



From the Pastor's Desk:

This year we listen to the story of Christ's passion and death as told by St. Mark. One unique detail in Mark's Gospel is found at chapter 14, verses 51-52. At the time of Jesus' arrest, soldiers tried to seize one of his followers - a young man wearing nothing but a linen cloth. Terrified, the man left the cloth behind and ran away naked. There is an old tradition that claims the young man might have been Mark himself. No matter who he was, the story conveys how frightened Jesus' followers were and how desperate and confusing the situation was. Whether he was telling on himself or someone else, Mark clearly was saying, "Try to imagine how awful all of this was!" You'll notice, too, that in Mark's version, the high priest's servant loses his ear, and Jesus does not heal him as he does in the Gospel of Luke. We are offered no relief from the pain and violence of this awful scene. We must face what our sins have cost.

READINGS FOR THE WEEK

Monday: Is 42:1-7; Jn 12:1-11
 Tuesday: Is 49:1-6; Jn 13:21-33, 36-38
 Wednesday: Is 50:4-9a; Mt 26:14-25
 Thursday: Lord's Supper: Ex 12:1-8, 11-14; Ps 116; 1 Cor 11:23-26; Jn 13:1-15
 Friday: Is 52:13 — 53:12; Ps 31; Heb 4:14-16; 5:7-9; Jn 18:1 — 19:42
 Saturday: a) Gn 1:1 — 2:2 [1:1, 26-31a]; b) Gn 22:1-18 [1-2, 9a, 10-13, 15-18]; c) Ex 14:15 — 15:1; d) Is 54:5-14; e) Is 55:1-11; f) Bar 3:9-15, 32 — 4:4; g) Ez 36:16-17a, 18-28; h) Rom 6:3-11; i) Mk 16:1-7
 Sunday: Acts 10:34a, 37-43; Ps 118; Col 3:1-4 or 1 Cor 5:6b-8; Jn 20:1-9 or Mk 16:1-7 or (at an afternoon or evening Mass) Lk 24:13-35



From Deacon Don's Desk:

Why do we cover crosses and images during Lent? Crosses & statues are symbols. Symbols are visible things which represent something else that is invisible. Put another way: "Symbols point to a **deeper** meaning." We try to understand the greatness of God and He lowers Himself to sacrifice for us. The cross represents the outpouring of God's love and forgiveness to and for us. We cover the cross and we are in a desert wasteland - where is the God that shows His love for us? The veil makes us realize how empty our lives would be without Jesus & Mary. The statues of the saints too are covered. One priest said, "We veil statues & images because all the merits of the saints we possibly obtain are only gained **after** Christ's death on the cross." Biblical references support through John 5: 18 "For this reason they tried all the more to kill Him." And again John 8: 58-59 "Amen, I say to you, before Abraham came to be I AM. So they picked up stones to throw at Him, but Jesus hid & went out of the temple area."

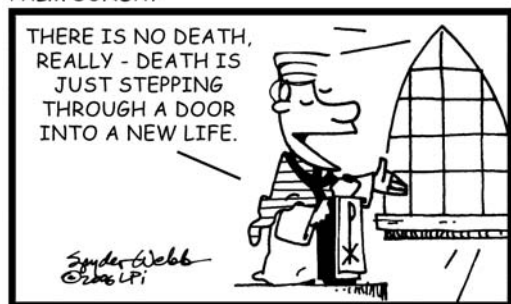
Covering crosses and images is a form of "fasting" from sacred depictions which represent the paschal glory - that for which we long.

Our Prayer: Heavenly Father, in every Eucharist let me offer myself to You with all my joys & sorrows & in union with Jesus. Grant that with every Eucharist I participate in, I may know, love & live the Mass more each day. Amen.

Good Friday is a day of fast and abstinence: one full meal ages 19-59 inclusive, no meat age 14 and over. If one is seriously ill, he/she is not bound to fast or abstain from meat. No fasting would also apply to those doing heavy manual labor.

Thank you St. Joseph student body for the homeless kits you made for Project Achieve. They were received with great joy and delight. Thank you!

PALM SUNDAY



DEATH & LIFE

Small Church Community

Scripture Focus: Mark's Gospel, more than the other Gospels, shows the human struggle and suffering of Jesus. Jesus seems to feel abandoned at the worst point. Mark's community, undergoing persecution, needed to make sense of the suffering in their lives. They needed to discover who Jesus was as Messiah. Throughout the Gospel, we get hints and glimpses of who Jesus is. Today we come to the story of the Passion itself. Mark finally answers the question of who Jesus is only at the end, when the centurion proclaims: "Clearly this man was the Son of God." Jesus' identity as Messiah is only fully revealed when he dies on the cross.

Life Focus: * Recall a time when life didn't make sense at all. What, if anything, kept you trusting? * *Remember a time when you helped someone who was carrying a heavy burden.* * Recall a time in your life when someone helped you through a burdensome time. * *Peter denied Jesus threefold. Recall a time when you found it hard to take a stand for the values of Christ.* * When were you treated unfairly and you felt you didn't deserve it?

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

Elementary Program: No class Easter Sunday, **April 12**. The religious education office will be closed the week after Easter. Classes will resume on **April 19**.

Middle School: No class on **April 14** for Easter vacation and **April 21** for Open House at the various schools.

Sacrament Program: The sacrament workshop in preparation for First Communion takes place today from **2:00 - 4:30 pm** in the hall. This workshop is required for parents & children in the school and religious education program.

Early Childhood: Regular class and Easter Celebration today. Thank you for bringing your items for the Family Easter Baskets. We are off next week for Easter. Have a blessed & joyous Easter as we celebrate the resurrection of Jesus! Remember to sign-up for your shift at the 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.

Sign up in the vestibule for Holy Thursday adoration after Mass of the Last Supper until 11 pm.

THANK YOU!! to all who participated in our Soup Night with Stations of the Cross. We had a wonderful selection of soups and fun Lenten crafts for the kids. We also received \$250 in donations for the "Food for the Poor" organization! Our religious ed middle school students are collecting cans and bottles as well as monetary donations to help acquire water pumps for the people of Jamaica.

QUESTION OF THE WEEK:

(Based on today's Bible readings)

Adult: What word or line from today's readings could help me in my own sufferings and trials?

Child: How will I honor Jesus' name during Holy Week?

Teen: What can I do this week to remind me that Jesus died and rose to new life for me?

Adult Education next Wednesday, 7-8:30pm. The 3rd mark of the church - One, Holy, **CATHOLIC**, and Apostolic. Next? The Triduum by Fr. Corapi?

St. Joseph Lenten Calendar 2009

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

Death Valley Adventure has been cancelled.

July 11-24 - Canadian Rockies - Come join the St. Joseph Seniors on a great trip. **Everyone is welcome - open to all.** Call your friends and family - 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. We are having our wonderful driver Carl of Andreas tour & travel; we have a 4 page flyer that explains daily details. Deposit of \$250 required and refundable. Call Olga 596-6981.

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

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.

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.



Reverencing the Sacred Blood - The Church encourages us to receive both the Sacred Body and the Sacred Blood in Holy Communion. This is how Christ instituted it. This is the fuller sign of this sacrificial meal. Sometimes, there are reasons we do not receive from the cup. Perhaps we are sick and out of courtesy want to avoid the possibility of sharing our illness with others. Still, simply ignoring the cup and walking past does not honor Christ in his real presence there. One possibility is to take the cup, acknowledge it with a bow of the head and then return it to the minister without drinking. This honors Christ's presence in the sacred cup and also maintains the reverence of the communion procession.

Respect Life - Please join us the **2nd & 4th Monday** of every month @ **7:30pm** in the Blessed Sacrament Chapel to pray for our leaders and their impact on the future of life.

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

10 Great Dates - Reminder: We will be meeting Sunday, **April 19 at 3 pm in the hall** for Date/Chapter 8. If you have missed a date or two along the way, don't fret, come anyway and catch up. New couples are welcome to join us anytime. Contact Wendy Thomas, 429-0161, for more information.



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

St. Anthony Class of '69 will be having their 40th reunion. For more information and to be put on our list, please email Phil LeBlanc at pleblanc@toplinestaffing.com or Jacki (Hughes) Stanfield at sa40threunion@aim.com.

Fingerprinting Schedule

The following dates are for the April fingerprinting schedule in the San Pedro Region for those who volunteer with our parish children. Please call for an appointment:
April 24 - Holy Family, Artesia, 562-860-5973
April 25 - Holy Angels Church of Deaf, Vernon, 323-587-2096

Together In Mission - A big thank you all 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 are 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. 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? Possible Indicators of Child Abuse and Neglect

- A key to reporting child abuse and neglect is being able to recognize indicators. In a parent, the following signs may signal the presence of child abuse or neglect: Shows little concern for the child. Blames the child for problems in school or at home. Asks caretakers to use harsh physical discipline if the child misbehaves. Sees the child as entirely bad, worthless, or burdensome. 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.



Thanks for the hundreds of books donated the last two weekends. We sorted and delivered them to our Special Families last Saturday morning. We want to focus on the importance of reading for children. Your help is appreciated by these families and the volunteers - and more volunteers are needed and welcome. Call for details.

YOUR SKIP-A-MEAL 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 & 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.

Good Friday Collection - On Good Friday, our parish will take up the annual Good Friday Collection for the Holy Land. Your financial contribution helps to support the struggling Christian community and to protect Christianity's holiest places. Please be generous.

WEEKLY OFFERING		Last Sunday: \$10,467
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20th Anniversary of Precious Life Shelter - come celebrate at our annual Dinner Dance "Affair of the Heart," Saturday, **April 18**, 6-11 pm at the Eagles Nest clubhouse, Navy Golf Course, Cypress. Live orchestra, dinner, silent and live auctions. Ticket \$65/adult. Join us in supporting homeless pregnant women and their children. Reservations: 562-431-5025, preciouslifeshelter.org.

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, 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
- MONDAY, April 6**
 8:00 AM - † Grace Brown
- TUESDAY, April 7**
 8:00 AM - Marlene Sergeant, living
- WEDNESDAY, April 8**
 8:00 AM - Michelle Reyes, living
- THURSDAY, April 9**
 8:00 PM - Intentions of Presider
- FRIDAY, April 10**
 1:30 PM - Intentions of Presider
 7:30 PM - Intentions of Presider
- SATURDAY, April 11**
 8:00 PM - Intentions of Presider
- SUNDAY, April 12**
 7:30 AM - Intentions of Presider
 9:00 AM - Intentions of Presider
 10:30 AM - Intentions of Presider
 12:30 PM - Intentions of Presider

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 |
| 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, Tracey Rossello, Kristen Tuasonand, Alexi, Karl Parize, Elijha Carbonell, Kit Escoto VanWyk, Maureen McDonough, Arin Zack, Msgr. Marc Trudeau, Stormy Leiva, Bobby Rubly, Betty Chappell, Elizabeth Jackson, Justin Ferriese, Virginia Souza, Jon Zack, Betty Galaz, Gloria Gonzales, Jean Boolish, Patricia Morand, Gayle Buol, Nicole Pisula-Stanton, Rosemary Doran, Gerry Kohnan, Annette Haddad, Marge Hamilton, Michelle Smith, Johnny & Cody LaRiccia, Barbara Hook, Marlana Stewart, Christopher Moore, Merinda Bradshaw, Melody Schatz & Don Wassmuth.

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

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
	Teri 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	Tom & Diane Krause	310-316-4857
	www.ceeofla.org/schedule.htm	
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