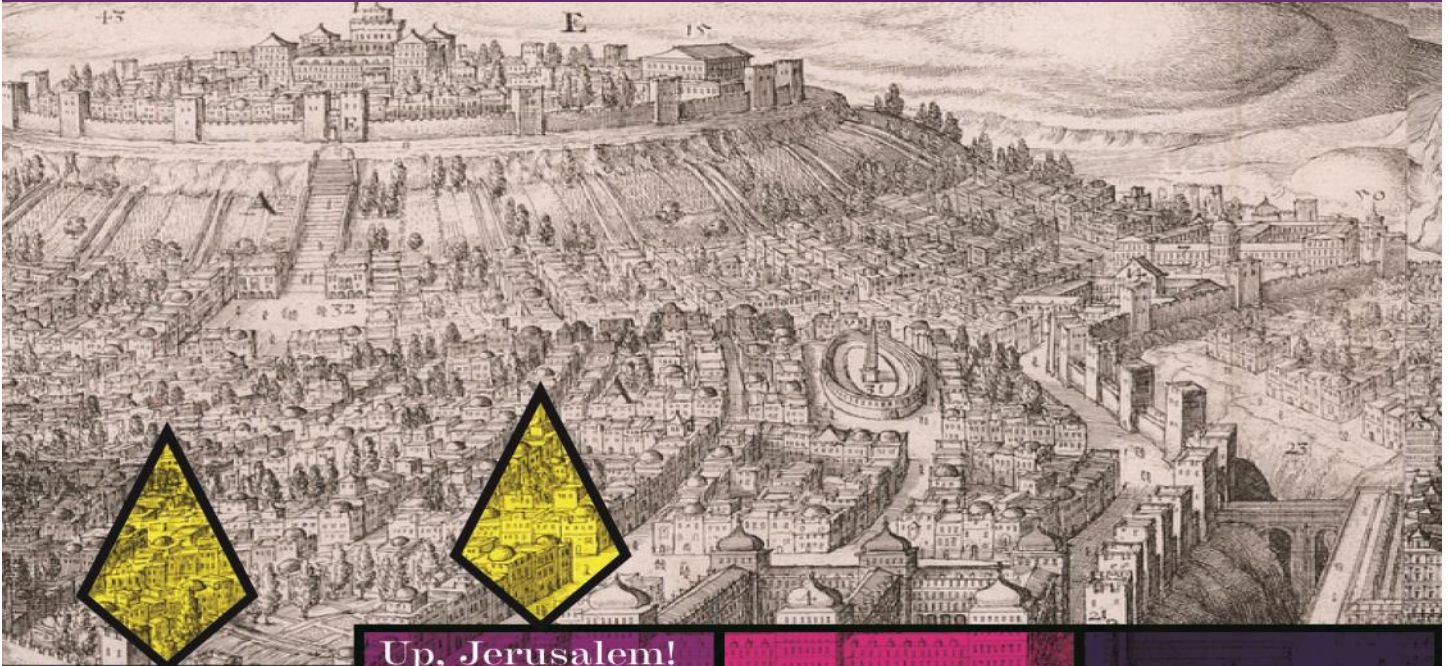


St. Joseph Parish



Up, Jerusalem!
stand upon
the heights;
look to the east
and see your
children
gathered from
the east and
the west
at the word
of the Holy One,
rejoicing that
they are
remembered
by God. *Baruch 5:5*

Prospect of Jerusalem
Wenceslaus Hollar
(Bohemian, 1607-1677)
1660
Metropolitan Museum of Art
New York

Second
Sunday of

Advent

December 5, 2021

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stjosephlb.org

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stjoseph@stjosephlb.org

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Deacon Tom Halliwell

sfcuda@yahoo.com

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Administrative Assistant:

Michelle Johnson

High School Ministry & Confirmation:

Marc Leon

RCIA:

Deacon Shane & Olga Cuda

olga@stjosephlb.org

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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.

Indoor Mass

12:30 p.m.

Daily Mass (M-W)

8:00 a.m. Indoor

Reconciliation

Saturdays

3:45-4:30 p.m.

By the East Church

Door parking lot



YEAR OF SAINT JOSEPH
December 8, 2020 - December 8, 2021



Letter From Our Pastor

Dear Parish Family,

As we enter the Second week of Advent, the Gospel of Luke introduces us to John the Baptist, the forerunner, the messenger, the last of the prophets. John surrenders to the Spirit of God as the Spirit leads John into the wilderness to fulfill his mission, to call us to prepare the way of the Lord! John calls us this Advent to repent, in other words, to turn back to God! May this same Spirit of God encourage you to surrender that one area of your life that prevents you from knowing God's love.

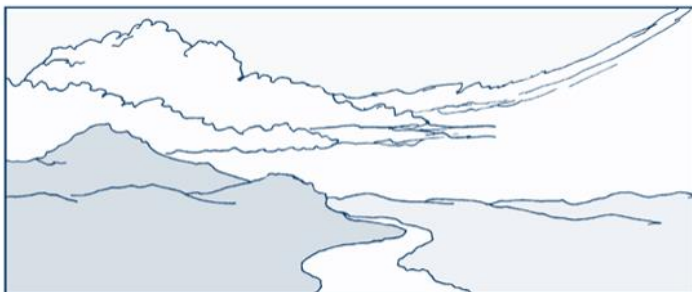
This week, the Church celebrates the Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception. During Advent, we acknowledge the important role that Mary, our Beloved Mother has in salvation history as she surrenders with her "Yes" to the will of God! Wednesday is a Holy day and we'll honor our Lady with three indoor Masses:

Tuesday, December 7 – Vigil Mass at 7:00 PM

Wednesday, December 8 – Mass at 8:00 AM

Wednesday, December 8 – Mass at 7:00 PM

I'm praying for you as you prepare the Way of the Lord!
Msgr. Kevin



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Second Sunday of Advent December 5, 2021

God has commanded
that every lofty mountain be made low.

— *Baruch 5:7*



CHRISTMAS MASS SCHEDULE

Friday, December 24th

Vigil Solemnity of Christmas

4:00 PM – Outdoor Mass in Courtyard

6:00 PM - Mass inside Church

9:00 PM – Mass inside Church

Saturday, December 25th

Solemnity of Christmas

9:00 AM - Mass inside Church

10:30 AM – Mass inside Church

(No 5:00 PM Vigil Mass Today)

Sunday, December 26

Feast Day of The Holy Family

8:30 AM – Outdoor Mass on The Grass

10:30 AM – Mass inside Church

12:30 PM – Mass inside Church



SECOND

Sunday
OF

Advent

DECEMBER 5, 2021

John went throughout the whole region of the Jordan,
proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins.

Luke 3:3

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THREE ADVENTS

Almost nine hundred years ago, Saint Bernard of Clairvaux suggested in one of his Advent homilies that we should think of three Advents of Christ: the First, when Christ came in humility as Mary's Child, clothed in our human nature; the Second, when Christ will come in glory as Judge and Redeemer of the world. Then Saint Bernard speaks of a Middle Coming, an "in the meantime" Advent, when Christ comes to us in his Word, in the Eucharist, and in those who need our love and care, family and friends, neighbors and strangers. That's this year's Advent, the one we're celebrating now; and this Advent's question is: how attentive am I to Christ's coming into my life-story, right here, right now?

AN UNNOTICED ADVENT

Today Luke solemnly announces the names of the secular and sacred powers who thought they held the world's destiny in their hands. But they completely missed the decisive event that forever changed the world's religious and political history. When no one else was listening, God's Word came to a nobody, John the Baptist, and not in the temple sanctuary or palace throne room, but "out in the sticks," the Word that would one day cleanse the temple and topple thrones. The powerful names that Luke announces were not popular with ordinary people: times were tough, the economy was bad, people were having to make do with less; and those names reminded common folks that so much of life was beyond their control. Sound familiar? Yet just then, when many were far from hopeful, God acted decisively to save the people, and John the Baptist invited his listeners then, and us today, to join in the Good News of new life.

GOD'S RECONSTRUCTION PLAN

We heard Baruch, in the first reading, picturing our broken world reborn: the dispersed being carried home, tears wiped away, righteousness and justice, peace and worship. How we wish it could all be true! It will be true, Paul declares, optimistic that God, who has already begun such good work in us, will continue to complete it for the day of Christ's glorious return, increasing our love and sharpening our discernment of the values that endure. So we should begin this second week of Advent reinvigorated with hope in God's plan for the world's salvation. But John the Baptist reminds us that God's "reconstruction plan" for the world's transformation begins much closer to home: what twists and turns of my own life must be untangled, what lofty mountains of my own pride and self-centeredness brought low, which gorge-deep valleys of my own indifference and neglect filled in? Come, Lord Jesus, and make the whole creation new—but start right here, right now, with me!

TODAY'S READINGS

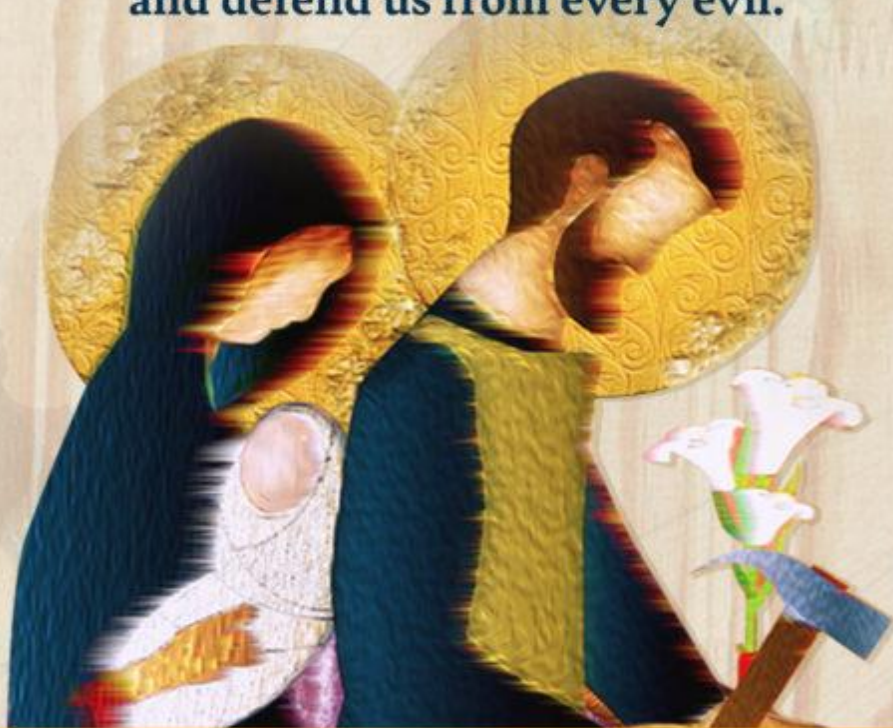
Baruch 5:1-9
Psalm 126:1-2, 2-3, 4-5, 6
Philippians 1:4-6, 8-11
Luke 3:1-6

YEAR of SAINT JOSEPH

“Show yourself a father, and guide us in the path of life”

**Hail, Guardian of the Redeemer,
Spouse of the Blessed Virgin Mary.
To you God entrusted his only Son;
in you Mary placed her trust;
with you Christ became man.**

**Blessed Joseph, to us too,
show yourself a father
and guide us in the path of life.
Obtain for us grace, mercy, and courage,
and defend us from every evil.**



DECEMBER 8, 2020 - DECEMBER 8, 2021




Safeguard The Children



Start paying attention to TikTok

Keeping tabs on how our children are using social media can seem quite daunting, even for parents who know their way around social media. But if you're not paying attention to TikTok, the newest and most popular platform on the scene, it is time to do so. Check in with children who are old enough to use the platform, and if possible, consider limiting or even eliminating their access. Talk to your children about responsible searching and sharing on all online platforms. For more information about TikTok, read "Not paying attention to TikTok? It is way past time to do so," by Charles Camosy for Angelus News, angelusnews.com/voices/not-paying-attention-to-tiktok-it-is-way-past-time-to-do-so/.



**A Prayer for
the Second Sunday of
ADVENT**

God of patience, show us your wisdom in time, that we may grow to expect your action on your time. Teach us to be gentle and patient with ourselves. Make us receptive to your timing in others. Help us see the long view when we are caught in the frustration of waiting. Amen.



Movement For A Better World

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

This week - Christmas Present Drive: Envelopes to purchase a gift for a child of one of our 72 parish community supported families are available at all Masses. **PLEASE** return gifts by **12:30 pm, Sunday Dec. 12!**


Dec. 18th Christmas Food and Present Distribution: As a parish community, we will support 72 families for Christmas, and Easter. **Can you help us deliver?** Please contact Tom and Marie Newton (562) 209-1298 or e-mail tjn8343@gmail.com

Family Adoptions: Can you adopt a family, on a family-to-family basis for Christmas, and Easter? Questions? Please call Donna Luciene at (562) 421-4993 or e-mail Amy Ford at amyford6331@yahoo.com.

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.

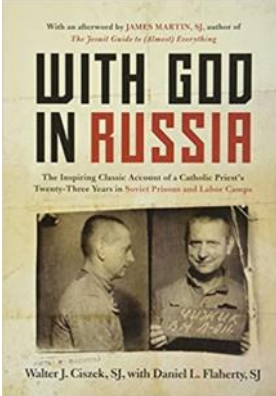
**For it is in giving
that we receive.**

Francis of Assisi





Book Club



Our next Zoom meeting is Tuesday, January 11 at 7pm. We will discuss: **With God in Russia** by Walter J. Ciszek

It is the inspiring story of a Catholic priest's 23 years in Soviet prisons and labor camps and his faith in God's goodness to allow him to live through his ordeal.

All are welcome!

For more info, email agoodlife@msn.com



Music Ministry



Do you play an instrument or sing?

Are you called to share your gift of music with the St. Joseph Community? The Music Ministry at St. Joseph's is looking for confident and talented musicians and singers to support the band at the 12:30pm Sunday Mass as well as to Cantor at other Masses. If you are interested, please reach out to the Parish Music Director, Vivian Doughty, before or after Mass, or call the Church and leave a message (562) 594-4657

RCIA - The Rite of Christian Initiation for Adults



For more info, contact Olga at 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.

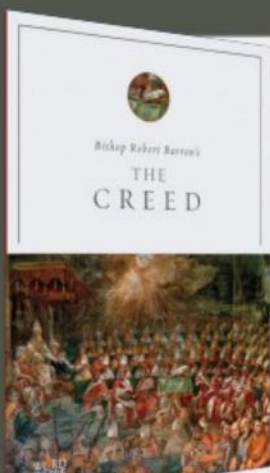
RCIA begins with a period of Inquiry, where you can find out what the Catholic Church teaches and believes. If you, or anyone you know, would like to find out more please contact Olga Cuda at olga@stjosephlb.org

Come-and-See what RCIA is all about !



Bishop Robert Barron's newest study program

THE CREED



Recent decades have witnessed a surge of the religiously unaffiliated, especially among young people. Many former believers have simply turned their backs on Christianity and no longer accept its teachings. But what are those teachings?

In *The Creed*, a new film series blending documentary conversations and dynamic talks, Bishop Robert Barron guides viewers into the depths of the Nicene Creed, a fourth-century statement of faith that has profoundly influenced Christian spirituality, theology, and liturgy in both the East and West.

Explore the meaning of “belief” and whether it contradicts reason; the creative love of God the Father; the shocking mystery of his Son’s Incarnation, and the great drama of his Crucifixion and Resurrection; the life-giving power of the *Spiritus Sanctus*, or “holy breath,” shared between them; and the mystical reality of the Church, which calls all of humanity out of the world of sin to receive forgiveness and participate in Christ’s divinity—not only in the next world but here and now.

The keys that unlock the beliefs of the Christian Faith are stated succinctly in the Nicene Creed, which we pray at every Sunday Mass. Born at the Council of Nicaea in the Fourth Century after intense debates, this formal statement of faith is the foundation of both eastern and western Christianity. And to this day, most Christians around the world would subscribe to it.

Please join us as we explore the Creed with Bishop Robert Barron in a new study beginning Thursday, January 13 at 7:00pm. To register, please email mike@stjosephlb.org or text 562-370-0769 to reserve your materials. The cost for the study materials is \$15. Registration is open until Friday, January 7th so please reserve your seat and materials as soon as possible. Sessions will be held using Zoom and the details will be provided to those registered prior to starting.



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