ST. JOSEPH CHURCH 6180 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.

EUCHARISTIC 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.

JESUS was led by the Spirit

INTO The desert

First Sunday of Lent February 14, 2016

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:

Long ago, comedian Flip Wilson coined the now-famous phrase, "The devil made me do it!" When we are caught doing what we know is wrong, we often look for someone or something outside ourselves to blame. The devil is readily at hand! **But we have been given free will**! We can choose right or wrong; we choose to give in or to resist temptation. The devil can't make us do anything.

In today's gospel, Jesus faces Satan in a titanic battle between good and evil that lasts for forty days. The same Spirit that descended upon Jesus now drives Jesus into the desert - into the wilderness - to be tempted. Jesus himself was not exempted from temptations. The word "drove" is the same word used when Jesus drove out demons from the possessed - it is a forceful - powerful and deliberate action on the part of the Spirit. But Jesus chose to do what was right. He immersed himself in prayer. He surrendered His will to the will of His Father.

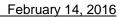
He didn't rely on his own strength - but trusted in God alone and His angels - and so when he faced Satan in this epic battle - Jesus didn't fall trap to any of his temptations -Jesus didn't give the devil his time of day - precisely because there is never a confusion - when we're connected to God - there is never a doubt - when we know that we were created to live for God and serve Him alone.

People often ask me if temptation is a 'sin'. Temptation itself is not a 'sin'. Sin is the choice to do what we know we ought not - what we know will hurt us - what we know diminishes who we are. Growing in the divine life God bestows on us means we choose right and resist temptation. May you never give the devil your time of day! May you see the beauty of allowing God to direct every action you take! May you always rely on God and his angels and saints to lead you to a life of goodness and holiness! May you never never be afraid of temptation knowing that when you surrender to God's will - you will always come out victorious!

> Thoughts for Lent Easiest thing to do - Find a fault Most useless asset - Pride

Stations of the Cross - Fridays of Lent at 7:00 p.m.

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 Apr. 14 (Men), and Apr. 28 (Women). Contact Dcn. Shane @ sfcuda@yahoo.com, or OCCursillo.org



From Deacon Don's desk:



Are you ready? Lent falls into two parts. First, including pre-Lent of Ash Wednesday and the balance of that week, runs up to Saturday of week three. In three and a half weeks the Gospels are taken from the Synoptics (syn=same & optic

=view) Matthew, Mark and Luke. As the Ordo says, "The Gospel passages are meant to trouble us, to come face to face with our illusions about ourselves. 'Remember you are dust and to dust you shall return.' Lenten penance is most effective when we fail in our "resolutions" than if we succeed. Lent is not meant to 'confirm' us in our sense of virtue but bring us back home to our need for salvation.

Now we shift to John's Gospel as he presents Jesus as our Savior. He too is tempted. We need to understand that we have a need to pray for our salvation. "Faith that does not animate us to service is not faith at all. Works mean nothing if they don't inform or flow from our faith".....Anon Msgr Kevin Kostelnik, pastor of the Cathedral of Our Lady

of the Angels, gave us a challenge for Lent:

#1. Pray 5 minutes each day. Find time for silent prayer (without interruption). "Dust off that pretty bible with gold lettering and pick a reading!"

#2. Read about a saint each day. They are our real heros, not Spiderman or Avatar !

#3. Pray for a just solution to the immigrant policy.#4. Most important, pick a partner and have them call and remind you each day to be sure you are following these Lenten challenges.

OUR PRAYER: Father God, grant us Your grace to overcome our natural fear of suffering. Strengthen us to bear our sufferings in union with Your sacred Passion for the salvation of the world. Amen

Jubilee Year of Mercy

On Ash Wednesday Pope Francis commissioned "Missionaries of Mercy," priestconfessors sent forth worldwide as "living signs of the Father's readiness to welcome those in search of [God's] pardon." In a way, though, Pope Francis challenges all of us to become "missionaries of mercy" (Misericordiae Vultus, 18) by living Lent in this Jubilee Year of Mercy "more in-



tensely as a privileged moment to celebrate and experience God's mercy" (MV, 17). Francis bids us make the prophet Micah's words our own: "God . . . who does not persist in anger forever, but delights rather in clemency. You will cast into the depths of the sea all our sins" (Micah 7:18, 19). Having experienced God's mercy ourselves in the unconditional forgiveness of our sins, how eager we should be to invite others to know the peace of God's boundless mercy; perhaps even to experience, through our reaching out in gentle kindness and compassionate care, something of God's unconditional love for them.

Free app: 365 days of mercy at www.osv.com/yom

Faith Formation/Religious Education News Classes have begun for 3 years to 5th Grade at 10:30am <u>LITTLE SAINTS Toddler Ministry</u> – 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! <u>Liturgy of the Word for Children</u> 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.

<u>Activities for Faith Formation and Confirmation</u>: <u>Faith Formation/Religious Education</u> - Sundays: 10:30 Middle School - Tuesdays 7-8 pm

Confirmation - Class Sundays, 11am thru 12:30 Mass. Confirmation I Retreat - Mar. 4-6. Please keep our teens, team and parents in your prayers.

High School Youth Ministry –

Revelation on Wednesdays from 7:30-8:30pm.

Multi-Parish Lenten Speaker Series - Look at all the opportunities for adults to grow in their faith! Check out the flyer at the entrances to the church.

Religious Education Congress - Feb. 25-28, Anaheim Convention Center. Stop by our hospitality room at the Anaheim Sheraton.

New Evangelization Series - Come and explore the Church's mission within the challenges of contemporary culture. This documentary, hosted by Bishop Robert Barron, focuses on the cultural obstacles the church faces today such as the emergence of "the new atheism," and relativistic attitudes towards questions of faith and morality. Catholicism taught us what the Church believes and why, the New Evangelization shows us how to put our faith into action. Come join us in the Parish Life Center on Tuesdays from 9-10:30 am. or Thursdays 7-8:30 pm.

Grief Support - If you are grieving the loss of a loved one, come and join us every other Monday, Feb. 22, Mar. 7 and 21, Apr. 4 and 18, May 2 and 16, in the PLC from 7-8:30 pm. Questions? Call Sr. Eva 594-4657.

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



"Be Still And Know That I Am God" Newcomers please call Marie Mitchell (310) 490-4012 for directions. **Long Beach Catholic Young Adults** - Welcome young adults, 18-39, to 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 information, visit www.lbcya.org or contact Jason Pillon: coordinator@lbcya.org.

Prayer and Life Workshop - There are still a few seats open in this life-changing "Prayer and Life Work-shops", where you will learn to overcome suffering and anxiety, and develop a profound peace through the power of prayer. The "PLW" is an internationally recognized program that guides you to develop a deep and intimate relationship with the Lord through a series of practical prayer methods and exercises. More information at www.plwStJoseph.com

Sessions Run every Saturday through May 21 Time: 9:00 am – 11 am, Parish Life Center

RCIA - If you know anyone or are interested yourself in learning more about being a Catholic, please call Sr. Eva at the parish office, 594-4657.



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!!!*

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Have you heard the good news about Marriage? Experience a Worldwide Marriage Encounter Weekend! Jesus came into the world to bring the good news, to proclaim liberty, give the recovery of sight, and free the oppressed. Let Him proclaim the good news to you in your marriage! Allow the Lord to strengthen, renew, and rekindle your marriage sacrament by attending a Marriage Encounter Weekend on April 2-3. Apply at www.ilovemyspouse.net or contact Sarah and Jacob Flores at 562-923-7335.

Immaculate Heart Radio, 930 on the am dial, a 24 hour Catholic radio station. 888-887-7120 or www.ihradio.com

Sunday:	Dt 26:4-10; Ps 91:1-2, 10-15; Rom 10:8-13; Lk 4:1-13
Monday:	Lv 19:1-2, 11-18; Ps 19:8-10, 15; Mt 25:31-46
Tuesday:	ls 55:10-11; Ps 34:4-7, 16-19; Mt 6:7-15
Wednesday:	Jon 3:1-10; Ps 51:3-4, 12-13, 18-19; Lk 11:29-32
Thursday:	Est C:12, 14-16, 23-25; Ps 138:1-3, 7c-8;
	Mt 7:7-12
Friday:	Ez 18:21-28; Ps 130:1-8; Mt 5:20-26
Saturday:	Dt 26:16-19; Ps 119:1-2, 4-5, 7-8; Mt 5:43-48
Sunday:	Gn 15:5-12, 17-18; Ps 27:1, 7-9, 13-14;
	Phil 3:17 — 4:1 [3:20 — 4:1]; Lk 9:28b-36

<u>ST. JOSEPH CHURCH</u>

St. Joseph Social Club Hosted by the *St. Joseph Senior Group* Join now for a fun 2016 \$10 a year Membership

<u>Feb. 15</u> - Meeting and Social gathering with games & fun 11:30-2:30. Come meet old friends and make new ones. *All New Members Welcome!*

Be sure to pay your 2016 dues if you haven't already. Mar. 7 - Social gathering with games and fun 11:30-2:30

All regular 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 and much more. For information call: Marilyn North 562-429-8891

Trips - Trips - Trips

Vatican Splendors - Reagan Library, tour of Vatican art, history, & gifts 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. Two buses full/ Taking Stand-bys
Tour of Little Italy - a day trip to San Diego on June 14. A great docent tour into the magical world of Little Italy. Visit hidden neighborhood landmarks and more followed by a wonderful progressive lunch plus a stop for "homemade" gelato and yes a little shopping. Departs at 9:00 AM- Returns approx. 6:30pm Cost is \$69 due May 9.
Future trips: Doctors TV Show, Reno/Lake Tahoe and more including casino trips.

Please contact Mary Lou 431-4385 or Gerry 420-3220.

ESTHER MINISTRY - End Slavery and Trafficking of Humans and Effect Rescue -

On January 30 the L.A. Times included a supplement dedicated to human trafficking. They listed "10 Hard Truths" relating



to this crime. Our ministry is dedicated to bringing about awareness and education on this topic. We will list these 10 items over the next few weeks. The #1 truth is: "Human trafficking has been reported in all 50 states, with particularly high rates in California, Texas, Florida and New York. The U.S. is considered one of the top destinations for human trafficking victims in the world."

The Y.E.S.S. (Youth Exploitation Safety Symposium) is February 20 at L.B.C.C. Carson campus from 10am to 3pm. All are welcome! A special track for youth ages Middle School through High School will take place. Building healthy relationships is the focus with workshops for college age to adults on various topics dealing with the human trafficking issues. Please go to https://

yess2016.eventbrite.com to sign up. For more information about the Esther Ministry, please email Marianna Wescott at wescottfam@yahoo.com. "The bread of charity is life itself for the needy." Sir 35:21

Feb. 17 - Committee Meeting - PLC



Help us plan our upcoming activities. Mar. 5-13 - Book Drive - Collecting new and gently used children's reading books for our Easter

distribution.

Mar. 19 8:30 - Easter Food and Gift Distribution - If you are NOT able to help us deliver again, please call Amy McKenna, 427-5917.

Skip-a-Meal Donations: Please be especially mindful during our holiday support of families in need. For fulfilling opportunities to serve, please call Tim Clark 431-4385.

The St. Joseph Parish Blood Drive, sponsored by the Knights of Columbus, will take place on Sunday, **Feb. 14** from 8:15 AM to 2:15 PM in the Bloodmobile outside the Parish Hall. You can sign up online at redcrossblood.org. Sponsor Code: JosephLB. For more information contact To-ny Diaz at bstdad2@msn.com.

St Joseph 7th grade class is hosting a **Texas Hold'em Tournament**, **March 12**. Doors open at 5 pm play begins at 6 pm. Father Martin Hall. Please contact Lisa Powell for more information, 562-481-8646 Powells724@hotmail.com.

Did You Know? Kik Messenger and the dangers of anonymous messages - Social media sites are available to anyone with an internet connection. Your kids may be sharing their lives with complete strangers, and parents should be aware of the sites they use, what they share, and who their friends are. One mobile app, Kik, is regarded as the most dangerous site for internet predators, because users can send messages to anyone with a cellphone, including young children. Kik has no options for parental controls, leaving kids exposed to the entire web. To learn more about this app in the Virtus® article "Mobile App Danger—Kik Messenger," email jvienna@la-archdiocese.org.

Catholic Co-ed Softball Players Wanted! Greater South Bay Catholic co-ed adult (Ages 18+) softball league seeks players for their exciting 2016 season! Games are played on Sunday afternoons from February thru June in Torrance. Singles & couples welcome; female players especially needed! If interested, please contact ASAP: Fred Lawler, League Commissioner, (310) 504-0271 or fredlawler@hotmail.com.

eGiving with Faith Direct

Faith Direct enables you to make contributions through either direct debit from your checking/savings account or through your credit/debit card. You can apply the convenience of direct debit to your parish offerings as you may now use it to make your mortgage or tuition payments. Please visit www.faithdirect.net to enroll securely online. Our parish code is CA717.

Mass Intentions



SATURDAY, February 13 5:00 p.m. - † Dennis Papini SUNDAY, February 14 7:30 a.m. - St. Joseph Parishioners 9:00 a.m. - † Thomas Steiner 10:30 a.m. - † Gene Ensch 12:30 p.m. - † Gene Ensch **MONDAY, February 15** 8:00 a.m. - † John Kielbasa **TUESDAY, February 16** 8:00 a.m. - Joseph Dang and family WEDNESDAY, February 17 8:00 a.m. - † John Risko **THURSDAY, February 18** 8:00 a.m. - † James P. Spellman FRIDAY, February 19 8:00 a.m. - † Robert and Julianne Uehlin SATURDAY, February 20 5:00 p.m. - † Ralph Chadwick SUNDAY, February 21 7:30 a.m. - St. Joseph Parishioners 9:00 a.m. - + Paul Fink 10:30 a.m. -† Eufemia Castillo 12:30 p.m. - † Josephine Keller

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

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 Feb. 14 hosted by Cub Scouts Sunday Feb. 21 hosted by Movement for a Better World

PLEASE PRAY FOR . . . Eugene Dryer, Fernando Montoya, Tim Ginnett, Kim Agee, Mary Jane McCormick, Gary Hillebrecht, Karen Muccino, Eileen Bentley, Delia Nix, 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, Robert & Frances Stickney, Bryan Nielson, Joel Stephesen, Georgiana (Peggy) Schad, Eloisa Mariano, Angela Gibbons, Luis Arroyo, Michael Dresnick, Larry Luckey, Ramona Pedroza, Mary DeRuyter, Albert Rodriguez, Tony Olivar, Lisa Dang, Nina Escandon, Chris Belcher, Janet Bernardo, Regina Jurado, Pat & Marie Mitchell, Dennis Cuda, Barbara Baine, Mark Ham, Odete Salvate, Joan Aimerito, Bob Becker, June Kukahiko, Scott Reinard, Valerie Karner, Graciella Griffin, Joe Hamamoto, Cynthia Hogan, Lou Teran, Rita Smith, Zita Roehrig, Bella Dassanayake, Rose Gonser, Mike & Colette DiHarce & Ellie Jacob.

LITURGICAL MINISTRIES

EXTRAORDINARY MINISTERS of HOLY COMMUNION B LECTORS B USHERS M ALTAR SERVERS S DIRECTOR of MUSIC V ALTAR CARE R CHURCH SACRISTANS L

Bill & Katie Greening Bill Smith Marty Vezzetti Stan Lawrence Vivian Doughty Rectory Lily & Joe Dang (sister & brother)

421-3997 431-2495 425-0621 430-0913 422-5430 594-4657 493-2198

ST. JOSEPH SCHOOL 562-596-6115

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

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION 562-598-0519

DIRECTOR of RELIGIOUS EDUCATION Nancy Longo ELEMENTARY, MIDDLE SCHOOL 598-0519 Nancy Longo YOUTH MINISTRY/ CONFIRMATION 598-0519 Marc Leon EARLY CHILDHOOD Kris Dominguez 598-0519 LITURGY/CHILDREN Nancy Longo 598-0519 RCIC (Children) 598-0519 Nancy Longo SUNDAY NURSERY BEREAVEMENT MINISTRY FOR CHILDREN ADULT MINISTRY

RCIA	Sister Eva	594-4657
BIBLE STUDY	Sisterr Eva	594-4657
	Rita Smith	
BAPTISM PREPARATION	Olga Cuda	594-4657
BEREAVEMENT MINISTRY	Sister 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 FINANCE COUNCIL	Anne Weaver Mike Roide	498-7008
WEBSITE COORDINATOR	Mike Santy msanty@verizon.net	799-0660
Website address: HOSPITALITY MINISTRY	www.stjosephlb.org John/Deborah Rollinger	537-3457
MOVEMENT FOR A	Julii/Debulali Kuliiligei	337-3437
BETTER WORLD	Tim Clark	431-4385
LONG BEACH CATHOLIC		
YOUNG ADULTS	Jason Pillon	
SENIOR GROUP	coordinator@lbcya.org Marilyn North	429-8891
KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS	Ron Steiner	431-7703
ENGAGED ENCOUNTER	Paciano & Molly Diaz 310 ktmr@sbcglobal.net	
NATURAL FAMILY	2	
PLANNING	Greg & Beth Gath	377-5877
SAFEGUARD THE CHILDREN	Monica Muñoz & Julie Gray	y 598-0519
	sjparishfair@gmail.com	500 5000
PROJECT ACHIEVE PRECIOUS LIFE SHELTER	Tina Gath Cynthia San Jose	598-5202 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