



ST. JOSEPH CHURCH

6220 E. Willow Street
Long Beach, CA 90815

Rev. Jim Halley, V.F., *Pastor*
Rev. Harold L. Ford, *In Residence*
Deacon Shane Cuda
sfcuda@yahoo.com
Deacon Don Gath
Deacon Tom Halliwell

RECTORY

Phone: 594-4657 • Fax: 431-7424

Office Hours

Monday through Friday 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 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.

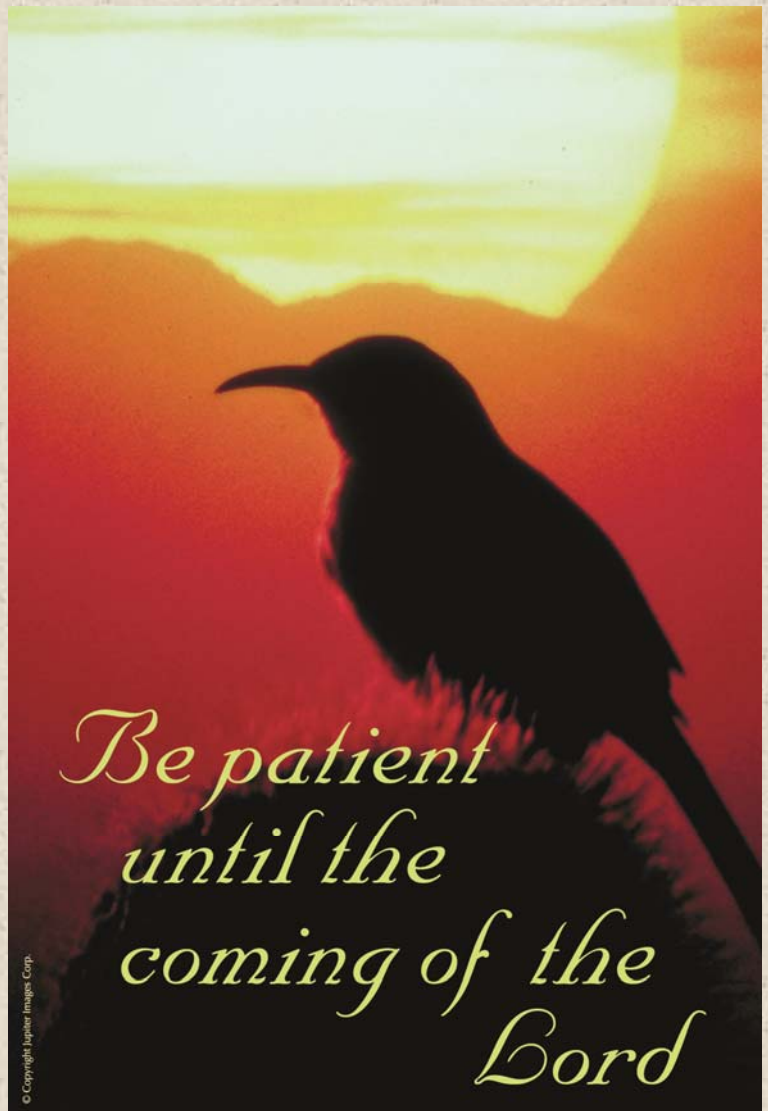
OUR LADY OF PERPETUAL HELP

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.



Third Sunday of Advent
December 15, 2013

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:

When we turn on the television and watch the news, it is not uncommon for us to hear about natural disasters, catastrophes, wars, and news of violence. We can look around ourselves and see families with problems, parents concerned that their children are in danger because of gangs, alcohol or drug addiction.

Sometimes it seems that we live in a very dysfunctional world without much hope. How do we help to bring change to this perception, and can it happen overnight and without any effort on our part? Definitely not!

John the Baptist in the Gospel asked if Jesus was the one, if what they were hoping for had already happened, if the Savior had arrived. And the signs that it has happened are the deeds that Jesus performed: the sick are healed and the poor receive the Good News of the love of God.

What are the signs among us that tell us salvation has arrived? They are the good deeds of those who follow Jesus: the consolation we proclaim, the changes we make in our society, the struggle for justice, and the care we provide to the poor and the sick.



So whoever is in Christ is a new creation: the old things have passed away; behold, new things have come. 2 Corinthians 5:17

Men and women of St. Joseph Parish - 2014 is fast approaching. Don't make a resolution, like dieting, that will be broken before the BCS Bowl is played. Don't buy a treadmill - you will just hang laundry on it anyway.

Resolve this year to do something that will forever change your life! Give yourself the gift of a Cursillo, a retreat unlike anything you've ever experienced. Become the person you've always wanted to be...the New Creation in Christ that St. Paul talks about; become the person God dreamed of when He created you!

Cursillo retreats run from Thursday evening thru Sunday. The next men's Cursillo retreat begins **Jan. 2**. The women's retreat begins a week later **Jan. 9**. For more information, contact Dcn. Shane @ sfcuda@yahoo.com, or call the rectory office.

Make 2014 the Best Year of Your Life!

Regional Vocation Director: Rev. Francis Ilano
St. Athanasius Church, Long Beach, 562-423-7986. Vocation information may be found at: www.lavocations.org.



From Deacon Don's desk:

Dear St. Joseph parishioners: Paul Mousel and Tom Prisk of St. Francis Center, send you their heartfelt **thanks** for your Thanksgiving food donations. Your generous contributions came at a critical time. They were very low on food this past week due to the ever increasing number of families they serve. Your food donations "filled in the gap." Thank you and God bless you for your generosity.

The third Sunday of Advent is known as **Gaudete** (rejoice) Sunday. We await with joyful expectation for the Lord's birth and second coming, and you will notice the vestments are of **rose** color.

Another reason for rejoicing: Two laws in Missouri and Texas have given legal cover to celebrate Christmas in public places! Some statistics: many national polls show about 90% of Americans celebrate Christmas. Rasmussen polls (2011) show 67% of Americans consider Christmas the country's most important holiday; 81% who celebrate Christmas observe it as a religious holiday; 79% believe Christmas and other religious holidays should be celebrated in public schools. In Rhode Island Gov. Chafee reversed a policy calling the Christmas tree in the State Capitol a "holiday tree." Two schools backed off policies that would curtail the use of religious music in winter public-school concerts.

OUR PRAYER: God of power and mercy, open our hearts in welcome. Remove the things that hinder us from receiving Christ with joy, so we may share His wisdom and become one with Him when He comes in glory, for He lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. Amen

Those whom the Lord has ransomed will return and enter Zion singing, crowned with everlasting joy. Isaiah 35:10a

CHRISTMAS LITURGIES

Christmas Vigil - Tuesday, December 24
4:00p.m., 6:00p.m., and 9:00p.m.

Christmas Day - Wednesday, December 25
9:00 a.m., 10:30 a.m. and 12:30 p.m.

New Year's Eve - Tuesday, December 31, 8:00 a.m.

New Year's Day - (not a holy day of obligation)
Wednesday, January 1, 8:00 a.m.



Spiritual Bouquet Christmas Cards are available this year for your loved one. With your spiritual bouquet you send the gift of prayer and love during this Christmas Season. Please stop by the rectory office to pick up a card.

Pro Life Corner - Right to life is the fundamental right of every individual - both born and unborn. We have the power to restore the dignity of the human person.

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION - 598-0519

Still time to register for Religious Education - Early Childhood at 9:00am, Elementary at 10:30am.

Early Childhood - Today, our children processed into church with their contributions to the food collection for Movement for a Better World Christmas baskets. Thank you, families, for supporting this important community outreach work and helping our adopted families. After 9 AM Mass, our children participated in their annual Christmas presentation for us in the Church. Thank you so much for helping the little ones learn their songs, parents! Next week: No Class--Merry Christmas!

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

Adult Faith Formation

Everyone is invited to join our St. Joseph Book Club!
Book: "Left To Tell" by Immaculee Ilibagiza
Date: Thurs., Jan. 9 (Moderator, Cindy Rodriguez)
Time: 7:00 - 8:30 p.m.
Place: St. Joseph (Refreshments will be served)
 Questions: Religious education office, 598-0519.

"Jesus is Lord"

Standing on the word of God, let us learn together.
 St. Joseph Bible Study has resumed classes: **Tuesdays at 9 a.m. and/or Thursdays at 7 p.m.**
 "I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me."
 Philippians 4:13
 To register, please call Rita Smith, 562-533-1243.

Rest In Peace

Died in Christ:

Ann Vezzetti



Adult Confirmation - If you have not been confirmed and would like to be, please call our Religious Education Dept., 598-0519, for information on how to sign up.

Classes will be held on Mondays at St. Margaret Mary Church, Lomita, beginning on **Jan. 13**, 7-9 p.m. Another class will be held on Sundays at St. John of God Church, Norwalk, beginning **Jan. 12**, 9:15 a.m. to noon.

READINGS FOR THE WEEK

Sunday:	Is 35:1-6a, 10; Ps 146:6-10; Jas 5:7-10; Mt 11:2-11
Monday:	Nm 24:2-7, 15-17a; Ps 25:4-5ab, 6, 7bc-9; Mt 21:23-27
Tuesday:	Gn 49:2, 8-10; Ps 72:1-4ab, 7-8, 17; Mt 1:1-17
Wednesday:	Jer 23:5-8; Ps 72:1-2, 12-13, 18-19; Mt 1:18-25
Thursday:	Jgs 13:2-7, 24-25a; Ps 71:3-4a, 5-6ab, 16-17; Lk 1:5-25
Friday:	Is 7:10-14; Ps 24:1-4ab, 5-6; Lk 1:26-38
Saturday:	Sg 2:8-14 or Zep 3:14-18a; Ps 33:2-3, 11-12, 20-21; Lk 1:39-45
Sunday:	Is 7:10-14; Ps 24:1-6; Rom 1:1-7; Mt 1:18-24

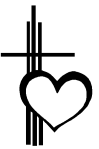
Confirmation Year 2 retreat **Jan 17-19**. As it is a weekend retreat, we are asking parishioners to help donate snacks and water. Please drop them off at the rectory. Thank you for your support and prayers!

Movement for a Better World is looking for **volunteers!** Teens, what a great opportunity to serve our community and also earn service hours. They will be putting boxes of food together for families on **Dec 20** for Christmas in the hall. Please sign up if you are interested with either Marc or Lydia or contact Tim Clark. Remember you will need to do three service projects a year, this can be one of them!

Youth Ministry! We are having a Christmas Caroling progressive dinner event **Dec. 15** at 5pm. Please RSVP ASAP. A \$5 donation will be going to the Boys & Girls Club for Christmas. More details of the event will be posted on the bulletin board located in the school hall. This is also an opportunity for a service project! Hope you can join us!

**Meditation in the
 Parish Center chapel
 every Tuesday at 7:00 p.m.
 ALL ARE WELCOME!**

**"The Spirit of God dwells in our hearts in
 silence." John Main, OSB**



A message of Love and Hope... A Retreat with Immaculee Illabageeza! Rwandan genocide survivor and author of the bestselling book "Left to Tell" will be in our area on **January 31-February 1** conducting a retreat at St. Dominic Savio Church in Bellflower. This is a special opportunity to see her in Southern California, so don't miss out! All are welcome! To register go to <http://www.immaculee.com/> or call/email Cindy Rodriguez (562) 756-2791/rodsquad12@msn.com for more details. (The church is located off of the 105 freeway and Bellflower Blvd.)

The Catholic Tour LLC has been able to secure just 120 air seats and hotel beds for the Holy Father's Canonization Ceremony for Popes John XXIII and John Paul II in Rome. The pilgrimage is April 21/22 - 28/29. Come and see our new Holy Father Pope Francis on this historic occasion. Email jimadair@thecatholictour.com or call toll free, 877-627-4268 for information and reservations.

Italy and the Canonization of Popes John Paul II and John XXIII with Fr. Carl Bell - Join Father Carl Bell for this "once in a lifetime opportunity." Come and see our new Holy Father Pope Francis on this historic occasion, where our beloved popes will be canonized. This 13 day pilgrimage throughout Italy and at Rome for the canonization will be April 18-30, 2014. For more information and reservations, please contact Ronald Haller at ronaldhaller-travel@gmail.com or (714)746-4199 or Claudia Venegas at claudiatravelholyland@gmail.com or (714)414-2038.



St. Joseph's Heartbeat God ♥ all

Dec. 16 - Christmas Luncheon. Gifts - Precious Life Shelter.
Happy New Year!

Jan. 6 - Social/game gathering/Business meeting. **2014 dues \$10/person are due, please see Jean Longaberger.**

Jan. 20 - Social/game gathering

Feb. 3 & 17 - Social/game gathering/Business meeting

Mar. 3 & 17 - Social/game gathering

Apr. 7 & 21 - Social/game gathering/Business meeting

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

Call Judy 421-6863 or Mary Lou 431-4385 for group info.

Trips - Trips - More Trips

Jan. 8 - Lion King at Pantages and lunch at Capital Grille. Deposit of \$10 due now. \$120 per person for trip.

June 26 - The Jersey Boys at Segerstrom Center for the Arts in Costa Mesa with dinner @ Bucca de Beppo. \$100 per person. \$5 deposit due now.

More trips to come. For information/reservations, contact Gerry Seckington 420-3220 or Mary Lou Clark 431-4385.

Religious give thanks: "Thank you for accompanying us as we care for our elder sisters," writes a religious superior. Your gift to last week's collection for the Retirement Fund for Religious helps support nearly 34,000 sisters, brothers, and religious order priests past age 70. May God bless you abundantly for your goodness.

Fingerprinting Schedule

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

Jan. 15 - St. Dominic Savio, Bellflower, 562-920-7796

Jan. 31 - Our Lady of the Rosary, Paramount, 562-602-0086

Did You Know? Santa Safety - Here are some simple guidelines for parents, guardians, and grandparents to employ to make sure that children have a safe and happy visit with Santa's helper: When your child is with Santa's helper, consider encouraging him or her to stand next to Santa or sit on the floor between his feet rather than sitting on his lap. Let your child know that it's okay to tell Santa what he or she wants for Christmas, but that he or she should also tell Mom and Dad because they are also Santa's helpers...Secret surprises are special, but no adult should ask a child to keep secrets from the child's parents. Make sure that the Santa visit is out in the open - or make sure that parents, guardians, and grandparents are included in the interaction.

For copy of the VIRTUS® article "Safety for Children and Santa Helpers," email jvienna@la-archdiocese.org.

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



Christmas Present Drive Today! - Our sincerest gratitude for the generosity of the parish for taking 325 envelopes from our Christmas Giving Tree last week! These gifts will brighten the Christmas of the children of our 66 community supported families. It is critical that presents be returned to the church by 12:30 today!

Dec. 21: Christmas Food and Gift Distribution - Can you help us distribute food and Christmas gifts to 66 Long Beach families in need? Please call Amy McKenna at 427-5917.

We will gather in the parish hall at 8:30 a.m.

Fulfilling opportunities to serve our less fortunate brothers and sisters are plentiful during the Christmas holiday season. Can you help? Call Tim Clark, 431-4385.

St. Hedwig Catholic Church's 34th Annual Christmas Dinner, Christmas day, 1:00 p.m., 11482 Los Alamitos Blvd. **Reservations required by Dec. 22**, 562-598-7060. No charge. Do you know someone who will be alone? There will be families to share their love and prayers, a bounty of food, singing, and much, much more!

Concern America is grateful to the St. Joseph community for hosting the craft sale on Nov. 24. The proceeds were \$973. It is in these ordinary tasks that we can bring to life the Gospel mandate to care for the poor and to perform acts of justice. The men and women working in the cooperatives that produce these lovely handicrafts are so very grateful for the opportunity for a better life that these sales represent.

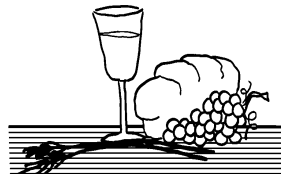
SAVE THE DATE: The Parish Fair will be **May 2-4**. Rides, games, food, live bands, craft faire - do we need to go on?! Save the date. If you're interested in helping to plan/organize the Fair, please contact sjparishfair@gmail.com

Pope Francis has called a "synod," a special meeting of the world's bishops, to discuss the pastoral challenges facing families today. To help prepare for this Synod, which will be held in October 2014, the Vatican has sent a survey to every archdiocese and diocese in the world.

Archbishop José H. Gomez and the Archdiocesan Family Life Office would like Catholics to assist in responding to the Vatican's survey. To that end, the Archdiocese has developed an on-line survey and is inviting Catholics to take part. All information provided will remain anonymous and confidential. The results of this survey will not be published and the findings will be provided only to the Synod of Bishops.

All Catholics in the Archdiocese are invited to participate. Further information and background, along with the survey can be found at: <http://surveys.la-archdiocese.org/>

Mass Intentions



SATURDAY, December 14

5:00 p.m. - † Frank Patonai

SUNDAY, December 15

7:30 a.m. - † Mary Kielbasa

9:00 a.m. - † Francisco Valenzuela

10:30 a.m. - † Sgt. Michael Tetreault, Jr.

12:30 p.m. - † John Anselmo

MONDAY, December 16

8:00 a.m. - † Clyde Prudhomme

TUESDAY, December 17

8:00 a.m. - John Hobson

WEDNESDAY, December 18

8:00 a.m. - † Suzanne Wilhelm

THURSDAY, December 19

8:00 a.m. - † William Riggs I

FRIDAY, December 20

8:00 a.m. - † Paul Vadasz

SATURDAY, December 21

5:00 p.m. - † Bob Maney

SUNDAY, December 22

7:30 a.m. - † Don Pedneault

9:00 a.m. - † Cruz Aragon

10:30 a.m. - † Domingo Dizon

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

Together in Mission

Parish Goal: \$54,990
 Pledged: 48,982
 Paid: 48,292

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 |
| Obinna Ugochukwu | David Waidelich |
| Timmy Allison | 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.

PLEASE PRAY FOR . . . Eugene Dryer, Fernando Montoya, Tim Ginnett, Frances Esposito, Kim Agee, Marlene Sargeant, Mary Jane McCormick, Elise Peltzer, Pat & Sheila Corry, Dr. Cyril McNulty, Shelley O'Neil, Karen Weiss, Vinny Petronio, Autumn Majors, Gary Hillebrecht, Gene Adam, Carlito Siagon, Robert Young, Nelson Molina, Adam Duntze, Margaret Reily, Karen Muccino, Charles Schad, Claudia Reasoner Michael Meylor, Olga Kocovar & Brooke Manning.

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	Rectory	594-4657
CHURCH SACRISTANS	Lily & Joe Dang (sister & brother)	493-2198

ST. JOSEPH SCHOOL

562-596-6115

PRINCIPAL	Margaret Alvarez
ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL	Sonia Yurak
ADMISTRATIVE COUNSEL	Katie Mais, Erin Wright & Sonia Yurak
OFFICE MANAGER	Julie Gianessi

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

562-598-0519

DIRECTOR of RELIGIOUS EDUCATION	Nancy Longo	
ELEMENTARY, MIDDLE SCHOOL	Nancy Longo	598-0519
YOUTH MINISTRY/ CONFIRMATION	Marc Leon & Lydia Tovar	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	Shane Cuda	594-4657
	sfcuda@yahoo.com	
BIBLE STUDY	Rita Smith	714-761-4376
BAPTISM PREPARATION	Olga Cuda	594-4657
BEREAVEMENT MINISTRY	Dave Desmond	429-3316
MEDITATION	Marie Mitchell	310-490-4012
	Fr. Will Connor	
SMALL CHRISTIAN COMMUNITIES	Dcn. Don & Tina Gath	598-5202

EUCCHARISTIC MINISTERS TO THE SICK

Ann Crowley **594-7575**

PARISH ORGANIZATIONS

PASTORAL COUNCIL	Margee Infante	537-8210
FINANCE COUNCIL	Moses Bass	
WEBSITE COORDINATOR	Mike Santy	799-0660
	msanty@verizon.net	
	www.stjosephlb.org	
Website address:		
MOVEMENT FOR A BETTER WORLD	Tim Clark	431-4385
SENIOR GROUP	Judy Pedneault	421-6863
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	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