



ST. JOSEPH PARISH

6180 E WILLOW ST. LONG BEACH, CA 90815 | 562.594.4657 | STJOSEPHLB.ORG

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 8, 2024

2ND SUNDAY OF ADVENT



*"Every valley shall be filled
and every mountain and hill shall be made low.
The winding roads shall be made straight,
and the rough ways made smooth,
and all flesh shall see the salvation of God."
- Lk 3:5-6*

Our Parish

PASTOR: MSGR. KEVIN KOSTELNIK

stjoseph@stjosephlb.org

Deacon Shane Cuda

sfcuda@yahoo.com

Deacon Tom Halliwell

dcntom@stjosephlb.org

Sr. Eva (Adult Faith Formation Director)

sreva@stjosephlb.org

Office Manager

Brenda Pineda

(562) 594-4657

Office Assistant

Joyce Castaneda

(562) 594-4657

Pastoral Council

Shelley Padilla

(562) 594-4657

Finance Council

George Zuluaga

Zuluaga@aol.com

Safeguard The Children

Parish Office

(562) 594-4657

Parish Bulletin Editor

Brenda Pineda

bulletin@stjosephlb.org

Website Coordinator

Mike Santy

msanty@verizon.net

St. Joseph School: Margaret Alvarez, Principal

(562) 596-6115

siknights.net

Fax: (562) 596-6725

Assistant Principal:

Madison Alba

Religious Education: Marc Leon, DRE

(562) 598-0519

marc@stjosephlb.org

Children's Formation (1st-8th Grade)

michelle@stjosephlb.org

Administrative Assistant:

Michelle Johnson

High School Ministry & Confirmation:

Liz Moreno

OCIA:

Sr. Eva

sreva@stjosephlb.org

Parish Ministries & Organizations

Baptism Preparation

Brenda Pineda

(562) 594-4657

Director of Music

Vivian Doughty

(562) 594-4657

Eucharistic Ministry

Tonet Risko

riskotonet@yahoo.com

Lectors

Steve Koppenheffer

(714) 299-6644

Meditation

Frank Mckown

(310) 633-1744

Esther Ministry

Virginia Young

estherministry1@gmail.com

Hospitality Ministry

Deborah Rollinger

(562) 594-4657

Movement For A Better World

Tim Clark

(562) 431-4385

Senior Group

Marilyn North

(562) 519-0154

Knights Of Columbus

Marty Vezzetti

(702) 401-5247

Engaged Encounter

Paciano & Molly Diaz

Ktmr@Sbcglobal.Net

Natural Family Planning

Greg & Beth Gath

(562) 377-5877

Precious Life Shelter

Cynthia San Jose

csanjoselaw@aol.com

Boy Scouts

Jeff Baer

(562) 537-6722

Sacristans

Joe Dang

(562) 493-2198

Homebound Ministry

Patty Brunter

pjbstampin@aol.com

Bereavement Ministry

May Pace

(562) 833-6370

Cursillo

Tom & Marie Newton

tjn8343@gmail.com

Parish Fair

Conny Frost

sjparishfair@gmail.com

Environment

Jessica Gil

bpax.g4@gmail.com

Family Altar Servers

Monica Wissuchek

stjfamilyaltarservers@gmail.com

Welcome Christ Renews His Parish

Diane Ohde

stjlbwelcome@gmail.com

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 the 2nd Sunday of Advent. As we journey with St. Luke in his Gospel, he introduces us to St. John the Baptist, the cousin of Jesus who is telling the people to make straight a path for the Lord. The Baptist calls the people to metanoia, which means “change”. Advent is also the time when God wants us to change, to be more like his Son, Jesus Christ whose birthday we celebrate in less than three weeks!!

Thanks to the 150+ parishioners who came to hear Deacon Steve Greco. He inspired us with his reflections and he got us all singing! May his ministry and love for the Lord continue to grow and inspire others.

Today, Sunday, December 8th is normally a Holyday honoring the Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary, who is our national Patroness. The Sunday of Advent takes precedence over a Solemnity or Feast. The Holy See has communicated, “That the Feast must be observed as a day of Obligation by being transferred to Monday, December 9. The Vigil Mass for the Holy Day cannot be celebrated at any hour on Sunday, December 8.” **Therefore, we will have two Holyday Masses in honor of Our Lady on Monday, December 9 at 8:00 AM and 7:00 PM. In accord with the canonical directives from Rome, there will be no Vigil Mass on Sunday night.**

Movement for a Better Worlds Annual Christmas Present Drive begins this weekend. The Christmas trees are set up in the Church and they’ve been decorated with envelopes with information about one child from the 108 families we’ll be supporting as a parish community for Christmas. A tree will be set up by the outside gate for the 8:30 Mass. Please take one or more of the envelopes, buy a present for the child, wrap the gift with Christmas paper and most importantly, bring the

gift to the church or the parish office by 12:30 PM next Sunday, December 16. You’ll also see that gift cards are an option for the older children. Thank you for supporting these families and we will be meeting at Saint Cornelius on Saturday, December 21 at 8:15 AM for distribution of all the boxes of food and gifts to the families.

Like many of your households, St. Joseph’s had to pay our property taxes this past week. The taxes continue to climb and for the 2024-2025 year, your parish property taxes are \$16,038.24!!! Please start praying and discerning about your Annual Christmas gift – your generous Christmas gift is a blessing with all the increased expenses we are incurring!!

Have a Blessed Advent week!!

Advent Blessings,
Msgr. Kevin



New AC/Heating ducts and fire sprinkler systems are being installed in the ceiling.

Weekly Prayer

Sunday's Readings

First Reading:

"For God will show all the earth your splendor:
you will be named by God forever
the peace of justice, the glory of God's worship." (Bar 5:3-4)

Psalm:

The Lord has done great things for us; we are filled with joy.
(Ps 126)

Second Reading:

So that you may be pure and blameless for the day of Christ,
filled with the fruit of righteousness
that comes through Jesus Christ. (Phil 1:10-11)

Gospel:

"The winding roads shall be made straight,
and the rough ways made smooth,
and all flesh shall see the salvation of God." (Lk 3:5-6)

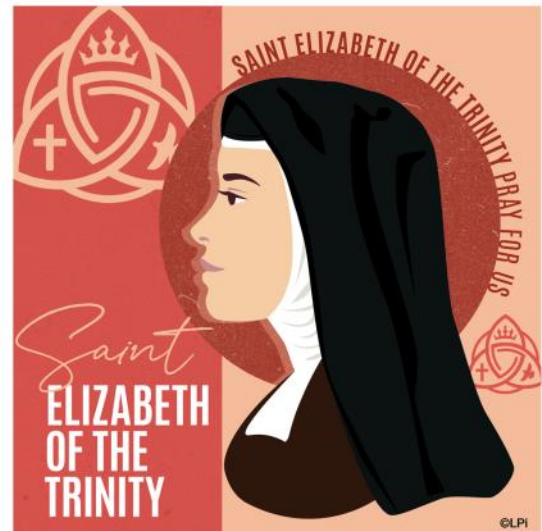
Excerpts from the Lectionary for Mass ©2001, 1998, 1970 CCD.
The English translation of Psalm Responses from Lectionary for Mass © 1969, 1981, 1997,
International Commission on English in the Liturgy Corporation. All rights reserved.

Live The Liturgy Inspiration of the Week

John the Baptist was appointed to prepare the way for the Lord. This Advent, follow his example and prepare the way for the Lord. Invite the Lord to make straight the roads in your life that wind, and to smooth all that is rough in your heart.

Observances for the week of December 8, 2024

- Sunday:** 2nd Sunday of Advent
Monday: The Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary
Tuesday: Our Lady of Loreto
Wednesday: St. Damasus I, Pope
Thursday: Our Lady of Guadalupe
Friday: St. Lucy, Virgin and Martyr
Saturday: St. John of the Cross, Priest and Doctor of the Church
Next Sunday: 3rd Sunday of Advent



Saint of the week

St. Elizabeth of the Trinity (1880-1906) was a French mystic, a member of the Discalced Carmelites. In her writing, her fierce belief in the Trinity within us, reachable through contemplative prayer, and her deep wish that we embrace God's love by letting ourselves be loved are her powerful legacy.

Prayer of Preparation

With abiding hope as we look forward to Jesus' arrival —
Make straight the paths, Lord!
Fill us with holy excitement, in
Your name.

Amen.

Worship & Meditation

Readings for the week of December 8, 2024

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

Monday:

Gn 3:9-15, 20/Ps 98:1, 2-3ab, 3cd-4/
Eph 1:3-6, 11-12/Lk 1:26-38

Tuesday:

Is 40:1-11/Ps 96:1-2, 3 and 10ac, 11-12, 13/
Mt 18:12-14

Wednesday:

Is 40:25-31/Ps 103:1-2, 3-4, 8 and 10/
Mt 11:28-30

Thursday:

Zec 2:14-17 or Rv 11:19a; 12:1-6a, 10ab/Jdt
13:18bcde, 19/Lk 1:26-38 or Lk 1:39-47

Friday:

Is 48:17-19/Ps 1:1-2, 3, 4 and 6/Mt 11:16-19

Saturday:

Sir 48:1-4, 9-11/Ps 80:2ac and 3b, 15-16,
18-19/Mt 17:9a, 10-13

Next Sunday:

Zep 3:14-18a/Is 12:2-3, 4, 5-6 (6)/
Phil 4:4-7/Lk 3:10-18



Excerpts from the Lectionary for Mass ©2001, 1998, 1970 CCD.
The English translation of Psalm Responses from Lectionary for
Mass © 1969, 1981, 1997, International Commission on English in
the Liturgy Corporation. All rights reserved.



Gospel Meditation

Encourage Deeper Understanding of Scripture

In the year 1995, in the seventeenth year of my life, when Fife Symington was governor of Arizona, Bill Clinton was president of the United States, Chuck Keiffer was pastor of St. Theresa parish in Phoenix, Arizona, and Ron and Mary were my parents, the word of God came to my youth minister Eric and through him I started to see the salvation of God. Soon, Christ came into my life never to leave. I'm thankful beyond words.

Why am I being so specific, you ask? Because in the Gospel this week we hear the specific names of people holding civic and religious authority in first century Palestine when **"the word of God came to John the Baptist:"** Tiberius Caesar, Pontius Pilate, Herod, Philip, Lysanias, Annas, Caiaphas, and Zechariah. All this is meant to help us see that God breaks into our history, into real human events. Jesus is no mere myth. He is the Word-which-breaks-in, in concrete moments, you might say. And now we anticipate his coming once again in our specific situations.

Advent challenge: Name as many civic and religious leaders who are in authority currently in your life. Now, name who the potential John the Baptists may be. A spouse? A friend? A podcaster? A work colleague who brings God's word to you? Spend a moment considering that this comprises the concrete, historical setting into which Christ wishes to come. Then, with these specifics in mind, pray: "Come, Lord Jesus. Come."

— Father John Muir

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 8, 2024 | 2ND SUNDAY OF ADVENT

©LPI



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/

ST. JOSEPH ALUMNI *Spotlight*

**Congratulations to Sierra Sythe
(Class of 2019)!**

Sierra and the No. 2 Wake Forest Soccer Team have advanced to the 2024 Women's College Cup Semi-Final! They will face No. 3 Stanford on Friday, December 6th at WakeMed Soccer Park, in North Carolina.



Sierra, a dedicated Pre-Med Biology student at Wake Forest, continues to inspire with her excellence both on and off the field. Let us keep her and her team in our prayers as they strive for the championship!



SIERRA SYTHE

**ST. JOSEPH
CATHOLIC SCHOOL**



CATHOLIC SCHOOLS
LOS ANGELES | SANTA BARBARA | VENTURA

ANGEL AWARD

Nominate a current Teacher, Principal, or Pastor in the Archdiocese of Los Angeles who serves as an inspiration and embodies the Core & Pastoral Values.



<http://archla.org/angel>

Core Values

- Servant leadership
- Christian dignity and respect
- Commitment to Community
- Collaboration in Ministry

Pastoral Values

- Service
- Stewardship
- Communication
- Excellence

Criteria:

- > must currently serve in the Archdiocese of Los Angeles
- > served in the Archdiocese of Los Angeles for at least 3 years

March 15, 2025

Nomination Deadline

March 15 - April 30

Committee Review

May 7, 2025

Winner Announced

LOVE *is a* TRANSFORMATIVE FORCE

Movement For A Better World



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

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.

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.



The Immaculate Conception
of the
Blessed Virgin Mary

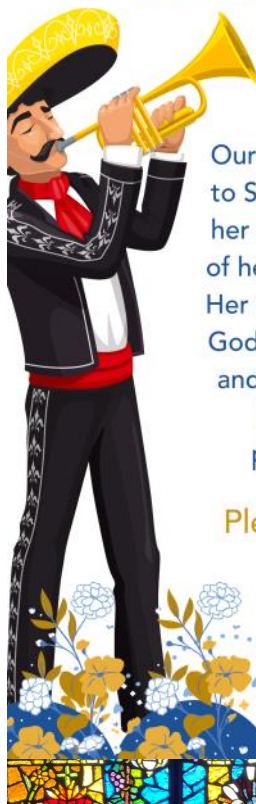
©LPI

Join us for Special Our Lady of Guadalupe Mass

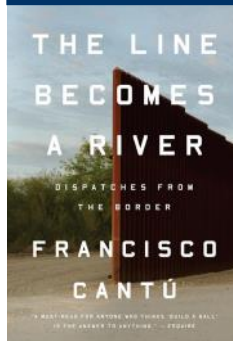
THURSDAY, 12/12
AT 10AM

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!



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

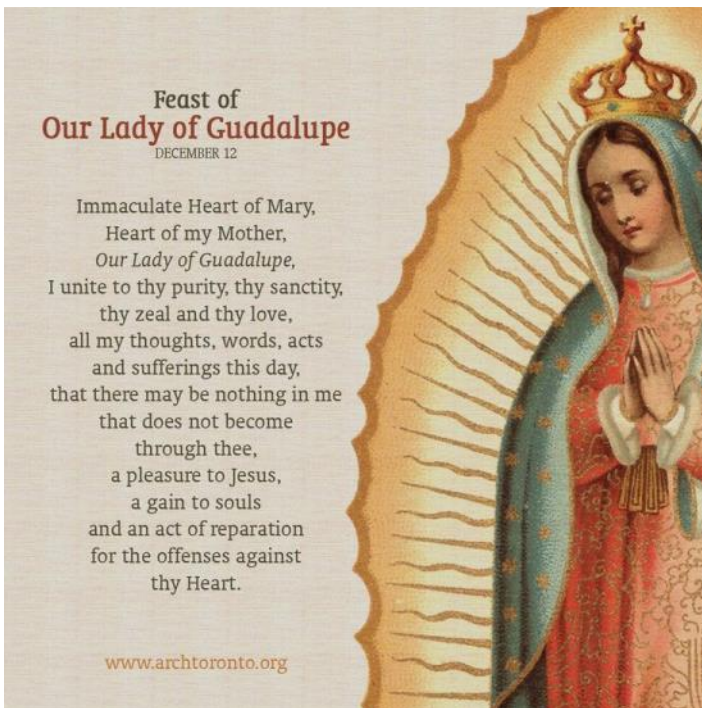


**Our next get together will be at the
El Dorado Restaurant on
Monday, December 9th at 9:30 am.**

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.



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?



Teaching your children boundaries

Communities thrive with appropriate boundaries in place. Without them, everyone is left vulnerable, especially children, in an “anything goes” culture. As safe adults, we can empower children by defining and strengthening our own boundaries. Children learn by watching the adults around them. Seeing us make and hold boundaries will teach them this incredibly important skill. To learn more about setting and upholding boundaries, read the VIRTUS® article “When Boundaries Abound, Our Lives Can Flourish” at lacatholics.org/did-you-know/.



CLICK "VISIT US"
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.

SCHEDULE YOUR CAMPUS TOUR TODAY!

Interested in learning
more about our
school community?

We invite you to join
our Student
Ambassadors for a
free campus tour on
Wednesday,
December 4th.



 ST. JOSEPH
CATHOLIC SCHOOL



LET'S GROW YOUR BUSINESS

Place Your Ad Here
and Support Our Parish!

CONTACT ME Dave Hyde

dhyde@4LPi.com • (800) 950-9952 x5820



Jennifer Lumsdaine

2023 Attorney of the Year,
Southeast District Bar Association

Parish Members Receive Free Consultations for Wills &
Trusts, Probate & Trust Administration, Conservatorships
(562) 923-0971 | tldlaw.com
jlumsdaine@tldlaw.com

Offices in Downey, Long Beach, Irvine



ADT-Monitored Home Security

Get 24-Hour Protection From a Name You Can Trust

- Burglary
- Flood Detection
- Fire Safety
- Carbon Monoxide

833-287-3502



COMPASS

BUY — SELL — INVEST
Local Parishioners

Serving Your
Real Estate needs in
Long Beach and
Surrounding Areas



Tyler Luckey

562.254.1325
DRE 01978990

Pam Luckey

562.307.4367
DRE 00751586

Tessa Luckey

562.254.0696
DRE 01291580

luckeyteam@compass.com | luckeyteam.com

catholicmatch[®] California



CatholicMatch.com/CA

Don Gath Insurance Agency



562-498-6701

AUTO ~ HOME ~ LIFE
Be more than a number.
Be part of the family.
LIC#0447779
Family owned & operated since 1984.

SHORT STAFFED?

Place an ad here to find new
local talent for your business.



CALL 800-950-9952

TAX PREPARATION

Aragon, Santillan & Associates

Ophelia Aragon, EA, NTPF Fellow
Fabian Santillan, EA

Tax Preparation & Notary Services
6342 E. Spring St.
Long Beach, CA 90815
www.asatax.com

562-421-3063

Parishioners

HIRE ME PLUMBING

25+ Years Experience
562-925-4046

Heating Stoppages
Wall & Floor Furnace
Video Inspections
Sewer & Drains
Gas Lines
Slab Leaks
Remodels
Copper/Pex Re-Pipes
Garbage Disposals
Water Heaters
Free Estimates



10% Discount With this Ad
\$300 Maximum Discount



SUPPORT
OUR PARISH

ASHLEY HAYES,

PHARM.D., BCPS

CONSULTANT PHARMACIST

914-439-3653

CLINICAL PRACTITIONER • PATIENT CARE ADVOCATE
MEDICATION EXPERT • EDUCATOR • DRUG INFO RESOURCE

HAVE YOU HAD A
MEDICATION REVIEW
LATELY?



WE APPRECIATE OUR
ADVERTISERS!



FIRSTTEAM
REAL ESTATE

JULIE VOCK

Julie Vock - Realtor

Born and Raised Neighborhood Specialist

714.501.7798

www.JulieVock.com

bre# 01383367



CATHOLIC CEMETERIES & MORTUARIES

EVERLASTING FAITH. EVERLASTING LIFE.

*A ministry of the Church
serving the faithful.*

Learn about our 11 locations in
Los Angeles, Ventura and
Santa Barbara counties

CatholicCM.org



Brunch and
Live Music
on the
Weekends
10-2pm!

562-541-1105

4130 Paramount Blvd., Lakewood, CA 90712

O'Connor's Irish Pub

Pub & Kitchen Open Daily at 10am

All Ages Welcome! 25 Big Screen TVs, Newly Remodeled,
Full Kitchen & Bar, Game Room & 14 Ice Cold Beers On Tap!

Fish & Chips Dinner & Drinks For Two \$30

Beer-Battered Alaskan Cod,
Fries, Coleslaw, Pub Salad,
Domestic Pint/Seltzer

7 Days, 5pm-close. Mention this ad



Outside is fun again!

Service Areas:

- Seal Beach
- Cypress
- Los Alamitos
- Rossmore
- East Long Beach

Ken Kay & Evelyn Dinnen, Owners

562-270-9808 | www.sealbeach.mosquitojoe.com

SUPPORT OUR ADVERTISERS!



LUYBEN FAMILY DILDAY-MOTTELL MORTUARY

GUARANTEED LOWEST FUNERAL COST IN TOWN

John G. Luyben • Rosalie A. Luyben • Thaddeus Luyben • Martin Luyben • James Morgan

CALL US FOR YOUR FREE MEMORIAL GUIDE... "PRE-ARRANGING FOR TIME OF NEED"

5161 Arbor Road, Long Beach, CA

425-6401



For ad info. call 1-800-950-9952 • www.4lpi.com

St. Joseph Church, Long Beach, CA

A 4C 05-4064