



# ST. JOSEPH CHURCH

6220 E. Willow Street  
Long Beach, CA 90815

**Rev. Francis Aguilar, Administrator**  
*frfrancis@stjosephlb.org*

**Sr. Eva Bryan, R.S.C., Pastoral Associate**

**Deacon Shane Cuda**  
*sfcuda@yahoo.com*

**Deacon Don Gath**

**Deacon Tom Halliwell**  
*dhalliwell1@verizon.net*

## RECTORY

**Phone: 594-4657 • Fax: 431-7424**

## Office Hours

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

Closed noon - 1:00 for lunch

Closed Saturday and Sunday

**Website: [www.stjosephlb.org](http://www.stjosephlb.org)**

**email: [stjoseph@stjosephlb.org](mailto:stjoseph@stjosephlb.org)**

**St. Joseph School: 596-6115**

**Religious Education: 598-0519**

**email: [religioused@stjosephlb.org](mailto:religioused@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.

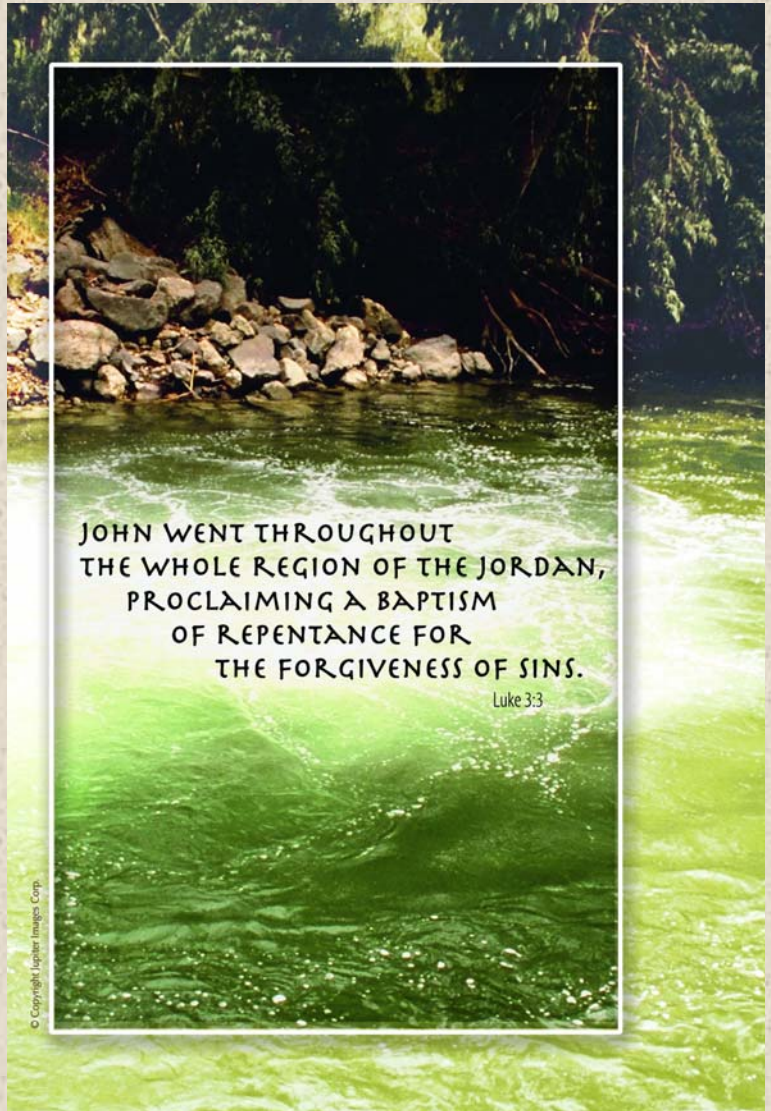
## OUR LADY OF PERPETUAL HELP

**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.



Second Sunday of Advent

December 6, 2015

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. Francis:**

Greetings everyone,

I think that most of us are in the middle of Christmas preparations. We are trying to get cards out and gifts bought and wrapped. We are preparing for parties, baking cookies, getting ready for the celebration. The celebration is the birth of Christ, the Divine Presence given to each and everyone of us. We have to remind ourselves continually that this is the purpose of our preparation. In just a few days, we will be celebrating the Feast of the Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary in which Pope Francis will commence with the Jubilee Year of Mercy. As we commence with this celebration it reminds us of how great God's mercy is. Let's face it. We all make mistakes in life and fall into sin. It's easy to live in guilt and regret and not feel worthy of God's mercy. But the good news is, no matter what you've done in the past, God is always ready to receive you with His open arms. All you need to do on your part is to return to Him.

Some of you today, you're down on yourself. You're not where you thought you would be in life. You wish you were more involved in church. You've made some poor choices and now everyone seems to turn their back on you. Now you're letting the guilt weigh you down. That heaviness is keeping you from being the best disciple that God created you to be. But here is the good news. When you fall, God doesn't turn away from you, he comes - running towards you. When you mess up, God doesn't say, "Too bad - you had your chance - now your life is over!" No! Instead - God comes after you - with a greater passion. When you fall into sin and recognize the wrong you've done and seek His mercy - He will go after you and He won't leave you alone, until He sees you restored - until He sees you reconciled with Him and with others - until you find your way back home and back on the right track.

As we prepare for the birth of our savior, may we remember God's mercy waiting for all of us. May our valleys be filled and our mountains and hills be leveled, may our winding roads be made straight, and the rough ways of our lives be made smooth, so that the Messiah may rush into our lives unimpeded. And may we see the salvation of our God in the very life that we live. God bless you all!

**Advent Reconciliation Liturgies**

- Dec. 14 7:00 p.m. St. Bartholomew**  
**Dec. 15 7:00 p.m. St. Joseph**  
**Dec. 16 7:00 p.m. St. Cornelius**  
**Dec. 16 7:30 p.m. Our Lady of Refuge**  
**Dec. 17 7:00 p.m. St. Maria Goretti**

**Weekly Collection for November 29: \$11,275**

Thank you for your continued generosity.

**Holy Day of Obligation**

**Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary**

**Tuesday, December 8**

Vigil, December 7, Monday, 7:00 pm

Feast day, December 8, 8:00 am, and 7:00 pm

**From Deacon Don's desk:**

John clearly tells us how we are saved: seek "repentance for the forgiveness of sins." Our work of repentance is a matter of turning ourselves toward the God who embraces us in mercy and forgiveness and welcomes us home. We are called to hear the "word of God" and act upon it. Do we? How well do we? Changing our lives to live more faithfully the Gospel values is not easy. Like John the Baptist we are to hear the word of God as it challenges us to embrace and let it take root in a more Godlike way of living.

You may have read this before, but it bears repeating: Farmers hope for lots of rain right after they plant their corn. Once it sprouts and gets a good start, they hope for a "dry spell." The reason is to force the corn's roots to grow downward in search of water, rather than stay on the surface. Unless the tap root of the corn grows downward to the "water level," the corn will wither and dry when the heat of the summer sets in--it will have no way to draw up water. Our prayer life is like that. God usually gives us a good start. Then God lets a "dry spell" set in to force our prayer roots to grow downward to the **faith** level, rather than stay on the surface at the **feeling** level. Fr. Mark Link, SJ asks: "Why must prayer be primarily an exercise of faith rather than of feeling?"

"Christ is not valued at all unless He is valued **above** all." ... St Augustine  
**OUR PRAYER:** Lord Jesus, help us to avoid being lukewarm in our spiritual life. Grant us an ardent faith, hope, and love so that we may be zealous in following You every step of the way. Amen

**Our Lady of Guadalupe Mass**  
 Saturday, December 12, 8:00 a.m.

**Jubilee Year of Mercy**

This Tuesday, the Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception, Pope Francis will open the "Holy Door" in Saint Peter's Basilica, symbolically opening the Jubilee Year of Mercy. In today's scriptures, Baruch confidently anticipates God's healing of the brokenness of humanity, and Paul sees God bringing our discernment, knowledge, and love to fulfillment. Our experience of life and of ourselves can make such prophecies seem wildly optimistic, even hopelessly naïve. Pope Francis challenges us to live this Jubilee Year as a graced time, when God's mercy reawakens our enthusiasm to live our baptismal call as gospel people, our hope renewed and ourselves recommitted to selfless charity. Notice that in Luke's Gospel today, God bypasses the religious elite and politically powerful to speak to a humble believer in the barren desert the saving word that will transform history. So God's mercy continues to accomplish humanity's salvation in and through ordinary, flawed, and least likely instruments—even us.



**MERCIFUL**  
 ~LIKE THE~  
**FATHER**

**Faith Formation/Religious Education News**  
**Classes have begun for 3 years to 5th Grade at 10:30am**

**LITTLE SAINTS Toddler Ministry** – Do you have a wiggly or restless toddler? We take care of your “Little Saints” during the 9am & 10:30am Masses in the Daycare room at the school (behind the parish hall). FREE! We are looking for volunteers to help out for the 12:30pm Mass!  
**Closed on December 20 and 27.**

**Liturgy of the Word for Children** is available to all children from 4 - 11 years old during the 9am Mass. Follow our Catechist out with the rest of our children to hear the Word of God explained so that you will understand! Parents, you are welcome to join us! We could always use more adults to help with this wonderful ministry. Training and materials are provided.

**Parent/Adult Faith Update Sessions from - 10:35-11:30**

While your child(ren) are in class, take time to grow in your faith, too! If you already know the subject - come and witness how you share your faith at home with your family! Grab a donut before you come - we will have a coffee bar available! Bring your own Bible - if you don't have one, we have ones you can use!

**Dec. 13 - Putting Christ in Christmas** - sharing faith with your family during the Christmas season!

If you have questions, please call Nancy Longo 598-0519.

**Holiday Dates for Faith Formation and Confirmation:**

**Religious Education/Faith Formation will be closed December 20 and 27. We return January 3.**

**Confirmation closed December 20 and 27, and Jan. 3, returning Jan. 10.**

**Have a blessed Advent and Christmas Season!**

**High School Youth Ministry –**

**Ice Skating - Dec. 12** See website for more information.

**Revelation Nights** (Youth Nights for all teens!) – from 7:30-8:30pm on Wednesdays

No revelation on Dec. 23, 30, or Jan. 6. Return on Jan. 13.

**Middle School Youth Ministry** – On the Edge – All Middle School Tweens are invited to attend our Monthly Youth Ministry just for them! Our next Edge is **Dec. 15!**

**Christmas Caroling** at a convalescent home and pizza! See website for permission slip.

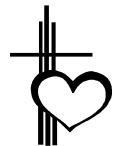
**Long Beach Catholic Young Adults** - We welcome all young adults, ages 18-39, to join the Long Beach Catholic Young Adults, a ministry serving Long Beach parishes. LBCYA seeks to reinvigorate the Catholic young adult ministry in faith and love of Jesus Christ through service, spiritual development, and social fellowship. For more information, visit [www.lbcya.org](http://www.lbcya.org) or contact Jason Pillon at [coordinator@lbcya.org](mailto:coordinator@lbcya.org).

**St. Joseph Catholic School** is accepting applications for Kindergarten and our Transitional Kindergarten (Alpha-K) for the 2016-2017 school year. Applicants for Kindergarten must turn 5 years old by August 31, 2016. Applicants for Alpha-K must turn 4 years old by August 31, 2016.

- Alpha-K: - Emphasizes developmental readiness skills with a hands-on approach to curriculum
- Focuses on Kindergarten readiness
- Students receive daily instruction in religion and attend Mass weekly
- Offers a half-day (7:50-11:50 am) or full-day (7:50 am – 3:00 pm), 5-days-per-week program
- Extended daycare is available until 5:30 pm

Space is limited and classes will fill up quickly. If you are interested in taking a tour, please call our school office at 596-6115 or send an email to [jgianessi@sjknights.net](mailto:jgianessi@sjknights.net) to set up an appointment to speak with Mrs. Alvarez our principal.

**Meditation in the school library every Tuesday at 7:00 p.m. ALL ARE WELCOME!**




**"Be Still And Know That I Am God"**

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

**Catholicism** - Sr. Eva and Rita Smith have commenced a 10 week program, **Tuesdays 9-11 a.m.** in the school library. It is a wonderful adult faith formation series that not only explains what Catholics believe and why but displays in breathtaking visual detail the richness of the Church's global culture. Come and enjoy, reflect and share. Also offered on **Thursday evenings, 7-8:30 p.m.** All are welcome.

Sunday:	Bar 5:1-9; Ps 126:1-6; Phil 1:4-6, 8-11; Lk 3:1-6
Monday:	Is 35:1-10; Ps 85:9-14; Lk 5:17-26
Tuesday:	Gn 3:9-15, 20; Ps 98:1-4; Eph 1:3-6, 11-12; Lk 1:26-38
Wednesday:	Is 40:25-31; Ps 103:1-4, 8, 10; Mt 11:28-30
Thursday:	Is 41:13-20; Ps 145:1, 9-13ab; Mt 11:11-15
Friday:	Is 48:17-19; Ps 1:1-4, 6; Mt 11:16-19
Saturday:	Zec 2:14-17 or Rv 11:19a; 12:1-6a, 10ab; Jdt 13:18bcde, 19; Lk 1:26-38 or Lk 1:39-47, or any readings from the Common of the Blessed Virgin Mary, nos. 707-712
Sunday:	Zep 3:14-18a; Is 12:2-3, 4, 5-6; Phil 4:4-7; Lk 3:10-18



**COME TO THE QUIET**

Mondays, **2:30-3:00 p.m.**, in the Church, except for school holidays. Take time out to come and visit with the Lord. "Come to me .... and I will give you rest."

This is a great opportunity for you to take time for yourself and rest in the Lord. Come to the Quiet to pray, be still, let Him love you! *Everyone Welcome!!!*



**Introducing... St. Joseph Social Club**  
**Your host: St. Joseph Senior Group**  
**Time to "sign up" or "re-up"**

**Dec. 7** - Business meeting/games

2016 Installation of Officers by Fr. Francis

**Dec. 21** - Annual Christmas Celebration & Luncheon, \$17 members & guests. Reservations a must - 562-421-6863  
 Bring an unwrapped gift for Precious Life Shelter

**Jan. 4** - Business meeting/games

**Jan. 18** - Special presentation and free lunch TBA.  
 Also, games and fun.

All meetings: 11:30 to 2:30

Bring your brown bag lunch. Drinks & dessert provided,  
 Free bakery items to members.

Join us for fun and games, including Bingo, Poker,  
 Mexican Train, Sequence, Bridge & much more.

For information call: Judy Pedneault, (562) 421-6863.

**Trips - Trips - Trips**

**Vatican Splendors** - Reagan Library. Docent tour of Vatican art & history, & 25,000 gifts the Reagan's received while in office. Visit Air Force One and more including a "WHITE love HOUSE" luncheon complete with china, linens, table flowers and professional wait staff. **April 8.** \$90

**Future trips:** Little Italy (San Diego day trip), Doctors TV Show, Reno/Lake Tahoe and more including casino trips.  
 Please contact Mary Lou 431-4385 or Gerry 420-3220.

**YOU ARE INVITED by St Joseph Hospitality Ministry**

Please join us for donuts and fellowship with others in front of the church after the 7:30, 9:00, & 10:30 Masses.  
 Sunday **Dec. 6** hosted by Knights of Columbus  
 Sunday **Dec. 13** hosted by Cub Scouts



**eGiving with Faith Direct**

This month we are introducing a new and exciting way for you to support our parish offertory and other collections: Faith Direct. Faith Direct enables parishioners to make your Church contributions through either direct debit from your checking/savings account or through your credit/debit card. No more writing checks or searching for envelopes on the way out the door. Now you can apply the convenience of direct debit to your parish offerings in much the same way as you may now use it to make your mortgage, car or tuition payments.

Faith Direct also offers you personalized offertory cards to replace your envelopes for the collection basket.

Please join me in enrolling by responding to the mailing you will receive or visit [www.faithdirect.net](http://www.faithdirect.net) to enroll securely online. Our parish code is CA717.

God Bless You! Rev. Francis Aguilar

"You are being enriched in every way for all generosity, which through us produces thanksgiving to God." 2Cor 9:11

**Dec. 5-6 Christmas Gift Drive:** Trees are in the church with envelopes containing information to purchase a gift for a child of one of our supported families. Gifts must be returned by 12:30 p.m. next Sunday, Dec. 13.

**Dec. 19 Christmas Food and Gift Distribution** 8:30 a.m. in the hall. Thanksgiving drivers, please let us know if you will NOT be able to deliver for Christmas. Call Amy, 427-5917.  
**Skip-a-Meal Donations:** Please be especially mindful during our holiday support of families in need. For many opportunities to serve, please call Tim Clark 431-4385.

<> **2015 Catholic Relief Services Rice Bowl Honoree**



**ESTHER MINISTRY** - "The Spirit of the Lord is upon me, for he has anointed me to bring Good News to the poor. He has sent me to proclaim that captives will be released, the blind will see, that the oppressed will be set free." (Luke 4:18). In following this Gospel message, the Esther Ministry is dedicated to helping those who are being held against their will and forced into human trafficking, both labor and sex. One way that we are helping victims is providing "humanitarian bags" filled with items to comfort victims that have been rescued. We will be asking for your support in organizing these bags in the future. We have already provided these bags to agencies helping these victims including the Long Beach Police Department.



Please continue to keep the victims and those who enter into this form of crime in your prayers. For more information on this ministry and to be included on our contact list, please email Marianna Wescott at [wescottfam@yahoo.com](mailto:wescottfam@yahoo.com).

**RCIA** - If you are thinking about being a Catholic, please call Sr. Eva at the parish office, 562-594-4657.

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**Did You Know? Shop safely this Christmas** - If you let your kids go to the mall by themselves to buy Christmas presents, you should talk to them about potential dangers they need to guard against. Christmas is the busiest time of year for commercial retail, which means that malls and shopping centers will be more crowded, and younger kids and teens who are alone may be a target for kidnappers and other dangers. Talk to your children about being aware of their surroundings, and where to go for help. Be in contact with them while they're shopping, and have a check-in place and time set if you're splitting up. For more information please visit:

<http://safety.more4kids.info/186/shopping-with-kids/>

# Mass Intentions



## SATURDAY, December 5

5:00 p.m. - † Charles Branch

## SUNDAY, December 6

7:30 a.m. - † Duane Studer

9:00 a.m. - Dang family

10:30 a.m. - † Patrick Corry

12:30 p.m. - † Charles and Mary Settina

## MONDAY, December 7

8:00 a.m. - † Joe Cardamone

7:00 p.m. - † Jim Klodt

## TUESDAY, December 8

8:00 a.m. - Tonet Risko

7:00 p.m. - † Phil Nery

## WEDNESDAY, December 9

8:00 a.m. - † Jim Klodt

## THURSDAY, December 10

8:00 a.m. - John Ruef

## FRIDAY, December 11

8:00 a.m. - † Anita Muñoz

## SATURDAY, December 12

8:00 a.m. - Our Lady of Guadalupe Mass

5:00 p.m. - † Botelho - Salvati

## SUNDAY, December 13

7:30 a.m. - † Dr. Arch Forster

9:00 a.m. - Dr. & Mrs. Pat Mitchell

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

12:30 p.m. - Fr. Jim Halley, Thanksgiving

**Regional Vocation Director:** Rev. Francis Ilano  
St. Athanasius Church, Long Beach, 562-423-7986. Vocation information may be found at: [www.lavocations.org](http://www.lavocations.org).

**Immaculate Heart Radio**, 930 on the am dial, a 24 hour Catholic radio station. 888-887-7120 or [www.ihradio.com](http://www.ihradio.com)

**PLEASE PRAY FOR . . .** Eugene Dryer, Fernando Montoya, Tim Ginnett, Kim Agee, Marlene Sargeant, Mary Jane McCormick, Sheila Corry, Gary Hillebrecht, Karen Muccino, Eileen Bentley, Laverne Kelly, Delia Nix, Fr. Ford, Mike Brio, Noel Devine, Janeen Higbee, Patricia Berry, Jay Kefalas, Stacey Marcus, Shirley Morasse, Magali & Wendy Sapien, Bill Whitt, Anna Osorio, Kathy June, Jordynn Seckington, Theresa Stewart, Lois Kearney, Al Soldin, Chris Carrera, Robert & Frances Stickney, Bryan Nielson, Joel Stepheesen, Georgiana (Peggy) Schad, Eloisa Mariano, Angela Gibbons, Luis Arroyo, Michael Dresnick, Margarete Wareham, Larry Luckey, Ramona Pedroza, Mary DeRuyter, Albert Rodriguez, Tony Olivar, Lisa Dang, Nina Escandon, Chris Belcher, Janet Bernardo, Regina Jurado, Pat and Marie Mitchell, Dennis Cuda, Barbara Baine, Mark Ham, Nelson family, Odete Salvate, Joan Aimerito, Bob Becker, June Kukahiko, Scott Reinard, Valerie Karner, Graciella Griffin, Joe Hamamoto, Cynthia Hogan, Lolita Heilbron & Lou Teran.

## 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
ADMISTRATIVE COUNSEL	Katie Boller, 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	Kris Dominguez	598-0519
LITURGY/CHILDREN	Nancy Longo	598-0519
RCIC (Children)	Nancy Longo	598-0519
SUNDAY NURSERY		
BEREAVEMENT MINISTRY FOR CHILDREN		

## ADULT MINISTRY

RCIA	Sister Eva	594-4657
BIBLE STUDY	Sr. Eva	594-4657
	Rita Smith	
BAPTISM PREPARATION	Olga Cuda	594-4657
BEREAVEMENT MINISTRY	Sr. Eva	594-4657
MEDITATION	Marie Mitchell	310-490-4012
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	Mike Roide	
WEBSITE COORDINATOR	Mike Santy	799-0660
	msanty@verizon.net	
	<a href="http://www.stjosephlb.org">www.stjosephlb.org</a>	
HOSPITALITY MINISTRY	John/Deborah Rollinger	537-3457
MOVEMENT FOR A BETTER WORLD	Tim Clark	431-4385
LONG BEACH CATHOLIC YOUNG ADULTS	Jason Pillon	
	coordinator@lbcya.org	
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
PARISH FAIR	sjparishfair@gmail.com	
PROJECT ACHIEVE	Tina Gath	598-5202
PRECIOUS LIFE SHELTER	Cynthia San Jose	884-9589
CUB SCOUTS	Moses Bass	420-1877
BOY SCOUTS	Brian Moskovitz	506-7817

### BULLETIN NOTICES DEADLINE - MONDAY 1:00 PM

Please submit notices, with your name & phone, to the rectory or to [bulletin@stjosephlb.org](mailto:bulletin@stjosephlb.org)