



From the Pastor's Desk:

The story of the woman caught in adultery resonates in the headlines today. How often have we heard of someone shamed in public, whether it is the application of Shariah law in a distant land, or the exposure of spousal betrayal in the political realm? While sin is sin, at the same time an honest assessment leads us to recognize that none of us is completely pure. The corruption of sin is part of each one of us.

The blessing is that God offers us mercy and forgiveness. This gift from God is something that we all want for ourselves. But almost like selfish children, we are sometimes less inclined to share God's mercy and forgiveness with others. The hardest part of sinfulness may not be the confession and turning back to God. After all God is always merciful. The most difficult part of sin may be turning toward others and forgiving them.

Together In Mission - A big thank you to the families who have made a pledge to this archdiocesan campaign. So far, we have **\$51,366** pledged toward our parish goal of **\$53,667**. Thank you for your continued generosity. There are envelopes in the church and 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.

Reconciliation Services

Our Lady of Refuge, Monday, March 22, 7:30 pm
 St. Bartholomew, Tuesday, March 23, 7:00 pm
 St. Cornelius, Wednesday, March 24, 7:00 pm
 St. Joseph, Thursday, March 25, 7:00 pm

Respect Life - Please join us in praying for the sanctity of life from the moment of conception to natural death. We meet on the 2nd and 4th Mondays of every month, **7:00 pm**, in the Blessed Sacrament Chapel.

5TH SUNDAY OF LENT
 RACING TO GRASP THE PRIZE



From Deacon Don's Desk:

From last week's homily: In the old tradition two thirds of the inheritance goes to the eldest son and one third to the younger. So what's his beef? Envy, which leads to anger. He is blaming God for dealing him a bum hand!

We are past the halfway point in Lent. It's time to refocus our efforts or to have a metanoia, a 180 degree turn-around. Lent is a time for reconciliation, for asking forgiveness. We will have our parish Reconciliation service after the Lenten Retreat on March 25. If you are looking to go earlier, then check the schedule of Reconciliation services at neighboring parishes listed in the bulletin. In 1980 Pope John Paul II visited the North American College in Rome. The Vatican called ahead to say the Pope wants nothing more than soup and bread for lunch. Msgr. Murphy, the rector, recalls this as setting the example for the seminarians. During the meal the Pope said to the Msgr., "I have just come back from the States, and fasting and abstinence have collapsed. What happened to it?" Msgr. Murphy reflected, "Prayer, fasting and charity are the three pillars of Jewish and Christian piety; they are indispensable. You cannot say, 'I'm doing charity and hence do not have to fast.' The three pillars are incorporated in the Sermon on the Mount and the beatitudes. They are the heart of the Christian message."

Congratulations to scout Thomas Moler who received the Parvuli Dei (Children of God) award. The award helps the scout discover the presence of God in his daily life as a member of his family, parish and community.

Our Prayer: Merciful Father, forgive us for failing to see Christ in the poor, distressed, and troublesome. Help us to reverence Your Son in their persons. Give us the grace to be faithful to the Gospel and rise above our human weakness. Amen.

Chrism Mass March 29 - please call deacon Don & Tina for carpooling to the Cathedral.

Small Church Community

Scripture Focus: The Gospel story of the woman caught in adultery shows Jesus' concern for women put down and exploited. Those who accused the woman were using her to trap Jesus. If he says to let her go, he has no regard for the law that says she should be stoned. If he agrees that she should be stoned, he goes against his own gospel of compassion. Jesus says nothing; he stoops and scribbles in the sand. He says, "Let the one among you who is without sin be the first to throw a stone at her." The crowd, understandably, drifts away. Jesus is left alone with the woman. He treats her as a real person, with respect. He refuses to condemn her. He tells her to go, but from now on, to avoid this sin.

Life Focus: * Imagine this scene happening in your life. Who are you in this picture? How is Jesus guiding you toward forgiveness and compassion? * *In what way does having your sinfulness or faults exposed help you toward greater compassion?* * Recall a time when your mistakes were not held against you. * *What do you do to keep from judging others as less than yourself?* * Tell about a time when your first impression of someone was wrong.

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

Elementary Program: No Class today due to the Religious Education Congress.

Sacrament Program: The second workshop for our Year I families will take place on Sunday, **March 28**, from 2-3:30 pm in the hall.

Early Childhood: No class today for Religious Ed. Congress. We are having class next Sunday, March 28, and will have our annual Easter Celebration...don't forget your 12 filled eggs and to wear your t-shirts!

Sunday Nursery: Our nursery is available during 9:00 and 10:30 Masses. Please do not sign your child in if they are sick. Let's all try and stay healthy!

Grief Support Group - Are you grieving: the loss of a loved one, a painful divorce or separation, a recent job loss/layoff, or an economic related stress? You do not have to carry this "emotional burden" alone, there is caring help available! A Parish Grief Support Group, sponsored by your St. Joseph Bereavement Ministry, will begin on Tuesday, **April 13**, at 7:00 pm in the PAC and will run for nine weeks. Practical, emotional, spiritual and social support offered free of charge. (Note: There will be a small charge for associated materials.) To register or for further information, please call, Olga Cuda 594-4657 (rectory office) or Dave Desmond 429-3316.

Yankee Candle Delivery - Orders may be picked up on Sunday, **March 28**, at the rectory garage between **8:15 am and 12 noon**. If you cannot pick up this day, please call Marianna, **598-0519**, to make arrangements.

Thank you to all who participated in our religious education fundraiser. Our profit of \$900 will support our program and keep our tuition fees the same.

Tax Time!! If you would like a letter stating your contributions to St. Joseph Parish for 2009, please call the rectory, 594-4657, and leave your name and phone number.



St. Joseph Senior Group

Please note - we are always looking for new members - come join us! Our meetings are the 1st & 3rd Mondays, from noon to 3:00 pm.

March 23 - Trip to Pechanga Casino. Cost \$16, \$5 returned in cash or toward buffet. Includes bus driver tip. Bus leaves promptly at 8 am. Please bring bottled water. Call Olga, 596-6981.

July 12-14 - Keep dates open! Carl's Country Western Party at Riverside, 3 days, 2 nights, more info to follow.

A big **Thank You** to Laverne Kelly for taking care of all our photo albums!

Call Olga 596-6981 or Betty 596-8287.

Save the Date

The annual **Vacation Bible Camp** will take place this year at St. Cornelius, **July 12-16** from 9 am to noon. This year's theme is **Galactic Blast!** The Vacation Bible Camp is a cooperative effort of parishes in our area - St. Joseph, St. Cornelius, and St. Maria Goretti.

Adult volunteers are needed: teachers, classroom aides, playground supervisors, nutrition/snack helpers, craft helpers, etc. Please call Virginia or Marianna at the religious education office, 598-0519, for information.

READINGS FOR THE WEEK

- Monday: Is 65:17-21; Jn 4:43-54
- Tuesday: Ez 47:1-9, 12; Jn 5:1-16
- Wednesday: Is 7:10-14; 8:10; Ps 40; Heb 10:4-10; Lk 1:26-38
- Thursday: Ex 32:7-14; Jn 5:31-47
- Friday: Wis 2:1a, 12-22; Jn 7:1-2, 10, 25-30
- Saturday: Jer 11:18-20; Jn 7:40-53
- Sunday: Jer 31:31-34; Ps 51; Heb 5:7-9; Jn 12:20-33

Lenten Calendar

March 21	Fifth Sunday of Lent Start of Parish Retreat with Fr. Ken Deasy	
March 22	Parish Retreat with Fr. Ken	after 8 am Mass & 7 pm
March 23	Parish Retreat	after 8 am Mass & 7 pm
March 24	Parish Retreat	after 8 am Mass & 7 pm
March 25	Parish Reconciliation Service after retreat	
March 26	Stations of the Cross	7:30 pm
March 28	Palm Sunday	
March 29	Chrism Mass - Cathedral of Our Lady of the Angels	
April 1	HOLY THURSDAY Morning Prayer - Liturgy of the Hours	8 am
	Mass of the Lord's Supper	8 pm
	Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament	after Mass until 11 pm
April 2	GOOD FRIDAY Morning Prayer - Liturgy of the Hours	8 am
	Liturgy of the Lord's Passion	1:30 pm
	Stations of the Cross	7:30 pm
April 3	HOLY SATURDAY Morning Prayer - Liturgy of the Hours	8 am
	Easter Vigil Service	8 pm
April 4	EASTER SUNDAY - HE IS RISEN! Masses	7:30, 9:00, 10:30, 12:30



Centering Prayer

March 30 - 7:00 pm
In the church

QUESTION OF THE WEEK:

(Based on today's Bible readings)

Adult: How quick am I to cast the first stone? Do I make a distinction between the sin and the sinner?

Child: How does Jesus want us to treat each other?

Teen: Do I forgive my friends when they do something that hurts me? Do I give them a second chance?

The students of St. Joseph Elementary School will take to the track in the first annual Jog-a-thon to raise money for computers for the classrooms. The 300 students are planning to raise \$15,000 for 20 Apple computers. After raising money through flat-fee sponsorships, the students will run for 20 minutes each (approximately 2 miles) on **March 26**. They will finish up the day with a rally to celebrate their success and award prizes for the students and classes that raise the most money. If you would like to sponsor a student or make a donation for the computers, please contact the school office, 596-6115.

Parish Fair - April 23, 24, & 25

Silent Auction - Do you have an extra pair of Dodger or Angel tickets? A timeshare or frequent flyer miles to donate? **The Parish Fair Silent Auction could use your help!** We're looking for sporting events, vacation travel, restaurants, home services (landscaping, painting, etc.), or any other item that might help us to raise funds for the church and school. **If you can help, please call Cyndie Kalina, 673-5777, by Apr. 1. Thanks!**

Fingerprinting Schedule

San Pedro Region fingerprinting schedule for volunteers with our parish children. Please call for an appt:

- Mar. 24** - St. Bernard, Bellflower, 562-867-2337
- Mar. 26** - St. Philip Neri, Lynwood, 310-632-7179
- Mar. 27** - Our Lady of Guadalupe, Hermosa Bch, 310-372-7077
- Apr. 20** - St. Albert the Great, Rancho Dominguez, 310-329-7548
- Apr. 23** - St. Linus, Norwalk, 562-921-6649
- Apr. 24** - St. John Fisher, Rancho PV, 310-377-5571

Mary's Garden - The Liturgical Environment Committee this year is asking the parishioners of St. Joseph's to help raise money to refurbish Mary's Garden. You can do this by sponsoring an Easter lily for \$15 or any amount. The sponsorship can be made in the name of the family or in memory of a loved one. A member of the Liturgical Environmental Committee will be by the garage after all the Masses on **March 21 & 28**. There will be a drawing of what it will look like when completed!

We invite all of you to join us to set up the church for Easter week on Palm Sunday, **March 28**, at 1:30 pm. We are in serious need of a helper with a very tall ladder as we need to cover the crucifix.

April 3, 9 am, we'll be getting the church ready for Easter. We'll need a very tall ladder again. Please contact Alexis Lewis with any questions, 234-7907.

Did You Know? Abuse Prevention Training of Kids Nears 6 Million Mark

- The Catholic church in the U.S. has prepared more than 5.7 million children to recognize abuse and protect themselves. Age-appropriate child safety programs are mandatory throughout the Archdiocese of L. A. Please contact the Safeguard the Children Office, 213-637-7227, for information about the safe environment training programs for children. For particular help, you may call Assistance Ministry at (213) 637-7650.

Last Weekend! **Children's books** for Easter! We are asking for **new** or "gently used" books for the children (ages 3-16). There will be boxes at each door March 20-21. Please bring a



book or two to help the children of our gift basket families for Easter. Please call Patty Brio, **425-5964**, to deliver for Easter, 8:30 am, **March 27**. We are short on drivers.

Feed-A-Baby Collection for Catholic Charities and New life Beginnings - 13 bags of non perishable food and supplies, and \$847 cash. We thank you for your generosity! **Help!!** We need a family or group to oversee the **Feed-A-Baby collection - once per year. Joy is in the giving.**

YOUR SKIP-A-MEAL BLUE ENVELOPE donations are so appreciated!! Please **make checks to St. Joseph Church, memo: SKIP-A-MEAL**. Thank you for all you share with our needy brothers & sisters! John & Jan Minter 430-5839.

Thank You to all the volunteers who made our end of the year potluck and exit interviews go smoothly and quickly. Congratulations to our Year I Candidates.

Confirmation Year II - We have met our goal! Thanks to everyone who helped us achieve our commitment to Hands of Mercy with a total of \$6252. The house build is quickly approaching. We need 10 teens to come early. We'll begin at 9 am until 1 or 2 pm. Call the RE Office if you would like to come by 7 am. Please let your coaches know ASAP. We can provide written statements for an excused absence. There is no make up for this event.

Confirmation Year I - We are looking for a parent team to head up our rehearsal dinner for the Year II candidates on May 14. The team will organize our Year I candidates for set up, serving, and clean up crews. Please contact Roberta Taylor, 402-6202. This is not optional. You will be scheduled as needed, 5-7 pm or 7-9 pm. We also need parents or sponsors to supervise.

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 20

5:00 PM - † Dick Koccevar

SUNDAY, March 21

7:30 AM - Intentions of St. Joseph Parishioners

9:00 AM - † Richard Parent

10:30 AM - † Pearl Olivier

12:30 PM - † Edward Ely

MONDAY, March 22

8:00 AM - † Fr. Thomas Devine

TUESDAY, March 23

8:00 AM - Fr. Edward Broom, living, & all priests

WEDNESDAY, March 24

8:00 AM - † Michael & Maymie Devine

THURSDAY, March 25

8:00 AM - † Maggie Devine

FRIDAY, March 26

8:00 AM - † Thomas and Margaret Devine

SATURDAY, March 27

5:00 PM - Intentions of St. Joseph Parishioners

SUNDAY, March 28

7:30 AM - † Mary Whitlock

9:00 AM - † Maria & Dominico Dang

10:30 AM - † Sara Munoz

12:30 PM - † Richard Parent

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 | William G. Ouimette |

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, Elijha 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, Marlena 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, John Fortier, Dave Gallagher, John Flaherty, Fr. Frank Ferrante, Justin Wolsey, Jeanne Desmond, Juanita Herrera & Robert Maney.

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	Marty Vezzetti	425-0621
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	Ava Baldwin

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
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PARISH ORGANIZATIONS

PASTORAL COUNCIL	Robert Madura	594-4811
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	310-316-3477
	www.cceofla.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	Moses Bass	420-1877
BOY SCOUTS	Tom Lane	496-4223

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