



ST. JOSEPH CHURCH

6220 E. Willow Street
Long Beach, CA 90815

Fr. Jim Halley, *Pastor*
Fr. Harold L. Ford, *In Residence*
Deacon Shane Cuda
Deacon Don Gath
Deacon Tom Halliwell

RECTORY

Phone: 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

Website: www.stjosephlb.org
email: stjoseph@stjosephlb.org
frjimhalley@la-archdiocese.org

St. Joseph School: 596-6115

Religious Education: 598-0519
email: religioused@stjosephlb.org

SUNDAY MASSES

Vigil Mass: 5:00 p.m.

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

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

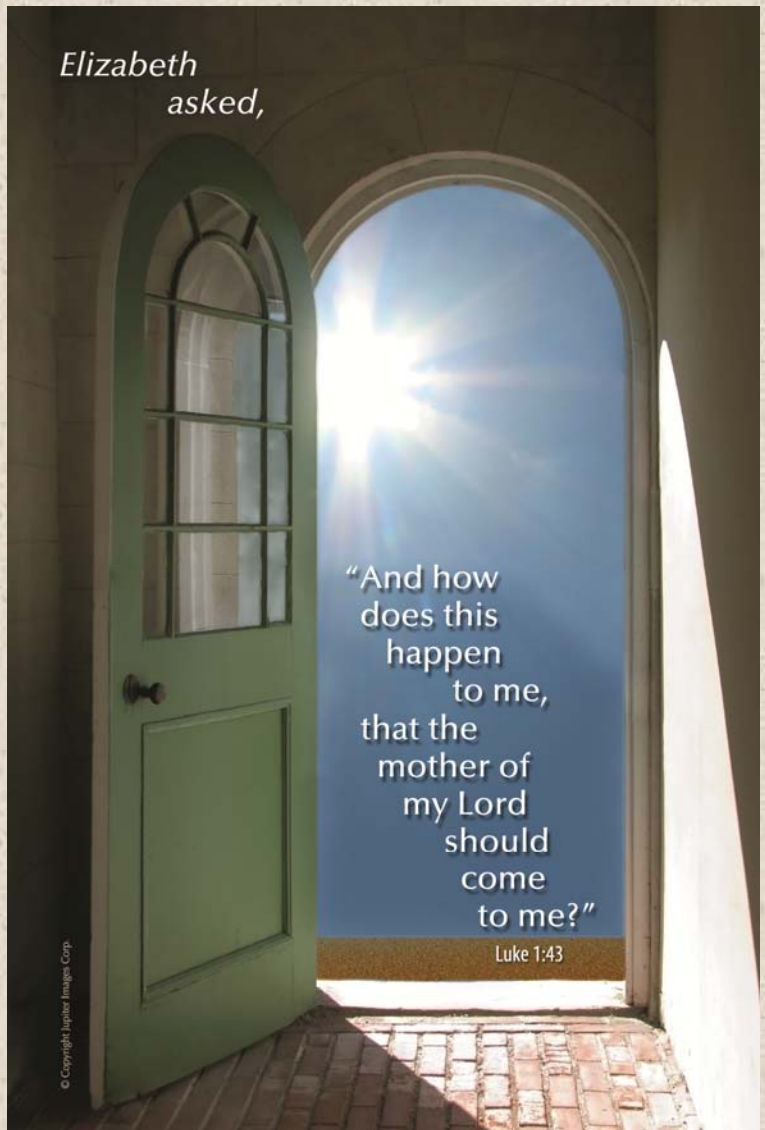
OUR LADY OF PERPETUAL HELP

DEVOTION after 8 a.m. Mass every Tuesday

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.



Fourth Sunday of Advent

December 23, 2012

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 Pastor's desk:

One thing that we always associate with the celebration of Christmas is the act of giving. Christmas is the feast of giving. Christmas is the one time of the year when most people give and get a present, even if it's only a Christmas

card.

The greatest gift of Christmas is Jesus Christ. In humbling himself and becoming human he gave us the greatest gift possible, he made it possible for us to share in his Divinity. God gives, and the people of God give, and that is Christmas.

In today's Gospel we read the story of Mary visiting with Elizabeth. What gift did Mary bring to Elizabeth? We are told she brought just one thing: herself. She gave Elizabeth the gift of her very presence. And this is the best and the hardest gift of all.

When we visit people this Christmas, my hope and prayer is that we are able to bring some inspiration into their lives, as Mary did. I hope we are able to bring them closer to God, by sharing with them that Spirit of God that lives in us, a Spirit of consolation, of courage, of peace and joy.



From Deacon Don's desk:

From our family to yours, we wish you a Blessed and Merry Christmas. May the Christ Child live in you and keep you close to His heart. Following is a hymn/poem for the approaching Christmas. Its beautiful words ask blessings and praise and protection for our homes and children:

"On this day we sing your praises
 Purest Maid of all the earth.
 While the beauty of the springtime
 Tells your joy at Jesus' birth.

Glorious Queen, look down in kindness
 While before Your throne we stand;
 Bring God's blessing to your children;
 Watch our homes and guard our land.

Gate of Heaven, you were Mother
 To the kings of heaven and earth;
 Now be Mother to your subjects
 In our souls give Jesus birth.

Queen of Mankind, while creation
 Speaks the grandeur of God's love,
 Mold our hearts to seek His glory
 Till we reach our home above."

OUR PRAYER: Lord, You are our redeemer, who made the Immaculate Virgin Mary Your purest home and the sanctuary of the Holy Spirit, make us temples of Your Spirit forever. We ask this through Christ our Lord who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit one God for ever and ever Amen.

An Advent Prayer

Lord, I love you. I am so grateful that you came to us as a baby so long ago, and I can't wait for you to come again as Lord. But right now, I ask you to come into my heart and fill me with your love. Come, and let my family know your presence. Come, and pour out blessings on your church. Come, and give us all a deeper yearning for you. Come, Lord, and be our Prince of Peace!



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YEAR OF FAITH 2012

Year of Faith - This Year opens the door of faith by inviting us to renew our friendship with Christ and rediscover the Church's teachings, and Advent opens the door of a new liturgical year. With these spiritual "doors" opening, consider what the physical

doors in our lives look like: our parish church, our home or apartment, even my room. What do people see, outside, before the door opens? Do branches, flowers, a seasonal wreath - adorned perhaps with ribbons or fabric in appropriate (liturgical?) colors - offer a wordless welcome that heralds a warm personal greeting? Christmas decorations, outdoors and inside, are already customary. Why not plan something similar for Advent, Lent, Easter, even Ordinary Time? Situate the family crèche in an honored setting just inside the door, so it can be the first thing that visitors see. Replace it during Lent with a treasured crucifix, then a Resurrection icon or Christ candle, an image of Our Lady during May, and so forth.

READINGS FOR THE WEEK

Sunday:	Mi 5:1-4a; Ps 80:2-3, 15-16, 18-19; Heb 10:5-10; Lk 1:39-45
Monday:	2 Sm 7:1-5, 8b-12, 14a, 16; Ps 89:2-5, 27, 29; Lk 1:67-79
Tuesday:	Vigil: Is 62:1-5; Ps 89:4-5, 16-17, 27, 29; Acts 13:16-17, 22-25; Mt 1:1-25 [18-25] Night: Is 9:1-6; Ps 96:1-3, 11-13; Ti 2:11-14; Lk 2:1-14 Dawn: Is 62:11-12; Ps 97:1, 6, 11-12; Ti 3:4-7; Lk 2:15-20 Day: Is 52:7-10; Ps 98:1-6; Heb 1:1-6; Jn 1:1-18 [1-5, 9-14]
Wednesday:	Acts 6:8-10; 7:54-59; Ps 31:3cd-4, 6, 8ab, 16bc, 17; Mt 10:17-22
Thursday:	1 Jn 1:1-4; Ps 97:1-2, 5-6, 11-12; Jn 20:1a, 2-8
Friday:	1 Jn 1:5 — 2:2; Ps 124:2-5, 7b-8; Mt 2:13-18
Saturday:	1 Jn 2:3-11; Ps 96:1-3, 5b-6; Lk 2:22-35
Sunday:	Sir 3:2-6, 12-14 or 1 Sm 1:20-22, 24-28; Ps 128:1-5 or Ps 84:2-3, 5-6, 9-10; Col 3:12-21 [12-17] or 1 Jn 3:1-2, 21-24; Lk 2:41-52

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

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION - 598-0519

Early Childhood: Registration forms for ages 3, 4, & K are in the back of the church to the right of the doors as you walk in. Call Shannon 598-0519 for more info. We want your family and little ones to know you are welcome and important members of our community. Join us!

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

Religious Education Congress February 21 (Youth Day), February 22-24 at the Anaheim Convention Center

In this Year of Faith, the Congress theme "Enter the Mystery," bids us to look with "new eyes" and discover God's creative presence woven into the fabric of our rich faith story: our beliefs, our rituals and our great spiritual traditions.

If you have never before attended Congress, you are assured of a wonderful experience. All welcome! Congress offers 280 workshops covering topics from spirituality and personal development to biblical studies, theology and catechesis, as well as morning praise, evening liturgies and a variety of noontime and evening concerts. Come and be renewed! Don't miss out! Register now. You may access the book on line and register by visiting www.RECongress.org. To obtain a registration book, contact our religious ed office, 562-598-0519 or call the congress information line, 213-637-7348.

Join Us for a Marriage Enrichment Program for couples married 0-5 years, Fridays, Jan. 25, Feb. 22, Mar. 22, Apr. 26, May 31, and June 28 at St. Basil Church, 3611 Wilshire Blvd, L.A., 7-10 p.m. To register contact Candy Metoyer, Office of Family Life, 213-637-7250 or cmetoyer@la-archdiocese.org

**Bereavement Ministry for Children**

Children love Christmas! For children whose mom or dad has died, Christmas can be difficult. There's plenty you can do to help make the holidays a little easier for young families who have lost a loved one. With tape, ribbon,

and wrapping paper in hand, go to their house and wrap gifts. Put up their Christmas lights, or help decorate their tree. If you take your children Christmas shopping, take their children, too. Whatever the children will miss because mom or dad isn't there, fill the void. In every parish there are children living with profound loss - be a joyful presence in their lives and bring to them the spirit of Christmas.

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



Adult Confirmation - There are two adult Confirmation classes starting in January. Mondays starting Jan. 14 in Lomita, and Sundays starting Jan. 20 in Norwalk. If you would like to be confirmed, please call our Religious Education office, 598-0519, for information on how to register.

The **Diaconate Formation** Office will be hosting an information meeting for all men who are interested in finding out more about becoming a permanent deacon in the Archdiocese of Los Angeles. Members of the Archdiocesan Diaconate Formation Office will be present to explain the role of the deacon in the Church, to explain the diaconate formation program, and to answer any questions that participants might have. Men must be between the ages of 30 and 60 years to enter the formation program. It is important for men who are married to attend with their wives. The next information meeting will be held on Sunday **January 20**, from 2:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m., at St. John Chrysostom Parish Church in Inglewood (530 East Florence Ave., Inglewood, CA 90301). For further information or to register, please contact Mrs. Claudia A. Ortiz in the Diaconate Formation Office at (213) 637-7383 or at: <mailto:CAOrtiz@la-archdiocese.org>.



Give the Christmas GIFT you can enjoy all year long - a Marriage Encounter Weekend! Your love as husband and wife is a gift to one another, as well as a gift from God. Receive the tools to make the most of this precious gift. Nurture

your sacrament by deepening your communication, strengthening your relationship, and rekindling the romance. Attend a weekend as part of your **New Year's Resolution!** Weekends in the L. A. area for 2013 are **March 1-2, June 28-30, and Nov. 8-10**. Visit www.ilovemyspouse.net for more details or contact Sarah and Jacob Flores, 562-923-7335 or Vinny and Tanya Calingasan, 424-777-9963.

Sacred Heart Leadership Retreat - The Sacred Heart Sisters personally invite young women in their junior year in High School or older to enter into the Heart of God to discover His personal love for you, **Dec. 27-30** at Sacred Heart Retreat Camp, Big Bear Lake. The retreat will include communal and private prayer, Eucharist and Reconciliation. Donation: \$75. For information, 909-866-5696 or www.sacredheartretreatcamp.com - Events page.

"Jesus is Lord" Standing on the word of God, let us learn together. St. Joseph Bible Study has resumed classes: **Tuesdays 9 a.m. and Thursdays 7 p.m.**

"I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me." Philippians 4:13 To register, call Rita Smith, 714-761-4376.



St. Joseph's Heartbeat God ♥ all

We always welcome new members.

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year to all!!

Jan. 7 & 21 - Social/game gathering

Feb. 4 - Social/game gathering

Social/game gatherings 11:30 am to 2:30 pm.

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

St. Joseph Elementary Class of 1965 Reunion

Are you a 1965 graduate or a friend, family member, team mate, teacher, coach of a 1965 graduate? **Pass the word!** We are planning a reunion of the Class of 1965 and friends on June 22. Details to follow! Interested in attending/planning, please contact Pete St. Amour, 623-979-4495 pstamour@cox.net or Diane Cannon Robetcky, 951-302-8702 di.robetcky@verizon.net.

Catholic Charities is seeking a Regional Director to manage all aspects of the programs in the San Pedro/Long Beach region. Qualifications: Master's degree in social work or related field, experience as a Director, etc. For more information, please email hrjobs@ccharities.org

Rectory Office will be closed Dec. 24, 25, 31, and Jan. 1. May God bless each of you with a joyous Christmas season and a blessed new year!

Fingerprinting Schedule

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

Jan. 16 - St. Joseph, Long Beach, 562-598-0519

Jan. 26 - St. Philip Neri, Lynwood, 310-632-7179

Jan. 30 - St. Paul of the Cross, La Mirada, 562-921-4911

Did You Know? Teaching kids to be safe around unfamiliar animals

- We've all had the experience of someone else's dog approaching us. Uncertainty about the dog's intent can be frightening, especially to young children. The ASPCA website provides parents with advice on teaching their children to read a dog's body language and to identify signs that it wants to be left alone. The website also helps parents teach their children how to protect themselves from an overexcited pet by demonstrating the basics of dog bite prevention such as rolling into a ball, protecting hands and face and calling for help, rather than running or screaming if chased by a dog. For more information, check out Dog Bite Prevention and Safety <www.aspc.org/site/PageServer?pagename=pets_dogbiteprevention>. For particular help, you may call Assistance Ministry, 213-637-7650.

"Children, let us love not in word or speech but in deed and truth." 1 John 3:18. And so we did last weekend, to brighten and bless the Christmas holidays for Long Beach families in need!



- 66 community supported families in need
 - 16 individually adopted families in need
 - 300+ Christmas presents for children
 - 75+ gift cards for the teens
 - \$7,500+ in groceries
 - 150+ volunteers
 - 9 school classrooms
 - 15+ Religious Education students & family members
- May you know the peace of Christ this blessed Christmas season! Please call Tim Clark 431-4385. Skip-a-Meal donations support our program.

Are You Prepared for 2013 Tax Law Changes? The current estate tax laws will expire at the end of 2012. Unless Congress intervenes before that time, you will see significant changes. Here is a preview:

Gift and Estate tax exemptions drop dramatically: The gift and estate tax exemption decreases from \$5.12 million to \$1 million in 2013. This exemption is the amount you can pass to your beneficiaries without being taxed. The gift and estate tax rate applied to amounts transferred in excess of the \$1M exemption will increase from 35% to 55%. The annual gift tax exclusion - the amount you can give to anyone gift tax-free each year - is projected to be at \$14,000 (\$28,000 for married couples).

Capital gains and income taxes increase: Capital gains taxes will increase from 15 to 20 percent and the top income tax rate will be raised from 35 percent in 2012 to 39.6 percent in 2013.

Portability ends: For 2012, if one spouse died without using up his or her federal estate tax exemption, the unused portion could be transferred to the surviving spouse. This is called a portability provision. In 2013, however, portability between spouses ends.

If a new tax bill is approved before Dec. 31, you will need to be ready for the last-minute changes. Either way, you may want to talk to your estate lawyer and tax advisor.

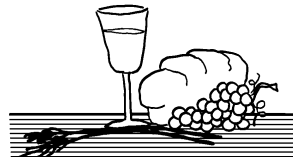
Please remember in your prayers the men and women of the Armed Forces who are currently serving our country, especially those of our parish families, including:

Glen Warren
Joseph Comfort
Scott Williams
Timothy Ring
Obinna Ugochukwu
Timmy Allison
Jason Kaufmann
John Landry

Nick Compton
Irene Avila
Justin Ray
Adam Mariano
David Waidelich
Michael Marchante
Nicky Kaufmann
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.

Mass Intentions



SATURDAY, December 22

5:00 p.m. - † Robert Maney

SUNDAY, December 23

7:30 a.m. - Dang family

9:00 a.m. - † Charles Thrash & daughter Paulette

10:30 a.m. - † John Fortier

12:30 p.m. - † Domingo Dizon

MONDAY, December 24

4:00 p.m. - Christmas Remembrance Mass

6:00 p.m. - † John DeRuyter

9:00 p.m. - † Cruz Aragon

TUESDAY, December 25

9:00 a.m. - † Sgt. Michael J. Tetreault

10:30 a.m. - Fr. Edward Broom and all priests

12:30 p.m. - Christmas Remembrance Mass

WEDNESDAY, December 26

8:00 a.m. - † Kenneth Wetmore

THURSDAY, December 27

8:00 a.m. - Noel Madrid

FRIDAY, December 28

8:00 a.m. - † Sara Muñoz

SATURDAY, December 29

5:00 p.m. - † Timothy Matthew O'Donnell

SUNDAY, December 30

7:30 a.m. - † Anna Greco

9:00 a.m. - † Charles Thrash & daughter Paulette

10:30 a.m. - † Teresa Anselmo

12:30 p.m. - † Donald O'Donell

PLEASE PRAY FOR . . .

Eugene Dryer, Mary Mariano, Betty Chappell, Patricia Morand, Michelle Smith, Merinda Bradshaw, Hugo & Mickey Jorda, Dave Gallagher, Fr. Frank Ferrante, Milton & Joyce Frugoli, William Cervola, Tatum Gumps, Gerry & Celeste Kohnen, Joe Snider, Stephen Hutchings, Daylinda Ompoc Cuizon, Fernando Montoya, Mike Dresnick, Kathy June, Betty Klemin, John, Spencer, & Helen Baca, Sheri Weber, Jarome Bartolon, Bob Flynn, Tim Ginnett, Lois Kearney, Gary Skrehot, Mirna Pilarczyk, J. Christopher Clise, Janette Linares, Carol Manion, Martha Rushing, Clara Lee Radtke, Mark Wynne, Chester Lizak, Barbara Gormly, Frances Esposito, Madelyne McCarthy, Gary Lyman, Alfredo Tan, Pauline Diaz, Josephine Rosello, Robert Burt, Kimberley Wilkinson, Kim Agee, Luis Arroyo, Aaron Richardt, Rosemary Stolinski, Ginny Foglia, Nell Virgil, Sheila Corry, Marvey Watkins-King, Gregg Davis, Ed Madrid, Carol Chick, Gilbert Nevarraz, Jr., Yolanda Zito, Eva Arias, Dora Dominguez, Alice Delgado, Monica Cervola, Dennis Richards, Carrie Colodel, Larry Shaw, Kennedy & Dawn Willey, Marlene Smith Rothshell, Tom Korman, Kenneth Fong, baby Maddi Arnold, Adrienne Reitz, David Dresnick, Jeanie San Jose, Noel Madrid, Jeremy Bonas, Heather Dean, Larry Lyons, Chuck Almada, Alma & Leon Justice & Doug Houck.

LITURGICAL MINISTRIES

LITURGY COMMITTEE	Dcn. Shane Cuda	594-4657
EXTRAORDINARY MINISTERS of HOLY COMMUNION	Gene Ensich	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 (sister & brother)	493-2198

ST. JOSEPH SCHOOL

562-596-6115

PRINCIPAL	Margaret Alvarez
ADMISTRATIVE COUNSEL	Carole Dellavalle, Jaclyn Padgett & Erin Wright
SECRETARY	Julie Gianessi
PTO PRESIDENT	Javier Munoz

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

562-598-0519

DIRECTOR of RELIGIOUS EDUCATION	Nancy Longo	
ELEMENTARY, MIDDLE SCHOOL	Nancy Longo	598-0519
CONFIRMATION	Melissa Beach	598-0519
EARLY CHILDHOOD	Shannon Carpenter	598-0519
LITURGY/CHILDREN	Nancy Longo	598-0519
RCIC (Children)	Nancy Longo	598-0519
SUNDAY NURSERY	Shannon Carpenter	430-6840
BEREAVEMENT MINISTRY FOR CHILDREN	Mimi Bloeser	818-4249

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
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YOUTH MINISTRY

Shelley Padilla	598-0519
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PARISH ORGANIZATIONS

PASTORAL COUNCIL	Margee Infante	537-8210
FINANCE COUNCIL	Randall Ely	430-0142
WEBSITE COORDINATOR	rely5@verizon.net Mike Santy msanty@verizon.net www.stjosephlb.org	799-0660
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 www.ceeofla.org/schedule.htm	310-316-3477
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, WITH YOUR NAME & PHONE,
to the rectory or to bulletin@stjosephlb.org