

# St. Joseph Parish

AS FOR ME AND MY HOUSEHOLD,  
WE WILL SERVE THE LORD.

JOSHUA 24:15



TWENTY-FIRST SUNDAY  
IN ORDINARY TIME

AUGUST 22, 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](http://stjosephlb.org)

# Our Parish

PASTOR: MSGR. KEVIN KOSTELNIK

[stjoseph@stjosephlb.org](mailto:stjoseph@stjosephlb.org)

Deacon Shane Cuda  
Deacon Tom Halliwell

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

Office Manager	Brenda Pineda	(562) 594-4657
Pastoral Council	Anne Weaver	(562) 594-4657
Finance Council	George Zuluaga	<a href="mailto:Zuluaga@aol.com">Zuluaga@aol.com</a>
Safeguard The Children	Tony Burgos	(562) 596-6115
Parish Bulletin Editor	Brenda Pineda	<a href="mailto:bulletin@stjosephlb.org">bulletin@stjosephlb.org</a>
Website Coordinator	Mike Santy	(562) 370-0769 <a href="mailto:msanty@verizon.net">msanty@verizon.net</a>

## St. Joseph School: Margaret Alvarez, Principal

(562) 596-6115

Fax: (562) 596-6725

Assistant Principal:

Office Manager:

[siknights.net](http://siknights.net)

Sonia Yurak  
Julie Gianessi

## Faith Formation Director: Joe Voigt

(562) 598-0519

[religioused@stjosephlb.org](mailto:religioused@stjosephlb.org)

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

Administrative Assistant:

High School Ministry & Confirmation:

RCIA:

Deacon Shane & Olga Cuda

Joe Voigt  
Michelle Johnson  
Marc Leon  
[olga@stjosephlb.org](mailto:olga@stjosephlb.org)

## Parish Ministries & Organizations

Baptism Preparation	Brenda Pineda	(562) 594-4657
Director of Music	Vivian Doughty	(562) 594-4657
Eucharistic Ministry	Michelle Reyes	<a href="mailto:emohcschedule@gmail.com">emohcschedule@gmail.com</a>
Lectors	Steve Koppenheffer	(714) 299-6644
Meditation	Frank Mckown	(310) 633-1744
Esther Ministry	Virginia Young	<a href="mailto:estherministry1@gmail.com">estherministry1@gmail.com</a>
Hospitality Ministry	Deborah Rollinger	(562) 594-4657
Movement For A Better World	Tim Clark	(562) 431-4385
Senior Group	Jan Minter	<a href="mailto:tchrjan@gmail.com">tchrjan@gmail.com</a>
Knights Of Columbus	Marty Vezzetti	(562) 425-0621
Engaged Encounter	Paciano & Molly Diaz	<a href="mailto:Ktmr@Sbcglobal.Net">Ktmr@Sbcglobal.Net</a>
Natural Family Planning	Greg & Beth Gath	(562) 377-5877
Project Achieve	Susie Beeghly	<a href="mailto:susanbeeghly@yahoo.com">susanbeeghly@yahoo.com</a>
Precious Life Shelter	Cynthia San Jose	(562) 884-9589
Boy Scouts	Gene Wohlgezogan	(562) 857-3880
Sacristans	Joe & Lily Dang	(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:

As summer winds down, I pray that you and your families are staying safe and well, especially as the Coronavirus continues to surge in our nation.

Thanks for your generosity to our annual Mission Co-op in support of Fr. Earnest and his mission to the **people of Cameroon, Africa. We're waiting for the final report from Faith Direct, and so far the Mass collections raised over \$7,000. We'll have the final numbers in a couple of weeks.**

Here is the final wonderful report from our Together in Mission campaign:

**PARISH GOAL - \$71,733.00**

**AMOUNT PLEDGED - \$99,443.00 138.6%**

On behalf of the Archdiocesan parishes and schools that will be recipients of your abundance, a heartfelt and overwhelming THANK YOU!

Our sound/video technician is on a well deserved vacation with his family, so the YouTube Parish Mass is not available this weekend.

**Next weekend at all of the Masses, I'll be honored to offer a special blessing upon all of our St. Joe's young people who are returning to school during the next couple of weeks!**

This past week, the Archdiocese of Los Angeles issued a statement that we will not provide religious exemption letters to avoid a COVID-19 vaccination. The Catholic Church recommends that all members of the Catholic community, who are able to receive a vaccine, should do so. The full text of the statement is below.

**I'm praying for you and your families.**

Summer Blessings,  
Msgr. Kevin



Archdiocese of Los Angeles

2424  
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California  
90061-2211

## STATEMENT ON RELIGIOUS EXEMPTION FOR VACCINATION AGAINST COVID-19

The Archdiocese of Los Angeles, in accordance with the Vatican and the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops (USCCB), recommends that all members of the Catholic community, who are able to receive a COVID-19 vaccine, should do so.

"Receiving one of the COVID-19 vaccines ought to be understood as an act of charity toward the other members of our community. In this way, being vaccinated safely against COVID-19 should be considered an act of love of our neighbor and part of our moral responsibility for the common good." -USCCB, Moral Considerations Regarding the New COVID-19 Vaccines

Since the vaccinations for COVID-19 have been found morally acceptable to protect the lives and ensure the health of all in our communities, the Archdiocese will not provide religious exemptions to receiving a vaccine against COVID-19. Parishes are not to provide religious exemption letters regarding the COVID-19 vaccination.

The following links might be helpful in understanding the morality of receiving the vaccine:

[https://www.vatican.va/roman\\_curia/congregations/cfaith/documents/rc\\_con\\_cfaith\\_doc\\_20201221\\_nota-vaccini-anticovid\\_en.html](https://www.vatican.va/roman_curia/congregations/cfaith/documents/rc_con_cfaith_doc_20201221_nota-vaccini-anticovid_en.html)

<https://www.usccb.org/news/2021/us-bishop-chairmen-doctrine-and-pro-life-address-use-johnson-johnson-covid-19-vaccine>

<https://www.cacatholic.org/CCC-vaccine-moral-acceptability>

Let us continue to pray for all who have died from this terrible illness, for their loved ones who are experiencing the pain of loss, and for all who continue to work diligently to care for the sick and serve all in need during these challenging times.



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WE WILL SERVE THE LORD.

JOSHUA 24:15

TWENTY-FIRST SUNDAY  
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AUGUST 22, 2021

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Photo: Mosaic of the Twelve Tribes of Israel, Carito Boulvard, Jerusalem (eparchia.org/Archiep/Sepp)

### WHOM SHOULD WE FOLLOW?

Today's Gospel is the conclusion of the Bread of Life discourse in John. After Jesus' continued insistence that he is the Bread of Life come down from heaven, and that his words are "Spirit and life," most of his disciples drift away. The Twelve, however, affirm their faith in Jesus, whom Simon Peter professes to "have the words of eternal life." In the first reading, Joshua and the Israelites are preparing to enter the Promised Land, and Joshua asks the people to decide which god they will follow, the LORD their God, or the gods of neighboring peoples. The Responsorial Psalm features Psalm 34, the "taste and see" psalm, that reflects the kinds of struggles the Israelites faced during their sojourn in the wilderness. In the second reading, Paul gives counsel for maintaining domestic peace and happiness.

### CROSSROADS IN LIFE, THEN AND NOW

Sometimes in life we find ourselves at a crossroads, faced with an existential choice that will alter the course of our life. We are aware, at these moments, just how significant our choice will be and that there will be no going back.

In both the first reading and the Gospel we see such moments calling people to make such choices. Which god will the Israelites follow? Joshua, their leader after Moses, knows that the area around the Promised Land is occupied by other peoples, with other gods. Perhaps remembering how, after Moses had gone up Mount Sinai, the Israelites set up a golden calf to worship, Joshua worries that they may again be susceptible to such attractions. He is asking them for a commitment, and proclaims, "As for me and my household, we will serve the LORD."

### CAN WE STAY WITH JESUS?

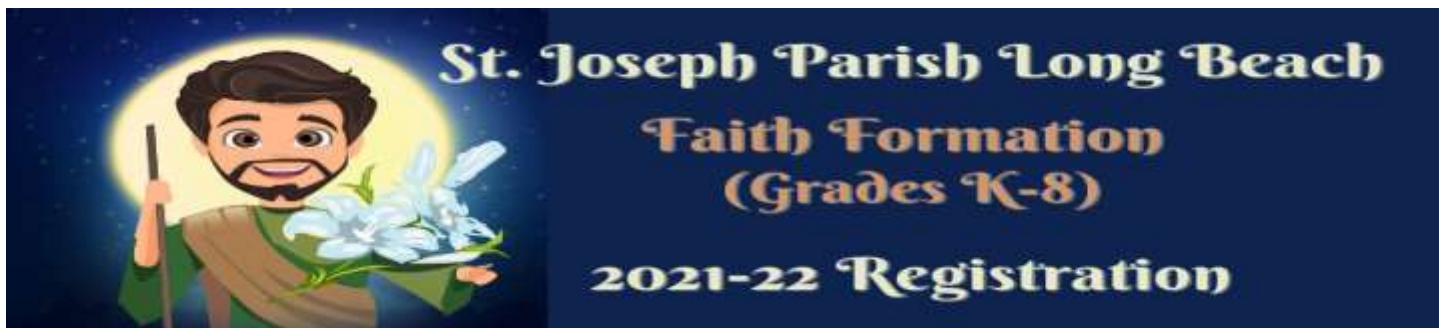
The people who were frenetically following Jesus, crossing the lake twice to pursue him, eating the bread he miraculously provided, are now puzzled by Jesus proclaiming himself as "the bread of life," and they are incredulous. They can go with him no farther, so they gradually drift away. The Twelve, however, stay with Jesus. What else could they do? Who else offers such a profound vision of human life? Peter expresses it well: "Master, to whom shall we go? You have the words of eternal life."

Not all of our life's crossroads involve our faith, but some do. Perhaps there is someone in your parish who chose to become Catholic and is now alienated from their family; someone who is unhappy with a new pastor and wondering about looking for a different parish; someone who was especially distressed by the clergy sex abuse and prayed long and hard before deciding that she needed her parish to get through it. There may be many in your parish facing such choices, and they need our support and our prayers. In the meantime, we can hope that someday they will again experience Jesus as the Holy One of God, offering them words of eternal life.

### TODAY'S READINGS

Joshua 24:1-2a, 15-17, 18b  
Psalm 34:2-3, 16-17, 18-19, 20-21  
Ephesians 5:21-32 [2a, 25-32]  
John 6:60-69





Registration for the 2021-22 Faith Formation Classes is now open. Classes will be offered both online and in person. Registration for new and continuing students for continuing education and/or sacrament preparation for :

Early Childhood (Kindergarten)

Elementary (Grades 1-5)

Junior High (Grades 6-8)

For more information and to register, please go to the parish website (Scan Code to the right with your cell phone camera).

[Sunday Elementary Faith Formation Classes \(K-5th\)](#)

Parent Information Zoom Session: Tuesday, September 14, 2021, at 7 pm

Classes Start: Sunday, September 19, 2021, at 10:30 am

[Middle School Faith Formation Classes \(6th-8th\)](#)

Parent Information Zoom Session: Tuesday, September 28, 2021, at 7 pm

Start: Tuesday, October 5, 2021, at 7 pm



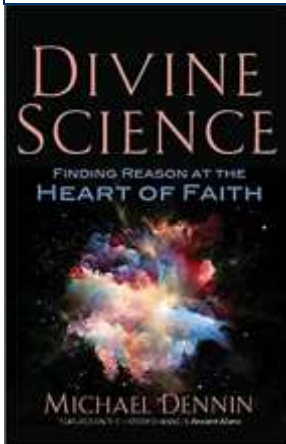
Current and new students need to register. Remember, it is an Archdiocesan requirement to have two consecutive years of religious education to receive sacraments. A copy of the Baptismal Certificate and 1st Holy Communion certificate must accompany all NEW candidates registering for St. Joseph Faith Formation for the first time. Former St. Joseph School and Faith Formation candidate's certificates will already be on file.

**Confirmation** meets on selected Sundays from 11 a.m. - 12:30 p.m., September through June. Open to all high school students Grades (9 – 12)

For more information and to register, please go to the parish website (Scan Code to the right with your cell phone camera).



## Book Club



Our next Zoom meeting is Tuesday, September 14th at 7pm. We will discuss: **Divine Science, Finding Reason at the Heart of Faith** by Michael Dennin

Physicist Michael Dennin explains that science and faith do not have to live in conflict and inspires you to accept that you can be a person of faith and of science.

**All are welcome!**

For more info, email [agoodlife@msn.com](mailto:agoodlife@msn.com)



## BECOMING CATHOLIC

If you are interested in becoming a Catholic Christian or in completing sacraments, you are welcome to join the RCIA.

### R.C.I.A.

The Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults is a process that uses Scripture study, discussion, information on teachings of the Church, and creative activities to help participants prepare to be baptized in the Catholic Church or to complete their sacraments. If you would like to know more about it, please contact Deacon Shane or Olga at: [olga@stjosephlb.org](mailto:olga@stjosephlb.org).

## Movement For A Better World

"The fruit of silence is prayer; the fruit of prayer is faith; the fruit of faith is love; the fruit of love is service and the fruit of service is peace." St. Mother Teresa

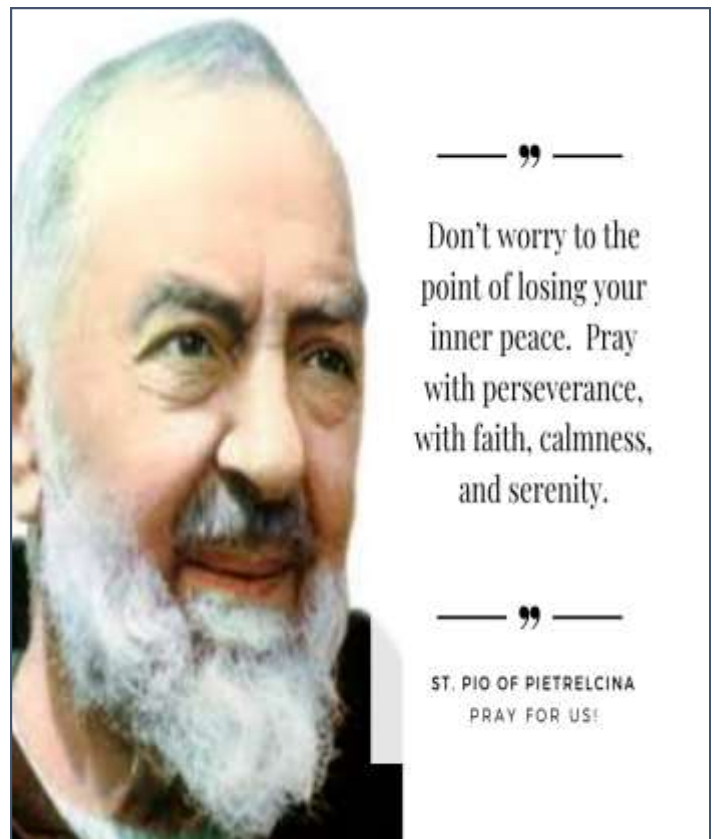
### This Weekend! - Food from the Heart:

Collecting family food for Catholic Charities of Long Beach. Drive-thru donations at the parish hall will be received Aug. 21, 1:00 pm to 6:00 pm and Aug. 22, 8:00 am to 12:00 pm. Food may also be delivered to the parish office during the week.

### Sept. 25-26 – Feed-a-Baby Food Drive:

Collecting non-perishable baby food and products for Catholic Charities and New Life Beginnings of Long Beach. **Can you help?** Please call **Tim Clark (562) 431-4385**

**Skip-a-Meal Donations:** Please skip a meal weekly, donating that savings in support our mission. One of many examples are 325 sandwiches and lunches made weekly for Catholic Charities of Long Beach. Make checks





IN MEMORY OF  
DON GATH AND  
JEAN BARBAZETTE



Join Precious Life Shelter (PLS) for its 15th Annual Golf Tournament on Wednesday, September 22, 2021. The tournament takes place at El Dorado Park Golf Course in Long Beach, all proceeds benefit PLS. Early bird specials end August 30, so register today at [preciousliveshelter.org](http://preciousliveshelter.org). Email [maddy@preciousliveshelter.org](mailto:maddy@preciousliveshelter.org) with any questions or to get involved.



## Safeguard The Children



Practice empathy at home to prevent bullying

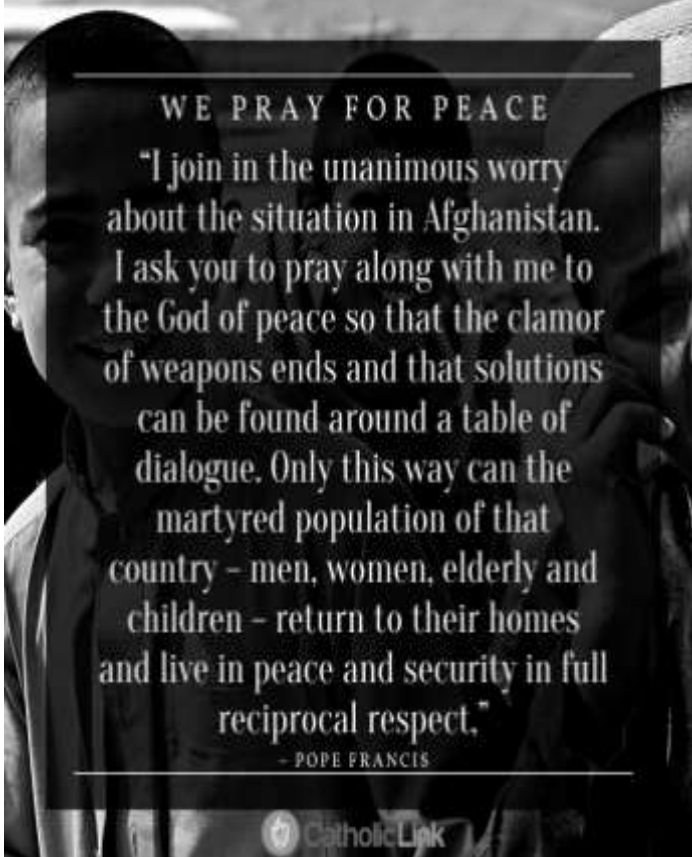
No parent sets out to raise a bully, but children grow and develop into their own people as they go out into the world — and it starts at home. One way to help your child foster healthy, kind relationships is to work on building good habits at home. Reward kindness and empathy when you see it. Comment on instances of sharing, of kindness, of pride. Help your child understand what it means to empathize with someone else, or to be kind in different situations. For more information, request a copy of the VIRTUS article “Parents: how not to raise a bully, the ten things you must know. Part Two,” at [lacatholics.org/did-you-know](http://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 please contact group leader, Frank McKown, at [frmckown@gmail.com](mailto:frmckown@gmail.com) or 310-633-1744



### WE PRAY FOR PEACE

“I join in the unanimous worry about the situation in Afghanistan. I ask you to pray along with me to the God of peace so that the clamor of weapons ends and that solutions can be found around a table of dialogue. Only this way can the martyred population of that country - men, women, elderly and children - return to their homes and live in peace and security in full reciprocal respect.”

- POPE FRANCIS



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