St. Joseph Parish



Before I formed you in the womb I knew you, before you were born I dedicated you, a prophet to the nations I appointed you.

Jeremiah 1:5

Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time

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

Our Parish

PASTOR: MSGR. KEVIN KOSTELNIK stjoseph@stjosephlb.org

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St. Joseph School: Margaret Alvarez, Principal (562) 596-6115

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Children's Formation (age3-8th Grade)/CLOW: Administrative Assistant: High School Ministry & Confirmation: RCIA: Deacon Shane & Olga Cuda

Joe Voigt Michelle Johnson Marc Leon olga@stjosephlb.org

Parish Ministries & Organizations

Baptism Preparation Director of Music Eucharistic Ministry Lectors **Meditation** Esther Ministry Hospitality Ministry Movement For A Better World Tim Clark Senior Group Knights Of Columbus **Engaged Encounter** Natural Family Planning **Project Achieve Precious Life Shelter** Boy Scouts **S**acristans

Brenda Pineda Vivian Doughty Michelle Reyes Steve Koppenheffer Frank Mckown Virginia Young Deborah Rollinger Jan Minter Marty Vezzetti Paciano & Molly Diaz Greg & Beth Gath Susie Beeghly Cynthia San Jose Gene Wohlgezogan (562) 857-3880 Joe Dang (562) 493-2198

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Mass Schedule

Saturday 5:00 p.m. Indoor Vigil

Sunday Mass on the Grass Outdoors 8:30 a.m.

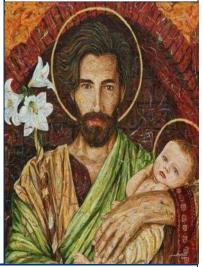
> Indoor Mass 10:30 a.m.

Indoor Mass 12:30 p.m.

Daily Mass (M-W) 8:00 a.m. Indoor

Reconciliation

Saturdavs 3:45-4:30 p.m. By the East Church Door parking lot





Letter From Our Pastor

Dear Parish Family,

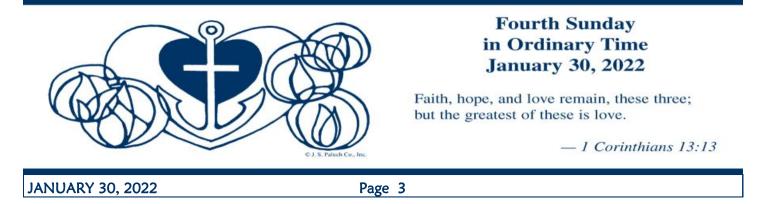
Peace and Greetings to you in the name of the Lord, who as we hear in the Scripture reading this weekend says to the prophet Jeremiah and our community of faith, "The Lord will deliver us!"

For the past two years, the pandemic has left us bereft of our Annual Parish Fair. Our Fair Committee recently met and hopefully with the city's approval, we will celebrate our annual Parish Fair on Friday, April 29, Saturday, April 30 and Sunday, May 1. Mark your calendars! We are always looking for volunteers and there is an announcement in this bulletin if you would like to offer your time to make this year's Fair a great success. We'll make a final decision about moving forward with the Fair by the end of February, based on this current stage of the pandemic, protocols and city approval.

This week we traditionally celebrate Catholic Schools Week, however, due to the current effects of the coronavirus, Saint Joseph's is moving Catholic Schools Week to the week of March 20. We'll keep you informed.

Next weekend, we'll welcome my good friend, Deacon Guillermo Alonso, a.k.a. Deacon Memo to Saint Joseph's who will preach at all our Masses. I met Memo many years ago at the Cathedral and I was one of many who encouraged him to go to the Seminary and discover his vocation to the Priesthood. Deacon Memo is a wonderful young man of faith and I know he'll inspire us by his love for the Lord. Deacon Memo is a classmate of Deacon Cesar and continue to pray for them as they move forward to their Ordination to the Priesthood in early June.

I'm praying for you and your families, Msgr. Kevin



Luke 4:24Amen, I say to you,no prophet is acceptedin his own native place.



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FULFILLED IN YOUR HEARING

The "fulfilled in your hearing" statement of Jesus today is also the conclusion of last week's Gospel, with the words of Isaiah about the breadth of God's mercy and justice at its heart. The response of the crowd in the synagogue is united: *all* are amazed, but *all* likewise ask if he's not merely the son of Joseph the humble carpenter. Jesus calls them out for seeming to think that he ought to be doing his ministry only locally, and—selfishly—only for them. (After all, they know where he comes from!) When Jesus essentially replies "nope" through some proverbs and prophetic stories, *all* the crowd gets angry at his implication that the fulfillment in Jesus is for everyone, not just for them. When our "take care of your own" reflex kicks in, we would do well to recall that this isn't the attitude of Jesus, nor is it the attitude of his mission that we continue to this day.

YOU'VE BEEN WARNED

The opening of the reading selected from Jeremiah is surely one of the most comforting in scripture. Imagine! God knew me before my bodily conception; God dedicated me before my birth or any human dedication rites; God appointed me a prophet! Then comes the uh-oh. Jeremiah is warned that his appointment as a prophet will bring opposition, against which God's prophets must stand up. Somehow the appointment as God's prophet seems like it should be a bit happier, with the glamor that we might think will come from having friends in high places. Yet, just as there are many forces in the world arrayed against the divine will and divine goodness, so too are they arrayed against God's prophets. A second round of assurances comes to Jeremiah, a pledge that God will be with Jeremiah to strengthen him. God doesn't promise a turmoil-free life, but does vow to be Jeremiah's strength.

JESUS, SON OF JEREMIAH

In the synagogue at Nazareth, a similar turn of events takes place. When Jesus speaks of the Spirit's anointing being upon him, the anointing described in Isaiah, the crowd is amazed, and seems like they even want to take credit, since he's a local boy. Then Jesus speaks some words of tough love, and "local boy" pivots to "who does he think he is?" You couldn't blame Jesus, in that moment, if he recalled the words of Jeremiah, his prophetic ancestor. Though the crowd drove Jesus out of town and up a hill to throw him to his death, his time had not yet come. The strength and protection that

God promises to prophets came for Jesus that day, as he passed through the mob's midst, unharmed. He passed through their midst to continue the work for which the Spirit had anointed him. For us who follow the prophetic heritage of Jesus this day, we've been warned. But we've also been assured of God's care.

TODAY'S READINGS

Jeremiah 1:4–5, 17–19 Psalm 71:1–2, 3–4, 5–6, 15–17 1 Corinthians 12:31 — 13:13 [13:4–13] Luke 4:21–30



L.A. Catholics are working for child protection

Did you know that the Archdiocese of Los Angeles requires all staff members, and volunteers who work in any capacity with or around children, the elderly, or people with special needs, to complete the VIRTUS® Protecting God's Children for Adults program? This program helps prevent child sexual abuse by raising awareness among staff and volunteers, and educating them on warning signs of abuse, potentially unsafe or inappropriate scenarios, and how to respond to suspicious behavior. Adults who undergo VIRTUS® training are also learn the five steps to help prevent child sexual abuse. For more information, visit lacatholics.org/education-and-training/.



The Holy Father Pope Francis has summoned the Church to participate in a worldwide synod with the theme: "For a Synodal Church: Communion, Participation and Mission." Pope Francis invites the whole People of God to participate in the synod—to "journey together" with our brothers and sisters in Christ along the path of renewal, guided by the Holy Spirit. Everyone will be invited to join us from for a synod listening session to take place in February. In advance of the listening sessions, I offer some questions you may wish to consider in the area of Listening and Speaking:

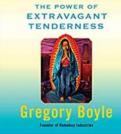
- Who is and who is not walking together with Jesus Christ in the Church today?
- In recent years, how has our Church "journeyed together" by providing opportunities for people to be heard?
- In recent years, how have we ignored or even excluded the voices of people on the margins of society and the sidelines of the Church?
- What keeps us from speaking with courage and charity on what matters to us for the life of the Church?
- How might the Holy Spirit be inviting our Church to "journey together" more fully through intentional listening and speaking to one another in the coming years?

If you are interested in helping with the synod process at St. Joseph, please email Deacon Tom at **Tom.Halliwell@la-archdiocese.org**.

Book Club

Tattoos on the Heart

The Whole Language



Our next Zoom meeting is Tuesday, April 5th at 7pm. We will discuss:

The Whole Language: The Power of Extravagant Tenderness by Gregory Boyle

Fr. Boyle's moving stories challenge our ideas about God and about people, with a call to witness the transformative power of tenderness, rooted in his lifetime of experience counseling gang members in Los Angeles.

All are welcome!

For more info, email agoodlife@msn.com



St. Joseph's Meditation Group

now meets as a Zoom meeting every Tuesday at 7:00PM. No prior experience is necessary and newcomers are welcome to experience both the prayerful and calming benefits of this ancient Christian practice. For more information please contact group leader, Frank McKown, at <u>frmckown@gmail.com</u> or 310-633-1744



Movement for a Better World

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

March 5-6 – Feed-a-Baby Food Drive: Collecting non-perishable baby food and products for Catholic Charities and New Life Beginnings of Long Beach.

March 9, 6:30 PM – Online <u>Committee</u> <u>Meeting</u>: Join us online to celebrate and learn from our past initiatives and coordinate a successful Easter Food and Book Distribution. Share your insights for future activities. Zoom meeting ID: 240 652 8835.

March 26-27 – Book Drive: Collecting new and gently used reading books for the children of our supported families for Easter.

April 9 - <u>Easter Food and Book Distribution</u>: As a parish community, we will support 72 families for Easter. <u>Easter is our most challenging holiday</u> to staff our deliveries! Please contact Tom and Marie Newton (562) 209-1298 or tjn8343@gmail.com to help.

Skip-a-Meal Donations: Please be especially mindful during the holiday season when our needs are greatest. Can you help make a difference? Please call Tim Clark (562)431-4385.

FAITH

IS THE ANSWER TO FEAR.

Deep down we are all afraid: of suffering, or of dying, or of God's judgment, or of the unknown, or of weakness, or of our lives slipping out of our control, or of not being understood and loved. We sin because we fear. We bully because we are cowards. Faith casts out fear as light casts out darkness. God has shone his light into our world, and it is stronger than darkness.

THAT LIGHT IS JESUS CHRIST. — Peter Kreeft — From his book Catbolic Christianity





Where friends and family come to play April 29- May 1, 2022

Captains needed:

Food Booth (Mexican or other) Sponsorship Games/Prizes

Join a fun, creative committee and be part of the biggest community event in Long Beach.

Please contact Conny Frost: sjparishfair@gmail.com 562-673-4610



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