goal of **\$49,100.40!!** So far, **\$38,190** of the pledges have been paid. Thank you for your continued generosity. There are envelopes in the church as well as in the rectory if you would like to make a pledge for this very worthwhile cause. The people of the archdiocesan schools and parishes who receive the help will very much appreciate it.

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.

Did You Know? Recognizing Signs of Child Abuse and Neglect - A key to reporting child abuse and neglect is being able to recognize common indicators. In children the following signs may signal the presence of child abuse or neglect: Shows sudden changes in behavior or school performance. Has not received help for physical or medical problems brought to the parents' attention. Is always watchful, as though preparing for something bad to happen. Is overly compliant, passive, or withdrawn. Comes to school or other activities early, stays late, and does not want to go home. To learn more about child abuse prevention, visit: <http://www.archdiocese.la/protecting/index.php>. For particular help, you may call Assistance Ministry, 213-637-7650.

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



FEED-A-BABY weekend drive:
 Thank you for your generous donations of time and money. We received 14 large bags of food and supplies, and \$1019 which will be used to purchase more. Donations will go to Catholic Charities and New Life Beginnings.

Thanks for the many books donated last weekend. We will be collecting NEW or "gently used" BOOKS again this weekend. We plan to donate books to the 69 families with the food baskets. We want to focus on reading for these families. Your help is appreciated by the families and volunteers - and more volunteers are needed and welcome. Call for details.

We need drivers for Easter delivery on April 4, 8:30am; please call Patty Brio, 425-5964.

The HOMELESS KITS go in 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.

WEEKLY OFFERING		Last Sunday: \$10,117
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Volunteers Needed to read to children waiting for appointments at L.B. Memorial Hospital. It is a 2 hour commitment per week and is very rewarding. Contact at LBMH is Julie, 933-0511. Questions: Pat Morrison, 598-0978, who has been doing this for over 3 years. Books are there at the Children's Clinic.

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 28**
 5:00 PM - † Botelho and Salvate families
- SUNDAY, March 29**
 7:30 AM - St. Joseph Parishioners
 9:00 AM - Fr. Edward Broom, Special Intention
 10:30 AM - † Antonio Torres
 12:30 PM - Conrada Lomibao, Happy 95th!
- MONDAY, March 30**
 8:00 AM - † Daniel Padilla
- TUESDAY, March 31**
 8:00 AM - † Ernest J. Kujak
- WEDNESDAY, April 1**
 8:00 AM - † Elizabeth Ann Lund
- THURSDAY, April 2**
 8:00 AM - † Donald T. Sherman
- FRIDAY, April 3**
 8:00 AM - † Lee Demers
- SATURDAY, April 4**
 5:00 PM - † John DeRuyter
- SUNDAY, April 5**
 7:30 AM - † Zenaida Andrada
 9:00 AM - † Fredrick Ruiz, Jr.
 10:30 AM - Joe and Tuyet-Mai Dang, living
 12:30 PM - St. Joseph Parishioners

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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| 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 | Daniel O'Connell |

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, Jean Boolish, Patricia Morand, Gayle Buol, Nicole Pisula-Stanton, Odete Salvate, Rosemary Doran, Gerry Kohnan, Annette Haddad, Marge Hamilton, Michelle Smith, Johnny & Cody LaRiccica, Barbara Hook, Marlena Stewart & Christopher Moore.

LITURGY

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|---|---------------------------|----------|
| 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

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|-----------------------------|----------------------|--------------|
| 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

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| Nancy Miller | 429-2546 |
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PARISH ORGANIZATIONS

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| 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 | Monica Munoz & Julie Gray | 598-0519 |
| 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