



ST. JOSEPH CHURCH

6220 E. Willow Street
Long Beach, CA 90815

Rev. Jim Halley, V.F., *Pastor*
Sr. Eva Bryan, R.S.C., *Pastoral Associate*
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: religiously@stjosephlb.org

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.

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

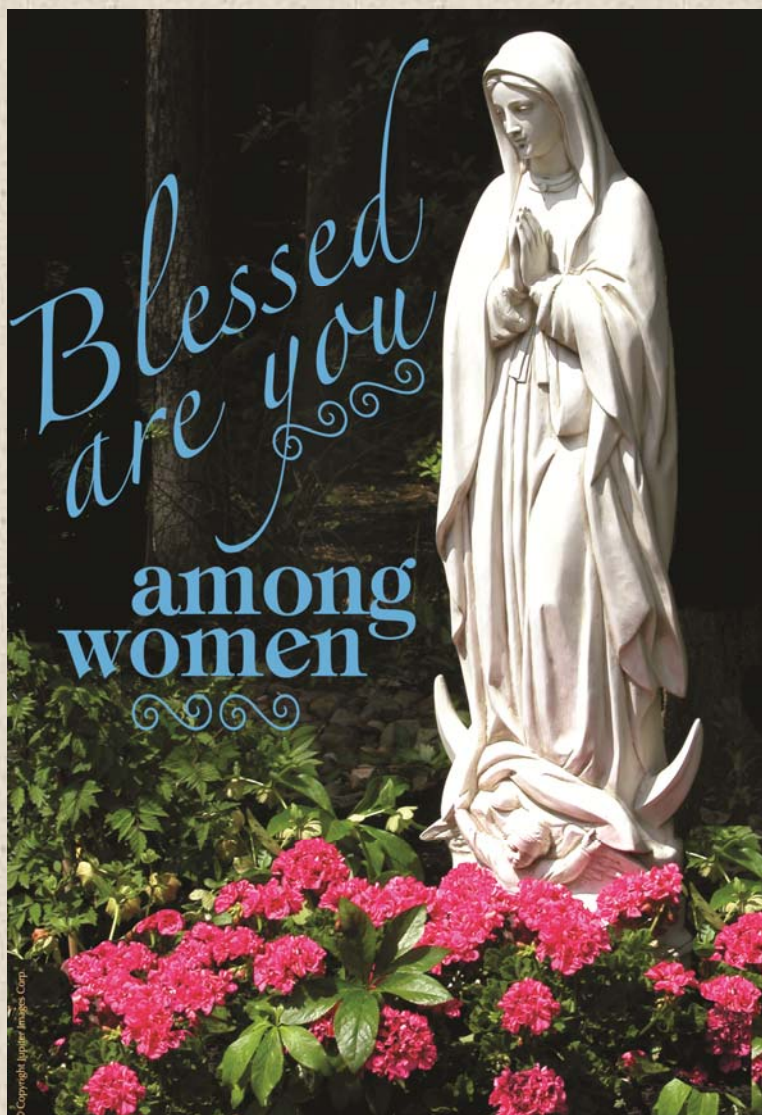
OUR LADY OF PERPETUAL HELP

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 21, 2014

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:

In today's Gospel Mary says, Behold, I am the handmaid of the Lord. May it be done to me according to your word. Mary, knowing that she is a virgin and knowing that she has never had relations with a man, believes that what the

Angel tells her is true.

Because of Mary's yes, the Lord was able to become human, to become one of us and to be welcome into our lives and our hearts.

It would have been very easy and understandable for both Mary and Joseph to say no to the Lord. You know it can also be very easy and tempting for us to keep the Lord away.

The choices are ours. Joseph and Mary could have ignored the Lord's call, but they didn't. Luckily for us the doors to their hearts were open. Emmanuel, God with us, has come! My hope and prayer for each of us is that we make the choice to welcome the Prince of Peace into our hearts.

READINGS FOR THE WEEK

Sunday:	2 Sm 7:1-5, 8b-12, 14a, 16; Ps 89:2-5, 27, 29; Rom 16:25-27; Lk 1:26-38
Monday:	1 Sm 1:24-28; 1 Sm 2:1, 4-8abcd; Lk 1:46-56
Tuesday:	Mal 3:1-4, 23-34; Ps 25:4-5ab, 8-10, 14; Lk 1:57-66
Wednesday:	2 Sm 7:1-5, 8b-12, 14a, 16; Ps 89:2-5, 27, 29; Lk 1:67-79
Thursday:	<u>Vigil:</u> Is 62:1-5; Ps 89:4-5, 16-17, 27, 29; Acts 13:16-17, 22-25; Mt 1:1-25 [18-25] <u>Night:</u> Is 9:1-6; Ps 96:1-3, 11-13; Ti 2:11-14; Lk 2:1-14 <u>Dawn:</u> Is 62:11-12; Ps 97:1, 6, 11-12; Ti 3:4-7; Lk 2:15-20 <u>Day:</u> Is 52:7-10; Ps 98:1-6; Heb 1:1-6; Jn 1:1-18 [1-5, 9-14]
Friday:	Acts 6:8-10; 7:54-59; Ps 31:3cd-4, 6, 8ab, 16bc, 17; Mt 10:17-22
Saturday:	1 Jn 1:1-4; Ps 97:1-2, 5-6, 11-12; Jn 20:1a, 2-8
Sunday:	Sir 3:2-6, 12-14 or Gn 15:1-6; 21:1-3; Ps 128:1-5 or Ps 105:1-6, 8-9; Col 3:12-21 [12-17] or Hb 11:8, 11-12, 17-19; Lk 2:22-40 [22, 39-40]

CHRISTMAS TV MASS - Christmas Mass on TV will bring the joyful celebration of our Lord's Nativity into homes, healthcare settings, and other places. Please invite homebound loved ones to join in the Heart of the Nation Catholic TV Mass on Christmas Day at 9:00 a.m. on KDOC channel 56. The Christmas Scripture readings, traditional hymns, and the inspiring surroundings of an 1800's chapel will give TV Mass viewers the gift of rejoicing in the meaning and blessings of Christmas.

The Rectory office will be closed December 24, 25, 26, and 31 as well as January 1 and 2. We wish you all a most blessed Christmas and New Year!



From Deacon Don's desk:

A brief reflection from a priest friend dated December 2013:

"In the beginning God created the heavens and earth from a formless wasteland. Then God said, 'Let there be light' and there was light. Jesus tells

His followers (us), 'You are the light of the world....No one who lights a lamp conceals it with a vessel he puts it on a lamp stand so that those who enter may see the light.' (Luke 8:16) I remember hearing those around us saying there is a new star that appears in the sky at the birth of each child coming into the world. The day we were baptized, our god-parents and parents were given the lighted candle to be reminded to hold that new light until that child sets off on his/her own. Many of us can recall times the powers of darkness attempted to destroy the light and love of Christ in us.

During this season of Advent let's ask humbly and sincerely questions about the light in our life. Does it shine brightly so others see our good works and acts of love? Do they give glory to God for having sent us into the world? Do we truly rejoice because Jesus came into the world to make His Father's unconditional love known to us that we might make this same unconditional love known to those closest to us as well as the stranger in our midst? My prayer is that our light shine during this Advent **and** for the remaining years of our life!" Fr. Michael.

OUR PRAYER: Heavenly Father, You have filled Mary with grace and made her the Co-Redeemer with Christ Your Son. Grant that we may have constant recourse to her and gain the salvation she helped win for us and the world. Amen

Capital Campaign for Parish Life Center remodel -

We are well on our way in achieving our goal of renovation. So far, we have **\$184,488** pledged, over half of our goal. There are pledge envelopes in church, and in the rectory office, if you would like to pick one up and add your pledge. Let's make it 100% participation! Thank you and may God continue to bless you all.



Women and Men of St. Joseph Parish

*Is your heart on fire for Christ? Is it filled with the Holy Spirit or like a candle in the wind, flickering and barely alive? If you want to experience what the disciples felt on the day of Pentecost, then give yourself the gift of a Cursillo and light your heart on fire! A Cursillo weekend is unlike anything you've ever experienced. Cursillos run from Thursday evening thru Sunday. **The next Cursillo weekends begin January 8 (Men) and January 22 (Women).** Contact Dcn. Shane @ sfcuda@yahoo.com, or OCCursillo.org*

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

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION - 598-0519**Early childhood – 9am – 10am****Religious Education –1st Communion! Thru 5th****Grades, Sundays 10:30-11:45 am.****Confirmation is at 11:00am through 12:30pm Mass.****Middle School is on Tuesdays from 7-8pm****Important Religious Education Dates:**

No Classes 12/21 & 12/28 for Early Childhood, Elementary and Confirmation

No Classes 12/23 & 12/30 for Middle School



Our book this quarter is “**50 Reasons I Love Being Catholic**” by Elizabeth M. Kelly. There are so many reasons to love being Catholic, and thirty-something Liz Kelly - a successful writer and jazz singer

- eagerly shares those reasons in May Crowning, Mass, and Merton. Kelly says, "Mine is not an extraordinary faith . . . but the litany of reasons to love being Catholic is extraordinary." Kelly lists 50 reasons to embrace the Catholic faith, including daily Mass, kneelers in church, and the crucifix. With wit and great affection, covering everything from Michelangelo's creation frescoes to St. Pope John Paul II, this lay Catholic reminds us all why the Catholic faith is so special. For further information you may contact Nancy Longo at the Religious Education office, e-mail Virginia Young at ginnyy67@gmail.com or check out the Adult Faith Formation page on our St. Joseph Website. Book Club discussion will be on **January 14** at 7pm.

**Holy Grounds CAFE –Are you busy? Stressed? Overburdened?**

Everyone thinks others have their “faith act” all together! Guess what? We are all in the same boat...none of us has our

faith all together...we are all on a journey- some of us even have sinking boats!!! We need each other to laugh with, to lean on and to grow with. Let's come together in unity to share our prayer for our families and share ways we can help each other and our families grow closer to God! Come and enjoy coffee, donuts and sharing faith with other adults in the Parish Life Center **from 10:40 - 11:40.**

WOMEN'S MEDITATION

Every Wednesday at 7:00 p.m. in the Parish Life Center Chapel (Will resume in January.)

We are called to radiate the love of Jesus Christ to all the world! However, this divine love only comes through a personal relationship with our Lord and Savior. In this website, www.radiate.la, we will learn how to love God with our head through spiritual reading, with our heart through deep prayer, and with our hands through humble service. May God Bless us one and all.

High School Youth Ministry**IPOD Raffle Tickets** on Sale - \$5 each – Raffle Drawing for Christmas - 12/21!**Revelation Nights** always on Wednesdays 7:30-8:30pm**The Word** (Bible Study for Teens) on Thursdays from 7:00-8:15pm**“Jesus is Lord” BIBLE STUDY**

Tuesdays at 9:00 a.m. and Thursdays at 7:00 p.m.

Topic: Book of John

Come and learn through the powerful and relevant teachings by Fr. Jim Nisbet as he leads us on a journey through this fascinating book. (Great fellowship, too!)

Information: Rita Smith 562- 533-1243

Sacred Heart Leadership Retreat - The Sacred Heart Sisters personally invite young women in their junior year in High School and 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 call 909-866-5696, email: leadershipretreatbb@yahoo.com or www.sacredheartretreatcamp.com - Events page

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
Dillon Schad
Devin Conway

Nick Compton
Irene Avila
Justin Ray
Adam Mariano
David Waidelich
Michael Marchante
Nicky Kaufmann
Jessica Landry
Kyle Shea

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.

Thank you! “We can call you friends because you care for our retired members,” writes a religious brother. Your gift to the Retirement Fund for Religious benefits some 35,000 senior sisters, brothers, and religious order priests. May God bless you for your generosity!

A Day of Spiritual Enrichment - What is contemplative prayer? Where is “the inner room” Mt 6:6? How do I open my mind and heart? Begin the New Year by coming to a day of spiritual enrichment with Fr. Bill Sheehan OMI, an engaging speaker with profound insight into the heart of silence, God's first language. **Jan. 3** from 9:30 a.m. - 3:00 p.m. at St. Bartholomew Church. \$25 suggested donation includes light lunch. RSVP stbartcenteringprayer@gmail.com or 562-243-8460.



ST. JOSEPH SENIORS

**We support a Catholic education.
Come join us!! Bring a friend!!**

HAPPY NEW YEAR 2015

Jan. 5 & 19 - Social/game gatherings

Feb. 2 & 16 - Social/game gatherings

Mar. 2 & 16 - Social/game gatherings

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. 26 - Warner Brothers Studios - Visit the world of stardom! VIP tour starts with gift shop, Starbucks and gelato on the way to the back lots. Go behind the scenes of film production. Walk onto the set of a hit TV show and much more. Lunch on your own at the Studio Playa Café. Conclude with a stop at Farmer's Market before heading home.

Apr. 25 - May 2 - Bon Voyage! Seven day wine country coastal cruise on Princess Cruise Line. Destination: Santa Barbara, San Francisco, Astoria, Oregon, Victoria B.C. and Vancouver B.C., Canada. Port of departure - L.A. (San Pedro), return from Vancouver by air to Long Beach Airport. Fare: \$549 - 2299 + port fees, gov. fees and tax. (Ins. available) Deposit \$200. Air fare to Long Beach \$100-200. Questions - call Gerry 562-420-3220.

All Souls Catholic Cemetery Pre-Need Cemetery Planning

Making cemetery arrangements in advance of need is both a loving and financially wise thing to do. Advance planning provides a family reassurance, comfort and peace of mind.

Such thoughtfulness relieves family members from shouldering the burden during a most stressful time, allowing for careful decision-making in an unhurried atmosphere and assuring that your expressed wishes be followed. The added affordability also represents significant savings.

You owe it to yourself and to your family to explore the advantages of advance planning. To learn more, please call (562) 424-8601 ext. 1 to let our experienced representatives aid you with any questions you may have.

St. Joseph High School application deadline - **Jan. 9.** Applications are available to print or submit online at www.sj-jester.org

ST. PIUS X/ST. MATTHIAS ACADEMY OPEN HOUSE

Tuesday **January 13**, 6-8 pm, 7851 E. Gardendale Street, Downey 90242. For more information please call Manny Poveda, (562) 861-2271 ext. 1015 or email: pmamarketing@piusmatthias.org

Christmas Food and Gift Distribution: Thank you to all the drivers and helpers who made last Saturday's distribution so successful for our local families. You are the face of Jesus!!

Skip-a-Meal Donations: Please be especially mindful during our holiday season. There are many wonderful opportunities to serve during the holiday season. Please call Tim Clark 431-4385.



How will you respond? Would you like to make a difference? Do you want to serve those in need and work for social justice? **RESPONSE 2015**, the most comprehensive guide of faith-based service opportunities, is now available - and it's free! Volunteers serve full-time for periods of one week to one year or more across the U.S. and in more than 100 countries. Positions are available for single or married volunteers, including those with children. Contact Catholic volunteer Network to receive a copy of *Response 2015*. Call 800-543-5046 or email info@catholicvolunteernetwork.org. Or check out the website www.catholicvolunteernetwork.org.

Annual Christmas Dinner at St. Hedwig Church

Christmas day at 1:00 p.m. Will you or someone you know be alone on Christmas day? There will be families to share their love and prayers, a bounty of food, singing, and much more. There is no charge, but **reservations are required**. Please call Ed or Dewey Foster, 562-598-7060 by **Dec. 22**.

School News! Please help support our parish school by clipping "**Box Tops for Education**" and "**Labels for Education**" labels from numerous products. Collection Boxes in the back of the Church. Thank you very much!

Fingerprinting Schedule

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

Jan. 10 - Sagrado Corazon, Compton, 310-635-5436

Jan. 20 - Holy Trinity, San Pedro, 310-548-6535

Jan. 28 - St. Dominic Savio, Bellflower, 562-920-7796

Did You Know? Inform school staff about your

children's health issues - Inform school staff about health and emotional concerns. Whether your child has a food allergy, a physical disability, or has been subject to bullying, make sure to keep your child's teachers and principal in the loop. For more information, please visit <http://www.scholastic.com/parents/resources/article/parent-teacher-partnerships/6-rules-school-safety>

Mass Intentions



SATURDAY, December 20

5:00 p.m. - † Bob Maney

SUNDAY, December 21

7:30 a.m. - † Tomica Perich

9:00 a.m. - † Cruz Aragon

10:30 a.m. - † Domingo Dizon

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

MONDAY, December 22

8:00 a.m. - † Susan Megna

TUESDAY, December 23

8:00 a.m. - † Lorenzo & Antonietta Gigliotti

WEDNESDAY, December 24

4:00 p.m. - † Edward and Mary Dondero

6:00 p.m. - † John DeRuyter

9:00 p.m. - Christmas Remembrance

THURSDAY, December 25

9:00 a.m. - † Cap Pigeon

10:30 a.m. - † Ed and Mary Jane Merk

12:30 p.m. - Christmas Remembrance

FRIDAY, December 26

8:00 a.m. - † Paul Vadasz

SATURDAY, December 27

5:00 p.m. - † Donald Baynes

SUNDAY, December 28

7:30 a.m. - † Harriet Jelnick

9:00 a.m. - St. Joseph Parishioners

10:30 a.m. - † Gia Soriano

12:30 p.m. - † Chad Gannon

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



"This is my Beloved Son. Listen to Him."
--Mark 9:7

Newcomers please call Marie Mitchell (310) 490-4012 for directions to the PLC.

PLEASE PRAY FOR . . . Eugene Dryer, Fernando Montoya, Tim Ginnett, Kim Agee, Marlene Sargeant, Mary Jane McCormick, Elise Peltzer, Sheila Corry, Dr. Cyril McNulty, Vinny Petronio, Autumn Majors, Gary Hillebrecht, Gene Adam, Nelson Molina, Adam Duntze, Charles Schad, Karen Muccino, Claudia Reasoner, Olga Kocovar, Joanne Rossello, Robert Taylor, Enzo Esparza, Mary Clair Preasant, Phil Gray, George Frank, Karen Grice, Eileen Bentley, Linda Vaughn, Steve Ferris, Alexis Persyko, Marian O'Donnell, Teresa Stewart, Eloisa Mariano, Laverne Kelly, Billie Lamb, Delia Nix, Fr. Ford, Gene Ensich, Mike Brio, Bob Gomez, Bill Pearce, Noel Devine, Dick Vickers, Lydia Tovar, Nadia Garcia, Estella Exacoustos, Carrie Colodel, Jack Davis, Dennis Richards, Jean Laybourne, Duane Studer, Janeen Higbee, Patricia Berry, Jay Kefalas, Marian Steins, Stacey Marcus, Shirley Morasse, Magali & Wendy Sapien & Bill Whitt.

LITURGICAL MINISTRIES

EXTRAORDINARY MINISTERS

of HOLY COMMUNION	Bill & Katie Greening	421-3997
LECTORS	Bill Smith	431-2495
USHERS	Marty Vezzetti	425-0621
ALTAR SERVERS	Stan Lawrence	430-0913
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
ADMINISTRATIVE 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	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		

ADULT MINISTRY

RCIA	Sister Eva	594-4657
BIBLE STUDY	Rita Smith	533-1243
BAPTISM PREPARATION	Olga Cuda	594-4657
BEREAVEMENT MINISTRY	Dave Desmond	429-3316
	Charlotte Morrison	439-7733
	Marie Mitchell	310-490-4012
MEDITATION		
SMALL CHRISTIAN		
COMMUNITIES	Dcn. Don & Tina Gath	598-5202
MINISTERS TO THE SICK		594-4657

PARISH ORGANIZATIONS

PASTORAL COUNCIL	Anne Weaver	498-7008
FINANCE COUNCIL	Moses Bass	420-1877
WEBSITE COORDINATOR	Mike Santy	799-0660

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	Paciano & Molly Diaz	310-729-5890
	ktmr@sbcglobal.net	

NATURAL FAMILY		
PLANNING	Greg & Beth Gath	377-5877
SAFEGUARD THE CHILDREN	Monica Muñoz & Julie Gray	598-0519
PROJECT ACHIEVE	Tina Gath	598-5202
	Olga Cuda	594-4657
PRECIOUS LIFE SHELTER	Michelle Gath	498-6701
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