

St. Joseph Parish



THE PRESENTATION OF THE LORD

“Behold, this child is destined for the
fall and rise of many in Israel.” - Lk 2:34

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Office Hours: Monday-Friday 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. (Closed Noon - 1:00 for lunch)

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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 the Solemnity of the Presentation of the Lord! It has been 40 days since Christmas, and this Feast reminds us about all the wonderful stories we've heard in the past and the many wonderful stories that God wants to share with us in the future. Every member of your family has a story and be patient with their stories because their journeys have not yet come to completion. When Mary and Joseph presented the child Jesus in the Temple, according to the ritual law, they met Ana and Simeon, who had waited an entire lifetime to meet the Messiah. They both represent all who would accept Christ and give thanks to God on this Presentation Day that you have accepted Christ! On this traditional Candlemas day, we will be blessing candles at every Mass, so if you have special candles at home, please bring them for a blessing.

This Monday, February 3 is the Feast of Saint Blaise and we will be blessing throats during the 8:00 AM Mass.

Our annual Together in Mission Pledge Sunday will be next weekend February 8-9. Many of you will be receiving the pledge envelope in the mail at home and as we have done in the past, please bring it to Mass, and we will fill out the pledge form together. **Our parish goal is \$75,333.00!** This annual Appeal is the only Appeal in the nation in which all the proceeds go directly to support our most underserved Catholic Schools and Parishes. This year's gifts will support 79 Schools and 62 parishes. This year's theme is ***Gifts From the Heart***. Thank you for prayerfully considering your annual Together in Mission (TIM) gift. Let us be united as one family **Giving from the Heart** and making a lasting impact!

The Annual Fair Dates have been set and mark your calendars for April 4, 5 and 6! Friday night April 5 will be special as we will have a Lenten Fish Fry. Tell your family and friends and let's all meet at the Fair!

DID YOU KNOW? Our parish expenses continue to increase and climb. During the next few weekends, in this column I will share some of the major expenses that we incur so you can know where your offertory gifts are going.

Our General Liability Insurance costs \$9,728.85 a month for an annual total of \$116,746.20! Our monthly property insurance costs \$5,847.29 for an annual total of \$70,167.48! Our Annual Insurance Bill is \$186,913.68 which means that **every day we pay \$512.00 in insurance!!** It costs a lot to protect this 11 acre campus!! Thank you for your offertory gifts!!

May you be favored and blessed by the Lord this week!!
Msgr. Kevin

GIFTS of the HEART

2025 ANNUAL APPEAL

Sharing God's
Overflowing Love



Bulletin Announcement 2025

Together in Mission 2025: Gifts of the Heart Annual Appeal

This year, as we celebrate the Jubilee Year of the Catholic Church, we invite you to make a special gift to Together in Mission to mark this sacred time of renewal and hope. **Together in Mission 2025 "Gifts of the Heart" Annual Appeal** launches with Announcement Weekend on February 1-2, Commitment Weekend on February 8-9, and Follow-up Weekend on February February 15-16, 2025

As one Catholic community of faith, rooted in prayer, let us reflect on how we can support our underserved parishes and schools in the Archdiocese of Los Angeles. Did you know that one in every five parishes and one in every four Catholic schools rely on financial assistance to continue their vital ministries? Your generosity directly impacts these communities, providing the resources they need to thrive.

This year's cumulative Together in Mission goal is \$16.9 million, representing the collective efforts of our Catholic family across all five regions. Your parish's goal and progress throughout the year can be tracked on the Together in Mission Leaderboard at togetherinmission.org. Let us come together to make a difference and bring the love of Christ to those in need. Please consider making a special Jubilee Year gift to Together in Mission today!

Weekly Prayer

Sunday's Readings

First Reading:

Lo, I am sending my messenger
to prepare the way before me;
and suddenly there will come to the temple
the LORD whom you seek. (Mal 3:1)

Psalm:

Who is this king of glory? It is the Lord! (Ps 24)

Second Reading:

Therefore, he had to become like his brothers
and sisters in every way,
that he might be a merciful and faithful high priest
before God. (Heb 2:17)

Gospel:

"Now, Master, you may let your servant go
in peace, according to your word,
for my eyes have seen your salvation." (Lk 2:29-30)

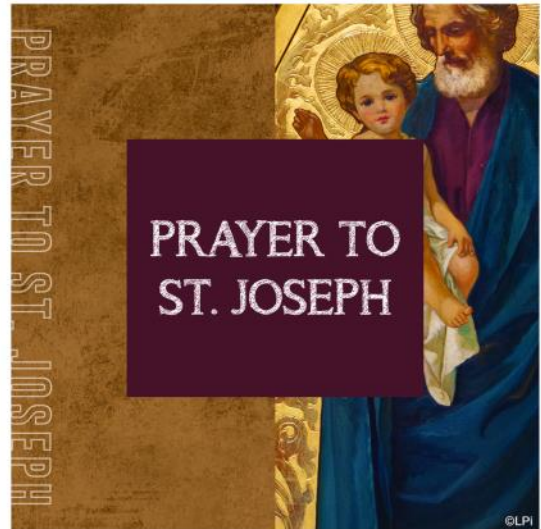
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Live The Liturgy Inspiration of the Week

Anna and Simeon saw greatness and
glory in the face of a tiny babe. Jesus was
insignificant in the eyes of others who looked
for the Messiah in the gilded halls of kings.
But Anna and Simeon recognized God when
they saw him. Do we?

Observances for the week of February 2, 2025

- Sunday:** The Presentation of the Lord, World Day for
Consecrated Life
- Monday:** St. Blaise, Bishop and Martyr; St. Ansgar, Bishop
- Wednesday:** St. Agatha, Virgin and Martyr
- Thursday:** St. Paul Miki and Companions, Martyrs
- Saturday:** St. Jerome Emiliani; St. Josephine Bakhita,
Virgin; BVM
- Next Sunday:** 5th Sunday in Ordinary Time, World Marriage Day



Devotions, *Explained!*

For centuries, Christians have
relied on the intercessory
prayers of Joseph, earthly
spouse of the Blessed Virgin
and foster father of Christ. One
particular novena prayer to
St. Joseph is often called "the
unfailing prayer to St. Joseph."

Prayer of Faith

Dear God,
Open my eyes to Your
movement in my life.
And, even when I don't see it
or don't understand, help me
to rely on the promises of Your
love and mercy.

Amen.

Worship & Meditation

Readings for the week of February 2, 2025

Sunday:

Mal 3:1-4/Heb 2:14-18/Ps 24:7, 8, 9, 10/
Lk 2:22-40 or 2:22-32

Monday:

Heb 11:32-40/Ps 31:20, 21, 22, 23, 24/
Mk 5:1-20

Tuesday:

Heb 12:1-4/Ps 22:26b-27, 28
and 30, 31-32/Mk 5:21-43

Wednesday:

Heb 12:4-7, 11-15/Ps 103:1-2, 13-14, 17-18a/
Mk 6:1-6

Thursday:

Heb 12:18-19, 21-24/Ps 48:2-3ab, 3cd-4, 9,
10-11/Mk 6:7-13

Friday:

Heb 13:1-8/Ps 27:1, 3, 5, 8b-9abc/
Mk 6:14-29

Saturday:

Heb 13:15-17, 20-21/Ps 23:1-3a, 3b-4, 5, 6/
Mk 6:30-34

Next Sunday:

Is 6:1-2a, 3-8/Ps 138:1-2, 2-3, 4-5, 7-8
(1c)/1 Cor 15:1-11 or 15:3-8, 11/Lk 5:1-11



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Gospel Meditation

Encourage Deeper Understanding of Scripture

What is the secret to sharing in God's power to overcome our difficulties? Mary teaches us this in the prophecy of her pierced heart. This Sunday, the old man Simeon prophesies that when her son faces opposition, Mary's soul will be pierced by a sword. The seemingly pointless agony of a mother helplessly watching her son be mocked, tortured, killed and then cruelly desecrated in death by a spear — somehow this piercing of her heart releases a power by which **"the thoughts of many hearts may be revealed"** (Luke 2:35). What to make of this?

Whatever problems we currently face, the deepest threat is finally that evil thoughts are hidden in the human heart: hatred, envy, pride, lust, greed and so on. Behind every tyrant's injustice, for example, is a heart unpierced by love. Evil hides in our hearts. Mary's pierced heart, and its suffering love for her son, reveals and scatters these evil thoughts, and replaces them with love, forgiveness, generosity and peace.

This week, I invite us to ponder Mary's pierced heart. Her heart is quietly at work for us in the Church and world, exposing our evil thoughts and making a path for her son's divine love. This is how she gently cooperates in our salvation. Closed hearts are our biggest problem; love-pierced hearts are the ultimate power to overcome every difficulty.

— Father John Muir

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 2, 2025 | THE PRESENTATION OF THE LORD

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Calling All Men

Welcome Christ Renews His Parish Men's Retreat

March 15th, Saturday 8am – 9pm

March 16th, Sunday 8am – 3pm

Reconnect. Recharge. Refocus.

Held here at St. Joseph Parish Life Center, Join us for a weekend designed specifically for men. Enjoy inspiring talks, fellowship & delicious food.

Experience personal growth, brotherhood and take time to refocus on what really matters.

Sign up today!

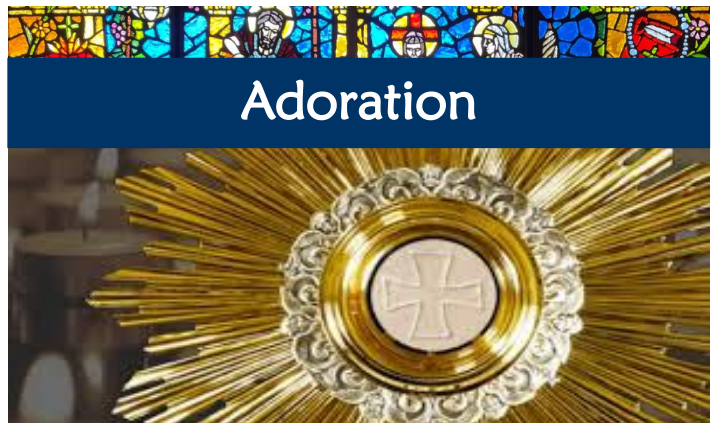
This retreat will change your life.

Come for the journey.

Leave with new strength and purpose.

To learn more and to sign up,
visit our parish website Or

<https://stjosephlb.org/welcome-Christ-renews/>



Adoration

Come and spend an hour with our Lord Jesus Christ in the Blessed Sacrament. Experience what Catholic author Matthew Kelly calls “The Classroom of Silence,” and respond to Jesus’ call: “Could you not watch with me one hour?” (Matthew 26:40).

Deacon Tom & Pat Halliwell will lead Eucharistic Adoration this **Friday February 7th** at 8:00 am.



REACHING FOR HEAVEN

14 SPIRITUAL GOALS AS YOU GROW OLDER

HOSTED BY: MICHAEL AMODEI,
Executive Editor at Ave Maria Press, Author

Life is a journey, and as we grow older, we find ourselves in a new chapter—one where the busy responsibilities of work and parenthood fade into the background, making room for reflection and growth.

This event, inspired by the book *Reaching for Heaven: 14 Spiritual Goals as You Grow Older*, is a unique opportunity to pause, take stock, and prepare for your meeting with the Lord in a spirit of gratitude, faith, and hope.

With humor, personal stories, and practical advice, Michael will guide you through 14 spiritual practices designed to enrich your spirituality and help you pivot toward what truly matters: preparing for heaven.

During the retreat, you'll learn to:

- Review your life with gratitude.
- Honestly evaluate your actions, and inactions.
- Enhance your spiritual practices through prayer, worship, study, and community.

WEDNESDAY
FEB 19
10:00 AM - 3:00 PM

\$30 Per Person / Lunch Included

What to bring: Your Bible, a Journal-style notebook, \$15 (cash, check, Venmo) to purchase the book *Reaching for Heaven*

REGISTER
ONLINE



Register online or contact José at 310-377-4867 ext. 250, jsalas@maryjoseph.org
MARY & JOSEPH RETREAT CENTER 5300 CREST ROAD, RANCHO PALOS VERDES, CA 90275



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

Homeless Kit Drive: Many thanks to all who supported our homeless kit drive including the School’s kit drive! Jan. 18-19 we contributed supplies for over **225 kits** and **\$565** from which another **40 kits** will be made. These will support the homeless patrons of Catholic Charities of Long Beach and our St. Joseph Homeless Ministry. Please join our next *homeless encampment visits March 30-31!*

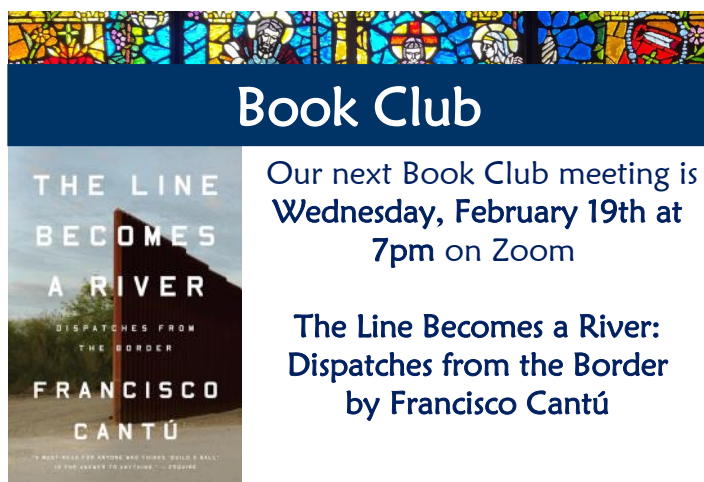
Feb. 22-23 Book Drive: Collecting new and gently used reading books for over 315 children of our supported families for Easter.

Opportunities: food drive delivery- deliver food from food drives, purchase additional from cash donations. Homeless kit coordinator: Lead the inspection and deliver homeless kit donations, purchase additional from cash donations. Can you help? Call Tim Clark, 562-431-4385.



Gloria Sirotnak
Funeral Mass at St. Joseph Church
Friday, February 7th 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~



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.” —
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Amazon.com: The Line Becomes a River:
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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, February 10th at 9:30 am.

Let's welcome in the new year together. 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!

St. Joseph Grief Support

Grief support



If you think you can't survive grieving, and
Your dreams feel shattered, consider joining

Our support group:

Tuesday 9:30 -11:30 a.m. each week

Contact May Pace,

Bereavement Minister, maypace@gmail.com

Or 562/833-6370

CLASSES ARE HELD AT THE PLC BUILDING.

Did You Know?



Small actions to take for child safety

Being a safe adult is more than just taking some classes on abuse prevention and filling in the right answers. Adults who model healthy behaviors are a strong example for children, helping them distinguish safe from unsafe adults. Basic actions, like wearing a seatbelt, obeying school rules and ministry guidelines, and always acting in a way that supports children can help build a safe community. For more ideas, read the VIRTUS® article "Modeling healthy behaviors" at lacatholics.org/did-you-know.

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Mike/Chris -Zoom

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Contact: Mike Santy

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Knights of Columbus

Council 3629

Family Super Bowl Party

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3954 Palo Verde Avenue, Long Beach, 90808

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Fellowship, Football, Food and Fun!**

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(\$25 per family includes 2 parents and all their kids under 21)

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Walk-ins without reservations are welcomed at \$20 per person.

RESERVE with Tony Diaz: bstdad2@msn.com thru February 2nd.

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