

St. Joseph Parish

MAY 9, 2021 | SIXTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

This is my commandment:

love one another

as I love you.

~ John 15:12



6180 E. Willow Street Long Beach, CA 90815

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

stjosephlb.org

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(562) 493-2198

(Brother/Sister)

Mass Schedule

Saturday

5:00 p.m.
Indoor Vigil

Sunday

Mass on the Grass
Outdoors
8:30 a.m.

Indoor Mass
10:30 a.m.

Daily Mass (M-W)

8:00 a.m. Indoor
Come Join Us

Reconciliation

Saturdays

3:45-4:30p.m.
By the East Church
Door parking lot



Letter From Our Pastor

Dear Parish Family:

A Blessed 6th Sunday of Easter to all! Next Sunday we celebrate the Ascension of the Lord to be followed by Pentecost Sunday and the conclusion of the great 50 Day Festival of the Easter season!

This weekend and next, our community celebrates First Holy Communion for our children. During **these two Saturdays we'll have four indoor and outdoor Masses on the grass. Congratulations to** seventy of our young children who will receive the Body of Christ for the first time! No more crossing your arms in the Communion procession and welcome to the Table of the Lord!

This Monday, May 10, our parish welcomes our San Pedro Regional Shepherd, Bishop Mark Trudeau **who will confer the gifts of the Holy Spirit of Confirmation on 35 of our high school students. I'm** proud of them for staying with the program during these past two years and especially this year when everything had to be done remotely. May the Holy Spirit lead and guide these young disciples to be faithful and strong in their faith!

To all our Moms, a Blessed Mother's Day from your St. Joe's family. You're the great witnesses of the Lord's words in the Gospel this Sunday, as we hear the command "To love one another." Our Mothers are our best pray-ers, and we're praying for you this weekend at our Masses with a special Mother's Day Blessing. Let's also remember our Mothers and Grandmothers whose face and heart shines before the Lord in the eternal kingdom!

I'm praying for you and your family!

Easter Season Peace and Joy,
Msgr. Kevin



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Sixth Sunday of Easter May 9, 2021

It was not you who chose me, but I who chose you and appointed you to go and bear fruit.

— *John 15:16*



SIXTH SUNDAY OF Easter

MAY 9, 2021

This is my commandment:
love one another as I love you.

John 15:12

LOVE IS REAL

Love. Songs and books, plays and artistic masterpieces have been created to convey the truth that love is real. As Christians, we know that love is of God. In laying down his life, Jesus pours out God's selfless, sacrificial, undying love. Jesus opens the door to a new relationship between God and humanity, that of friendship, of intimate closeness. Jesus calls us to show this same love for others, knowing that in doing so, we fulfill God's will. As the account of Peter, Cornelius, and all in his household attests, this great love of God cannot be contained by our preconceived notions of the way things are in the world.

THE CALL AND CAUSE OF LOVE

Love calls and causes us to do great things, more than we might believe we are capable of. While some are called to give their lives as martyrs, most of us find ourselves called to lay down our lives in smaller ways in the midst of everyday life. Parents lose sleep in the early moments of their baby's life, and again as their teens mature and gain independence. Adult children change their plans to care for aging parents. We hear the call of love as we become attentive and respond to the needs of the poor, lonely, sick, and vulnerable. Love causes us to turn our lives around, to strive to become more Christ-like in our words and actions. Peter followed this call of love when he entered the house of Cornelius, a Gentile. He was likely as astounded at the outpouring of the Holy Spirit as were the believers who accompanied him, yet love caused Peter to see beyond the accepted boundaries of religion and race, seeing instead evidence of the Lord's great love at work.

THE JOY-FILLED WAY OF LOVE

Following the Lord calls us to sacrifice for the sake of others, giving our attention, time, and resources in order to share Christ's care and compassion. Jesus shows us that giving of self, pouring ourselves out in love for another, is a joy-filled way of life. Joy is more than a feeling and is deeper than happiness. Joy comes with the assurance that Christ is with us when our lives mirror the life and way of our Master. Joy is a sense of fulfillment in knowing and sharing Christ's love. When we reach out in love, Christ's joy fills our hearts. Strengthened by the power of the Holy Spirit, we find the grace to follow Jesus' command to love one another.

TODAY'S READINGS

Acts 10:25-26, 34-35, 44-48
Psalm 98:1, 2-3, 3-4
1 John 4:7-10
John 15:9-17

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Did you know?

What you can do to help?

Every Catholic is called to protect the most vulnerable, including children who are at risk for abuse and exploitation. Find out how your community is working to prevent child abuse and get involved. You can continue to learn best tips and prevention practices through the DID YOU KNOW bulletins each week. You can also enroll in VIRTUS training to receive extensive information on how to identify suspicious behavior and report it. Encourage everyone you know to learn about child sexual abuse prevention. Together, we can change the future for our children. For more information please visit lacatholics.org/departments-ministries/safeguard-the-children.

Book Club



Our next Zoom meeting is Tuesday, July 13th at 7pm.

We will discuss:
The Time is Now: A Call to Uncommon Courage by Joan Chittister

Sister Joan Chittister—a rabble-rousing force of nature for social justice and fervent proponent of personal faith and spiritual fulfillment—draws on the wisdom of prophets, both ancient and modern, to help us confront the societal forces that oppress and silence the sacred voices among us.

All are welcome!

For more info, email agoodlife@msn.com

Movement For A Better World

"Blessed are the merciful, for they will be shown mercy." Mt 5:7

Migrant Children Family Unification: We are discerning options we might either provide as a group or recommend to the parish regarding the City's unaccompanied migrant children program. Let us know if you'd like to contribute to that discussion. In the meantime, here is a useful link : longbeach.gov/pages/city-news/lb-humanitarian-family-reunification-efforts Catholic Charities is taking a leadership role to administer the program. Financial support can be provided to them directly by mailing to Migrant Children, c/o Catholic Charities, 123 E. 14th St., Long Beach, CA 90813. **Include "Migrant Children" as a memo.**

Multi-Services Center Lunch Program: Would you like to help our local, independent restaurants recover from economic desolation and serve lunch to the homeless patrons of the Long Beach Multi-Services Center at the same time? Questions? Please let us know!

May 12, 6:30 PM Online Committee Meeting:

Many thanks to everyone who contributed to our committee meetings! We had a sincere and formative discussion of potential ministry activities for our program year starting July 1

June 12-13, Homeless Kit Drive:

Drive-through collection of urgently needed personal hygiene supplies for people experiencing homelessness. Please stay tuned for an e-mailed and parish website posting of a shopping list of needed items.

Skip-a-Meal Donations- Please skip a meal weekly, donating that savings in support of our mission. One of many examples are 325 sandwiches and lunches weekly to Catholic Charities of Long Beach and monthly breakfast to the patrons of the Multi-Services Center. Questions?

Please call **Tim Clark (562) 431-4385**

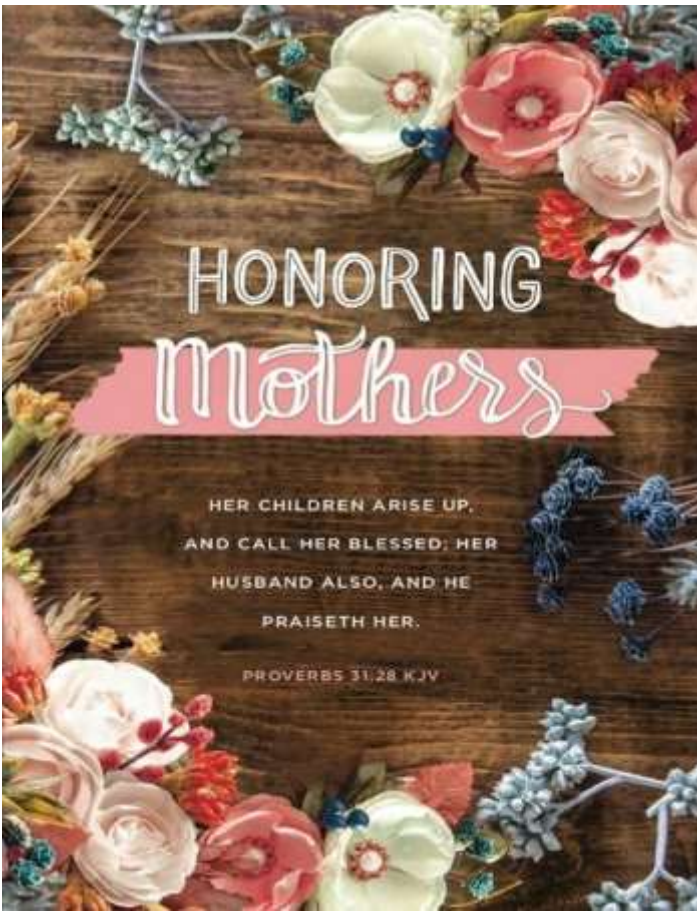


A blessing for our Mothers on this Beautiful Day

Loving God, as a mother gives life and nourishment to her children, so you give life and care for your Church. Bless these mothers, as we celebrate this day in their honor. May they be strengthened as Christian mothers. Let the example of their faith and love shine forth. Grant that we, their sons and daughters, may honor and appreciate them with a spirit of profound respect. May the example of Mary, Mother of Jesus, inspire them to live their vocation as Christian mothers and call their children to faith.

Guide and protect them in challenging times and help them to continue to trust in you all the days of their lives.

Amen



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