

St. Joseph Parish

SECOND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

Your body is
a temple of the

Holy Spirit

within you.

1 Corinthians 6:19a



JANUARY 17, 2021

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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





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GOD'S CALL

The stories of the call of Samuel and of the first disciples in John's Gospel help us begin to understand the nature of God's call. It is not a work order from a distant God to carry out a specific task, but an invitation to participate in what God is already doing. The journey begins with God's intentions and activity. After the initial moment of call, God is shown to be actively leading these ordinary people to partner in God's work. For ourselves, we might not experience a single or dramatic moment of call. God's call can take many forms. But like Samuel, and like Jesus' disciples, we are invited into a relationship of trust and friendship with God. We too are invited to employ the gifts God has given us, always in dialogue with our God, in our daily lives.

OUR DEEPEST DESIRES

In today's Gospel, we hear Jesus' first spoken words in the Gospel of John: "What are you looking for?" This penetrating question reverberates throughout John's Gospel. The disciples who form Jesus' first community, and many others who meet Jesus during his life, are drawn to him, seeking something they can't quite name. As Jesus called and formed his community of disciples, he probed their hearts and allowed them to probe his heart. They shared their deepest needs, hopes, and commitments.

Jesus' words might be directed to us, here and now. Sometimes we struggle to name what we really want. In our faith journey, in prayer and in lived experience, we learn to share our dreams and also to open our hearts to know God's dreams. In time, with lots of practice, with many successes and failures, we learn to trust God to shape and to fulfill our deepest desires.

YOUR SERVANT IS LISTENING

We hear of young Samuel today, dedicated to a life of service to God, under the guidance of Eli, a Temple priest. Twice, Samuel hears the call of God and says "Here I am" to Eli. At last Eli recognizes that it is God who is calling Samuel. When Samuel hears God a third time, Samuel does not say "Here I am," but "Speak, LORD, for your servant is listening." We can see a subtle shift as Samuel moves away from announcing his intention to serve and more clearly opens himself to God's voice. Samuel allows God to take the initiative, and attends first to God's intentions rather than his own.

Samuel's story helps us to remember that accepting God's call is not only about a new chapter in our personal story. Our acceptance is, more profoundly, a new moment in God's story. Even in our smallest "yes," God celebrates our partnership in God's great work. Through our openness and acceptance, God has new opportunities to bring all of us into loving unity with God.

TODAY'S READINGS

1 Samuel 3:3b-10, 19
Psalm 40:2, 4, 7-8a, 8b-9, 10
1 Corinthians 6:13c-15a, 17-20
John 1:35-42

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Parish Life

Welcome

Dear Parish Family:

Peace and greetings to you! In the Gospel for this Sunday, Jesus says to his disciples, "Come and See." Every four years, we are invited to "Come and See," as our country embarks in a new era with the Inauguration in Washington, DC. As Catholics and Christians, we have an obligation to pray for our leaders. Let us pray for President Trump and Vice-President Pence as they transition and leave office. Let us pray for President-Elect Joe Biden and Vice President-Elect Kamala Harris and for the new Congress. May they seek wisdom and perseverance as they address the challenging issues facing our nation. Let's pray for all of us as citizens of this democracy. Everyone needs and is deserving of our prayers!

Please join me and Catholics around the nation in offering the following Novena for the safety, peace and welfare of our nation! Let's entrust our prayers to our Beloved, Blessed Mother, the Patroness of these United States!

Peace, Msgr. Kevin



**A NOVENA
FOR THE SAFETY, PEACE AND WELFARE OF
OUR NATION AS WE PREPARE
FOR THE TRANSITION OF GOVERNMENT DURING THESE
TROUBLED TIMES**

Pray daily from January 12 through January 20

Recite the Hail Mary, the Our Father and the Glory Be each three times. Follow these nine prayers with the following prayers.

THE MEMORARE

Remember, O most gracious Virgin Mary, that never was it known that anyone who fled to your protection, implored thy help, or sought thine intercession was left unaided. Inspired by this confidence we fly unto thee, O virgin of virgins, our mother; to thee do we come, before thee we stand, sinful and sorrowful. O mother of the Word Incarnate, despise not our petitions, but in thy mercy hear and answer us. Amen.

PRAYER TO MARY, PATRONESS OF THE UNITED STATES

O Blessed Mother, The Immaculate Conception, Patroness of our country and Our Lady of Peace, enfold us in the mantle of your love. Give us your loving protection from violence and guide our nation to a smooth transition of government. Help us to preserve all that is good and noble in our country and help us to be the beacon of Justice, Peace and freedom for the entire world we are called to be. Amen.

PRAYER TO ST. MICHAEL THE ARCHANGEL

St. Michael the Archangel, defend us in battle. Be our safeguard against the wickedness and snares of the devil. May God rebuke him we humbly pray, and do thou O Prince of the Heavenly Hosts, by the power of God, thrust into hell satan and all the evil spirits who prowl about the world seeking the ruin of souls. Amen.

CLOSING PRAYER

God of mercy, we come to you with troubled hearts, seeking peace in our country. You created us in your image, forming one human family of brothers and sisters. Heal the tension and conflict in our nation and unite us in your love, that we enjoy may the peace and harmony that can flow only from you. We ask this through the intercession of our Mother Mary, Queen of Peace. Amen.

May God bless and protect the United States of America!

Ministries

Did you know?

Building a strong parent-teen relationship

As pandemic lockdowns continue, parents and teenage children are spending more and more time together. It is not always easy to connect with teens, because they often feel their parents do not understand them and prefer to confide in their friends instead. Nevertheless, the time at home offers an opportunity for parent-teen relationships to evolve and for trust to grow in developmentally appropriate ways. Teens need the guidance and support of a parent as an important balance to the **permissive understanding of a “friendship”** relationship. As children become teenagers, parental authority does not diminish but may be better served by involving the teens in a dialogue about rules and limits. For more information on building relationships with your teenagers, 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

“When we live out a spirituality of drawing nearer to others and seeking their welfare, our hearts are opened wide to the Lord’s greatest and most beautiful gifts.” Pope Francis

Special Needs Ministry: We have an active ministry of providing essential living needs (refrigerators, stoves, beds, etc.) to families in need. Three or 4 times per year, we inform by e-mail, the needs we are working to fulfill. May we e-mail that information to you? Can you help with a COVID-safe delivery of items to families in need?

Please call Tim Clark (562) 431-4385

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

Skip-a-Meal Donations: Please be especially mindful during the holiday season when our needs are greatest. For many fulfilling ways to serve, please call Tim Clark (562) 431-4385.





Separated, Divorced & Widowed Ministry

“The Forgotten Steps to Achieving Your Dreams”
Presented by Joe Sikorra LMFT

Many saints achieved great things, beyond what they imagined they ever could. They accomplished them, not with natural abilities, but by faith, trust, and a willingness to dare and act. This Zoom presentation will explore the psychological and spiritual principles that will enable you to live boldly and achieve your dreams!

Free Zoom Presentation: Saturday, January 30, 2021
(1:00 – 3:00 PM)

Registrations are on a first come basis so please register immediately via Zoom:

https://la-archdiocese.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_ZTAekQ1sRYWgD4VY1V2EBw

For any questions email Julie Monell-Auzenne:
jmonell@la-archdiocese.org

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 www.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.



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