

St. Joseph Parish



5TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME



Jesus said to Simon, "Do not be afraid; from now on you will be catching men." When they brought their boats to the shore, they left everything and followed him. - Lk 5:10-11

6180 E. Willow Street Long Beach, CA 90815

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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;

This weekend is our annual **Together in Mission Pledge Appeal Sunday!** Many of you received the pledge envelope in the mail at home and as we have done in the past, please bring it to Mass this weekend and we will fill out the pledge form together. **Our parish goal is \$78,797.00!** 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 73 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!

Men of God – we have a few openings on our **Men's Welcome Retreat** scheduled for March 15 -16 here on the campus of St. Joseph's. Join us and meet the Lord!! You can sign up through our website!

DID YOU KNOW? Our parish expenses continue to increase and climb. This year's utilities budget (gas, water, electric and trash removal) is \$42,000.00! We continue to monitor and conserve our natural resources as best we can. How many times a day does someone hear me say, "Turn off the lights!" **Thank you for your offertory gifts!!**

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



Weekly Prayer

Sunday's Readings

First Reading:

Then I heard the voice of the Lord saying,
"Whom shall I send? Who will go for us?"
"Here I am," I said; "send me!" (Is 6:8)

Psalm:

In the sight of the angels I will sing your praises, Lord. (Ps 138)

Second Reading:

Therefore, whether it be I or they,
so we preach and so you believed. (1 Cor 15:11)

Gospel:

Jesus said to Simon, "Do not be afraid;
from now on you will be catching men."
When they brought their boats to the shore,
they left everything and followed him. (Lk 5:10-11)

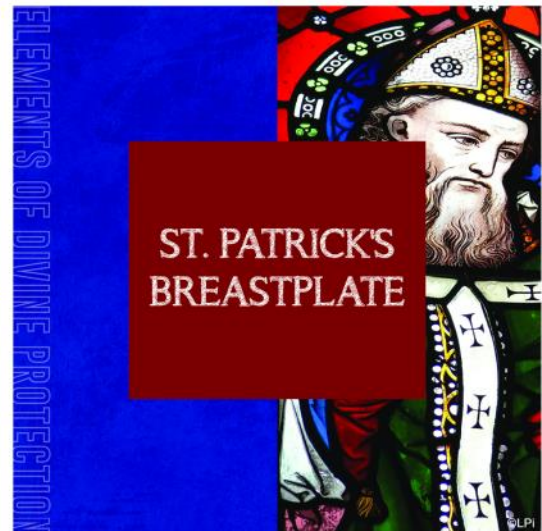
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Live The Liturgy Inspiration of the Week

"I am a sinful man," says Simon Peter as he falls to his knees before Jesus. He had doubted the Lord, had hesitated to follow his instructions. How often can the same be said of us? Remember that God knows the outcome. He knows our nets will be filled. Do not be afraid.

Observances for the week of February 9, 2025

Sunday: 5th Sunday in Ordinary Time, World Marriage Day
Monday: St. Scholastica, Virgin
Tuesday: Our Lady of Lourdes
Friday: Sts. Cyril, Monk, and Methodius, Bishop;
Valentine's Day
Next Sunday: 6th Sunday in Ordinary Time



Devotions, *Explained!*

St. Patrick's Breastplate is an ancient Irish prayer attributed to St. Patrick. Its eleven sections call upon different elements of divine protection, beseeching Christ to surround the physical and spiritual reality of those who say it.

Prayer When Facing the Unknown

Dear Jesus,
When you call me to places
where I am unfamiliar, be with
me. When you invite me to a
mission I feel ill-equipped to
handle, give me your strength.
Help me to leave everything
and follow you.

Amen.

Worship & Meditation

Readings for the week of February 9, 2025

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

Monday:

Gn 1:1-19/Ps 104:1-2a, 5-6, 10 and 12, 24 and 35c/Mk 6:53-56

Tuesday:

Gn 1:20—2:4a/Ps 8:4-5, 6-7, 8-9/Mk 7:1-13

Wednesday:

Gn 2:4b-9, 15-17/Ps 104:1-2a, 27-28, 29bc-30/Mk 7:14-23

Thursday:

Gn 2:18-25/Ps 128:1-2, 3, 4-5/Mk 7:24-30

Friday:

Gn 3:1-8/Ps 32:1-2, 5, 6, 7/Mk 7:31-37

Saturday:

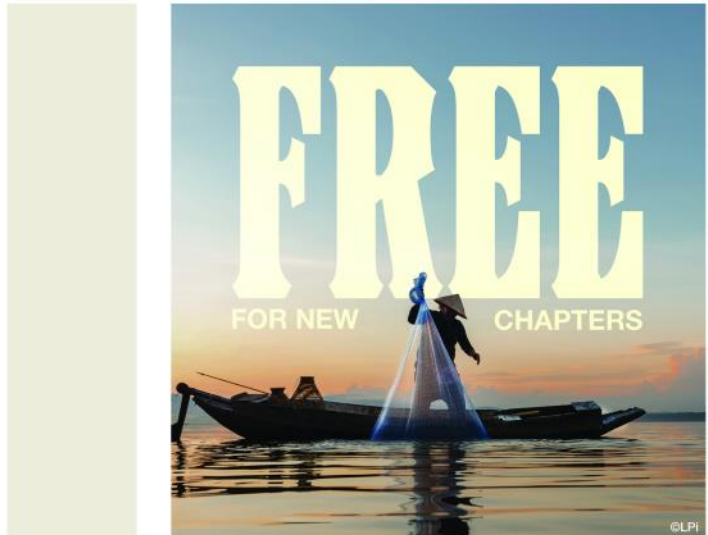
Gn 3:9-24/Ps 90:2, 3-4abc, 5-6, 12-13/Mk 8:1-10

Next Sunday:

Jer 17:5-8/Ps 1:1-2, 3, 4, 6, (40:5a)/1 Cor 15:12, 16-20/Lk 6:17, 20-26



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Gospel Meditation

Encourage Deeper Understanding of Scripture

My parents' garage is full of old junk that no longer serves any purpose in my life. As a 46-year-old man, I admit that's pretty lame. Either due to my sentimentality or laziness (or both, probably), I just couldn't get myself to throw things away. But a few days ago, by a grace of God, I thought: "I'll hire my nephew Ryan to throw a bunch of my stuff away — he couldn't care less about my junk!" And you know what? It worked. In one day, Ryan chucked the majority of his uncle's useless stuff. I feel so free, ready for a new junk-free chapter in my life.

This kind of thing happens in this Sunday's Gospel. Peter's net is full of useless junk. Luke says he and the others are cleaning their nets after catching no fish. Imagine them dejectedly and impatiently removing a nasty assortment of seaweed, sticks and muck. The Lord teaches and calls them once their nets are cleared out. So it goes with us. Spiritual life begins by removing that which is useless and merely taking up space in our hearts, minds and lives. Then Jesus teaches and acts in a marvelous way in our lives, too.

So what's junking up your net? What habits, attachments, possessions, preoccupations? If, like me, you struggle to clean your nets by yourself, ask the Lord to send you someone like my nephew to be your "Peter" and help you clean it out. It is well worth it. Once Peter's net is clean, he is free to make a wonderful catch.

— Father John Muir

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 9, 2025 | 5TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

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Reconnect. Recharge. Refocus.

"I attended the Welcome Christ Renews His Parish at St. Joseph in Long Beach. The witnesses that I heard on my retreat were so moving. The men really opened up and shared their backgrounds that made them the men they are today. It was truly an amazing experience. I've never been in a retreat like that where the men were so authentic and so open with their experiences. It is definitely a retreat all men of God should attend and be a part of the renewal of the church." Michael Mantong

"Thank you for offering the Welcome Retreat. It has helped me reconnect to several good men and get to know others; I feel my sense of community has expanded for the better." Paul Farrell

"I am a 'Cradle Catholic,' with both parents practicing Catholics. My father was an 'Irish Immigrant' who came to this country in June 1929, had to work Sundays but always went to another parish for Sunday Mass (6 AM), so he would get to work on time. I had both a Catholic Grade School (Sisters of Mercy) and Catholic High School (Christian Brothers) education. My mother would make sure my 4 brothers and I attended the adult Sunday Mass after we graduated from the elementary school. So, for most of my adult life, I felt that I didn't need a retreat to strengthen my faith. By attending the 'Welcome Christ Renews His Parish' I heard the various struggles and experiences of other men who, by their recounting those struggles and changes in their habits, both improved their practice of the Catholic faith and made them better spouses, fathers, and human beings. Those stories reinforced my faith and moved me to make sure that I always understand but not judge all other persons. Overall, I believe the time was well spent and I am thankful I was able to do it." Brian Connell

*Come to the Welcome Christ Renews His Parish retreat weekend!
It's an incredible experience that will help you discover what's
missing in your life and what to do about it.*

Men's Weekend

*March 15th, Saturday 8am - 9pm
March 16th, Sunday 8am - 3pm*

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

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

LOVE *is a* TRANSFORMATIVE FORCE

Movement For A Better World



“Charity is the form, mover, mother and root of all the virtues.” St. Thomas Aquinas

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

Mar. 30-31 Homeless Visits: The St. Joseph Homeless Ministry group will prepare and distribute food and homeless hygiene kits to 120 of our most vulnerable. Can you help prepare? Distribute to encampments?

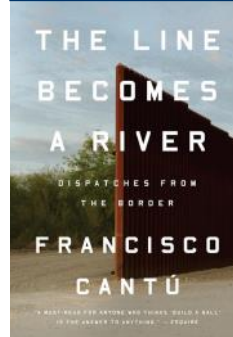
Opportunities: food drive delivery- deliver food from food drives, purchase additional from cash donations. Homeless kits: Inspection and delivery homeless kit donations; purchase from cash donations. For these and many other opportunities to serve, call Tim Clark, 562-431-4385.



**Our Lady Of Lourdes
Pray for us!**



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



ST. JOSEPH PARISH FAIR

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

The Annual Parish Fair is coming, April 4, 5 & 6.
Can you help with assembling the opportunity
ticket and sponsorship envelopes? Please join us on
Thursday, February 13th at 9 am - 12 noon

WE WILL MEET IN THE PLC

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

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Did You Know?



Books can help children understand difficult situations

All children are bound to experience difficult events as they grow up. When complex situations arise before children develop the ability to fully articulate their emotions, books can help them feel more at ease with feelings of anger, frustration, and sadness. While a book can't make everything better, stories can often help provide understanding and comfort. The picture book "Wildfire!" gives children a look at forest fires, firefighting and protecting natural spaces. The book can be found at <https://a.co/d/7LyZzsX>.

St. Joseph Students are Pilgrims of Hope



Disciples of Christ

Our students live out their faith through acts of service, prayer, and community building. By participating in service projects and fostering a spirit of love and kindness, they reflect the teachings of Christ and bring hope to the world.

Tenacious Scholars

Our students embrace academic challenges with resilience and curiosity. They integrate faith and learning, striving for excellence while recognizing their studies as a way to serve God and others.



21st Century Learners

Equipped with modern tools and rooted in faith, our students are prepared to lead in a rapidly changing world. They develop critical skills, promote global awareness, and learn to innovate with purpose and integrity.



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Mike/Chris -Zoom

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Knights of Columbus

Council 3629

Family Super Bowl Party

Sunday, February 9, 2025

Doors open @ 1:00 PM, St. Maria Goretti Hall

3954 Palo Verde Avenue, Long Beach, 90808

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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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