

ST. JOSEPH CHURCH

6220 E. Willow Street, Long Beach, CA 90815



First Sunday of Lent

February 26, 2012

Your ways, O Lord, make known to me;
teach me your paths.

— Psalm 25:4

Fr. Jim Halley, Administrator
frjimhalley@la-archdiocese.org
Fr. William J. Connor, Pastor Emeritus
Fr. Harold L. Ford, Retired, In Residence
Deacon Shane Cuda
Deacon Don Gath
Deacon Tom Halliwell

RECTORY: 594-4657 Fax: 431-7424

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 noon

Website: www.stjosephlb.org

email: stjoseph@stjosephlb.org

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.

EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION: Thursday before the first Friday of the month, 6:00 - 8:00 p.m.

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

BAPTISM: Fourth Sunday of the month at 2 p.m.

MARRIAGE: An appointment with priest/deacon a minimum of six months in advance is required.

SACRAMENT OF THE SICK: In the event of a serious illness, please call the rectory.

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:

Jesus' continuous call to conversion is especially heard during Lent. There is something about being away from home that isn't pleasant. Whether we are on a business trip or on a vacation, or have left our home country, we always

long for what we have left behind.

At home we have what is ours, our memories, our loved ones, our roots. In it we find safety, comfort, and a sense of belonging. That is why we long to go back "home." That's why our heart can ache when we are forced to leave it. Sometimes we might think that life would be better if we just "packed up and moved" somewhere else.

In our spiritual life, that is what sin wants to make us think, that life away from God and God's people will be a better life. And yet when we let sin guide our coming and our going, we find ourselves at a place that isn't home. Our heart aches and we long to go back where we are always welcomed, supported, and loved.

Sin might lead us away from our home in God, yet it can never remove us beyond God's reach and love. In the same way a father and mother can see into the heart of his or her child, and see the goodness that is there, God sees us in the same way in spite of our sins and faults.

During Lent it's important for us to learn that these forty days invite us to get on the road that leads us to our home, that leads us to our God.



Soup Nights and Stations

Most Fridays of Lent, 5 - 7 p.m. followed by Stations of the Cross: Mar. 2, 9, 16 & 30, and April 6.

QUESTION OF THE WEEK:

(Based on today's Bible readings)

Adults: In what ways do I want Lent to be a new beginning in my life as a Christian?

Child: What will I do this Lent to become more like Jesus?

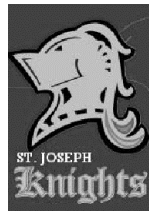
Teen: What good habit could I work on during Lent so I could grow closer to God?

Centering Prayer will be meeting in the Parish Center chapel every Tuesday at 7:00 p.m.



Our Lady of Perpetual Help Devotion
after 8 a.m. Mass every Tuesday.

Regional Vocation Director: Rev. Ed Beniof, Holy Trinity Parish, San Pedro, 310-548-6535. Vocation information may be found at: www.lavocations.org.



Knightly News

Lent has begun! St. Joseph School started off the season with an Ash Wednesday prayer service led by Fr. Jim. Many parents also attended this service with the school children and received their ashes. As always they were most welcome. There are numerous activities

that take place in the classrooms to help children bring to mind the significance of this season. Some of these activities include "burying the Alleluia," making special visits to the Church to see how it is different than in ordinary time, reciting the Stations of the Cross as a class and some classes even make up their own modern day Stations of the Cross. The season of Lent culminates for us on Thursday, April 5 when the junior high students present the school Stations of the Cross at 11:30 in the morning. All parishioners are welcome to attend and pray with us. May this holy season be one of special blessings for you and for your families.

Principal Hebestreit

Small Church Community

Scripture Focus: On this first Sunday of Lent, we hear Mark's version of Jesus being tempted in the desert. Jesus begins with this confrontation with evil. The rest of his life and work will continue this great battle: casting out demons, healing, struggling for the truth against corrupt leaders and even the blindness of his own disciples. Through it all, he proclaims the good news that the time of God's reign is now. God's truth and love is stronger than distortion and injustice. Believe the good news and it can change your life.

Life Focus: * Relate an experience when you were "tested." * Describe a time when you were challenged to confront a weakness in your life. * Talk about an obstacle in the recent past that could be keeping you from becoming a better person. What might such an obstacle be in the weeks ahead? * Explain how you deal with failures in your life.

ADULT FAITH FORMATION

Be sure to fill out a survey and give us feedback on areas of interest and/or topics you would like offered for ongoing faith formation. Surveys can be found at the various exits of the church and can also be completed online at our parish website, www.stjosephlb.org. Please return to the rectory or religious education office.

Pro Life Corner - Cardinal Joseph Bernardin articulated a consistent ethic of life, which included opposition to both abortion and the death penalty, in 1985. Ten years later, in his encyclical The Gospel of Life, Pope John Paul II taught that opposing capital punishment should be part of a pro-life witness for a culture of life that promotes human dignity and solidarity. The National Conference of Catholic Bishops as well as individual bishops across the country have repeated the teaching. - America Magazine

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION - 598-0519

Elementary OPEN HOUSE for all our programs will be held in the hall on Sunday, **March 4**, after the 9am and 10:30am Masses. Please join us for donuts and coffee hosted by our Middle School students and view all the displays showing the various activities and resources for our programs.

Sacrament Program: The First Reconciliation Workshop for our 2nd Year families will be held today, from **2:00pm to 4:30pm** in the hall. This workshop is for school and religious education parents and children. Child care will be provided for siblings.

Middle School: Please join us for coffee and donuts at the Open House on Sunday, **March 4**, after the 9am and 10:30am Masses. Proceeds will go to a charity.

Early Childhood: Regular class today. **Community Helpers Alert!** Pick up Homeless Kit envelopes today. Open House next week: invite family and friends, bring your cameras and camcorders to see the children sing after Mass in the hall. Remember to wear your t-shirts!

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

Confirmation News - *Reminder* Track III for Year I & II begins the week of Sunday, March 4. Year I will meet in the Hall at 12:00 pm. Year II will meet in their designated classrooms at 4:00 pm (Sunday group) and 7:00 pm (Wednesday group).

Note to Parishioners: Thank you for your continued support and prayers for our candidates as they move through the Confirmation Process. Confirmation has been scheduled for Sunday, April 15 at 3:00 pm in the Church. All are welcome to join us for this very special Sacrament and Mass.

VIRTUS TRAINING

The 3-hour Protecting God's Children training will be held on Tuesday, **March 13**, from 7 to 10pm in the Parish Activity Center. On **March 20** the re-certification training, Keeping the Promise Alive, will be held from 7 to 8:30pm also in the PAC. Please call the religious education office at **598-0519** to register. These are required for those working directly with children in our parish.

"Jesus is Lord" - Bible Classes

Tuesdays 9:00 a.m. or Thursdays 7:00 p.m.

The Book of Psalms - The Church considers the Psalms her perfect prayer book. The Psalms contain in themselves all of the Old Testament and New Testament, the whole mystery of Christ. When we pray Psalms we deal with our human emotions with God. Direct line to God!

Information: Rita Smith, 714-761-4376, 562-533-1243

**From Deacon Don's desk:**

By the time you read this Ash Wednesday will have passed. But soon spring training will be upon us!! This Sunday's Gospel is about the 40 days Jesus spends in the desert among the "wild beasts" and his tempting by Satan. The final line in the Gospel is, "Repent and believe in the Gospel." You may have heard that, when the minister placed the ashes on your forehead. Or, "Remember, you are dust, and to dust you will return." We relate our 40 days of Lent to Jesus' 40 days in the desert, a time for deeper reflection on the Gospels. The first half of Lent, the Gospels are taken from the Synoptics (Matthew, Mark and Luke because they have similar stories) and Hebrew Scripture (OT). Then we turn to John's Gospel for the second half of Lent.

Resolutions are fine but they we often fail. Not to worry even a good ball player fails 70% of the time !! The whole purpose of Lent is to re-orient us and bring home the need for salvation.

OUR PRAYER: Your ways, Lord, are love and truth to those who keep your covenant. Guide me and remember Your compassion. Rescue us, and do not remember the sins of our youth but remember us with Your love.

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION**YANKEE CANDLE FUNDRAISER**

Yankee Candle orders are now due. We will be accepting into next week. Thank you to those who have ordered. We appreciate your support!

Youth Ministry – Celebrate this Leap Year with a "Leap of Faith"!! Dine at Ruby's in the Marketplace on Wednesday, **Feb. 29**, 4-9 p.m., and 20% of your bill will be donated to our Youth Ministry. ****Must present flyer**** Bring your friends, family and neighbors...additional flyers are available at the church exits, rectory and on our parish website: stjosephlb.org

Please remember in your prayers the men and women of the Armed Forces who are currently serving our country, 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	Patrick Rea
Michael Marchante	Jason Kaufmann
Nicky Kaufmann	John Landry
Jessica Landry	

We would like to have a framed picture 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.



St. Joseph's Heartbeat God ♥ all

We always welcome new members.

Mar. 5 and 19 - Regular meetings

Apr. 2 and 16 - Regular meetings

May 7 and 21 - Regular meetings

Jun. 4 and 18 - Regular meetings

Trip: Viejas Casino in San Diego County, Mar. 22.

\$7 per person with \$5 discount on buffet & 15% food court discount book.

For trip info, call Rosie, 425-4162, or Barbara, 430-5324.

Call Betty 596-8287 or Mary Lou 431-4385 for group info.

LENTE PRESENTATION

Are you interested in getting help in understanding yourself and others while receiving insight into how we can more effectively meet each other and the Holy One in our daily lives? If you answer "yes," you are invited to join us for "The Enneagram." Monday evenings from 7pm to 9pm, **March 12, 19, and 26** in the Parish Activity Center. The presenter is Sr. Rita Carroll, SSL. For more information and to register, please call the Religious Ed Office at **598-0519** by **March 5**.

You are invited to the Long Beach Playhouse, **March 7, Sherlock Holmes, the Final Adventure**, to benefit L.B. Meals on Wheels. Reception with wine and finger food at 7 p.m., performance at 7:30, dessert and coffee at intermission, \$30 open seating. Tickets limited. Call Olga Kocovar, 596-6981, or Judy Pedneault, 421-6863.

Fingerprinting Schedule

San Pedro Region fingerprinting schedule for volunteers with our parish children, please call for an appointment:

Feb. 29 - Mary Star of the Sea, San Pedro, 310-833-3541 x 221

Mar. 2 - St. Joseph, Long Beach, 562-598-0519

Parish Fair News: The parish fair is only 61 days away! Parishioners, please consider volunteering for a shift or two or sponsoring a booth. More details to follow - look to the bulletin in the coming weeks. For questions, please contact Kraig Jondle 760-5458, or Dana Moler 522-5832.

Tax Letter for 2011 - For a letter stating your contributions for 2011, please call the rectory office, 594-4657, and leave your name, phone number and email address.

Catholic Co-ed Softball Players Wanted! - Slo-Pitch spring adult (18+) league, games on Sunday afternoons, March - June in Torrance & Long Beach. Please contact Fred Lawler, 657-464-9314 or fredlawler@hotmail.com

"Our homeless hygiene kit drive is under way! Please take a donation bag with a suggested list of necessities from the cross at the back of the church and return next week.



Mar. 17 - 18: Children's Book Drive.

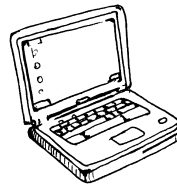
Mar. 28: Sort Children's Books for our Easter food and gift distribution.

Mar. 30: Assemble Easter food and gifts for distribution.

Mar. 31: Distribution of Easter food and gifts to 71 Long Beach families in need.

Can you help? Call Tim Clark, 431-4385. Blue Skip-a-Meal envelope donations support our program.

"Amen, I say to you, whatever you did for one of these least brothers of mine, you did for me." Matthew 25:40



If you would like to receive parish information via email (Soup Nights, retreats, etc.), please call the rectory office, 594-4657, with your email address.

Feast of St. Joseph Celebration, March 18

Our Feast of St. Joseph celebration, March 18, will begin at 12:00 noon in the parish hall. In the tradition of a St. Joseph's Table, we will process to the church for 12:30 Mass. After Mass, we will continue our St. Joseph's Table in the hall to honor our parish's patron saint and for charity. One half of the net proceeds will support St. Joseph School tuitions. The other half will be donated to St. Anthony Church.

Tickets for a GREAT opportunity drawing are currently on sale. See flyers at the church doors. Can you donate an item in support of our St. Joseph's Table silent auction? Please call Gerry Seckington, 420-3220.

Did You Know? Internet Spammers Target Kids, Too -

Does your child know what to do when he or she gets an e-mail from an unknown person? If you are allowing your children to communicate with others online, be aware that they will be exposed to spam. The easiest way to avoid spam is to make sure that your children do not give out their personal information or e-mail address to anyone they do not know. Adjust the security settings on their e-mail account to filter or block unwanted messages. Encourage your children to delete any messages they get from anyone they don't know. Even when your children get e-mail or instant messages from people they know, make sure that they scan everything they are downloading for viruses first. You can do this by making sure that you have your antivirus software up to date. For more information, please visit: www.netSMART.org/safety/safetytips.htm. For particular help, you may call Assistance Ministry at (213) 637-7650.

Mass Intentions



SATURDAY, February 25

5:00 p.m. - Fr. Edward Broom & all priests, living

SUNDAY, February 26

7:30 a.m. - St. Joseph Parishioners

9:00 a.m. - Joe & Lily Dang, living

10:30 a.m. - † Donald Sherman

12:30 p.m. - † Ernesto Alvarez

MONDAY, February 27

8:00 a.m. - † Tim Spellicy

TUESDAY, February 28

8:00 a.m. - † Francis Aimone

WEDNESDAY, February 29

8:00 a.m. - Fr. Edward Broom, living

THURSDAY, March 1

8:00 a.m. - Fr. Larry Darnell & all priests, living

FRIDAY, March 2

8:00 a.m. - † Alojij Dijkhuis

SATURDAY, March 3

5:00 p.m. - † Botelho and Salvate families

SUNDAY, March 4

7:30 a.m. - † Dick Kocevar, Anniversary

9:00 a.m. - † James Halley

10:30 a.m. - † Ernie and Eileen Kujak

12:30 p.m. - St. Joseph Parishioners

READINGS FOR THE WEEK

Sunday: Is 43:18-19, 21-22, 24b-25; Ps 41; 2 Cor 1:18-22; Mk 2:1-12
 Monday: Jas 3:13-18; Mk 9:14-29
 Tuesday: Jas 4:1-10; Mk 9:30-37
 Wednesday: Jl 2:12-18; Ps 51; 2 Cor 5:20 - 6:2; Mt 6:1-6, 16-18
 Thursday: Dt 30:15-20; Lk 9:22-25
 Friday: Is 58:1-9a; Mt 9:14-15
 Saturday: Is 58:9b-14; Lk 5:27-32
 Sunday: Gn 9:8-15; Ps 25; 1 Pt 3:18-22; Mk 1:12-15

PLEASE PRAY FOR . . . Eugene Dryer, Bert Willis, Mary Mariano, Betty Chappell, Patricia Morand, Michelle Smith, Merinda Bradshaw, Hugo & Mickey Jorda, Beverly Clinton, Dave Gallagher, Fr. Frank Ferrante, Jeanne Desmond, Joyce Frugoli, William Cervola, Den Goldberg, Kennedy Willey, Tatum Gumps, Gerry & Celeste Kohnen, Joe Snider, Stephen Hutchings, Daylinda Ompoc Cuizon, Evelyn Sylvia, Fernando Montoya, Mike Dresnick, Kathy June, Betty Klemm, John, Spencer, & Helen Baca, Ronald Willy, Sheri Weber, Jarome Bartolon, Kenneth Davis, Mary Lou Clark, Bob Flynn, Nicolas Ramirez, Mary Harding, Tim Ginnett, Lois Kearney, Gary Skrehot, Mirna Pilarczyk, J. Christopher Clise, Janette Linares, Carol Manion, Martha Rushing, Tillie Burke, Clara Lee Radtke, Mark Wynne, Domingo Vallejo, Chester Lizak, Barbara Gormly, Arnold & Frances Esposito, Madelyne McCarthy, Gary Lyman, Alfredo Tan, Pauline Diaz, Josephine Rosello, Robert Burt, Kimberley Wilkinson, Kim Agee, Rosemary Doran, Luis Arroyo & Aaron Richardt.

LITURGICAL MINISTRIES

LITURGY COMMITTEE	Dcn. Shane Cuda	594-4657
EXTRAORDINARY MINISTERS of HOLY COMMUNION	Gene Ensch	421-0147
LECTORS	Bill Smith	431-2495
USHERS	Marty Vezzetti	425-0621
ALTAR SERVERS	Dcn. Shane Cuda	594-4657
DIRECTOR of MUSIC	Vivian Doughty	422-5430
ALTAR CARE		594-4657
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	Michele Grubbs

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

562-598-0519

DIRECTOR of RELIGIOUS EDUCATION Virginia Young

ELEMENTARY, MIDDLE SCHOOL	Virginia Young	598-0519
CONFIRMATION	Melissa Beach	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	Olga Cuda	594-4657
BEREAVEMENT MINISTRY	Dave Desmond	429-3316
CENTERING PRAYER	Fr. Will	594-4657
SMALL CHRISTIAN COMMUNITIES	Dcn. Don & Tina Gath	598-5202

EUCCHARISTIC MINISTERS TO THE SICK

Ann Crowley **594-7575**

PARISH ORGANIZATIONS

PASTORAL COUNCIL	Mark Smith	425-7811
FINANCE COUNCIL	Randall Ely	430-0142
WEBSITE COORDINATOR	rely5@verizon.net	
	Mike Santy	799-0660
	msanty@verizon.net	
	www.stjosephlb.org	
MOVEMENT FOR A BETTER WORLD	Tim Clark	431-4385
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	
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	Pat Murach	342-4096
BOY SCOUTS	Tom Lane	496-4223

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