



From the Pastor's Desk:

Doesn't every parent want their child to act like Jesus - or at least how they imagine Jesus was? After all, how many parents want their children to run away from home for three days at the age of twelve? But that is what he did.

He became Jesus, the teenage runaway! Of course, even though we tell that story, it is not the most important thing that we remember about him. We recall all that he did to help others and when we celebrate three days in Jesus' existence, it is the three days of his saving death and life-giving resurrection. Could it not be the same in our own families? We all have moments that we remember about one another - significant events that characterize who someone is. It would be good if those times were the moments of grace in a person's life, and that we recall the best of another member of the family.



EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION
Thursday, December 31, 6-8 pm



From Deacon Don's Desk:

We celebrate the feast of the **Holy Family** and here I offer you a brief reflection by excerpting from Pope Paul VI: "Nazareth is a kind of school where we may begin to discover what Christ's life was like and even to understand His Gospel.

Gradually we may even learn to imitate Him. Here we can learn to realize who Christ really is. Here everything has meaning. Here we learn the importance of spiritual discipline for those who wish to follow Christ through His Gospel. First we learn from its silence. If only we could once again appreciate its great value. We need this state of mind. Second, we learn about family life. Nazareth is a model of what a family should be. Its basic function in society: a community of love and sharing; the perfect setting for rearing children - for this there is no substitute. Finally, in Nazareth, the home of a craftsman's son, we learn about work and the discipline it entails - demanding yet redeeming. Work has its own dignity. On the other hand, it is not an end in itself; its value and character derive only from the purpose it serves. I point to our model: Christ our brother who always promotes our well being."

Our Prayer: Father in heaven, help us to live as the Holy Family, united in respect and love. Teach us the sanctity of human love and family life, then bring us to the joy and peace of Your eternal home. We ask this in Jesus' name. Amen.



Centering Prayer
First, Third & Fifth Tuesdays
Dec. 29, Jan. 5 & 19 - 7:00 pm
In the church

Society of St. Vincent de Paul - Bundle Sunday

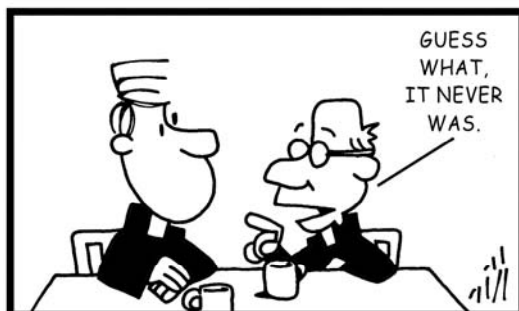
On **January 17** our parish is having a Bundle Sunday for the Society of St. Vincent de Paul. Please bring your usable clothing and usable household items to their truck here at our church, in the parking lot in front of the hall. Help them in their endless efforts to assist the needy. They are in desperate need of furniture and large appliances. Call them for pick up of heavy items, 323-224-6280 or 800-97-HELP-1.

Small Church Community

Scripture Focus: Children always love to hear stories about when they were little. They never tire of hearing the same ones again and again. As adults, we hear these same stories with a different perspective. In them we see a glimpse of what has made us who we are. In the same way, Luke uses stories of Jesus' early years to prepare us for his ministry. In the temple, his "Father's house," Jesus is at home. For now, he belongs to his parents, but that is not where he really belongs. We have seen a glimpse of the future. As Jesus "had to be" in his "Father's house," so must we make our own homes our "Father's house" by honoring one another. In Christ, we see *our* true identity as God's children, God's "chosen ones," God's family in grace.

Life Focus: * What do you think were the feelings Jesus' parents during the three days they were searching for him? Share a time when you may have had similar feelings about a lost child or a loved one. * *Describe a time in your life when you had to let go of a person or a project that had become dear to you. How was your belief in the power of Jesus involved in this letting go?* * Every family is a "holy family." In your family situation, what can you do to better recognize the holiness in each member?

HOLY FAMILY / FAMILY LIFE



RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

The religious education staff would like to wish everyone a very Blessed Christmas and Happy New Year!! Our office will be closed through January 1.

Elementary Program: No class today! Classes will resume on **January 3**.

Middle School: No class on **December 29**. Classes will resume on **January 5**.

Early Childhood: No class today. Enjoy your holiday and remember to say your prayers with your children and be aware of Christ in your heart! See you on January 3!

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.



St. Joseph Senior Group

Have a healthy and happy new year.

January meetings - Jan. 4 and 18

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.** We need more people to make this trip complete. Please - open to everyone. Invite all your friends. We don't want to cancel this great trip. Call Olga 596-6981 or Betty 596-8287.

READINGS FOR THE WEEK

- Monday: 1 Jn 1:5 — 2:2; Mt 2:13-18
- Tuesday: 1 Jn 2:3-11; Lk 2:22-35
- Wednesday: 1 Jn 2:12-17; Lk 2:36-40
- Thursday: 1 Jn 2:18-21; Jn 1:1-18
- Friday: Nm 6:22-27; Ps 67; Gal 4:4-7; Lk 2:16-21
- Saturday: 1 Jn 2:22-28; Jn 1:19-28
- Sunday: Is 60:1-6; Ps 72; Eph 3:2-3a, 5-6; Mt 2:1-12

Confirmation Year I - Just a reminder that our Track II will begin on **January 3**. Classes will be held the weeks of **Jan. 10, 17, and 24**. We will meet at the front of the church to pick up name badges. Please try and come no later than 12:20. The Track II phase of our program is very special and important. Please adjust your schedules accordingly. We will be having a series of guest speakers; attendance is important. Please remember to pick up your Candidates at 3:30 in the inner parking lot.

Confirmation Year II - Just a reminder that our Winter Track will begin the week of **Jan. 10-14** and go for 3 consecutive weeks ending with the Sponsor and Candidate Rite of Affirmation and guest speaker luncheon. Your candidate will be going to the same home for all three tracks. My compliments to our fine candidates for such a wonderful retreat experience.

Adult Confirmation

Adult Confirmation course will be on Mondays starting **January 11** through May, 7:00-9:00 pm, St. Margaret Mary Church, Good Shepherd room, 25511 Eshelman Ave., Lomita, 90717. For information or to register, please call our religious education office, 598-0519.

QUESTION OF THE WEEK:

(Based on today's Bible readings)

Adult: What causes people to lose Jesus? To find him?

Child: What can I do for each member of my family to show them, in a special way, how much I love them?

Teen: How can I show my love for Jesus to everyone I meet during this coming week?

Attention: The 50+ Catholic Singles (divorced, separated, single, widowed), will meet on Sunday, **Dec. 27** at **2 pm** in the conference room of St. Pancratius, 3519 St. Pancratius Pl., Lakewood. Info: Winnie Butler, 809-3206.

Gambler's Delight - The Knights of Columbus would like to invite all parish members, 21 years and older, to 5 hours at Pala Resort and Casino, Wednesday, **Jan. 13**. Only \$15 per person. The Casino will return \$5 on arrival. Please call Manny Vieyra, 425-8811 for more information.

[The] boundless and incomprehensible love of God for the human being reveals the degree to which the human person deserves to be loved in himself, independently of another consideration - intelligence, beauty, health, youth, integrity, and so forth. In short, human life is always a good, for it "is a manifestation of God in the world, a sign of his presence, a trace of his glory" (*The Gospel of Life*, n. 34). Pope Benedict XVI, Address to the 12th General Assembly of the Pontifical Academy for Life, February 27, 2006.

Religious Education Congress is ready to enrich and revitalize us once more **March 18-21**. More than 315 workshops available covering topics and interests from spirituality and personal development to biblical studies, theology and catechesis. The theme is **Incredible Abundance**. Enjoy morning praise, evening liturgies, a variety of prayer experiences, and concerts. For more information or to register stop by our religious education office for a guidebook, call the Congress info line, 213-637-7348, or go online at www.RECongress.org

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 appointments are coming to an end!

Please show your pride and membership in our wonderful parish community, and help us to create a valuable resource to recognize and to minister

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

NO PERSONAL INFORMATION WILL BE PRINTED WITHOUT YOUR PERMISSION. If you wish just to include your family photo and names, or address without phone number, etc., no problem. We'll ask you this at your photo session. Sign-ups can be made from our parish website, www.StJosephParishCommunity.com by clicking on the camera, or by calling the rectory, 594-4657.

Gift Baskets for Christmas: Thanks to ALL of our parishioners who bought, wrapped and returned these beautiful packages. Delivery day was great! Our drivers delivered food and personalized packages for the children, 2 or more each!!!! Thanks to our drivers, as well!! St. Joseph Parish has given 65 families a wonderful Christmas!



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 Jan. 20, 7:30 in the PAC. All invited!
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.

Have You Marked Your Calendar? 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. Our next meeting will be on Wednesday, Jan. 13, 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.

Rosary High School Information Night Wednesday, **January 6** at 7:00 pm, for prospective students and their parents who were unable to attend the annual open house. On this evening students and parents will have the opportunity to learn about Rosary's academic and extra-curricular programs. For further information, contact Rosary at 714-879-6302.

Safeguard the Children - Fingerprinting Schedule
The following dates are for the July fingerprinting schedule in the San Pedro Region for those who volunteer with our parish children. Please call for an appointment:
Jan. 19 - St. Cornelius School, Long Beach, 425-7813
Jan. 22 - Our Lady of Perpetual Help, Los Nietos, 562-692-3758
Jan. 23 - St. Athanasius, Long Beach, 562-423-7986

Cornelia Connelly School - All girls Catholic, college preparatory high school, 2323 W. Broadway, Anaheim, 714-776-1717 ext. 234.

Winter Open House: Thursday, **January 14, 7:00 pm.**
Entrance Exam: Saturday, **January 23, 8:30 am - 1 pm.**

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 at 213-637-7650.

Parish Library - The parish library will be closed until January 3 due to the Christmas and New Year's holidays.

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 26**
 5:00 PM - Frank & Pat Thornton, 50th Anniversary
- SUNDAY, December 27**
 7:30 AM - Anne Dang, living
 9:00 AM - † Robert Uehlin, Anniversary
 10:30 AM - Munda/Reyes family
 12:30 PM - Intentions of St. Joseph Parishioners
- MONDAY, December 28**
 8:00 AM - † Maria & Dominico Dang
- TUESDAY, December 29**
 8:00 AM - Father Edward Broom, living
- WEDNESDAY, December 30**
 8:00 AM - Anne Dang, living
- THURSDAY, December 31**
 8:00 AM - † Jean Tisei
 5:00 PM - † George Evan
- FRIDAY, January 1**
 9:00 AM - † Maria Dang
 12:00 PM - Anne Dang, living
- SATURDAY, December 26**
 5:00 PM - † John DeRuyter
- SUNDAY, December 27**
 7:30 AM - † Dominico Dang
 9:00 AM - † Kellee Murchison Bennett
 10:30 AM - Intentions of St. Joseph Parishioners
 12:30 PM - † Kristi Marie Ramstead

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, Bert Willis, Mary Mariano, Conrado Uyan, Kristen Tuasonand, Elijah Carbonell, Stormy Leiva, Bobby Rubly, Betty Chappell, Elizabeth Jackson, Betty Galaz, Patricia Morand, Gayle Buol, Rosemary Doran, Michelle Smith, Barbara Hook, Merinda Bradshaw, Melody Schatz, Marlana Sargeant, Leslie Day, Logan Pipler, Tess Keckeisen, Danielle Carmody, Virgil Terry, Seth Davis, Patricia Santy, Hugo & Mickey Jorda, Beverly Clinton, Patti Nolan, Gregory Freez, Diana Norton, Rebecca Clinton, Karen Kindell, Peggy Montello, Steve Christmans, Michael Raspudic, Patricia Langlios, Carlos Franco, James Amrhein, & John Fortier.

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
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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	

Website address:		
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.ceofla.org/schedule.htm	

MARRIAGE ENCOUNTER	Tom & Pat Halliwell	799-0921
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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