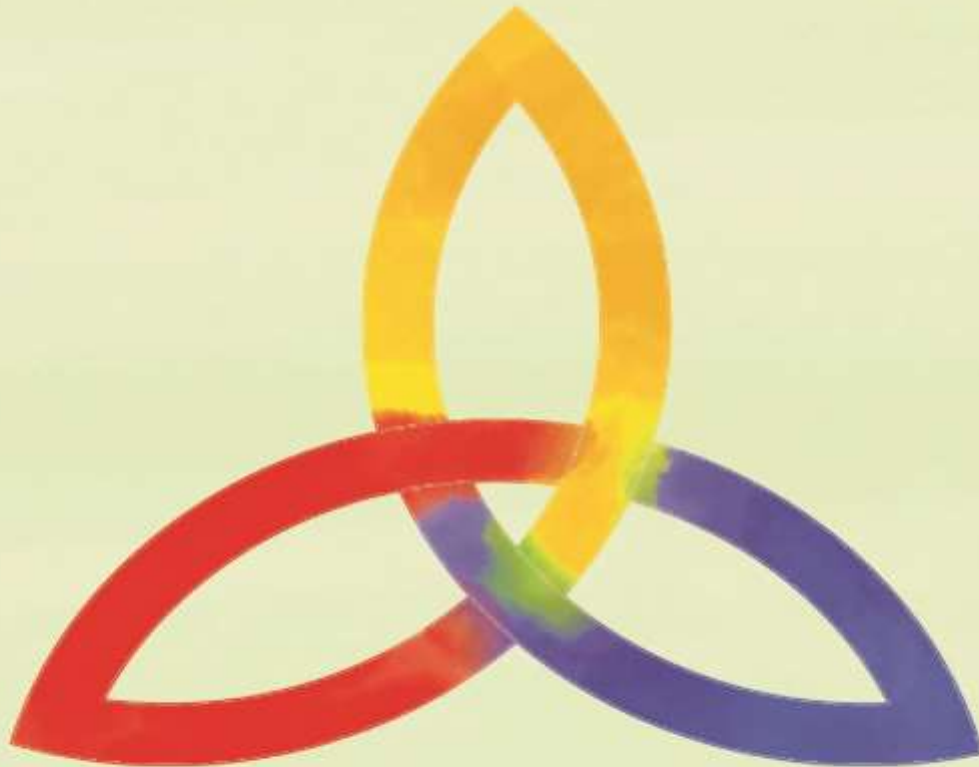


St. Joseph Parish

THE LORD IS GOD
IN THE HEAVENS ABOVE
AND ON EARTH BELOW;
THERE IS NO OTHER.

DEUTERONOMY 4:39



THE MOST HOLY TRINITY

MAY 30, 2021

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(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:

As we commence the liturgical season called Ordinary Time, the next 24 weeks are opportunities for us to recognize ordinary ways that God is journeying with us in life. The liturgical color is green, symbolizing the calm, slow growth in our discipleship with the Lord!

Next weekend, all 290 parishes in the Archdiocese of Los Angeles will celebrate **Together in Mission Sunday**. This past year of Covid has been a challenging time for many of our parish communities. One in every five parishes needs financial assistance and one in every four Catholic Schools needs critical funds to keep their doors open. This is our annual opportunity to support the 67 parishes and 74 schools in our local church that will benefit from Together in Mission funds. This is the only collection in the nation where all proceeds do not go to diocesan offices or administration costs but the most vulnerable among us.

Every parish is assigned a financial goal to reach based on 10% of the previous year's offertory collection. This year, our PARISH GOAL IS \$71,733.00. THE ARCHDIOCESAN GOAL IS \$15.35 MILLION. For the past several years our parish has not only reached but surpassed our goal. We can **do it again this year!** **Our parish is always an extension of God's generosity to those in need.** During the Masses next Sunday, we will focus on the Together in Mission theme **FORWARD WITH FAITH and everyone will have the opportunity complete the pledge card.** You don't have to pay anything right now as you can make a pledge with monthly installments. Thank you if you already completed **and mailed in the pledge card.** You can also bring the pledge card with you and we'll complete it during the homily time. Please make sure you credit your gift to St. Joseph in Long Beach. There are six St. Joseph Parishes in the Archdiocese and we want to make sure that your gift is credited to help us reach our goal.

Please go to our website stjosephlb.org and in the Together in Mission notification, you'll find a link to a short video that will inform you about the Together in Mission program. Thank you for prayerfully considering your gift in this annual Mission to support needy families and children in our Catholic parishes and schools.

I'm praying for you and your families!

Gratefully in Christ,
Msgr. Kevin

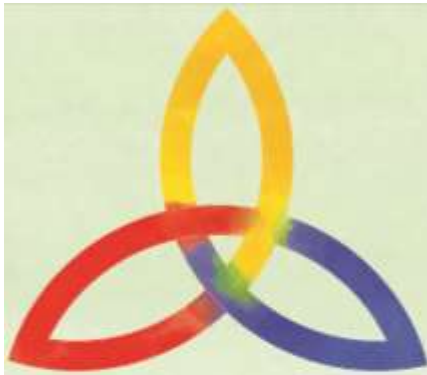


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**The Most Holy Trinity
May 30, 2021**

Go . . . and make disciples of all nations,
baptizing them in the name of the Father,
and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit,

— *Matthew 28:19*



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IN THE HEAVENS ABOVE
AND ON EARTH BELOW;
THERE IS NO OTHER.

DEUTERONOMY 4:39

THE MOST HOLY TRINITY

MAY 30, 2021

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ASTONISHING MYSTERY

Astonishing is the term that Clement of Alexandria used in referring to the Holy Trinity. Today's scriptures tell the astonishing stories, from Moses in the Old Testament to the end of Matthew's Gospel, of how we mere humans are intended to be intimately associated with our loving God. We see in Deuteronomy that Moses reminds the new generation of Israelites of the "astonishing" fact that, even though the ancient world teemed with gods, their God was the only God, that "there is no other." Saint Paul in the letter to the Romans writes about those who follow the Spirit as being "sons" of God, which of course would make us brothers and sisters of Christ, and, as he says, "joint heirs with Christ." Another astonishing statement! Finally, Christ bestows the Holy Spirit on the world as his continuing presence and force of divine revelation. How can we not be astonished?

THE MYSTERY IS THE MASTERPIECE

The Most Holy Trinity is the central truth and, indeed, mystery of our lives as believers in God. Even so, few seem to be able to talk about it. (Or is it "them"?) Must we be satisfied to take this truth as an inscrutable object of faith that we can easily ignore? Not at all! We are immersed in Trinitarian reality in many ways.

Please consider these clues to God as more than just Person of the Father. Remember the words of God in scripture when the world and all its wonders were coming to be. The formulas for each stage in creation begin with "Let us . . ." (Genesis 1:26). This is not merely the "Royal We." This is God as a plurality of Being. In Isaiah, the seraphim cry out "Holy, holy, holy . . ." (Isaiah 6:3). Ancient Middle Eastern superlatives come in threes, but why not consider it a sign of God's three-ness? And these Old Testament foreshadowings are nothing compared to our well-known baptismal formula, "I baptize you in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit." Notice that "name" is singular, and yet refers to three persons. Finally, as Christ tells the Apostles in today's Gospel, they are to go out and teach in that same singular triple name.

SHALL WE DANCE?

The famous icon by the equally famous fourteenth-century iconographer Andrej Rublev is a depiction of the Trinity densely packed with symbolic content. The three "angels" sitting at a table are actually meant to be the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit. They relate to each other in loving gesture, each one to the other, often described as "dance-like." And yet this triangular circle seems incomplete. Indeed it is, because we must become one with this circle of life-giving love. As in a dance, we are drawn into the divine life in the Trinitarian embrace of abundant glory and harmony. Then we complete the movement by taking that love incarnated out to the world, revealing the mystery to our sisters and brothers through our own lives.

TODAY'S READINGS

Deuteronomy 4:32-34, 39-40
Psalm 33:4-5, 6, 9, 18-19, 20, 22
Romans 8:14-17
Matthew 28:16-20

Safeguard the Children



Fostering caring in children

Raising kind children is hard work, but critical to their success as strong Catholic adults. Parents can model caring and kindness in the home, doing charity work, volunteering, helping friends and family. Get your children involved with your efforts and encourage them to make their own acts of kindness. Recognize and praise kindness when you see it, but without rewarding it as “extra special” behavior. Making kindness a part of your everyday family life will help your children build habits that grow over time. For more information, request a copy of the VIRTUS article “Fostering caring in children” at 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

Migrant Children Family Unification: Our offer to assist this initiative as a group is pending a response from the City. See the following link for news about the program and ways to offer your support as an individual - long-beach.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.

June 12-13, Homeless Kit Drive: Drive-thru collection of urgently needed personal hygiene provisions for people experiencing homelessness. Please see the following flyer for more information and a shopping list of needed items.

Multi-Services Center: There is an ongoing ministry to serve breakfasts and lunches to the homeless patrons of the Long Beach Multi-Services Center.

For more information about these initiatives please call **Tim Clark (562) 431-4385**.

MEMORIAL DAY PRAYER

Heavenly Father,

On this Memorial Day, we pray for those who courageously laid down their lives for the cause of freedom. May the example of their sacrifice inspire in us the selfless love of your Son, our Lord Jesus Christ.

Bless the families of our fallen troops, and fill their homes and their lives with your strength and peace.

Embolden us to answer the call to work for peace and justice, and thus, seek an end to violence and conflict around the globe.

We pray through Christ our Lord.

Amen





RETRouvaille

A LIFE LINE FOR MARRIED COUPLES

Retrouvaille is an effective Catholic Christian ministry that helps marriages experiencing troubles. The program offers the chance to rediscover yourself, your spouse, and the love in your marriage. Thousands of couples in need of a marriage "tune-up" have successfully improved their marriages by completing this successful program. Married couples of any faith are welcome.

Upcoming Dates:

May 14-16 (San Fernando) *Spanish & Virtual

June 4-6 (Santa Clarita) *English

July 9-11 (Los Angeles) *English & In-Person

November 5-7 (Santa Clarita) *English

December 10-11 (Los Angeles) *English &
In-Person

For questions or to register, make a confidential call to 909-900-5465, or visit losangelesretrouvaille.com



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





As L.A Catholics, we believe. We pray. We support.

During the most difficult moments in our lives, whether due to the loss of a beloved family member or the stress of losing a job, our Catholic community needs to support each other in good times and bad.

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How to make a gift?

Visit togetherinmission.org/give or call 213-637-7672

(M-F 8 am-5 pm) Text **Forward21** to 213-397-0682 to make your 2021 pledge

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DRIVE-THRU HOMELESS KIT DRIVE

Donation drop-off -
St. Joseph Parish Hall
6200 E. Willow St., Long Beach

June 12th 1:00 pm to 4:00 pm
June 13th 8:00 am to 12:00 pm

Would you like us to pick up your donation?

Please call Tim Clark (562) 431-4385

If convenient, place the following items into a 1 gallon ZIP LOCK BAG:

Bottle of Shampoo	Deodorant	Lotion
Tube of Toothpaste	Shaving Cream	Razor
Toothbrush	Hand Sanitizer	Bar of Soap
Lip balm	Socks, 1 or 2 pairs - athletic or work Very important!	
Healthy Snack (non-perishable)		

* * Hotel and travel sizes WORK BEST! Extra, separate supplies of travel-sized items are very useful. * *

Also, please include a personal note to the person experiencing homelessness offering encouragement, hope, blessings, prayers, or good wishes.

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