

St. Joseph Parish



1ST SUNDAY OF ADVENT

“And then they will see the Son of Man coming in a cloud with power and great glory.” - Lk 21:27

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

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Mass Schedule

Saturday Vigil

5:00 p.m.

Sunday

Mass on the Grass

Outdoors

8:30 a.m.

Indoor Mass

10:30 a.m.

12:30 p.m.

Daily Mass (M-W)

8:00 a.m.

Reconciliation

Saturdays

3:45-4:30 p.m.

Inside Church

Adoration

First Fridays

8:00-9:00 a.m.





Letter From Our Pastor

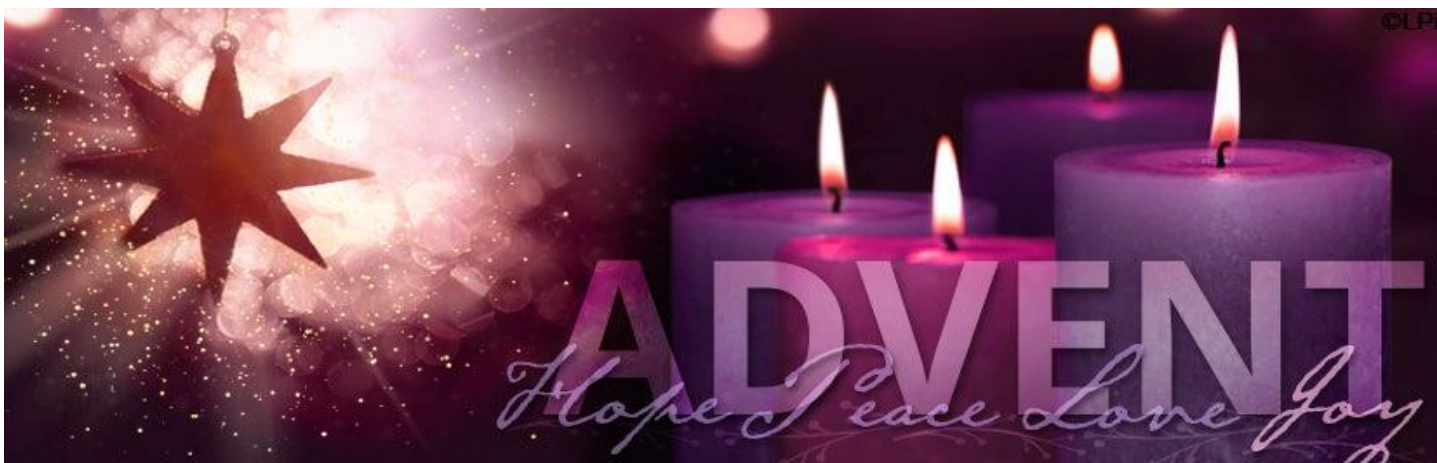
Dear Parish Family:

Welcome to a new Liturgical Year! I hope you are enjoying this Thanksgiving weekend and that you have enjoyed these days with your family and friends. I hope you are full of the 3F's: food, family and football!!

Welcome to the Season of Advent. This beautiful, liturgical season of grace has a twofold mission: prepare to celebrate the first coming of Christ at Christmas and prepare for Christ's second coming at the end of time. May our hearts be prepared as we welcome Christ at Christmas. Today is the first day to reflect with the little Advent book that you received last weekend, so please take 2 to 3 minutes a day to prepare your hearts and your family for the Blessings of Christmas!

Please join us for our Advent evening of Recollection, as Deacon Steve Greco, leads us in his reflection, entitled, *"The Joy of Advent"*! Join us this Tuesday evening, December 3 at 7 PM. **Regretfully the presentation scheduled for Wednesday, December 4 at 9 AM has been canceled — Deacon Steve had a personal scheduling conflict.** Deacon Steve currently serves as the Director of Evangelization and Formation for the Roman Catholic Diocese of Orange, our neighbor to the east! He is an author of eight books, and he uses all forms of communication to proclaim the Gospel. He is the executive producer of "Jesus Thirsts: The miracle of the Eucharist." Deacon Steve hosts a weekly radio show called "Empowered by the Spirit" heard on relevant radio. The event is free, however, there will be a free will offering basket available. Join us for a time of Advent inspiration!

Advent Blessings,
Msgr. Kevin



Weekly Prayer

Sunday's Readings

First Reading:

"In those days, in that time,
I will raise up for David a just shoot;
he shall do what is right and just in the land." (Jer 33:15)

Psalm:

To you, O Lord, I lift my soul. (Ps 25)

Second Reading:

May the Lord make you increase and abound in love
for one another and for all,
just as we have for you,
so as to strengthen your hearts,
to be blameless in holiness before our God and Father
at the coming of our Lord Jesus with all his holy ones.
(1 Thes 3:12-13)

Gospel:

"But when these signs begin to happen,
stand erect and raise your heads
because your redemption is at hand." (Lk 21:28)

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Live The Liturgy Inspiration of the Week

There is only one king whose subjects can
choose whether or not they will serve him.
We choose Christ when we choose the
truth. When we serve the truth, we serve
Christ the King.

Observances for the week of December 1, 2024

- Sunday:** 1st Sunday of Advent
Tuesday: St. Francis Xavier, Priest
Wednesday: St. John Damascene, Priest and Doctor of the Church
Friday: St. Nicholas, Bishop
Saturday: St. Ambrose, Bishop and Doctor of the Church
Next Sunday: 2nd Sunday of Advent



Saint of the week

Blessed Chiara Luce Badano (1971-1990) an ordinary teenager who freely gave her life to Jesus in joy and suffering. She was beatified in 2010, the first member of Generation X to be Beatified. In 2018 she was one of the patrons of the Synod on Youth.

Prayer for Prayer Expectation

Dear God,

As we prepare for Your arrival,
align our hearts and homes to
Your will.

Pour into us Your grace, as we
wait in joyful expectation.

Amen.

Worship & Meditation

Readings for the week of December 1, 2024

Sunday:

Jer 33:14-16/Ps 25:4-5, 8-9, 10, 14 (1b)/
1 Thes 3:12-4:2/Lk 21:25-28, 34-36

Monday:

Is 2:1-5/Ps 122:1-2, 3-4b, 4cd-5, 6-7, 8-9/
Mt 8:5-11

Tuesday:

Is 11:1-10/Ps 72:1-2, 7-8, 12-13, 17/
Lk 10:21-24

Wednesday:

Is 25:6-10a/Ps 23:1-3a, 3b-4, 5, 6/
Mt 15:29-37

Thursday:

Is 26:1-6/Ps 118:1 and 8-9, 19-21, 25-27a/
Mt 7:21, 24-27

Friday:

Is 29:17-24/Ps 27:1, 4, 13-14/Mt 9:27-31

Saturday:

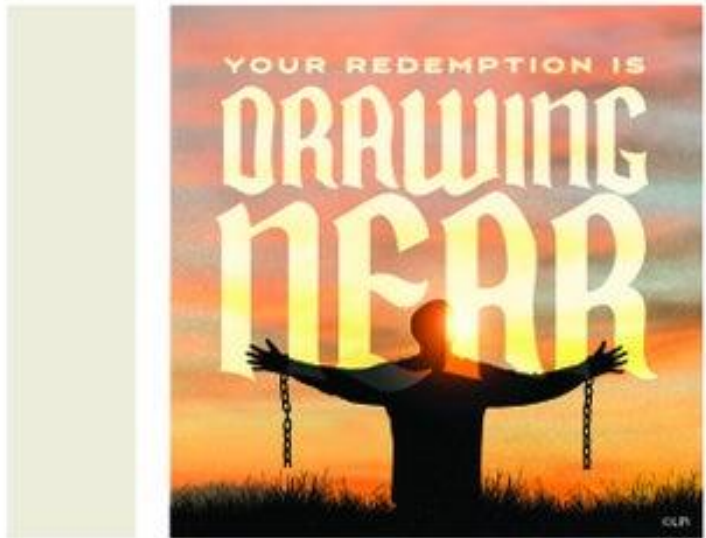
Is 30:19-21, 23-26/Ps 147:1-2, 3-4, 5-6/
Mt 9:35-10:1, 5a, 6-8

Next Sunday:

Bar 5:1-9/Ps 126:1-2, 2-3, 4-5, 6 (3)/
Phil 1:4-6, 8-11/Lk 3:1-6



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Gospel Meditation

Encourage Deeper Understanding of Scripture

When I was a young priest, about one year after ordination, I was called to the hospital to anoint a dying mother of three young children. She had a painful, terminal cancer. After celebrating Last Rites with her, I said, "Don't be afraid." She looked me square in the eye from her hospital bed and said, "Oh Father, I am in a lot of pain, but I am not afraid. Something wonderful is about to happen." A few days later she died.

Christians face the ending of our personal various "worlds" in a totally unique way. This first Sunday of Advent, Jesus says that when people see their world falling apart, they find themselves **"fainting with fear and with foreboding of what is coming on the world"** (Luke 21:26). In our fear, our natural response is to check out, to hide our heads in drunkenness, distraction, and false securities. But Jesus commands us to **"look up and raise your heads, because your redemption is drawing near."** He then compares what's coming to a lovely summer in full bloom. That's what the cross and resurrection empower us to do, as strange as it may seem.

Advent challenge: What world in your life is collapsing? A relationship, a dream, a work opportunity? Maybe you're troubled by a crumbling world in the political or economic sphere. Or maybe someone you love is seriously ill or dying. Name that world or worlds. Then pray: "Lord, help me to not faint with fear. Help me to raise my head and see your redemption coming."

— Father John Muir

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 1, 2024 | 1ST SUNDAY OF ADVENT

©LPI



Please join us for an Advent Reflection
with

Deacon Steve Greco

"The Joy of Advent"

When:

Tues. December 3, 2024 at 7:00pm

~~Wed. December 4, 2024~~ — CANCELED!

Where:

St. Joseph Church

6180 E Willow St. Long Beach, CA 90815

(562)594-4657



Parish Year-end Giving

Thank you all for your continuing generosity to St Joseph and its ministries. Many of you will be considering your Christmas and year-end giving. In addition, to traditional contributions through envelopes or Faith Direct, please keep in mind other opportunities available to you such as:

Gifts of appreciated assets – Gifts of securities, stocks and bonds directly to St Joseph's may provide tax advantages when transferred to a St Joseph Church – Long Beach before they are sold. If you have held your securities for more than one year, you may find that your gift may provide a twofold tax benefit—creating an income tax deduction and avoiding the capital gains tax that would have been due upon their sale. For more information see <https://lacatholics.org/stock/>.

IRA Charitable Contribution - If you are over 70 ½ you may be able to make a gift to Saint Joseph Church – Long Beach through a Qualified Charitable Distribution (QCD) directly from your Individual Retirement Account (IRA). To determine if you qualify, please contact our office or your Financial Advisor for details. <https://lacatholics.org/individual-retirement-account/>.

If you decide to utilize one of these methods, please be sure to indicate your donation should go to Saint Joseph Church – Long Beach. If you have any questions, please contact the Parish office.

Please be mindful of distribution request deadlines required by your custodial institution.

Your St Joseph Finance Council



Come to the Welcome Christ Renews His Parish retreat weekend. It is an incredible experience that will help you discover what's missing in your life and what to do about it. Whether you want to connect with other Men or Women in the parish, improve your prayer life, or just take a break from the craziness of your everyday to have fun, you will find what you are looking for and more.

The next Welcome Christ Renews His Parish retreats will be on Saturday March 1st and Sunday March 2nd 2025 for the Women. And the Men's Retreat will be Saturday March 15th and Sunday March 16th 2025

Please visit our parish website to learn more and to sign up. Registration is now open.



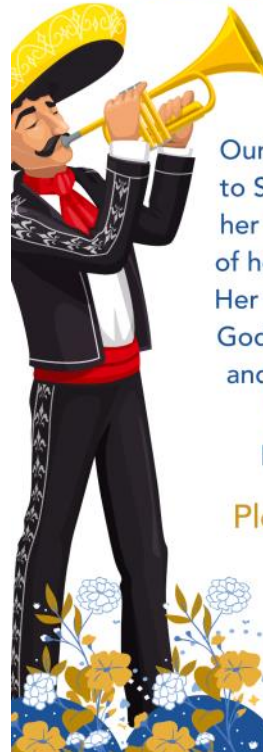
www.stjosephlb.org/welcome-Christ-renews/

Join us for Special Our Lady of Guadalupe Mass

THURSDAY, 12/12
AT 10AM

Our Lady of Guadalupe appeared to St. Juan Diego in 1531, leaving her miraculous image as a symbol of her love and care for all people. Her message inspires us to trust in God's grace and to embrace unity and compassion in our lives. Our Lady of Guadalupe is the patroness of the Americas.

Please join our parish and
school celebration!



Join the
St. Joseph Catholic School
Alumni Database!



**Are you a former
student of our
school?
We want to hear
from you!**



Join our Alumni Database to stay connected and receive updates on school events, reunions, and all the exciting things happening in our community. Don't miss out on the chance to reconnect with old friends and stay involved!





“Children, let us love not in word or speech but in deed and truth.” 1 John 3:18

Thanksgiving Food and Blanket Distribution:

THANK YOU for your generous support of 108 very grateful families including 316 children! An abundant amount of food, blankets, blessings and hope were provided.

Dec. 7-8 – Christmas Present Drive: Envelopes will be available at Masses for the children of families we will support for Christmas: a child’s name, age, sex, sizes, and instructions. Please return gifts to the Parish Life Center or church by Dec. 15 at 12:30 pm.

Dec. 22 - Christmas Food and Present Distribution: As a parish community, we will support 79 families for Christmas, and Easter. **Can you help us deliver? We will meet at St. Cornelius.** So meaningful to kids! Please contact Jill Salinaz (562) 822-7367 or jmsalinaz@yahoo.com.

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“This program saved our marriage and is a BLESSING!”
“Thank you, this has really helped us move the needle towards repair”

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The next weekend is December 13-15, 2024 in Los Angeles, CA

Register Now
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www.HelpOurMarriage.org

Advent Evening of Prayer for Young Adults

HEART OF JESUS, INCARNATE WORD

Wednesday,
Dec 4, 6-8 pm

RSVP's appreciated!

www.joyfulapostolate.org/into-the-deep/

**Heart of Jesus
RETREAT CENTER**
2927 S Greenville St
Santa Ana, CA 92704

Book Club

Our next Book Club meeting is
Wednesday, February 19th at 7pm on Zoom

**The Line Becomes a River:
Dispatches from the Border**
by Francisco Cantú

“A personal, unguarded look at border life from the perspective of a migrant and agent, recommended for those wishing to gain a deeper understanding of current events.” —

Library Journal

Amazon.com: The Line Becomes a River: Dispatches from the Border: 9780735217737:

Cantú, Francisco: Books

All are welcome. For more info, email agoodlife@msn.com



Senior Group



Our next get together will be at the
El Dorado Restaurant on
Monday, December 9th at 9:30 am.

This will be our Christmas get together, and we have a few little surprises planned. Please join us for a nice time catching up with old friends and meeting new friends. When you arrive, tell the server that you are with St. Joseph and he/she will direct you to the area we are gathering in. Everyone will order and pay for his/her own breakfast. We look forward to seeing you there. For future reference, we meet there on the 2nd Monday of every month, at the same time.

Looking forward to seeing you!

Please Note: The Senior Group members are asked to bring new baby clothes, blankets and toys for children from newborn to 18 months to our breakfast gathering on December 9. These are for the families we support through Movement for a Better World. Thank you for your generosity.



In Memoriam

Joan Fitzpatrick

Funeral Mass at St. Joseph Church
Thursday, December 5th at 10:00 am

Eternal rest grant unto them, O Lord, and let
perpetual light shine upon them.

May the souls of all the faithful departed,
through the mercy of God, rest in peace.

~Amen~



IF THIS CHRISTMAS IS SOMETHING YOU'RE
DREADING BECAUSE YOU LOST SOMEONE DEAR TO
YOU, CONSIDER JOINING OUR GRIEF SUPPORT
GROUP. YOU WILL BE THANKFUL YOU DID. **WHY?**
BECAUSE GOD IS ALWAYS WITH YOU.

WHEN? TUESDAY DECEMBER 17th 9:30 TO 11:30 a.m.

WHERE: ST. JOSEPH CATHOLIC CHURCH (PLC) 6180 E. WILLOW

CONTACT: MAY PACE, BEREAVEMENT MINISTER

562/833 6370



Did You Know?



Child pornography and artificial intelligence, part 2

Artificial intelligence, or AI, has opened the door to generating incredibly realistic images. Often called “deepfakes,” we have seen these images crop up on social media. In January 2024, explicit images of Taylor Swift, created by AI, were posted online, and viewed over 45 million times before they were removed. In the same way, AI technology can be used by child abusers to create and share explicit imagery. For more information, read the VIRTUS® article “Artificial Intelligence – Deepfakes and Child Abusers” on lacatholics.org/did-you-know/.



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ON OUR WEBSITE
SJKNIGHTS.NET

Enrollment is on a first-come, first-served basis with limited spots available in each grade level. Alpha K students must be 4 years old and Kindergarten students must be 5 years old by September 1st, 2025.

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more about our
school community?

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our Student
Ambassadors for a
free campus tour on
Wednesday,
December 4th.



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CATHOLIC SCHOOL

Support ST. JOSEPH SCHOOL ANNUAL FUND



The goal of the Annual Fund for St. Joseph School LB is to advance the mission and ensure the long-term viability of our beloved school. Your generous, unrestricted gifts to the Annual Fund support every aspect of our community, including:

- Attracting and retaining well-qualified faculty and staff.
- Enhancing academic excellence, support, and enrichment programs.
- Maintaining and improving our school facilities.

As we embark on this year's campaign, we invite you to continue helping us build a strong future for our students. Together, we can make a difference!



Visit Our Website



<https://sjknights.net/the-annual-fund>

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