

ST. JOSEPH CHURCH

6220 E. Willow Street, Long Beach, CA 90815



Second Sunday of Advent

December 5, 2010

The earth shall be filled with knowledge of the Lord, as water covers the sea.

— *Isaiah 11:9*

Fr. JAMES HALLEY, Administrator
frjimhalley@la-archdiocese.org

Fr. WILLIAM J. CONNOR, Pastor Emeritus

Fr. HAROLD L. FORD, Retired, In Residence

Dcn. DON GATH, Parish Deacon

Dcn. TOM HALLIWELL, Parish Deacon

RECTORY: 594-4657

Office Hours:

Monday through Friday 9:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m.

Saturday 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon

Sunday: 8:30 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.

Website: www.stjosephparishcommunity.com

St. Joseph School: 596-6115

Religious Education: 598-0519

SUNDAY MASSES:

Vigil Mass: 5:00 p.m.

Sunday: 7:30, 9:00, and 10:30 a.m. and 12:30 p.m.

HOLY DAYS:

Vigil Mass: 7:00 p.m.

Holy Day: 8:00 a.m. and 7:00 p.m.

WEEKDAY MASS:

Monday through Friday: 8:00 a.m.

CONFESSION: Saturdays: 4:00 to 4:45 p.m.

BAPTISM: By appointment, preparation class is required.

MARRIAGE: A minimum of six months notice is required.

SACRAMENT OF THE SICK: In the event of a serious illness, please contact Fr. James Halley.

St. Joseph Parish is a community of believers who uphold the teachings of the Gospel and the traditions of the Roman Catholic Church, foster the formation and enrichment of parishioners in spirituality, worship and education, providing a welcoming environment to all.

We live Christian lives by praying together, caring for our diverse community, encouraging and sharing of ourselves in service to others.



From the Desk of Fr. Jim:

People can use the word hope in a lot of different ways: "I hope that I get a certain present for Christmas. I hope that scientists will find a cure for cancer." We all have different hopes, but what does it mean to have Christian hope?

In his encyclical letter, "Spe Salvi" which means "in hope we are saved," Pope Benedict uses an interesting example to illustrate the meaning of Christian hope. He tells about an African girl named Josephine Bahkita. When she was about nine years old, slave traders kidnapped her and sold her in the slave markets of Sudan.

The wife of a general bought her and treated her cruelly. She was flogged so often that she had many scars on her body. Eventually an Italian merchant bought her and she found herself in a family that treated her kindly and introduced her to the God of Jesus Christ.

She discovered what it means to be a free child of God. She said, "I am definitely loved and whatever happens to me, this great Love waits for me. And so my life is good."

This, says Pope Benedict, is Christian hope. It is not just the thought that things might get better – but that no matter what happens, a person knows that God loves him and that God waits for him.

St. Paul tells us today that everything in the Scriptures was written so that we might have hope. By hope we become new men and women. In hope we are saved. May we all await the coming of Jesus with hope in the God who loves us and saves us and know that our lives are good.

Advent Penance Services

Monday, Dec. 13, 7:00 p.m., St. Bartholomew's

Tuesday, Dec. 14, 7:00 p.m., St. Joseph's

Wednesday, Dec. 15, 7:30 p.m., Our Lady of Refuge

Small Church Community

Scripture Focus: In the first reading Isaiah presents a picture of an ideal king and an ideal kingdom. The people's lives would send a message to the world *that God's kingdom is here to stay*. John tells his followers that the time has come for them to reform their lives. His baptism was a ceremony for followers to express their intention of conversion. And John promises that the one to follow him would baptize with the Holy Spirit and with fire, a baptism that would carry the power of God. John confronts the religious leaders of his day and attacks their insincerity. Their religion is only on the outside for people to see. He says that their lives don't show evidence of conversion.

Life Focus: * Think of those times when your life was a desert place. During those times what did you hear? How did you respond? * *In what way do you want to reform your life? What does it mean to reform? How will you know that reform is taking place?* * We all know people who seem to lead fruitful lives. Who are these people in your life? In what ways have their lives affected you? * *What in your life needs to be improved to prepare for Christ's coming?*

IMMACULATE CONCEPTION Holy Day of Obligation

Mass Schedule:

Tuesday, December 7 - Vigil Mass: 7:00 p.m.

Wednesday, December 8 - 8:00 a.m. and 7:00 p.m.

READINGS FOR THE WEEK

Monday:	Monday: Is 35:1-10; Lk 5:17-26
Tuesday:	Is 40:1-11; Mt 18:12-14
Wednesday:	Gn 3:9-15, 20; Eph 1:3-6, 11-12; Lk 1:26-38
Thursday:	Is 41:13-20; Mt 11:11-15
Friday:	Is 48:17-19; Mt 11:16-19
Saturday:	Sir 48:1-4, 9-11; Mt 17:9a, 10-13
Sunday:	Is 35:1-6a, 10; Ps 146; Jas 5:7-10; Mt 11:2-11

The Rectory Office will be closed Dec. 24, 25 and 26, as well as Jan. 1 and 2. The week of Dec. 27-31, the office will be open 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. only.

St. Joseph Bereavement Ministry

The month of November has traditionally been a "special" time for remembering, in prayer, our loved ones who have died. And as a support to those in our parish who have experienced the loss of a loved one, your St. Joseph Bereavement Team has helped to co-ordinate the 2010 Memorial Mass.

This year's Mass (our 14th) was celebrated by Fr. Jim Halley on **November 7** and as usual was, including the pot luck, very well attended!

The following is offered to provide a quick overview of the Mass: The name of each loved one was previously inscribed in our perpetual "Book of Life" and also listed on the annual Scroll. Each was displayed in the Blessed Sacrament Chapel for the month of November.

During the Mass as each loved ones name was read, a family member(s) was given a commemorative flower which they placed on the altar. The representative flowers were then blessed with incense by Fr. Jim.

At the Offertory, in addition to the bread and wine, the "book of life" and a special box containing prayers of children who have experienced a loss were also placed on the altar. Although the Memorial Mass has evolved to be our "signature event" the Bereavement Ministry Team also works with grieving families to facilitate the funeral Mass and offers a nine week Grief Support Group. The "team" would welcome, with open arms, any new members! Those interested please call: Nancy 429-2546 or Dave 429-3316. Keep the Faith!

QUESTION OF THE WEEK:

(Based on today's Bible readings)

Adult: What action can I take to turn my mind and heart around this Advent?

Child: How will I prepare for Jesus' coming during Advent?

Teen: What are the greatest challenges I face as a young person today in terms of allowing Christ to be my teacher and following him?

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION - 598-0519

Elementary: Our annual **Advent Celebration** takes place today from **10:15 a.m. to 11:45 a.m.** in the hall. This event is for **parents and children**. Please come directly to the hall at 10:15 for crafts, music, and prayer. There will be no class on **Dec. 19 and 26** for Christmas vacation. Classes resume on Sunday, **Jan. 2**.

Middle School: There will be no class on Tuesdays, **Dec. 21 and 28** for Christmas vacation. Classes resume on Tuesday, **Jan. 4**.

Early Childhood: Regular class today. Keep practicing your songs! *Next week - Community Helpers: remember your item for our Movement for a Better World Baskets.* Next week - Singing in the church after Mass! Remember to invite family and friends and bring your camera and camcorders. Get ready to be moved by the Spirit! If you would like your child to come to Sunday School, call Shannon 430-6840. Don't miss out on the fun!

Sunday Nursery: Available during 9:00 & 10:30 Masses.

22" Christmas Wreaths for Sale - St. Joseph Cub Scout Pack 120 will be selling Noble Fir Wreaths for \$20 on Dec. 12 after each Mass. The proceeds will be used to pay for the cub scout spring camp at Catalina Island. Please support this worthy cause & send a scout to camp!


Year I Confirmation - Track 2 will begin on **January 9** at 12:00 noon in the hall. The session goes until 3:00 p.m.

Year II Confirmation - We are gearing up for the Haiti Orphanage Fundraiser. Come on by the tables and support our young teens as they raise monies for Holy Childhood Association and our dear Fr. Ken, **Dec. 5 & 12**.

Mary and Joseph Retreat Center

Fourth Annual Nativity Exhibit - Dec. 5-19. Free. Call for times. Special exhibit of nativities from Latin America.

For information about events at the retreat center, visit their website: www.maryjoseph.org. Registration forms and directions are available there as well.

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How Does a Person Become a Catholic? Are you or someone you know curious about Catholicism? It is our greatest joy and our mission, to welcome new members. "Inquiry" is the first step in the four step process of faith formation and education known as the **Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults (RCIA)**. We encourage and invite individuals to "come and see" what living a life as a committed Catholic Christian can mean. Meeting times are flexible. For more info, please call Peter Baine, 598-4130.

Meditation/Centering Prayer

First, Third and Fifth Tuesdays
 December 7 and 21 - 7:00 p.m.
 In the church. All are welcome!



From Deacon Don's Desk:

Many successes are born out of adversity. "Where sin abounds, there grace abounds even more. You are not an equal mixture of good and evil, not even 60-40. You are not an evil person who sometimes does good; you are a good person who sometimes does bad. And even this is good, because it gives God a chance to do what God does best: forgive." ... Fr. James Smith, Columbus, Ohio

A real life case: As a young teen, he carried a gun for self-defense. His town, according to the Forbes magazine, was named one of America's ten most impoverished cities. His father, a Vietnam vet, struggled with a crack cocaine addiction. This young man signed a baseball contract in 1994 and spent most of the six figure bonus on his family and siblings lifting them out of poverty and building a practice facility for his high school. His father stole his car. Four days later he found it and when driving home was stopped and arrested for possession of cocaine (his father's drugs). His career was almost over. But he developed a different addiction: charity. His generosity has not been seen like this in many a year: helping youths out of gangs, street life, and homelessness. All of this 'out of the spotlight.' "There are some things you don't talk about." Jered Weaver said, "We haven't had somebody as big as him giving back. There are guys who do little things, but to see what he does motivates you to work extra to give back." An opposing pitcher said, "You just gather that about his personality. There are certain guys you look at and just know that guy helps out in the community. That's Torri Hunter, Angel right fielder. Accepting the change from center, saying, "I want to help the club, I'll do whatever he tells me." Sounds like he took a quote from our Blessed Mother at the wedding feast of Cana when she said, "Do whatever He tells you." That's our challenge.

Our Prayer: Oh God, worker of miracles, You made Immaculate Virgin Mary share body and soul in Your Son's glory in heaven. Through her intercession grant strength to the weak, comfort to the sorrowing, pardon to sinners and peace to all. Amen.

Christmas Mailing: If you did not receive the Christmas mailing with the Christmas liturgy schedule, you may not be registered. Please call the rectory with questions.

Did You Know? Take the Child Safety Quiz - Parents, guardians, and adults who care for children face constant challenges when trying to help keep children safer in today's fast-paced world. The National Center for Missing and Exploited Children (NCMEC) offers easy-to-use safety resources to help address these challenges. NCMEC's website offers a range of practical information for parents and guardians that will help keep children safe from harm. The site also features an interactive quiz on child safety designed for both adults and children. To take the quiz, visit the NCMEC website and click on "Child Safety:" www.missingkids.com. For particular help you may call Assistance Ministry, 213-637-7650.



St. Joseph Senior Group
We always welcome new members.

- Dec. 6** - Regular meeting.
- Dec. 11** - Christmas Program by the Young Americans at La Mirada Playhouse. Two tickets are available, \$29 per person. Carpool will be provided.
- Dec. 20** - Christmas Luncheon Party. Sign - up available Dec. 6th meeting, \$10/per person. Please remember to bring gift for Precious Life Shelter to the luncheon. Call Betty 596-8287 or Mary Lou 431-4385 for more info.

Retirement Fund for Religious - helps senior religious. "As expenses continue to increase and economic difficulties tighten our income, we appreciate more and more the help of the Retirement Fund." notes a woman religious. Your tax-deductible donation to this fund supports the day-to-day care of thousands of elder sisters, brothers, and religious order priests. Please Share in the Care and give generously to next week's collection.

Christmas Dinner at St. Hedwig's, 11482 Los Alamitos Blvd., Saturday, December 25, 1 p.m. in Quinn Hall. If you are alone this Christmas, we invite you to join us. There will be families to share their love and prayers with you, a bounty of food, singing, and much, much more! Reservations are required. Please contact Ed or Dewey Foster, 562-598-7060, by December 21. There is no charge.

Journey to the Holy Land with Fr. Raymond Mallett, OFM. See Haifa, Mr. Carmel, Tiberius, Nazareth, Jericho, Jerusalem, Bethlehem and more. Stay in the Old City of Jerusalem. **February 14-25**, \$2,999. Mass daily. For more information, contact Fr. Ray, 310-372,7077 ex. 25.

Welcome! We extend our hands and hearts in Christian fellowship to you, celebrating here with us, whether long-time residents or newly arrived in our parish. We thank God that you are with us. If you wish to become part of our Faith Community, please fill out this form. We will send you a Registration Form; please return it so that you will be fully registered. The Registration Form may be dropped in the collection basket, left at the rectory, or mailed. Thank You!

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

Our 27th year at St. Joseph Parish
Thanks for the Homeless Kits.

Thanks for the new blankets for our 69 families. Movement delivered the new blankets to our Gift Basket families on 11/20.



Thanks to the drivers and the families that donated food. Went great!
 Call for Gift Basket drivers for Christmas – if you did not drive at Thanksgiving – call John/Jan.
Thank you again for all that you do and share with our needy brothers/sisters in Long Beach! Call: John/Jan Minter, 430-5839.

Precious Life Shelter - A Precious Christmas
 Annual open house **December 5, 3:30-6:30 p.m.**, 10881 Reagan St., Los Alamitos. See Santa, visit our "Giving Tree" to share Christmas with a mother and child, opportunity drawings (can be purchased in advance and you don't have to be present to win), thrift shop will be open. There will be one of a kind resident artwork and gift cards available plus "Cookies for a Cause" from PLS residents. For more information, please call 562-431-5025.

- Fingerprinting Schedule**
- San Pedro Region fingerprinting schedule for volunteers with our parish children, please call for an appointment:
 - Dec. 8** - Our Lady of Perpetual Help, Downey, 562-862-7268
 - Dec. 11** - Beatitudes of Our Lord, La Mirada, 562-943-3218
 - Jan. 15** - St. Emydius, Lynwood, 310-639-1249 ext. 29
 - Jan. 28** - St. Dominic Savio, Bellflower, 562-920-7796 ext 247

Wolf Den - Pack 120

Calling all second grade boys. The St. Joseph Wolf Den still has a few openings for new wolf members. We are a very active den and pack. Pack 120 also is open to boys who do not attend St. Joseph School. For information on how your son can be on our team, contact the den leader, Pat Murach at 562-343-2567.

St. John Bosco High School Open House December 5, 11 a.m. - 2 p.m. 13640 Bellflower Blvd., Bellflower. For more information, visit our website at www.bosco.org.

Connelly High School Open House December 5, 1 - 4 p.m. 2323 W. Broadway, Anaheim. For more information, please call 714-776-1717 ext. 234. Learn about academics and student life; meet students, teachers, administrators; campus tours; vocal and handbell ensembles perform; refreshments.

St. Paul High School Open House December 8, 7:00 p.m. 9635 Greenleaf Ave., Santa Fe Springs. Welcome all future Swordsmen! Please join us in the gym for tours of the school, department presentations, and a desert reception. Applications and information available. Mass will be held in the chapel at 6 p.m. for the holy day.

Mass Intentions



- SATURDAY, December 4**
 5:00 PM - † Zdzislaw Hauser
- SUNDAY, December 5**
 7:30 a.m. - Lisa Dang and family, living
 9:00 a.m. - † Richard Parent
 10:30 a.m. - St. Joseph Parishioners
 12:30 p.m. - † John DeRuyter
- MONDAY, December 6**
 8:00 a.m. - Nancy Miller, living
- TUESDAY, December 7**
 8:00 a.m. - † Sister Theresa Scheuren, O.S.B.
 7:00 p.m. - Edward Demjanovich, living
- WEDNESDAY, December 8**
 8:00 a.m. - † Henry Wiegand
 7:00 p.m. - DeRuyter family, Thanksgiving
- THURSDAY, December 9**
 8:00 a.m. - Shannon Smith, living
- FRIDAY, December 10**
 8:00 a.m. - † Daniel Padilla
- SATURDAY, December 11**
 5:00 PM - Vinh Tran and family, living
- SUNDAY, December 12**
 7:30 a.m. - † Tess Keckeisen
 9:00 a.m. - St. Joseph Parishioners
 10:30 a.m. - Fr. Rolly Jardiniano
 12:30 p.m. - † 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:

- | | |
|------------------|---------------------|
| Glen Warren | Nick Compton |
| Joseph Comfort | Irene Avila |
| Scott Williams | Justin Ray |
| Timothy Ring | Adam Mariano |
| Daniel O'Connell | Obinna Ugochukwu |
| David Waidelich | William G. Ouimette |
| Timmy Allison | |

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, Bobby Rubly, Betty Chappell, Elizabeth Jackson, Betty Galaz, Patricia Morand, Gayle Buol, Michelle Smith, Merinda Bradshaw, Melody Schatz, Marlana Sargeant, Leslie Day, Logan Pipler, Danielle Carmody, Virgil Terry, 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, Dave Gallagher, John Flaherty, Fr. Frank Ferrante, Jeanne Desmond, Juanita Herrera, Robert Maney, Joyce Frugoli, Betty Adams, Joe Ainge, Marianne Latham, Jason McCune, William Cervola, Den Goldberg, Cass Warren, Kennedy Willey, Tatum Gumps, Gerry & Celeste Kohnen, Chuck Greening, Joe Snider, Stephen Hutchings, Daylinda Ompoc Cuizon, Grace Griffin, Ginny Kennebeck & Evelyn Sylvia.

LITURGICAL MINISTRIES

- EXTRAORDINARY MINISTERS
 of HOLY COMMUNION Gene Ensch 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
 ALTAR CARE Mary Jelnick 429-2529
 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 Dana Moler

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
 BEREAVEMENT MINISTRY Dave Desmond 429-3316
 CENTERING PRAYER Fr. Will 594-4657
 SMALL CHRISTIAN COMMUNITIES Don & Tina Gath 598-5202

EUCCHARISTIC MINISTERS TO THE SICK

- Ann Crowley 594-7575

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
- Website address:
 MOVEMENT FOR A BETTER WORLD John & Jan Minter 430-5839
 SENIOR GROUP Betty Maligie 596-8287
 KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS Ron Steiner 431-7703
 ENGAGED ENCOUNTER Tom & Diane Krause 310-316-3477
 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 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