



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

email: stjoseph@stjosephlb.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.
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.

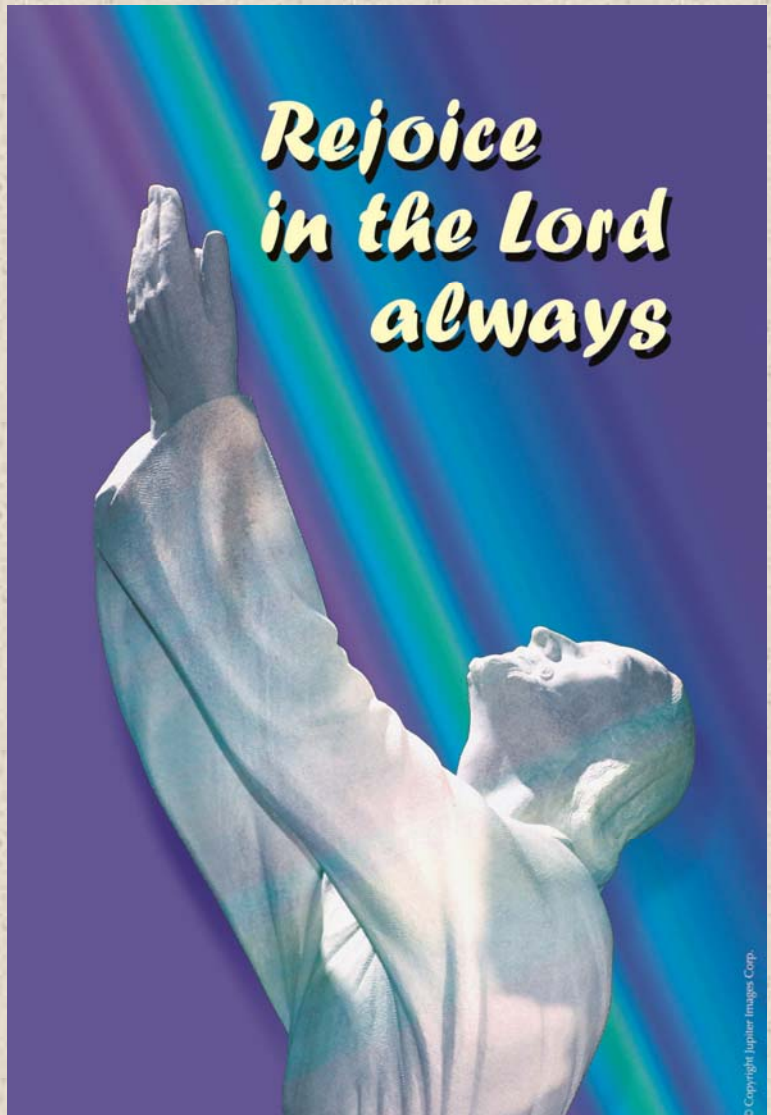
OUR LADY OF PERPETUAL HELP

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.



Third Sunday of Advent

December 13, 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.

Jubilee Year of Mercy

Pope Francis chose to inaugurate the Jubilee Year of Mercy last Tuesday because December 8 marks the fiftieth anniversary of the closing of Vatican II. That council, Pope Francis reminds us, inaugurated a new phase in the Church's history. The Spirit called the Church to tear down the walls that for far too long had made it a fortress, and to proclaim the gospel in a new, more accessible way. Pope Francis quotes Saint John XXIII in declaring the Church's preference for "the medicine of mercy," and Blessed Paul VI in proposing the Good Samaritan as our model for discipleship (*Misericordiae Vultus*, 4). Pope Francis adds that God's mercy is "the beating heart of the Gospel," and that mercy "must penetrate the heart and mind" of every disciple (MV, 12). Three times today's Gospel asks, "What should I do?" Pope Francis would say: Imitate Jesus, who came not wielding the fiery judgment that John the Baptist had threatened, but instead imparting healing, compassion, forgiveness - mercy!

The year of mercy has begun informally with the Holy Father opening of the doors in Bangui. On December 8, the formal opening of the Door of Mercy took place at the Cathedral of Rome, St. John Lateran. On this Third Sunday of Advent, the holy door will be opened in every cathedral church and designated pilgrimage church throughout the world. In the Archdiocese of Los Angeles, the Pilgrimage churches for the San Pedro Pastoral Region are St. Dominic Savio – Bellflower, St. Mary of the Assumption – Whittier, American Martyrs – Manhattan Beach, and St. Anthony – Long Beach.

Having Crossed the Doorway - Once a person has crossed through the Door of Mercy, or have fulfilled one of the other conditions under which Pope Francis has granted the Jubilee Indulgence (for example, for the sick, for the imprisoned, or for anyone who carries out in person a work of mercy), in addition to the usual conditions which require a heart well-disposed for the grace to bring its desired fruits, the faithful should stop in prayer to fulfill the final actions asked for: the profession of faith, and prayer for the Holy Father and his intentions. The latter should be at least an "Our Father" – the prayer in which Jesus himself taught us to turn as children to the Father – but it could possibly be more. In particular, taking into consideration the spirit of this Holy Year, it is suggested that pilgrims recite the lovely prayer of Pope Francis for the Jubilee, and that they conclude the time of prayer with an invocation to the merciful Lord Jesus (for example, "Merciful Jesus, I trust in You").

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



From Deacon Don's desk:

A Christmas Message from 1965! Into the hillside country Mary went in the weeks before the first Christmas. Everywhere she went, she carried Christ, so that even before He was born at Bethlehem, the human Christ manifested His saving grace. Before the magi and shepherds adored the newborn Christ, St. Elizabeth bowed before the living tabernacle that was Mary.

Meditation on how Christ radiated His graces during the months that Mary carried Him before the first Christmas, hallowing every place she went, suggests how we too may carry Christ now gloriously transformed to dwell within us in the Eucharist. Ours must be a prayerful preparation for this great feast and the only way to observe it is to make ready now to carry our Eucharistic Lord wherever we may go during the days of our years. The Christ that Mary carried in the days before Bethlehem is the same Christ that we, sinner though we be, receive in Holy Communion and that our forefathers have carried to the ends of the earth.

Today we are called to carry Christ into our towns and cities, our homes and shops, spreading His saving influence by every word we speak, every deed we do, so that men and women may know that the Savior of the world is still among us, still sanctifying, still compelling the adoration of His people, and still giving the graces that add up to the Holy and Happy Christmas that we wish to all.

OUR PRAYER: Heavenly Father, help us to imitate Your immaculate daughter Mary in her love for You. Grant us the grace to love You as much as we are able all our life long. Amen

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

FAITH DIRECT®
inspiring secure giving®

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 to enroll securely online. Our parish code is CA717.

God Bless You! Rev. Francis Aguilar

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 –

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 or contact Jason Pillon at 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

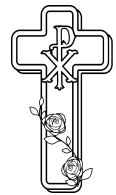
- Focuses on Kindergarten readiness
- Students receive daily instruction in religion and attend Mass weekly
- Offers a half-day (7:50-11:50 am) or full-day (7:50 am – 3:00 pm), 5-days-per-week program
- Extended daycare is available until 5:30 pm

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 to set up an appointment to speak with Mrs. Alvarez our principal.

Rest In Peace

Died in Christ

Mario Sistos
Julia Danks
Louis Laphorne




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. 13** hosted by Cub Scouts

Sunday **Dec. 20** hosted by Meditation Group

Sunday:	Zep 3:14-18a; Is 12:2-3, 4, 5-6; Phil 4:4-7; Lk 3:10-18
Monday:	Nm 24:2-7, 15-17a; Ps 25:4-5ab, 6, 7bc-9; Mt 21:23-27
Tuesday:	Zep 3:1-2, 9-13; Ps 34:2-3, 6-7, 17-19, 23; Mt 21:28-32
Wednesday:	Is 45:6b-8, 18, 21b-25; Ps 85:9-14; Lk 7:18b-23
Thursday:	Gn 49:2, 8-10; Ps 72:1-4ab, 7-8, 17; Mt 1:1-17
Friday:	Jer 23:5-8; Ps 72:1-2, 12-13, 18-19; Mt 1:18-25
Saturday:	Jgs 13:2-7, 24-25a; Ps 71:3-4a, 5-6ab, 16-17; Lk 1:5-25
Sunday:	Mi 5:1-4a; Ps 80:2-3, 15-16, 18-19; Heb 10:5-10; Lk 1:39-45



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"
\$10 Membership for a fun 2016

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

Donate your new and wrapped "white elephant/regift" for the holiday opportunity drawing.

Jan. 4 - Business meeting/games

Jan. 18 - Special presentation - update on reverse mortgages & free lunch, games & fun. Reservations required 421-6863

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.

St. Hedwig's Annual Christmas Dinner Friday, **Dec. 25**, 1:00 p.m. in Quinn Hall, 11482 Los Alamitos Blvd., Los Alamitos, for those who may be alone this Christmas. Reservations are required, please contact Ed or Dewey Foster, 562-598-7060, by December 22. There is no charge. There will be families to share their love and prayers with you, a bounty of food, singing and more.

SIMBANG GABI - The St. Barnabas Filipino-American Association invites everyone to come, celebrate, and experience Simbang Gabi (Advent Night Mass). Schedule:

1st Day - Tues. Dec. 15 6:30 PM
2nd Day - Wed. Dec. 16 6:30 PM
3rd Day - Thurs. Dec. 17 6:30 PM*Parish Hall
4th Day - Fri. Dec. 18 6:30 PM
5th Day - Sat. Dec. 19 5:00 PM
6th Day - Sun. Dec. 20 5:30 PM
7th Day - Mon. Dec. 21 6:30 PM
8th Day - Tues. Dec. 22 6:30 PM
9th Day - Wed. Dec. 23 6:30 PM

St. Barnabas Church, 3955 Orange, invites you in preparation for celebrating the birth of Jesus! For questions, contact: Charito Salas (881-5542), or Dr. Gene Lowther (427-1386).

"This is how all will know that you are my disciples, if you have love for one another." Jn 13:35

Christmas Gift Drive: Thank you to everyone who took Christmas gift envelopes from our Giving Trees last weekend for the children of our holiday supported families! Please return your gifts to the church or hall by 12:30 today!!

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.

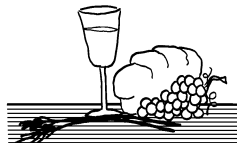


Please continue to keep the victims and those who enter into this form of crime in your prayers. For more information on this ministry and to be included on our contact list, please email Marianna Wescott at wescottfam@yahoo.com.

Retirement Fund for Religious - Aging religious need your help. There are more than 33,000 aging religious in the U.S. They worked tirelessly in schools, hospitals, and agencies, usually for little to no pay. Your gift will help provide medication, nursing care and more. Please make checks to St. Joseph Church. Thank you for your continued generosity!

Did You Know? Safety is key even when visiting Santa Claus - Visiting Santa Claus can be a grand and positive childhood experience. However some people who seek to bring Santa to life in a child's world are not deserving of our trust. Make sure your child knows that there are special rules for Santa and that parents or guardians must always be with the child when he or she visits Santa. One rule to consider is encouraging your child to stand next to Santa or sit on the floor between his feet rather than sitting on his lap. For a copy of the VIRTUS® article "Safety for Children and Santa's Helpers" email: jvienna@la-archdiocese.org.

Mass Intentions



SATURDAY, December 12

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

MONDAY, December 14

8:00 a.m. - † Joe Cardamone

TUESDAY, December 15

8:00 a.m. - † Maria Hai Dang

WEDNESDAY, December 16

8:00 a.m. - † Andrina Summerfelt

THURSDAY, December 17

8:00 a.m. - † Andrina Summerfelt

FRIDAY, December 18

8:00 a.m. - † Mary Mariano

SATURDAY, December 19

5:00 p.m. - † Ed and Mary Jane Merk

SUNDAY, December 20

7:30 a.m. - † Andrina Summerfelt

9:00 a.m. - † Bob Maney

10:30 a.m. - † Cruz Aragon

12:30 p.m. - † Gerry Kohnen

Weekly Collection for December 6: \$13,510

Thank you for your continued generosity.

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

Immaculate Heart Radio, 930 on the am dial, a 24 hour Catholic radio station. 888-887-7120 or 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, Margaret 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 Horgan, 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	
	www.stjosephlb.org	
Website address:		
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