

St. Joseph Parish

JOHN THE BAPTIST PROCLAIMED:
"ONE MIGHTIER THAN I IS COMING AFTER ME ...
I HAVE BAPTIZED YOU WITH WATER;
HE WILL BAPTIZE YOU WITH THE HOLY SPIRIT."
MARK 1:7, 8



THE
BAPTISM
OF THE LORD

JANUARY 10, 2021

6180 E. Willow Street Long Beach, CA 90815

T: (562) 594-4657 F: (562) 431-7424

Office Hours: Monday-Friday 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. (Closed Noon - 1:00 for lunch)

stjosephlb.org

Our Parish

PASTOR: MSGR. KEVIN KOSTELNIK

stjoseph@stjosephlb.org

Deacon Shane Cuda

sfcuda@yahoo.com

Deacon Tom Halliwell

[tom.halliwell@la-](mailto:tom.halliwell@la-archdiocese.org)

archdiocese.org

Deacon Emeritus Don Gath

Office Manager

Brenda Pineda

(562) 594-4657

Pastoral Council

Anne Weaver

(562) 594-4657

Finance Council

George Zuluaga

Zuluaga@aol.com

Safeguard The Children

Tony Burgos

(562) 596-6115

Parish Bulletin Editor

Brenda Pineda

bulletin@stjosephlb.org

Website Coordinator

Mike Santy

(562) 370-0769

msanty@verizon.net

St. Joseph School: Margaret Alvarez, Principal

(562) 596-6115

<https://sjknights.net/>

Fax: (562) 596-6725

Assistant Principal:

Sonia Yurak

Office Manager:

Julie Gianessi

Faith Formation Director: Joe Voigt

(562) 598-0519

religioused@stjosephlb.org

Children's Formation (age3-8th Grade)/CLOW:

Joe Voigt

Administrative Assistant:

Michelle Johnson

High School Ministry & Confirmation:

Marc Leon

RCIA:

Deacon Shane & Olga Cuda

olga@stjosephlb.org

Parish Ministries & Organizations

Baptism Preparation

Brenda Pineda

brenda@stjosephlb.org

Director of Music

Vivian Doughty

(562) 594-4657

Eucharistic Ministry

Brian & Kristen Katz

emohcschedule@gmail.com

Lectors

Steve Koppenheffer

(714) 299-6644

Meditation

Frank Mckown

(310) 633-1744

Esther Ministry

Virginia Young

estherministry1@gmail.com

Hospitality Ministry

Deborah Rollinger

(562) 594-4657

Movement For A Better World

Tim Clark

(562) 431-4385

Senior Group

Jan Minter

tchrjan@gmail.com

Knights Of Columbus

Marty Vezzetti

(562) 425-0621

Engaged Encounter

Paciano & Molly Diaz

Ktmr@Sbcglobal.Net

Natural Family Planning

Greg & Beth Gath

(562) 377-5877

Project Achieve

Susie Beeghly

susanbeeghly@yahoo.com

Precious Life Shelter

Cynthia San Jose

(562) 884-9589

Boy Scouts

Gene Wohlgezogan

(562) 857-3880

Mass Schedule

Saturday

5:00 p.m. Vigil

Suspended till further notice

Sunday

Mass on the Grass

8:30 a.m.

Daily Mass (M-W)

8:00 am

Come Join Us

Reconciliation

Saturdays

4:00-4:45pm

By the East Church Door
parking lot

Eucharistic Adoration

No Adoration till
further notice due to
Covid-19





JOHN THE BAPTIST PROCLAIMED:
“ONE MIGHTIER THAN I
IS COMING AFTER ME ...
I HAVE BAPTIZED YOU WITH WATER;
HE WILL BAPTIZE YOU
WITH THE HOLY SPIRIT.”

MARK 1:7, 8

© J. S. Paluch Co., Inc. Excelsior Collection of Christmas cards for 1922, 1923, 1924, 1925, 1926, 1927, 1928, 1929, 1930, 1931, 1932, 1933, 1934, 1935, 1936, 1937, 1938, 1939, 1940, 1941, 1942, 1943, 1944, 1945, 1946, 1947, 1948, 1949, 1950, 1951, 1952, 1953, 1954, 1955, 1956, 1957, 1958, 1959, 1960, 1961, 1962, 1963, 1964, 1965, 1966, 1967, 1968, 1969, 1970, 1971, 1972, 1973, 1974, 1975, 1976, 1977, 1978, 1979, 1980, 1981, 1982, 1983, 1984, 1985, 1986, 1987, 1988, 1989, 1990, 1991, 1992, 1993, 1994, 1995, 1996, 1997, 1998, 1999, 2000, 2001, 2002, 2003, 2004, 2005, 2006, 2007, 2008, 2009, 2010, 2011, 2012, 2013, 2014, 2015, 2016, 2017, 2018, 2019, 2020, 2021. All rights reserved. © 2020. Tony Ward, see www.tonyward.com for more information. Christmas star art: Tony Ward for J. S. Paluch Co., Inc., 2019.

THE BAPTISM OF THE LORD



JANUARY 10, 2021

WATER

It may seem obvious that the theme for the Baptism of the Lord is “water,” but when one spends time with the readings today, one can see many different connotations for that water and its power. Isaiah calls the poor who are thirsty and tired to come to the water and take the spiritual food and drink that will be provided if we but seek the Lord. Here, God is both destination and consolation. The responsorial psalm follows suit with the image of drawing water from the springs of salvation. 1 John takes us to the reality of Christ as eucharist: not only Jesus’ birth and baptism, but his death, as we hear that Jesus came “by water and by blood.” The Gospel depicts John baptizing Jesus with water, and the Spirit baptizing Jesus. We experience both the humanity and the divinity of Christ. Indeed, water has much power to save us.

BEING THE MESSENGER

When we go to a pop music concert, there is often an opening act. Usually they are a young group on their way up, or older musicians who are past their prime and still hanging on in the business. This is indeed a hard job. In the comedy world it is the same thing. You have to warm up the crowd. You are not who they are coming to see, and audiences may be unresponsive, come in late, or not pay a lot of attention. Yet John had no problem being the opening act, the messenger, the harbinger of faith for Jesus. He was very devout in his faith and knew what his role was. Many Jews were actively seeking a messiah, and he was quick to let them know that he was not the one for whom they were waiting. “I have baptized you with water; he will baptize you with the Holy Spirit.” Yet he conducted his ministry with faith and hope.

BEING THE MESSAGE

As John humbly carried out his mission and Jesus accepted this simple baptism by John, the Holy Spirit indeed came down upon Jesus, and God proclaimed for the first time, “You are my beloved Son; with you I am well pleased.” Thus Jesus began his formal ministry. There must have been much that he already knew, but also much that he uncovered each day in his encounters with the disciples and the crowds. As he responded “yes” to the Father over and over, his thirst was quenched and his spirit strengthened.

How many times do we witness baptisms in the parish? The priest ministers with simple elements of water and oil, but the Spirit is called down each time. Every time we participate, we are experiencing the message, experiencing the call again. How many times have we blessed ourselves with holy water, or participated in a sprinkling rite? Yet in these days, when church fonts are empty due to safety precautions, we need to remember those other times, trust in God, and sing the prayer of Isaiah in our hearts about drawing the water joyfully. We must trust in the message. We must become the message of God’s saving action through our baptism and our lives.

TODAY’S READINGS

Isaiah 55:1–11
Isaiah 12:2–3, 4bcd, 5–6
1 John 5:1–9
Mark 1:7–11

Parish Life

Welcome

Dear Parish Family:

Today the Christmas season concludes as we celebrate the Feast of the Baptism of the Lord. It was a joyous Christmas season and thank you for your support, generosity and love. While Christmas looked different with outdoor Masses and drive-through Communion processions and YouTube Masses, we were still able to celebrate the message of Christmas – Jesus Christ, dwells among us!

The Baptism of the Lord encourages us to recall our own Baptism. Baptism began your great pilgrimage filling you with the Holy Spirit, opening the door to Catholic faith, cleansing you of original sin, naming you a son or daughter of the Lord, and offering an inheritance, the promise of eternal life!

This is the one of the most appropriate days of the year to celebrate Baptisms. Today at our Holy Mass on the grass we will baptize three children and welcome them into the Catholic Church and our **faith community of St. Joseph's!** We welcome the following children being baptized today:

Aiden Martinez Elias
Ricardo Joel Pineda
Blake Susanne Johnson

During the past year of 2020, St. Joseph's was able to baptize many children and adults into our faith community. We welcomed them, prayed for them and their parents and godparents. Let's continue to pray for those were baptized this past year including:



Loki Cordero
Camila Hagstrom
Theodore Ho
Mara Lopez
Eric De La Cruz
Penelope Mizokami
Luke Murillo
Madisyn Lane
Jacob Murillo
Tara Summerfelt
Leiana Swanson

Logan Pillon
Kathryn Lowell
Henry Bunch
Elijah Esquivel
Emily Souza
Luke Thanh Pham
Mckenzie Shadrick
Landen Alcancia
Charlotte Walden
Grasyn Forsyth
Westyn Arrowood

Know that the Holy Spirit of God dwells in you and keep your Baptism working in this new year of grace!

Peace,
Msgr. Kevin

Ministries

Did you know?

Why it is so important to tell the truth

As parents, we teach our children that the truth is important. In fact, the truth is a critical part of the healing process for victim-survivors of abuse. When a victim-survivor tells the truth about abuse that has happened to him or her, it robs the secret of its power and begins to break down any fear surrounding it. This helps a victim-survivor on the path to being free from the effects of abuse and enables the church and other institutions to take appropriate action to keep others safe.

For more information about the importance of truth-telling, visit lacatholics.org/did-you-know

Meditation Group

St. Joseph's Meditation Group now meets as a Zoom meeting every Tuesday at 7:00PM. No prior experience is necessary and newcomers are welcome to experience both the prayerful and calming benefits of this ancient Christian practice.

For more information and to receive the Zoom log on information, please contact group leader, Frank McKown, at frmckown@gmail.com or 310-633-1744.

Movement for a Better World

"Children, let us love not in word or speech but in deed and truth." 1 John 3:18.

Holiday Food and Gift Distribution:

Our heartfelt gratitude to the parish, especially those who directly assisted in serving 79 families, including 225 children for Thanksgiving and Christmas. Over \$11,000 in Skip-a-Meal donations contributed to the food and grocery gift cards provided. Please be especially mindful of Skip-a-Meal donations during the holiday season when our needs are greatest.

March: Children's Book Drive: Collecting new and gently used reading books for the children of our supported families for Easter. Details are forthcoming.

March 27: Easter Food & Reading Book Distribution: We will support 79 families in need! We are assessing our COVID-prudent options for inviting parishioner assistance.

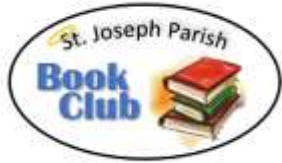
Special Needs Ministry: We have an active ministry of providing essential living needs (refrigerators, stoves, beds, etc.) to families in need. May we add you to our e-mail distribution for news about items needed? Can you help (time or vehicle) to transfer items to families in need?

Please call Tim Clark (562) 431-4385

Social Ministry



Book Club



Our next Zoom meeting will be on Wednesday, January 13, 2021 at 7pm.

We will discuss Braiding Sweetgrass: Indigenous Wisdom, Scientific Knowledge, and the Teachings of Plants by Robin Wall Kimmerer. The book is about plants and botany as seen through Native American traditions and Western scientific traditions; a journey that is every bit as mystical as it is scientific, as sacred as it is historical. **All are welcome.**



Amazon Smile – is a simple and automatic way for you to support St. Joseph Church every time **you shop, at no cost to you. You'll find the exact same low prices, vast selection and convenient shopping experience with the added bonus that Amazon will donate a portion of the purchase price to St. Joseph Church as your favorite charitable organization.**

All you have to do is designate us - **St. Joseph Catholic Church of Long Beach** - Please remember to shop at **smile.amazon.com**



As you know, COVID-19 has changed many of the traditional ways of gathering; we are finding new **and creative ways of ministering to God's people.** Concerned for the safety of our attendees and the feasibility of an in-person event, the RECongress Team met with Archbishop José Gomez to discern the most effective way of offering the Religious Education Congress 2021. After consultation, prayer and discernment, they came to the decision that the Religious Education Congress 2021 will be a virtual event.

2021 RECongress Virtual Event Individual Registration February 18 – 21, 2021

Cost
The registration fee of **\$35.00 (USD)** covers your admission to the entire virtual event including exhibits, concerts, liturgies, Sacred Space, Keynote Addresses, Youth Track and **ALL** workshops.

Registration
Registration will only be available online at **recongress.org**. NO Mail in registrations will be accepted. A Unique email address will be necessary for each participant to complete their registration. Participants will not be able to share or use the same email address for this event.

Event Link
A URL (link) will be emailed to each paid participant to access the event to their unique email address on Monday, February 15th, 2021 between 10 am – 6 pm (PST). Be sure to check the RECongress website for updated information regarding the event.