



## ST JOSEPH PARISH

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

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 19, 2023

# 7<sup>TH</sup> SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME



"I say to you, love your enemies and pray for those who persecute you." - Mt 5:44

# Our Parish

**PASTOR: MSGR. KEVIN KOSTELNIK**

*stjoseph@stjosephlb.org*

**Deacon Shane Cuda**  
**Deacon Tom Halliwell**

*sfcuda@yahoo.com*

*tom.halliwell@la-archdiocese.org*

Office Manager	Brenda Pineda	(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

[sjknights.net](http://sjknights.net)

Fax: (562) 596-6725

Assistant Principal:

Madison Alba

**Faith Formation Director: Joe Voigt**

(562) 598-0519

[religioused@stjosephlb.org](mailto:religioused@stjosephlb.org)

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

Joe Voigt

Administrative Assistant:

Michelle Johnson

High School Ministry & Confirmation:

Liz Moreno

RCIA:

Deacon Shane & Olga Cuda

[olga@stjosephlb.org](mailto:olga@stjosephlb.org)

## **Parish Ministries & Organizations**

Baptism Preparation	Brenda Pineda	(562) 594-4657
Director of Music	Vivian Doughty	(562) 594-4657
Eucharistic Ministry	Michelle Reyes	<a href="mailto:michelle.m.reyes@gmail.com">michelle.m.reyes@gmail.com</a>
Lectors	Steve Koppenheffer	(714) 299-6644
Meditation	Frank Mckown	(310) 633-1744
Esther Ministry	Virginia Young	<a href="mailto:estherministry1@gmail.com">estherministry1@gmail.com</a>
Hospitality Ministry	Deborah Rollinger	(562) 594-4657
Movement For A Better World	Tim Clark	(562) 431-4385
Senior Group	Jan Minter	<a href="mailto:tchrjan@gmail.com">tchrjan@gmail.com</a>
Knights Of Columbus	Marty Vezzetti	(562) 425-0621
Engaged Encounter	Paciano & Molly Diaz	<a href="mailto:Ktmr@Sbcglobal.Net">Ktmr@Sbcglobal.Net</a>
Natural Family Planning	Greg & Beth Gath	(562) 377-5877
Project Achieve	Alida Steinhauser	<a href="mailto:alida.steinhauser@gmail.com">alida.steinhauser@gmail.com</a>
Precious Life Shelter	Cynthia San Jose	<a href="mailto:csanjoselaw@aol.com">csanjoselaw@aol.com</a>
Boy Scouts	Jeff Baer	(562) 537-6722
Sacristans	Joe Dang	(562) 493-2198
Homebound Ministry	Olga Cuda	<a href="mailto:olga@stjosephlb.org">olga@stjosephlb.org</a>
Bereavement Ministry	May Pace	(562) 833-6370
Cursillo	Tom & Marie Newton	<a href="mailto:tjn8343@gmail.com">tjn8343@gmail.com</a>
Parish Fair	Candice Olson	<a href="mailto:vandice11@gmail.com">vandice11@gmail.com</a>
Environment	Jessica Gil	<a href="mailto:tapatia10nov@gmail.com">tapatia10nov@gmail.com</a>
Family Altar Servers	Monica Wissuchek	<a href="mailto:stjfamilyaltarservers@gmail.com">stjfamilyaltarservers@gmail.com</a>
Welcome-Christ Renews His Parish	Diane Ohde	<a href="mailto:stjlbwelcome@gmail.com">stjlbwelcome@gmail.com</a>
Book Club	Mary Anne Silvestri	<a href="mailto:agoodlife@msn.com">agoodlife@msn.com</a>

## 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.





# Weekly Prayer

## Sunday's Readings

### First Reading:

"Take no revenge and cherish no grudge against any of your people.

You shall love your neighbor as yourself. I am the LORD." (Lv 19:18)

### Psalm:

The Lord is kind and merciful. (Ps 103)

### Second Reading:

All belong to you, and you to Christ, and Christ to God. (1 Cor 3:22-23)

### Gospel:

"You have heard that it was said,  
*You shall love your neighbor and hate your enemy.*  
But I say to you, love your enemies  
and pray for those who persecute you." (Mt 5:43-44)

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

Want to be a real revolutionary? Defy the fallen impulses of human nature. Love your enemy. Pray for your persecutor. Give to those who would take. We can do hard things, Christians. We aren't perfect, but our God is.

## Observances for the week of February 19, 2023

- Sunday:** 7th Sunday in Ordinary Time  
**Monday:** Presidents' Day  
**Tuesday:** St. Peter Damian, Bishop and Doctor of the Church  
**Wednesday:** Ash Wednesday  
**Thursday:** St. Polycarp, Bishop and Martyr  
**Next Sunday:** 1st Sunday of Lent



## Saint of the week

Venerable Félix Varela was a thought leader, professor, scholar, political leader, and cultural champion for immigrant families. Originally from Cuba, he served in Spain and in the United States as a pastoral luminary in every community he engaged.

## Prayer

*Prayer for Venerable Félix Varela y Morales's intercession*

Holy and righteous God, you created us in your image.

Grant us grace to contend fearlessly against evil and make no peace with oppression.

Help us, like your servant Venerable Félix Varela,

to work for justice among people and nations, to the glory of your name, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

(Prayer Source: -Adapted from Evangelical Lutheran Worship (2006), page 60

<https://neatnik2009.wordpress.com/2016/12/10/feast-of-venerable-felix-varela-february-25/>)



## Letter From Our Pastor

Dear Parish Family:

As we celebrate Presidents Day weekend, we also gather around Jesus who inspires to serve others with his Sermon on the Mount. Be prepared to hear some challenging words and hopeful ideas about how we are to grow as Disciples of the Lord.

This is also the follow up weekend to Together in Mission. Last Sunday, our parish pledged \$42,000 towards our goal of \$74,990. That is one of our best first Sundays ever! Thank you for making a pledge during Mass or for mailing in the pledge. If you have not yet made a pledge, the envelopes are in the church or you can request one from the parish office. You can also give electronically through the QR code if you scroll down. Thank you for your generosity as we support our most needy 75 Catholic schools and 65 parishes in our local church. You can also make a one-time gift with a check made out to Together in Mission and in the envelope credit your gift to St. Joseph – Long Beach. Thank you for your amazing generosity!

Just below this column is our parish annual financial report for the fiscal year 2021-2022. Thank you for being amazing stewards with your gifts of time talent and treasure!!

Lent commences this week with Ash Wednesday and scroll down to see our Ash Wednesday Liturgy schedule. Guidelines for fasting during Lent can be found in this bulletin. Once again, my gift to you is this year's new Lenten Daily Reflection Booklet. The author is Susan Swetnam who has written more than a dozen books. They will be distributed after all Masses. Please take one per family. Find 3-4 minutes a day with this little book and you will have a GREAT LENT.

Happy Lent,  
Msgr. Kevin

# 2021-22 St. Joseph Parish Financial Report

Fiscal Year: July 1-June 30

## Income

Collection	\$ 762,978.25
Donations - Restricted	44,928.50
Donations - Unrestricted	12,456.22
Faith Formation	22,466.00
Building Fund	17,440.00
<b>Total Revenue</b>	<b>\$ 860,268.97</b>

## Expenses

Operations	\$ 224,488.56
Archdiocese Assessment	263,137.36
Pastoral	37,833.82
Faith Formation	129,859.59
Liturgy	71,428.01
Rectory	8,451.21
Buildings & Maintenance	97,393.67
<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>\$ 832,592.22</b>

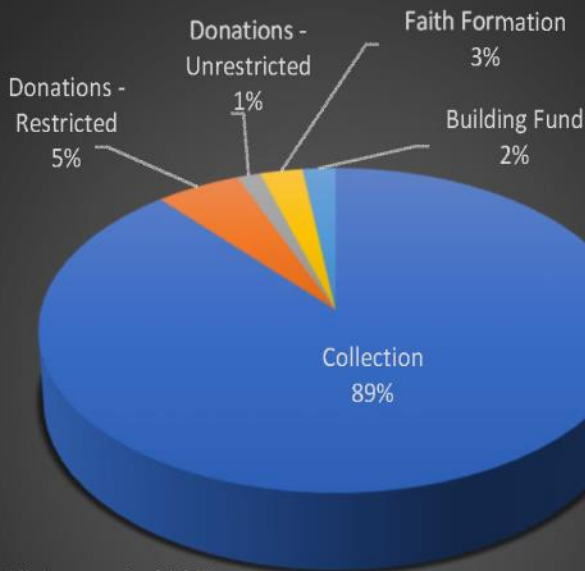
## Net Surplus

**\$ 27,676.75**

Call to Renew Pledges  
Received

**\$ 325,882.89**

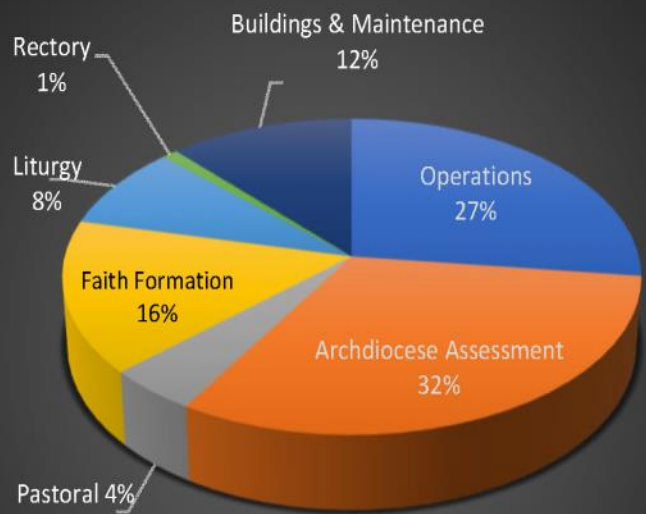
## 2021-22 Income



All Amounts in \$1,000

Collection	(\$763K)
Donations - Restricted	(\$45K)
Donations - Unrestricted	(\$12K)
Faith Formation	(\$22K)
Building Fund	(\$17K)

## 2021-22 Expenses



Operations	(\$224K)
Archdiocese Assessment	(\$263K)
Pastoral	(\$38K)
Faith Formation	(\$130K)
Liturgy	(\$71K)
Rectory	(\$8K)
Buildings & Maintenance	(\$97K)



# Ash Wednesday

February 22, 2023

**8:00 AM – Holy Mass with distribution of Ashes indoors.**

**12:00 PM – Holy Mass with distribution of Ashes indoors.**

**5:00 PM – Holy Mass with Distribution of Ashes outside in the Courtyard.**  
Please bring your own lawn chair.

**6:30 PM – 7:15 PM – Drive-thru in the parking lot – Distribution of Ashes. Please see the map below for driving instructions in the parking lot.**

Let's make it a GREAT LENT at St. Joseph's!!  
Blessings,  
Msgr. Kevin





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

Aguilera, June  
 Alvillar, Easton  
 Amador, Brandon  
 Anton, Ivana  
 Belen, Mikayla  
 Bellumori, Leah  
 Belt, Cash  
 Belt, Madison  
 Bojorquez, Leonel  
 Buchanan, Stirling  
 Butts, Xavier  
 Carty, Lily  
 Cerino, Alayna  
 Cherene, Mallory  
 Cooper, Henry  
 Cornett, Diana  
 Cortez, Walter  
 deMetropolis, Malia  
 Escala, Matthew  
 Fernandez, Vincent  
 Ferris, Ava  
 Figueroa, Nevaeh  
 Fischer, Eliza  
 Flahavan, Briana  
 Fonseca, Liam  
 Fontela, Liam  
 Fournier, Emma  
 Frazee, Madison  
 Gillian, Ian  
 Gillian, Tara  
 Gomez, Juan  
 Gonzalez, Addison  
 Holt, Jonah  
 Hooker, Sydney  
 Langeveld, Carly



Lee, Ezra  
 Lev, Alec  
 Linehan, Jake  
 McClendon, Colin  
 Nunez, Lucia  
 O'Brien, Gavin  
 O'Dell, Kyla  
 Owens, Calvin  
 Prince, Alexis  
 Rumion, Liliana  
 Salazar-Diaz, Viviana  
 Salinaz, Jonathan  
 Sanchez, Evan  
 Spittle, Luke  
 Swan, Lucy  
 Sylva, Hailey  
 Tellez, Bailey  
 Tetangco, Camila  
 Tockstein, Aria  
 Tockstein, Katie  
 Tolentino, Asher  
 Villegas, Max  
 Zackary, Jack

Receiving in  
 March 2023

Abear, Phoebe

Misajon, Skylar




38 youth received the Sacrament of Reconciliation for the first time on Friday, February 10, 2023 and 20 on Saturday, February 11, 2023.

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



# 4 REASONS FOR FASTING



<p><b>1 TO GROW IN SELF-MASTERY</b></p> <p>It helps us learn to say "no" to our appetites and be free from what we don't need.</p>	<p><b>2 OBEDIENCE AND DISCERNMENT</b></p> <p>It opens us up and allows us to let God and the Church tell us what is best for us.</p>
<p><b>3 WORSHIP AND SACRIFICE</b></p> <p>Fasting is a sacrifice oriented towards worship of God and not ourselves.</p>	<p><b>4 TO BE CO-REDEEMERS WITH JESUS</b></p> <p>As it is a sacrifice, we participate in the Cross of Jesus for the salvation of the world.</p>



**What is FASTING?**  
The **limitation** of food and drink – typically to one main meal and two smaller meals, with no solid foods in between  
*But remember to drink enough fluids!*

**What is ABSTINENCE?**  
**Avoiding** certain kinds of food or drink, typically meat or other desirable foods

**When do we fast?**  
Ash Wednesday & Good Friday\*

**When do we abstain?**  
Catholics are obliged to abstain from **meat every Friday** throughout the year (except solemn feast days)

\*Paschal Fast: Good Friday and Holy Saturday are days of prayer and quiet reflection. We honour the suffering and death of Jesus and prepare to share in the joy of his resurrection at Easter.

TIP: **Instead of abstaining, you may substitute special acts of charity or piety on Fridays**

**ALL ABOUT Fasting & Abstinence**

**Why fast?**  
It helps us to **pray better**: an empty stomach can lead to more attentive prayer

**Why abstain on Fridays?**  
It's the **day of Christ's saving death** on the cross; we abstain to share in His work of saving the world

**Who has to fast?**  
Catholics aged 18 to 60  
*Those with impaired health should not fast in any way.*

**Who has to abstain?**  
Catholics aged 14 and older

During Lent, the money we save on food while fasting and abstaining should be given to others in alms  
SOURCE: "Keeping Friday" and "Living Lent" from the Canadian Conference of Catholic Bishops www.cccb.ca



## Cursillo



If you are interested in deepening your Catholic Faith please join us on future Cursillo Weekends.  
 April 20-23 for Men's weekend  
 May 4-7 for Women's weekend  
 Marie and Tom Newton  
[tjn8343@gmail.com](mailto:tjn8343@gmail.com)



## Book Club



Our next Zoom meeting is Wednesday, April 12 at 7pm.

We will discuss:  
**See No Stranger: A Memoir and Manifesto of Revolutionary Love**  
 by Valarie Kaur.

Valarie Kaur—renowned Sikh activist, filmmaker, and civil rights lawyer—describes revolutionary love as the call of our time: a radical, joyful practice that can transform a relationship, a community, a culture, even a nation.

All are welcome!

For more info, email [agoodlife@msn.com](mailto:agoodlife@msn.com)



## Seniors Group



**COME JOIN US**  
 WE OFFER A VARIETY OF ACTIVITIES TO KEEP YOU ENGAGED

**CORRECTION** - The. Date for the next Senior Meeting is **February 27** not the 20th. Senior Meetings are always the second and fourth Mondays of the month.

The meeting begins at 11:00am. Please bring a sack lunch. Drinks and snacks will be provided. Information about the Lenten Retreat will be given. Bring a friend to participate in all of the activities - as they say "the more the merrier".





## Annual Fund Donor Spotlight

**Q: Why do you choose to give to St. Joseph Catholic School?**

**A: "My kids went to St Joe's, and they've become amazing adults in their own right. I believe in this school.**

**Saint Joseph's is truly FAMILY to me and my kids. We are blessed to be a part of this community."**

**- Bruce MacRae**



## Annual Fund Update

Dear Parishoners,

As of February 14th, 2023 we have received \$48,170.15 in donations to The Annual Fund for St. Joseph School LB. We are more than halfway to our goal! Your participation means the world to us.

From all of us at St. Joseph Catholic School, thank you!



### A Pilgrimage to Greece and the Islands

You are invited to join Bishop Marc Trudeau & Fr. Mark Strader on a once-in-a-lifetime Journey to Greece: 11 days, October 18 to 28, 2023.

Includes Athens and Corinth, plus a Greek Isle Cruise to Santorini, Mykonos, Crete, Rhodes, Ephesus and Patmos.

Only \$4,999 from Los Angeles (LAX), plus \$195 in tips and \$235 in port taxes.

Download the brochure & registration form at: <https://www.GoCatholicTravel.com/23055>.

For information, contact Group Coordinators Viktor & Mary Beth Rzeteljski: (310) 497-0346.

Email: [v2rzeljski@gmail.com](mailto:v2rzeljski@gmail.com).

Space is limited and we expect to fill soon.

Sign up today!



## St. Joseph Grief Support



St. Joseph Grief Support Seminars help and offer Encouragement after the death of a loved one.

### WE KNOW IT HURTS, HEALING STARTS HERE.

Our evening seminar will start on Monday, February 27 at 7 p.m. in the PLC.

Reservations are Required.

Contact Deacon Tom at 310/995-2725



# Safeguard The Children

## REFERENCE CHECK



### The importance of checking references

A reference check is a professional investigation that can provide invaluable information to protect your organization. Among the steps to take when hiring an employee, enlisting a volunteer, or retaining an outside vendor or other independent party, the reference check is unique as it allows to defend against a wide range of risks. Through the reference check, the organization can learn about the applicant's strengths, weaknesses, past performance, and other qualitative and subjective characteristics, including any risky, unsafe, or unacceptable behavior. For more information, read the VIRTUS® article "Reference Checks, Part I: Your Best Defense," on [lacatholics.org/did-you-know](http://lacatholics.org/did-you-know).

[Read the VIRTUS® article "Reference Checks, Part I: Your Best Defense"](#)



### March 3-5: Beginning Experience® Weekend for Widowed, Separated & Divorced Adults

A Beginning Experience® Weekend retreat will be held from 3/3-3/5 at the Holy Spirit Retreat Center (Encino). Trained peer ministers guide and encourage hurting people to take steps on their grief journey towards a new beginning after a spousal loss. For more information visit:

[beginningexperience.org](http://beginningexperience.org)

A \$75 deposit is required IN ADVANCE; need-based financial aid is available.

To register, CALL Maria (909) 592-0009 or EMAIL [beginningexp.losangeles@gmail.com](mailto:beginningexp.losangeles@gmail.com).



# Movement for a Better World



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

**Feb. 25-26 - Feed-a-Baby Food Drive:** We will collect non-perishable baby food and products for Catholic Charities and New Life Beginnings of Long Beach.

**March 1 6:30 PM – Committee Meeting:** Join us in the Parish Life Center as we support 105 families from our Easter Food and Book Distribution. Share your insights for improving our ministry!

**Important Roles to Fill!** 1) Parishioner driver coordinator for our holiday food and gift deliveries. 2) Family Adoption program assistant. For these and many other fulfilling ways to serve, please call Tim Clark at (562) 431-4385.



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# Shine His Light

2023 Annual Appeal



## 30 years of faith, service, and love

For 30 years, your tremendous support of **Together in Mission** has directly helped thousands of students, families, and parishioners in underserved communities. Together, as ONE Catholic family, we have helped parishes and schools become thriving communities of faith – vibrant, alive, and rooted in the love of Christ. The extraordinary history and impact of our annual appeal inspire us to march forward toward a common horizon where the light of Christ is present.

In this 30th anniversary year, we prayerfully ask that you make a special gift and **shine His light** in an extraordinary way for all communities to see.

*Because of you, we lovingly serve*

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FAMILIES

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## More than an average annual appeal

Together in Mission exclusively supports the most impoverished parishes and schools in the Archdiocese of Los Angeles. This annual appeal is an opportunity for people to join in action – as one united family. Join us in celebrating the generational support that has been sustaining faith communities for 30 years.



ARCHDIOCESE OF  
**TOGETHER IN MISSION**  
LOS ANGELES



During this trying and difficult time in Turkey and Syria after the devastating earthquake of 7.8, on February 6<sup>th</sup>, where at least 20,000 people have died and tens of thousands missing or injured, we are reaching out to our Archdiocese of Los Angeles churches and communities to join together to offer support and prayers for all affected by this disaster.

On Wednesday, February 8<sup>th</sup>, Pope Francis issued an appeal for help for all those affected as the death toll soars. *“With emotion I pray for them, and express my closeness to these peoples, the the families of the victims and to all those who are suffering from this devastating calamity”*. He is urging everyone to show solidarity with these territories.

All checks should be made payable to THE SOCIETY FOR THE PROPAGATION OF THE FAITH – memo: TURKEY/SYRIA NATURAL DISASTER. Donations may be mailed to **SOCIETY FOR THE PROPAGATION OF THE FAITH, 3424 Wilshire Boulevard – 3<sup>rd</sup> Floor, Los Angeles, CA 90010**. If anyone wishes to make an online donation, they may do so at: <https://missionsla.org/product/donate> or by scanning the QR code and specify Turkey/Syria Natural Disaster in the memo box. 100% of the collection will go towards those affected by this horrible natural disaster.

For any questions or concerns, please contact the Mission Office at (213) 637-7223 or [missionoffice@la-archdiocese.org](mailto:missionoffice@la-archdiocese.org).

Thank you for your support and prayers.







## FEED-A-BABY FOOD DRIVE

February 25<sup>th</sup> - 26<sup>th</sup>

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