

# St. Joseph Parish

TWENTY-FIFTH SUNDAY  
IN ORDINARY TIME

SEPTEMBER 19, 2021

Whoever receives  
one child such as  
this in my name,  
receives me;  
and whoever  
receives me,  
receives not me  
but the One  
who sent me.

Mark 9:37



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

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**Deacon Tom Halliwell**

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*tom.halliwell@la-archdiocese.org*

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*religioused@stjosephlb.org*

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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	(562) 594-4657
Director of Music	Vivian Doughty	(562) 594-4657
Eucharistic Ministry	Michelle Reyes	<i>emohcschedule@gmail.com</i>
Lectors	Steve Koppenheffer	(714) 299-6644
Meditation	Frank Mckown	(310) 633-1744
Esther Ministry	Virginia Young	<i>estherministry1@gmail.com</i>
Hospitality Ministry	Deborah Rollinger	(562) 594-4657
Movement For A Better World	Tim Clark	(562) 431-4385
Senior Group	Jan Minter	<i>tchrjan@gmail.com</i>
Knights Of Columbus	Marty Vezzetti	(562) 425-0621
Engaged Encounter	Paciano & Molly Diaz	<i>Ktmr@Sbcglobal.Net</i>
Natural Family Planning	Greg & Beth Gath	(562) 377-5877
Project Achieve	Susie Beeghly	<i>susanbeeghly@yahoo.com</i>
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:

This weekend our church celebrates National Catechetical Sunday. This is a wonderful opportunity to reflect on the role that each person plays, by virtue of baptism, and handing on the faith and being a witness to the gospel. Those who the St. Joseph's parish community has designated to serve as catechists in our school and religious education program will be thanked and blessed for their ministry to our youth.

Next weekend Movement for a Better World is hosting our Feed-a-Baby food drive. We're collecting nonperishable baby food and baby items for Catholic Charities Long Beach and New Life Beginnings. Please see the announcement in this bulletin for drop off times in front of the hall/gym. Thanks for supporting these drives supporting families and children in need.

Have you ever scrolled down to the end of this bulletin? I would encourage you to do so today and read through the list of businesses that advertise and support us. I would also encourage you to support these establishments. If you visit one of our advertisers, please thank them for supporting St. Joseph's through the bulletin. God Bless our advertisers!

The season of Fall begins with the Autumnal Equinox this Wednesday, September 22 at 12:21 P.M. As the days shorten and nights grow longer, may the Lord of Light continue to bless you and your families!

I'm praying that you are safe and well!  
Msgr. Kevin



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**Twenty-fifth Sunday  
in Ordinary Time  
September 19, 2021**

The fruit of righteousness is sown in peace  
for those who cultivate peace.

— James 3:18

SEPTEMBER 19, 2021

TWENTY-FIFTH  
SUNDAY IN  
ORDINARY TIME



The Son of Man is to be handed over to men and they will kill him, and three days after his death the Son of Man will rise.

Mark 9:31

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Ecce Homo! by Mihály Munkácsy  
Excerpts from the Lectionary for Mass  
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## TWO PATHS

Today's first two readings present a striking contrast between two pathways in life. In Wisdom and the letter from James we are told of the path of the wicked, which leads to oppression and violence. We also hear of the path of the faithful, which leads to peace and human flourishing. Then our Gospel reading from Mark takes our reflection farther. The choice is shown to be not so simple or obvious. The path of faithfulness means following Jesus' lead, to expand our circle of care toward everyone, especially the most vulnerable. This path also includes opening ourselves to suffering and trials, as we face resistance from within and from outside us. The two paths essentially diverge over whether we refuse or accept God's love. Each day we face such choices as God invites us into the divine circle of care and enlists us to extend our own circle to those around us.

## WHO IS HONORED

Today's Gospel passage has two parts: Jesus' announcement again of his coming suffering and death, and a scene with the disciples arguing about who is the "greatest." Mark places these scenes next to each other to emphasize the disciples' failure to understand. Their petty argument was the opposite of what Jesus had described as the way to follow him. The disciples were following the common understanding of group status: to honor the influential and those who seem to contribute the most. Jesus points to the opposite: he honors the vulnerable, the "least" in the community; in this case, a child. And he honors those who welcome the child.

Mark was addressing his own community in the early Church, who were seeking to learn how to live their faith. His questions may be important for us too. Who is honored in our faith community, and why? How do we honor those whom we set as examples? Who benefits from this different kind of "greatness"?

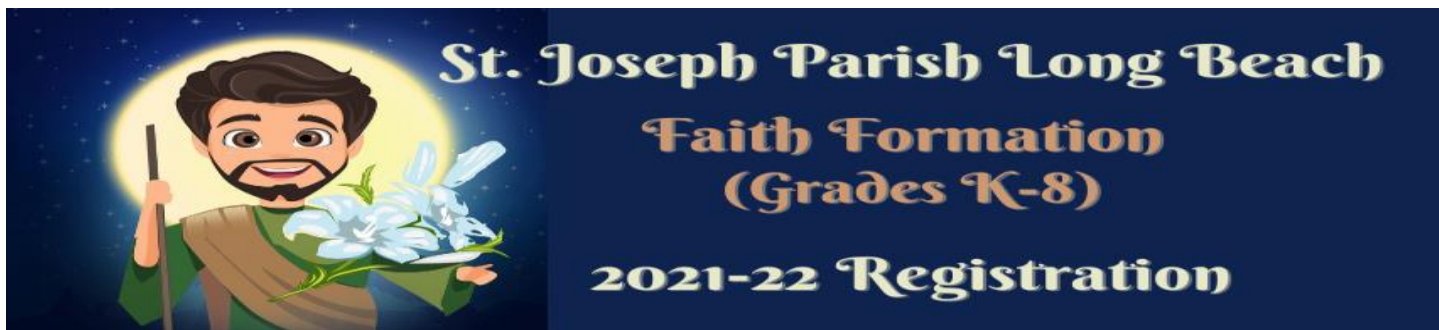
## ASK THE HARD QUESTIONS

Twice in today's Gospel, Jesus' disciples are reduced to silence. First when Jesus describes his future suffering and death, and again when caught in their argument about who is the greatest. Perhaps they were afraid to really understand his teachings because of what it might cost them. Maybe they were afraid of being seen as ignorant by Jesus and especially by each other. What if they had dared to admit their confusion and ignorance and asked Jesus hard questions? Would Jesus have welcomed them?

Jesus presents a child who is to be welcomed and embraced. The child sets an example: it is the child who knows that he or she doesn't know. The child is free to ask "childlike" questions, and is open to answers. What if, in the intimacy of our prayer, we asked Jesus our own hard, embarrassing questions: about life, about ourselves and our relationships, about God? How might our relationship with God then change?

## TODAY'S READINGS

Wisdom 2:12, 17-20  
Psalm 54:3-4, 5, 6-8  
James 3:16 — 4:3  
Mark 9:30-37



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**



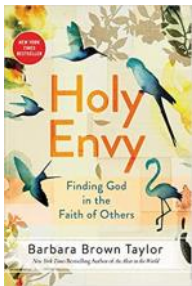
Current and new students need to register. Remember, it is an Archdiocesan requirement to have two consecutive years of religious education to receive sacraments. A copy of the Baptismal Certificate and 1st Holy Communion certificate must accompany all NEW candidates registering for St. Joseph Faith 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, November 9th at 7pm. We will discuss:

**Holy Envy by Barbara Brown Taylor**

It is a series of vignettes on Buddhism, Christianity, Hinduism, Islamism and Judaism which have influenced the author's view on Christianity.

All are welcome!

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

## Safeguard The Children

**SCHOOL SAFETY:  
A SHARED  
RESPONSIBILITY**



What to look for in a safe school

Preventing violence in schools takes more than a few rules and requirements. It requires a culture of concern, in which every member works together to prevent violence and abuse. These cultures share certain hallmarks that parents can look for in selecting the safest school for their children. Some of these features include a strong community, clear lines of communication between teachers, staff, and families, and equal respect for students and staff throughout the school. For more information, request a copy of the VIRTUS® article "Characteristics of Safe and Responsive Schools" at [iacatholics.org/did-you-know](http://iacatholics.org/did-you-know).

## Movement For A Better World

**"Whoever receives one child such as this in my name receives me." Mt 18:5**

**Sept. 22 6:30 PM – Online Committee Meeting:** As we begin our 36th year of channeling the generosity of our St. Joseph Parish Community to the poor and marginalized of Long Beach, please join us to plan our upcoming initiatives. Zoom meeting ID: 240 652 8835 .

**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**

**Nov. 6-7 – New Blanket Drive:** Collecting new blankets for our Thanksgiving Food and Blanket Distribution and Homeless Ministry. **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 payable to St. Joseph Church and Skip-a-Meal on the memo. There is also a Faith Direct option for online giving.

**"Whatever you do for your family, for your children, for your husband, for your wife, you do for God. All we do, our prayers, our work, our suffering, is for Jesus."**

- Blessed Mother Teresa

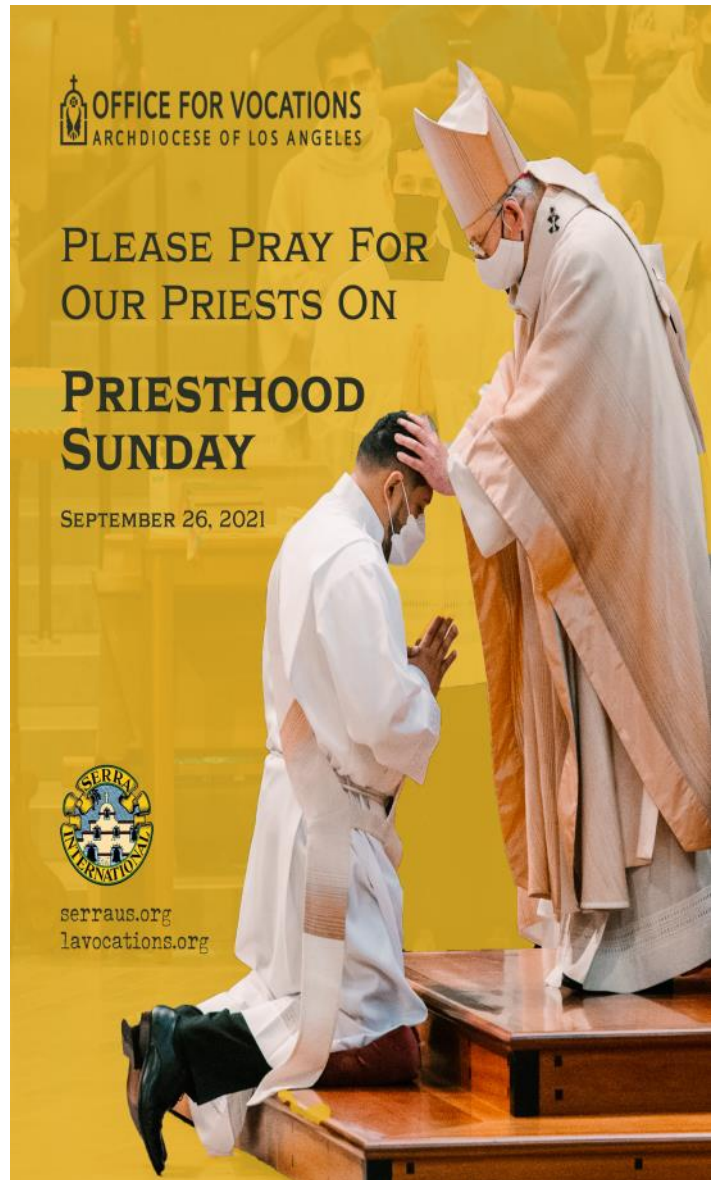




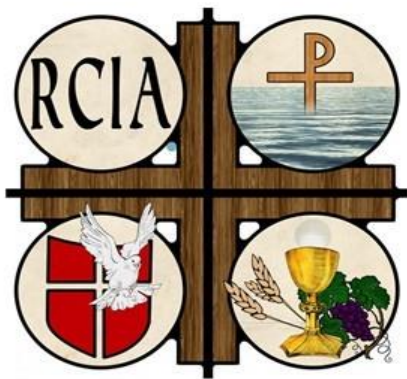
# St Joseph School News

## St. Joseph Catholic School Student Nondiscrimination Policy

St. Joseph Catholic School, mindful of its mission to be a witness to the love of Christ for all, admits students regardless of race, color, national origin, and/or ethnic origin to all rights, privileges, programs, and activities generally accorded or made available to students at the school. The school does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, disability, medical condition, sex, or national and/or ethnic origin in the administration of educational policies and practices, scholarship programs, and athletic and other school-administered programs, although certain athletic leagues and other programs may limit participation and some archdiocesan schools operate as single-sex schools. While the school does not discriminate against students with special needs, a full range of services may not always be available to them. Decisions concerning the admission and continued enrollment of a student in the school are based upon the student's emotional, academic, and physical abilities and the resources available to the school in meeting the student's needs.



## RCIA - The Rite of Christian Initiation for Adults



For more info, contact Olga  
at [olga@stjosephlb.org](mailto:olga@stjosephlb.org)

**RCIA** is a program for any non-baptized adult interested in becoming a Catholic. It is also for adults baptized in the Catholic faith (or in another Christian faith), who would like to complete the Sacraments of Confirmation and Holy Eucharist.

RCIA begins with a period of Inquiry, where you can find out what the Catholic Church teaches and believes. If you, or anyone you know, would like to find out more please join us on Sundays at 9:30 AM in the Parish Hall (immediately following Mass on the Grass).

**Come-and-See what RCIA is all about !**

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