St. Joseph Parish

FEBRUARY 20, 2022

SEVENTH
SUNDAY IN
ORDINARY
TIME

Love your enemies,

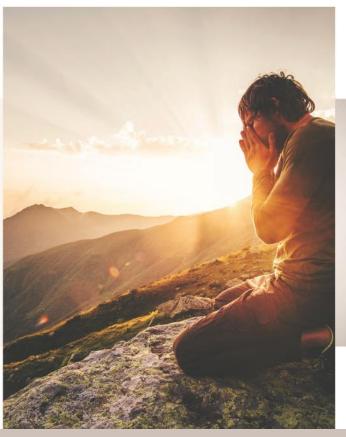
do good to those who hate you,

bless those who curse you,

pray for those who mistreat you.

~ Luke 6:27





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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

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High School Ministry & Confirmation:

RCIA: Deacon Shane & Olga Cuda

Joe Voigt Michelle Johnson

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Baptism Preparation

Director of Music

Eucharistic Ministry

Lectors

Meditation

Esther Ministry

Hospitality Ministry

Movement For A Better World

Director Of Music

Vivian Doo

Steve Kopp

Frank Mck

Virginia Yo

Deborah R

Tim Clark

Jan Minter

Knights Of Columbus Engaged Encounter Natural Family Planning Project Achieve

Precious Life Shelter Boy Scouts Sacristans

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Greg & Beth Gath
Susie Beeghly s
Cynthia San Jose
Gene Wohlgezogan

Gene Wohlgezogan (562) 857-3880 Joe Dang (562) 493-2198 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

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





Letter From Our Pastor

Dear Parish Family!

This weekend is our Together in Mission Weekend and thank you for making a generous pledge/gift to help us reach our parish goal of \$75,020. I hope that you've had a chance to view the Together in Mission videos that were e-mailed to you.

For the past few weeks, you've heard me talk about our participation as a parish family in the Synod. This week we will have our first listening session via Zoom. I hope you will tune in this *Tuesday, February 22 at 7:00 PM*. The zoom link can be found on our Parish website under "What's happening now"!

The other option is to attend an in person listening session on *Tuesday March 1 at 7:00 PM* in the parish hall/gym. It is Fat Tuesday, the night before Ash Wednesday. We feast and then we fast!! The parish will host food and drink starting at 6:30 PM. The meeting will commence at 7:00. In order to prepare the chair's set up, food and drink, *please RSVP by sending an email to*

stjoseph@stjosephlb.org and letting us know how many in your household plan to attend. Your reservation by this Friday, February 25 is appreciated. No names or other information is needed, just a number. This bulletin on the Synod has some of the questions for you to ponder. Thank you for joining us as we listen to one another and do the great work of the Church!

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



Seventh Sunday in Ordinary Time February 20, 2022

Merciful and gracious is the LORD, slow to anger and abounding in kindness.

— Psalm 103:8



Alms to the Poor n.d. Rodolphe Bresdin French, 1825–1885 Art Institute of Chicago

Luke 6:38

Give, and gifts will be given to you; a good measure, packed together, shaken down, and overflowing, will be poured into your lap.

Seventh Sunday in

Ordinary Time

February 20, 2022

LOVE YOUR ENEMIES

It's likely that some friends or followers of Jesus told him, from time to time, to "get real" when his teachings seemed too hard or impractical. John's Gospel, near the end of the Bread of Life discourse, reports that some disciples out and out turned away because it was too hard to continue following Jesus. When Jesus said to love our enemies, pray for those who hurt us, or do good for those who hate us, the response, "get real," wouldn't be surprising. And yet, the very life and witness of Jesus is filled with his prophetic examples of doing just that; of refusing to return harm for harm. The lives of the saints are likewise filled with such examples, especially those saints who were laborers in the field for justice and peace. Is this command of Jesus difficult? Yes. Is it impossible? No.

ROLE REVERSAL

It could have come straight out of a Hollywood script: two enemies, former friends and admirers of each other now pitted against each other. So it is today with Saul and David. Saul had actually praised David for slaying Goliath, and rewarded him by placing him in charge of Israel's military force. David flourished, and was praised, admired for how clearly the hand of God was upon him. Of course, Saul became jealous, and soon hatched a plot to finish him off. In a turning of the tables, Saul actually becomes the vulnerable one, and David has more than one opportunity to kill him. But it is not a surprise ambush that keeps David from slaying Saul, but the realization that Saul is a meshiach (Messiah), God's anointed one, the first to bear this title in Israel. Twice David has an opportunity—the second time he even has a witness and accomplice—and yet he will not do what it seems like the script says he should.

REWRITE!

Jesus is also a master of subverting our expectations of what the script is going to do. The scriptwriter we call Luke is even more detailed than Matthew in what "love your enemies" means. Luke spells out specific, active ways to counteract the deeds of those whom we would label "enemies." Beyond that, Luke's Jesus says not to lend merely the shirt off our back, but our coat as well; to lend money not only to those who can repay, but to those who can't. This is the script of God's Meshiach: do not perpetuate or escalate violence, but reply to it with love. What you think is sufficient generosity needs to be doubled, at the very least. Whenever it seems

like the direction of the story needs to be changed—so that harm or sin or cruelty is overcome by love—change the story. Through God's goodness, we are free to change our story; through God's grace, we have Jesus to show us the way.

TODAY'S READINGS

1 Samuel 26:2, 7–9, 12-13, 22–23 Psalm 103:1–2, 3–4, 8, 10, 12–13 1 Corinthians 15:45–49 Luke 6:27–38



Please join us for one of our Synod Listening Sessions, which will take place via Zoom on February 22 at 7:00 and in the parish hall on March 1 at 7:00. The Zoom meeting ID and password are below:

Time: Tuesday, February 22, 7:00 P.M.

Join Zoom Meeting

Meeting ID: 885 5553 6791

Passcode: 830377

These are the topics Pope Francis has asked us to consider in the Listening Sessions. Under each topic are reflection questions you can use to help you address the topics:

"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?

"Celebrating"

- In recent years, how have experiences of prayer and the celebration of the liturgy (Mass and the sacraments) deepened our communion with God and with each other?
- In recent years, how have experiences of prayer and the celebration of the liturgy (Mass and the sacraments) guided our common life and mission?
- How might the Holy Spirit be inviting our Church to "journey together" more fully through a richer celebration of the liturgy in the years to come?
- How might the Holy Spirit be inviting us to promote Sunday Mass attendance and active participation in the celebration of the liturgy?

"Going on Mission"

- In recent years, how have we called every baptized person to participate in the mission to proclaim the Gospel of Jesus Christ?
- In recent years, how have we encouraged people to use their spiritual gifts for mission in the world? the coming years?

- How might the Holy Spirit be inviting our Church to "journey together" more fully with a clear sense of our common mission to proclaim the Gospel in
- How might the Holy Spirit be inviting our Church to focus on forming people as missionary disciples of Jesus?

"Dialoguing"

- In recent years, how have we dialogued with people of other religions and people with no religious affiliation?
- In recent years, how have we learned from and contributed to other sectors of society (culture, politics, and economics)?
- In recent years, how have we collaborated in mission with Christians of other traditions and denominations?
- How might the Holy Spirit be inviting our Church to "journey together" more fully through intentional dialogue in the years to come?
- To which issues in society might the Holy Spirit be inviting our Church to pay closer attention?

"Discerning and Deciding"

- In recent years, how have we intentionally listened to the voice of the Holy Spirit as a Church?
- In recent years, how have we identified needs within the Church and the world and how to address them?
- In recent years, how have our decision-making processes encouraged or discouraged wider consultation within the Church?
- How might the Church be invited to "journey together" more fully through individual and communal listening to the Spirit in the years to come?
- How might the Holy Spirit be inviting our Church to "journey together" more fully through consultative decision-making in the years to come?

"Growing in Synodality"

- What are you learning about communion through the Synod process?
- What are you learning about participation through the Synod process?
- What are you learning about mission through the Synod process?
- How might the Holy Spirit be inviting our Church to form people to "journey together" to live communion, to achieve participation, and to be open to mission?

As you think of possibilities, perhaps pay attention to the ideas that give you clarity, enthusiasm, peace, and hope (these may be an indication of the promptings of the Holy Spirit).

Msgr. Kevin and I look forward to seeing you at one of the Listening Sessions.

-Deacon Tom



Congratulations to our youth who received their First Confession this month!

Alvarado, Amy Avedissian, Zoey Bailey, Avalon Barrett, Keegan Bivens, Georgiana Boyce, Blakely Bucka, Samantha Caceres, Joshua Carter, Jackson Caudillo, Anthony Celis, Jonathan Cerino, Alyssa Cordero, Loki Creed, Charlotte Dela Cruz, Eric Denham, Hannah Gandara, Leandro Gandara, Rafaelo Gibson, Caroline Gomez, Alyssa Gomez, Roman Gonzalez, Jacob Gorr, Emmett Green, Grant Harris, Sloane Hentges, Rowyn Ibarra, Ethan Ines. Emelia Jackson, Jude Jenkins, Alexandra Jenkins, Wade La Bauve, David Lapid, Ethan Larson, Connor Lucero, Ariel



Lucero, Edward Luckey, Brooklyn Madrigal, Sofia Martinez, Natalia Meneses, Audrey Molioo, Matai Noggle, Ava Nunez, Luke Picarelli, Gianluca Ramirez, Annabella Reves, Gabrielle Reyes, Julian Rogers, Madeleine Rose, Matthew Sanchez, Benjamin Schmitt, Genevieve Semingson, Nora Shouse, Matthew Smith, Lucas Stancil, Jack Sullivan, Ava Valadez, Mateo Wright, James

Receiving a Special Blessing

Thompson, Skye

Receiving in March 2022

MacCaskey, Austin

24 youth received the Sacrament of Reconciliation for the first time on Saturday, February 5, 2022 and 34 on Friday, February 11, 2022.

They encountered God's love and mercy in this beautiful Sacrament!

Safeguard The Children



Simple touching rules for children

Adult apprehension about discussing touching safety can get in the way of creating a safe environment for children, but doing so is critical to children's well-being. Keep the touching rules short and sweet: No one has the right to touch a child's private parts except to keep him or her safe and healthy. If someone tries to touch a child's private parts, the child should say "No!", run away, and tell a trusted adult. For more information, request a copy of the VIRTUS® article "Teaching Touching Safety and Preserving Innocence" at lacatholics.org/did-youknow.



Movement for a Better World

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

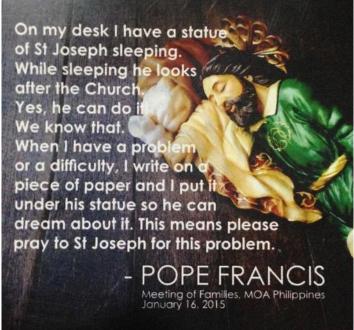
March 5-6 – Feed-a-Baby Food Drive: Collecting non-perishable baby food and products for Catholic Charities and New Life Beginnings of Long Beach.

March 9, 6:30 PM – Online Committee Meeting: 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.

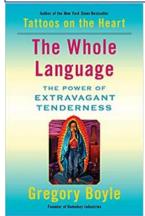
March 26-27 - Book Drive: Collecting new and gently used reading books for the children of our supported families for Easter.

April 9 - Easter Food and Book Distribution: As a parish community, we will support 72 families for Easter. Easter is our most challenging holiday 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.



Book Club



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

In Memoriam



John Herman "Jack" Cramer Teagan Joy Blackwell Jean McGetrick Marvin Robert Jempsa

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~

Celebration of Baptism

We welcome the following children to the One Holy Catholic Church by the Sacrament of Holy Baptism:

Ari Jane Owen

Calvin Kristopher Owens

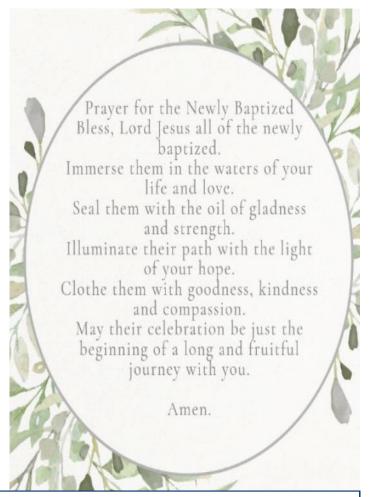
Domenic Mauro Sosa

Amery Janea Vargas

Edie Rene Johnson

Izaac Rey Chiquito

Jake Keifer Hontiveros







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3:15PM - 4:15PM

Wednesday, March 9, 2022 4PM - 5PM

Learn more about our wonderful scholarship packages!

Please email Program Administrator Jennifer Scott to register: Jennifer.Scott@lmu.edu



Commune with Yourself and Your God

6:00pm Sunday, March 20 to 1:30pm Friday, March 25, 2022

5-Day Silent, **Directed Retreat**

Spiritual Directors: Sr. Pascazia Kinkuhaire, DMJ; Sue Ballotti; Fr. Joseph Miller, SVD

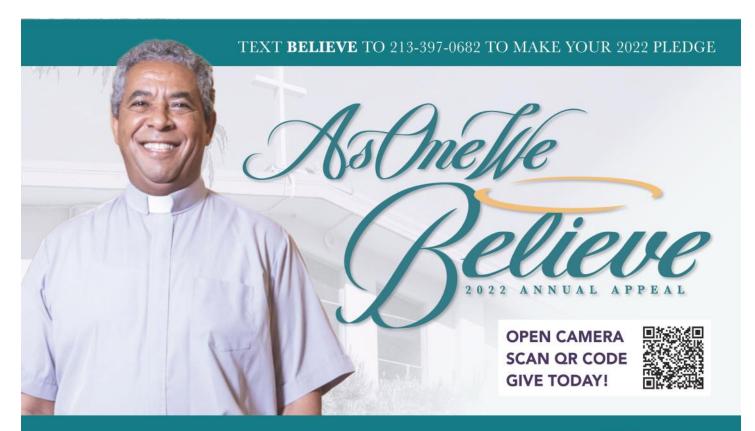




Come join us on a special Silent Retreat that will give you time to commune with yourself and with your God. In the busyness of daily life, it is essential to find time to listen deeply to our own inner world and to discern God's voice inviting us to intimacy. This retreat offers a unique, contemplative opportunity to commune with God in the solitude of our hearts. An experienced Spiritual Director will accompany you through these five days as you seek to discover the subtle movement of the Holy Spirit within you. Come deepen your relationship with God which will be enhanced by solitude, nature and a labyrinth walk. Sr. Pascazia Kinkuhaire, DMJ is a Daughter of Mary and Joseph of Ugandan Origin. She specialized in Social Ministry in Mission and is a Spiritual Director. She has served in her Order as a Teacher, Social Worker, Formator and in Leadership on the Africa Province level. Sue Ballotti is a spiritual director, retreat facilitator and a docent for labyrinth walks at MJRC. She is a Master Catechist for the Los Angeles Archdiocese & a past director of RCIA at St. Margaret Mary in Lomita. Father Joe Miller, SVD, works in Spiritual Formation, retreat ministry,



hospital chaplaincy and Mission Animation. Cost: single room \$600; Commuter \$425 For information or to register call José at (310) 377-4867 ext 250 or email jsalas@maryjoseph.org or register online at www.maryjoseph.org
Please see website for Cancellation Policy.



As L.A. Catholics, we believe as one holy Catholic family in hope.

We pray together, sing together, volunteer together, and believe together. We lean on one another as followers of examples of generosity in the world.

Together we turn to Christ and gather as one family of faith and support parishes and schools that face great challenges.

In 2022, please help us renew our sense of unity and make a generous gift today! Your support gives our struggling



"LET US PRAY, LET US PERSEVERE, LET US BELIEVE."

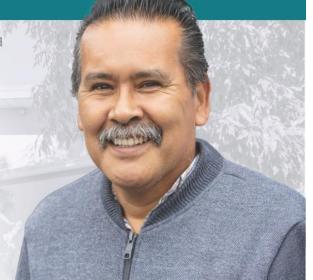
The Together in Mission Annual Appeal provides essential faith-based and educational funding to struggling parishes and schools throughout the Archdiocese of Los Angeles. By seeking to serve God, these foundations of faith and learning strengthen families and communities, enrich parish life, and educate future generations.

How to make a gift?

Visit togetherinmission.org/give or call 213-637-7672



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Come Journey with Us During Lent as We Experience the Unconditional Love Christ Has for Us!

We often hear about Jesus' passion and death but imagine experiencing them for the very first time. In No Greater Love: A Biblical Walk Through Christ's Passion, we are going to walk step-by-step with Jesus on his journey from his agony in the garden to his crucifixion on Calvary. Along the way, we will unpack the biblical background to these events, the prophecies, and most especially, the ways Jesus is inviting us to walk more closely with him today. No Greater Love is a five-part Bible study program that begins Thursday March, 3rd at 7:00pm on Zoom. The cost for the materials and online video access is \$20 and zoom information will be provided to registered participants.

For more information or to register, please contact Mike Santy at 562-370-0769 or email mike@stjosephlb.org.

We need you!!!



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

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



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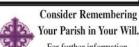
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