



From the Pastor's Desk:

Would that disposing of trials and tribulations were as easy as the prophet Baruch would like us to believe. Cast off your robe of mourning and misery, and put on the glory of God, he tells the people, as if they were changing clothes after a hard day's work. Advent, that great season of hope, calls us to see that there is more than the daily drudgery that can prevent us from seeing the glory of God. Both Baruch and Isaiah, who is quoted in the Gospel, remind their hearers that the mountains will be made low and the valleys be filled. God is more than a highway engineer. His "shovel-ready" work is not about gravel and pavement, but about the lives of his people. It is the mountains and valleys of our lives that the Lord will reconstruct - a hope that will be fulfilled in God's time.



From Deacon Don's Desk:

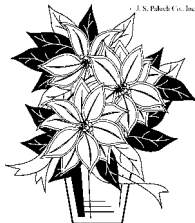
A procession: A group led by altar servers, cross bearer, ministers of the Gospel, priest, followed by parishioners looking for a seat! Last Sunday for me was a blessing as we prepared sack lunches with sandwiches of meat, peanut butter and jelly, Famous Amos cookies, fruit cups and chips with water and a soft drink all prepared with great love. But Shane Cuda, in my opinion put too much peanut butter on the bread! Can you imagine those homeless people with their tongues stuck to the roof of their mouths? We were blessed to have Ms. Jeannie Miller, Soraya, Nelia, Mary Lou and Tim Clark ably handling sandwich prep and packaging. But the real blessing was their interaction with God's people on the streets. I am sure they could see Jesus in their faces when handing them food. One particular stop allowed us to talk and sing with them. Missionaries of Charity, Sisters Aloysita and Danella, handed out prayer cards and miraculous medals and what a joy they bring to the gathering.


Leftovers: While reflecting on a Cub Scout meeting that honored veterans two Sundays ago, I recalled one of the veterans of WWII telling the boys about his part in the Iwo Jima invasion of February 1945. What kept coming back to me was his telling of his surprise of a Japanese soldier surrendering to him. He got the idea that this man had not eaten for some time. This veteran ministered to the so-called enemy by giving him his canteen of water. The way he told it recalled to me Mt 25:40, "You did it TO ME." **Our Prayer:** Lord, King of Peace, You turn hatred into love and our grievances into forgiveness. Help us to not judge by appearances but recognize those who are Your own. Change our attitude to reflect Your will. Amen.

Holy Day of Obligation
Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary
Tuesday, December 8
 Vigil, December 7, Monday, 7:00 pm
 Feast day, December 8, 6:30 and 9:00 am, and 7:00 pm

The Liturgical Environmental Committee

this year is asking the parishioners of St. Joseph to help sponsor the church's Christmas decorations with a suggested dollar amount for the poinsettias, wreaths, and greenery. The sponsorship can be made in the name of the family or in memory of a loved one. A team member will be by the rectory garage to receive your donation. We are also looking for volunteers to help with the decorating on December 23. Please contact Alexis Lewis, 234-7907, for more details.





Centering Prayer
First & Third Tuesdays - Dec. 15
7:00 pm
In the church

2ND SUNDAY OF ADVENT
 ALL MANKIND SHALL SEE
 THE SALVATION OF GOD



Small Church Community

Scripture Focus: The first Sunday of Advent looks to the final coming of Jesus in glory at the end of time. The second and third Advent Sundays look to Jesus' first coming and feature John the Baptist as the first to announce Jesus' ministry. Luke introduces John with a list of all the political and religious leaders of the time. All these leaders hold power and will reject Jesus, but God's call is greater than any opposition. John's message speaks to us as much as it did to the people of his time: Make a straight way for the one who is to come. Change your life and your attitude. Repent. Make room!

Life Focus: * John the Baptist's message is for all times. In what areas are you challenged to change in the midst of all the worldly attitudes around you? * *How are you called to live the Good News concretely in your local communities - family, neighborhood, small church community?* * John the Baptist prepared the way for Jesus. How do you announce the coming of the Lord?

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

Elementary Program: Advent celebration today in the hall from 10:15 - 11:45 am. This is a family event. There will be **no class** on **December 20 and 27** for Christmas vacation. Classes will resume on **January 3**.

Middle School: Next Tuesday, **December 8**, we will celebrate the holy day of obligation, Immaculate Conception, by attending the **7:00 pm Mass**. Following Mass we will gather for a short session to prepare for our singing at Katella Manor convalescent home on **December 15**. No class on **December 22 and 29**.

Early Childhood: Regular class today. *Next week - Community Helpers: remember your item for our Movement for a Better World Baskets.* Next week - Singing in the hall after Mass! Remember to invite family and friends and bring your cameras and camcorders. Get ready to be moved by the Spirit!

Sunday Nursery: The nursery is open during 9:00 and 10:30 Masses every Sunday. Drop in children of all ages, first come - first served. If you are interested in helping in the nursery, please contact Shannon, 598-0519.

Parish Library - Please visit our parish library on Sunday morning, or during the week from 10 am to 4 pm in the Parish Activity Center. Many wonderful books and CD's/tapes are available for check out.

**Come Be a Part of Our
Mission San Luis Rey Retreat**

The Confirmation Team is looking for group facilitators and chaperones for the one-night Year 2 Retreat. The date is **December 12 & 13**. Come and enjoy the beautiful surroundings of this historical mission while helping form our teens in this wonderful spiritual process. Please call Marianna Wescott at the religious education office, 598-0519, for further information.

Year I Confirmation - Track Two will begin on Jan. 3 through **Jan. 24**. We will meet at the front of the church before the 12:30 Mass. There are no make up sessions for Track Two. Every session is a guest speaker.

Year II Confirmation - Year II Retreat: We need chaperones to come on retreat Dec. 12 for a one night stay at Mission San Luis Rey. Please contact the religious education office for more details, 598-0519.

QUESTION OF THE WEEK:

(Based on today's Bible readings)

Adult: What truth does John the Baptist's preaching speak for me this Advent?

Child: What can I do this week to get ready for Jesus' birthday?

Teen: How do I share the Good News of Jesus with others?

**St. Joseph Senior Group**

Dec. 9 - Trip to San Diego, 10 am - 8:30 pm, lunch, tour of Church of Nativity, Holiday of Lights at Del Mar Race Track (largest display on the West Coast), \$63, checks only please. Call Olga for info. Stand-bys only!

Dec. 14 - Christmas Luncheon - entertainment and gifts for Precious Life Shelter. Cost \$10 per person.

Jan. 10-12 - Laughlin Trip 3 days, 2 nites at Riverside, breakfast buffet of choice with champagne, dinner buffet with music, dance and door prizes. Free lunch at AVI. Cost \$99 double occ., \$119 single, includes driver gratuity. **One Bag Only.**

Call Olga 596-6981 or Betty 596-8287.

St. Cecilia's Luncheon will be held Tuesday, Dec. 8. Please join us at noon at the El Dorado Golf Course Restaurant. Questions, please call Ruth, 431-0288.

READINGS FOR THE WEEK

Monday: Is 35:1-10; Lk 5:17-26
 Tuesday: Gn 3:9-15, 20; Eph 1:3-6, 11-12; Lk 1:26-38
 Wednesday: Is 40:25-31; Mt 11:28-30
 Thursday: Is 41:13-20; Mt 11:11-15
 Friday: Is 48:17-19; Mt 11:16-19
 Saturday: Zec 2:14-17 or Rv 11:19a; 12:1-6a, 10ab; Lk 1:26-38 or Lk 1:39-47
 Sunday: Zep 3:14-18a; Is 12:2-3, 4, 5-6; Phil 4:4-7; Lk 3:10-18

A Spiritual Journey to the Holy Land

Archdiocesan Lenten Pilgrimage, **March 12-23**, led by Father Jack Stoeger, Spiritual Director of the House of Prayer for Priests. Visit the holy sites including Bethlehem, Jerusalem, Galilee, Mt. Tabor, and Gethsemane, and walk the Via Dolorosa to Calvary. For information, please call Sister Mary Jean Meier, RSM, 213-637-7520.

Have you noticed the handcrafted Bethlehem scene in the church? It was created and donated to St. Joseph Church by John Dessadi who worked on it for over 135 hours. He put a lot of love in his creation for us. The scene depicts the landscape and color of soil typical of Bethlehem. It is a reflection of the generous love God has shown for us. Let's stop for a moment to give thanks for His love and that of brother John, and have our sense of God's love deepened.

Respect Life means protecting life from conception to a natural death. It also includes the right to health care as called for by our bishops, minus abortion and euthanasia. Please join us to pray for reverence and respect for life on the 2nd and 4th Mondays of every month, 7:30 pm, in the Blessed Sacrament Chapel in the church.



Parish Directory - Last Chance!!

One final weekend of Parish Directory sign-ups will be held at all Masses next weekend, December 12 and 13.

Please show your pride and membership in our wonderful parish community, and help us to create a valuable resource to communicate with and to minister to each other.

Appointments are available December 29-30, and January 5-9; weekdays 1 - 9 pm, Saturdays 9 am - 5 pm. You will receive both a copy of the parish directory and an 8X10 photograph, both of which are free to yourself and to the parish. Additional copies and poses may be purchased as well.

Sign-ups can also be made from our parish website, www.StJosephParishCommunity.com, by clicking on the camera, or call Victoria Higgins, 597-6979.

The Parish Fair is scheduled for **April 23, 24, and 25**. We are looking for volunteers interested in joining the Fair Committee. There are many opportunities, big and small. The committee is holding its first meeting on Wednesday, **Dec. 9**, at 7pm in the PAC. Please come and find out how you can get involved to help plan this year's event. All are welcome! Any questions can be addressed to Wendy Gentry, 754-8546, or Phil Tondreault, 822-4242.

Thank You From Concern America

On Nov. 15 hand crafted products were displayed. As a community of the faithful you were once again very generous, purchasing crafts valued at \$1,688. We are very grateful to Fr. Connor for his hospitality and support, and to everyone who purchased crafts that day. Through your generosity you have helped to spread hope for a better future to hundreds of economically disadvantaged people in many developing countries of our world. Thank you.

If you would like to receive a Concern America Fair Trade Craft catalog or place an order for something you saw at the sale, please call 800-266-2376, or visit our website, www.concernamerica.org to view a selection of items and for information on our many programs.

Did You Know? What's Your Plan in the Event of an Emergency? - Did you know that every Catholic school in the Los Angeles Archdiocese is required to have a written plan for emergency procedures? The plan must include provisions for fire, earthquake, disaster and evacuation drills and lockdown procedures that conform to local, state and county requirements. Each school's plan must be updated annually, and made available to parents. Does your own family have a similar plan for what to do and where to gather in the event of an emergency? City and county disaster preparedness agencies are a good resource to use for making your own emergency plan. For particular help you may call Assistance Ministry at 213-637-7650.

Gift Baskets for Christmas:
Envelopes for the presents for our Gift Basket families' children will be on the Christmas tree in the back of church **December 5 & 6**. Gifts must be wrapped and returned **BEFORE the 12:30 Mass on December 13**. Sorting the packages will be done during the 12:30 Mass. Please plan ahead.



New drivers for Christmas are asked to call Patty Brio, 425-5964. Christmas delivery is Dec. 19 at 8:30 am.

Help!! We need a family or group to oversee the **Feed-A-Baby collection** - only once per year. We help with the planning! **Joy is in the giving.**

Next meeting is January 20.

YOUR SKIP-A-MEAL BLUE ENVELOPE donations are so appreciated!! Please **make checks to St. Joseph Church, memo: SKIP-A-MEAL**. Thank you for your generosity and all you do and share! John & Jan Minter 430-5839.

St. Hedwig's 30th Annual Christmas Dinner

If you are alone this Christmas, we invite you to join us on Friday, **December 25**, at 1:00 pm in Quinn Hall, 11482 Los Alamitos Blvd., Los Alamitos. There will be families there to share their love and prayers with you, a bounty of food, singing, and much, much more! Reservations are required by December 21. Please contact Ed or Dewey Foster, 562-598-7060. There is no charge.

Tax-Free IRA Giving - If you are 70 1/2 or older and have a traditional or Roth IRA, this year you are allowed to make gifts directly to your Parish or Parish School from these accounts on a totally tax-free basis. Amounts up to \$100,000 may be given. This may be especially attractive if withdrawals have caused your Social Security income to be taxed at higher rates, if you have reached the limit of charitable gifts you can deduct. Check with your advisors for more information.

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, December 5**
 5:00 PM - † Botelho & Salvate family
- SUNDAY, December 6**
 7:30 AM - † John DeRuyter
 9:00 AM - Intentions of St. Joseph Parishioners
 10:30 AM - Peggy Montello, living
 12:30 PM - † Louis Pantuso
- MONDAY, December 7**
 8:00 AM - † Sister Theresa Scheuren, O.S.B.
 7:00 PM - Tess Keckeisen, living
- TUESDAY, December 8**
 6:30 AM - Peggy Montello, living
 9:00 AM - Munda/Reyes family
 7:00 PM - † John Anselmo
- WEDNESDAY, December 9**
 8:00 AM - † All Souls
- THURSDAY, December 10**
 8:00 AM - † Daniel Padilla
- FRIDAY, December 11**
 8:00 AM - Vinh Tran and brothers, living
- SATURDAY, December 12**
 5:00 PM - Intentions of St. Joseph Parishioners
- SUNDAY, December 13**
 7:30 AM - † John Fay
 9:00 AM - † Louise Turner
 10:30 AM - † Michael Fehner
 12:30 PM - † Virginia Souza

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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|------------------|-----------------------|
| Glen Warren | Nick Compton |
| Joseph Comfort | Irene Avila |
| Scott Williams | Justin Ray |
| Timothy Ring | Kenneth Mack McDonald |
| Adam Mariano | SSg. Rob Beckwell |
| Vincent Vezzetti | Daniel O'Connell |
| Obinna Ugochukwu | David Waidelich |
| Dave Hoyt | |

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, Joy Mann, Richard Parent, Marlene Muccino, Daniele Pieters, Josephine Keller, David Dresnick, Conrado Uyan, Tracey Rossello, Kristen Tuasonand, Elijah Carbonell, Msgr. Marc Trudeau, Stormy Leiva, Bobby Rubly, Betty Chappell, Elizabeth Jackson, Justin Ferriese, Betty Galaz, Patricia Morand, Gayle Buol, Rosemary Doran, Michelle Smith, Johnny & Cody LaRiccia, Barbara Hook, Christopher Moore, Merinda Bradshaw, Melody Schatz, Don Wassmuth, Marlena Sargeant, Leslie Day, Logan Pipler, Javier Salinas, Tess Keckeisen, Danielle Carmody, Virgil Terry, Seth Davis, Patricia Santy, Patrick Farrell, Hugo & Mickey Jorda, Beverly Clinton, Patti Nolan, Gregory Freez, Diana Norton, Luisa Parada, Rebecca Clinton, Karen Kindell, Peggy Montello & Steve Christmans.

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 | Cheryl Hebestreit |
| VICE-PRINCIPAL | Erin Wright |
| SECRETARY | Julie Gianessi |
| PTO PRESIDENT | |

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

562-598-0519

- | | |
|---------------------------------|------------------|
| DIRECTOR of RELIGIOUS EDUCATION | Virginia Young |
| SECRETARY | Marianna Wescott |

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

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 |
| PROJECT ACHIEVE | Tina Gath | 598-5202 |
| | Olga Cuda | 594-4657 |
| PRECIOUS LIFE SHELTER | Greg Shea | 221-8673 |
| CUB SCOUTS | Tom Neton | 429-2030 |
| BOY SCOUTS | Tom Lane | 496-4223 |

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