

St. Joseph Parish



16th SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

“The righteous will shine like the sun in the kingdom
of their Father.” - Mt 13:43a

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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

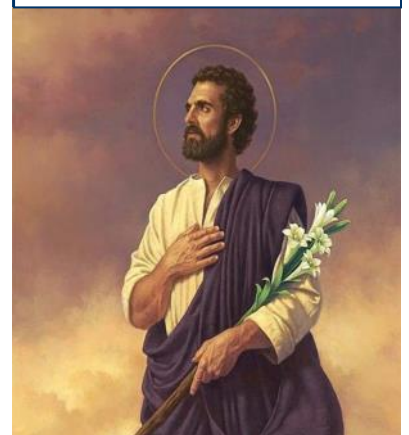
3:45-4:30 p.m.

Inside Church

Adoration

First Fridays

8:00-9:00 a.m.



Worship & Meditation

Readings for the week of July 23, 2023

Sunday:

Wis 12:13, 16-19/Ps 86:5-6, 9-10, 15-16
(5a)/Rom 8:26-27/Mt 13:24-43 or
13:24-30

Monday:

Ex 14:5-18/Ex 15:1bc-2, 3-4, 5-6/
Mt 12:38-42

Tuesday:

2 Cor 4:7-15/Ps 126:1bc-2ab, 2cd-3, 4-5,
6/Mt 20:20-28

Wednesday:

Ex 16:1-5, 9-15/Ps 78:18-19, 23-24, 25-26,
27-28/Mt 13:1-9

Thursday:

Ex 19:1-2, 9-11, 16-20b/Dn 3:52, 53, 54, 55,
56/Mt 13:10-17

Friday:

Ex 20:1-17/Ps 19:8, 9, 10, 11/Mt 13:18-23

Saturday:

Ex 24:3-8/Ps 50:1b-2, 5-6, 14-15/Jn 11:19-
27 or Lk 10:38-42

Next Sunday:

1 Kgs 3:5, 7-12/Ps 119:57, 72, 76-77, 127-
128, 129-130 (97a)/Rom 8:28-30/Mt
13:44-52 or 13:44-46



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Gospel Meditation

Encourage Deeper Understanding of Scripture

Patience is rooted in Hope (an image of a bush filled with birds would be great)

Life, like the church, is often burdened with evil, smallness, and impurities. The Lord's parables give us a hope-filled perspective on all three.

Evil: in Jesus' parable about the good farmer whose enemy plants weeds at night, Jesus tells us that God is not the cause of evil but permits evil to exist with good out of his patient love. He will finally deal with it, but his love lets things stay messy for a time.

Smallness: It's funny that Jesus says his kingdom looks like ... wait for it ... a bush. What a letdown! Yet this little shrub still somehow has room for all the birds of the sky. The smallness of the Church, and even our own little lives, still provides plenty of room for all whom God sends.

Impurities: divisions and hypocrisies in the Church and our own hearts exasperate us. Recall that Jesus compares his kingdom to a lump of dough with impure leaven eating away at it and therefore making it expand. It's the secret of the Cross. Not how we'd prefer it. But finally, great news.

The field, the bush, the loaf: all three parables invite us to embrace a patience rooted in hope: one day the field will be weeded, the bush filled with birds, and the risen loaf leaven-free.

— Father John Muir

SUNDAY, JULY 23, 2023 | 16TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

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Letter From Our Pastor

Dear Parish Family:

As the deadline for my weekly column is upon me, I am still on vacation! I look forward to returning to the Altar of the Lord this weekend.

Summer Blessings,
Msgr. Kevin

OCIA - Order of Christian Initiation for Adults



For more info, contact Fred & Susan Whitcraft at fredandsusan2001@yahoo.com

OCIA is a program for any non-baptized adult interested in becoming a Catholic. It is also for adults baptized in the Catholic faith (or in another Christian faith), who would like to complete the Sacraments of Confirmation and Holy Eucharist.

OCIA begins with a period of Inquiry, where you can find out what the Catholic Church teaches and believes. If you, or anyone you know, would like to find out more please contact Fred & Susan Whitcraft at fredandsusan2001@yahoo.com

Come-and-See what OCIA is all about!



Movement for a Better World

“True charity requires courage: let us overcome the fear of getting our hands dirty so as to help those in need.” - Pope Francis

Aug. 5-6 Food from the Heart Drive: Collecting family food for those served by Catholic Charities of Long Beach. Please call Tim Clark to learn about many opportunities to serve, (562) 431-4385.

Homeless Kit Ministry: Donations from our June 24-25 Homeless Kit Drive and from other specially-directed parishioner donations have enabled us to prepare 360 homeless hygiene kits to be distributed to our most vulnerable brothers and sisters by our St. Joseph Homeless Ministry. The next two encampment visits will be July 30 and Oct. 29. Can you help?

LB Multi-Services Center Coordinator: Monitor support opportunities for the LB Multi-Services Center. Coordinate monthly, Coffee in the Park hospitality at the facility.



Women’s Retreat



Ladies of the parish!

Our annual retreat weekend is coming! Join your sisters in Christ for a refreshing and peaceful weekend at Sacred Heart Retreat House. Save the dates for September 8-10. Registration will open soon. If you have any questions or need help with online registration please contact Marie Newton 562-209-1298 or Madeline Majick 562-714-3607



Upcoming VIRTUS Trainings

- **VIRTUS Training with Ms. Perez**
(sign up: jperez@sjknights.net)
October 25th 3-6 PM– PLC
- **VIRTUS Training with Joe Voigt**
September 7th 6-9 pm
September 14th 7-8:30 pm
(recertification only) To sign up scan QR code:



James is one of the most practical books of the Bible. Its teachings speak loudly to those who feel torn between the competing demands of this world and their faith.

This study offers “pearls for wise living” by applying the wisdom of James to our current day. For anyone who has struggled to live a truly Christian life, James offers a wealth of practical solutions for handling and even sanctifying everyday circumstances.

St. Joseph Long Beach will begin an eleven-week Bible study James: Pearls for Wise Living on **Thursday, September 7th at 7:00pm** in the PLC and on Zoom. Participants will meet every week to view an engaging video presentation followed by a time of lively group discussion and fellowship. For more information or to register contact Mike at 562-370-0769 or mike@stjosephlb.org.



A Special Opportunity for our Parish Women and Men

Do you sense that something's missing in your life? Do you feel that if you weren't so busy you would be happier, healthier, more effective, more fulfilled, and maybe even a better person?

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. Whether you want to connect with other people in the parish, improve your prayer life, or just take a break from the craziness of your everyday to have fun, you will find what you are looking for – and more.

Women's Weekend – September 23-24, 2023 (The women's weekend is now full)
Men's Weekend – October 28-29, 2023

To learn more and to sign up, visit <https://stjosephlb.org/welcome-christ-renews/> or scan the QR code.



Virtual Information Day

Hosted by the
Diaconate Formation Office
Sunday, October 15, 2023
2pm—4pm

Presentaciones en inglés y español.

To register contact:
Deacon Melecio Zamora

dmz2011@la-archdiocese.org

"The kingdom of heaven may be likened to a king who gave a wedding feast for his son..."



He dispatched his servants to summon the invited guests."
Matthew 22:1f

Next Sessions: Jan. 14, 2024, April 14, 2024, July 7, 2024, October 13, 2024



Music Ministry



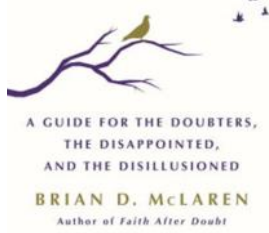
The 10:30 choir is seeking new members! We meet on Wednesday evenings at 7pm in the church and at 9:45am on Sunday mornings and would love to have you join us in this life-giving, spirit-nurturing activity. The only requirement is that you are able to sing on pitch. Please reach out to Vivian Doughty, Music Director with any questions.



Book Club

Do I Stay Christian?

Our next Zoom meeting is Wednesday, September 6th at 7pm. We will discuss:



Do I Stay Christian? A Guide for the Doubters, the Disappointed, and the Disillusioned
by Brian McLaren

"Brian's new book on remaining Christian knocks it out of the ballpark in terms of framing and naming the questions. I cannot stop reading it."
-Fr. Richard Rohr, OFM, founder of the Center for Action and Contemplation
All are welcome!

For more info, email agoodlife@msn.com



Seniors Group



The next meeting of the St. Joseph Senior Group will be on **Monday, July 24th** in the hall. The activities will begin at 11:00 am. The activities will include Bingo, many kinds of card games, Mexican train, and lots of socializing. Bring your brown bag lunch, and coffee, tea, water, snacks and dessert will be provided. We look forward to seeing all our members and any new friends who would like to join us.



ONE MOTHER, MANY PEOPLES

**SATURDAY, AUGUST 26,
2023**

Cathedral of Our Lady of the Angels
555 West Temple Street
Los Angeles 90012

Join Archbishop José H. Gomez and representatives of the many cultures, papal orders, and fraternal service orders to pray for peace and unity through the intercession of Our Lady of the Angels, the patroness of the Archdiocese of Los Angeles.

3:00 p.m. – Cultural Dances
3:30 p.m. – Holy Rosary
4:00 p.m. – Votive Mass with Archbishop Gomez

For more information go to:
lacatholics.org/one-mother-many-peoples






St. Joseph Grief Support



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

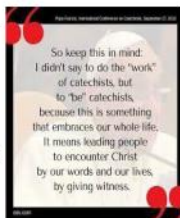
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classes are held in the PLC building.



Catechists Needed....Why You?

- You will grow in your own faith, learn the teachings of the Church, and deepen your relationship with Jesus.
- Your Baptism calls you to share in Jesus' ministry.
- Children and teens in today's world, more than ever, need to hear the Good News of Jesus.
- You have so much to share with those you'll teach, and you'll have opportunities to share your faith with other catechists.
- You'll be helping our young Church deepen their relationship with Jesus.
- It's our job: Jesus sent us to "go and teach all nations."



WHAT IS A CATECHIST?

The role of a Catholic Catechist is to catechize the Faith of the Catholic Church, both by word and example. A Catechist is someone who lets the word of God echo through their life. Catechists do more than simply teach the faith. A Catechist shares their faith and guides their students to learn how to apply and live their faith, as well.

WHAT DOES A CATECHIST DO?

The primary goal of a catechist is to model God's love to others. The primary prerequisite of a catechist is a love for God and a love for young people. Our Catechists are provided lesson plans and materials to use in their classroom. The catechist passes on to students a set of shared meanings and values that our Catholic Faith teaches in preparation for the Sacrament of Confirmation.

WHO IS ELIGIBLE TO VOLUNTEER IN THIS ROLE?

We welcome any person over 18 years old who is actively practicing their Catholic Faith. Someone who wishes to lead others to grow in faith and understanding of the Catechism of the Catholic Church. Someone who lives out their faith and participates in the Sacraments. Someone who is willing to share their faith and heart with others. Someone who enjoys working with youth.

If you are feeling called to give your time and talent but want to know more about what is involved please contact

Liz Moreno at 562-594-4657 or liz@stjosephlb.com

We have openings in 1st and 2nd year Confirmation



Safeguard The Children

It's all about the behavior

"It's all about the behavior" is a common reminder for safe adults to be aware that abuse can happen anywhere, and to anyone. Parents and caregivers must be vigilant to any warning signs of inappropriate behavior, even if a suspected abuser does not fit a stereotypical profile. The same is true of abuse victims — there is no demographic "failsafe," such as age, race, gender, background, income, etc., that prevents a certain person from being abused. For more information, read the VIRTUS® article "It's All About the Behavior" at lacatholics.org/did-you-know/.

High School Youth Hangout!

Next:
07/12/23
07/26/23

BIWEEKLY WEDNESDAYS MEET UPS @7PM - 8:30PM

For information call:
Youth Minister
Liz Moreno
(562)598-0519 E XT 230
@ST.JOSEPHYM

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Registration for the 2023-24 Faith Formation Classes is now open for new students. Current Students that need to re-register, please email Joe Voigt @ joe@stjosephlb.org.

Sunday Elementary Faith Formation Classes (1-5th Grades)

Parent Information Session: **Sunday, September 10, 2023, at 2pm in the Church**

Classes Start: **Sunday, September 17, 2023, from 10 –11:15am**

Middle School Faith Formation Classes (6th-8th Grades)

Parent Information Session: **Tuesday, September 26, 2023, at 7 pm in the PLC/St. Joseph Room**

Start: **Tuesday, October 3, 2023, from 6:30-7:30 pm**

Current and new students need to register. Remember, it is an Archdiocesan requirement to have two consecutive years of religious education to receive sacraments. A copy of the Baptismal Certificate must accompany all **NEW** candidates registering for St. Joseph Faith Formation for the first time.



Confirmation meets on selected Sundays from 11 a.m. - 1:30 p.m. (includes 12:30 Mass), September through May. Open to all high school students Grades (9 – 12). New high school confirmation candidates need to provide an 1st Holy Communion certificate in addition to their baptism certificate.

For more information and to register for our programs, please scan the code to the right with your cell phone camera).





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