

St. Joseph Parish



33RD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

“Master, you gave me five talents. See, I have made five more.” - Mt 25:20

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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:

Welcome to the 33rd Sunday of Ordinary Time! Next Sunday is the Last Sunday of the Church Year and then we commence the Season of Advent. This weekend I will preach on part two of the liturgical series – *“Celebrating the Liturgy of the Word.”*

This weekend our parish will celebrate the Rite of Acceptance for those in the Order of Christian initiation of Adults. This will take place at the 8:30 AM Mass on the grass and we welcome our new catechumens (Unbaptized): Noel Escala, Sean Sheets, and Long Tran. Our candidates (Baptized in another Christian Faith): Robert Canales and John Edmond. Please pray for them as they continue to journey with Christ toward the Easter sacraments.

Our annual Thanksgiving Mass will take place this Thursday at 9:00 AM. Gather with your Parish family as we give thanks for the many blessings in our lives and we pray for peace in the world. Please bring any bread or wine that will be a part of your Thanksgiving table and we will bless your bounty!

The Season of Advent commences on Sunday, December 3. After each Mass this weekend, my annual Advent gift to you is the small daily reflections booklet for Advent and Christmas called *Waiting in Joyful Hope*. Please pick up one per family after each Mass. Each daily reflection is 2 to 3 minutes long and prayed individually or with someone in your house or the family, your lives will be enriched spiritually during these busy weeks of December. Make it a GREAT ADVENT!

It's with great joy that I announce that our bookkeeper/accountant position has been filled. We welcome Eden Ines to the Pastoral Team. Scroll down to see her picture and brief bio.

Another gift for you – this Thursday my family will be praying the *Thanksgiving Blessing* that is on the next page of this bulletin. It's also on the home page of our website stjosephlb.org. Please print or send it to your family's devices so that as you gather around the table, you can pray this prayer of gratitude.

Blessings of Thanksgiving for all you do for your Parish Family,
Msgr. Kevin



2023 THANKSGIVING FAMILY BLESSING

SCRIPTURE READING: FROM THE GOSPEL ACCORDING TO LUKE:

AS HE WAS ENTERING A VILLAGE, TEN PERSONS WITH LEPROSY MET HIM. THEY STOOD AT A DISTANCE FROM HIM AND RAISED THEIR VOICES, SAYING, "JESUS, MASTER! HAVE PITY ON US!" AND WHEN HE SAW THEM, HE SAID,

"GO SHOW YOURSELVES TO THE PRIESTS."

AS THEY WERE GOING THEY WERE CLEANSED.

AND ONE OF THEM, REALIZING HE HAD BEEN HEALED, RETURNED, GLORIFYING GOD IN A LOUD VOICE; AND HE FELL AT THE FEET OF JESUS AND THANKED HIM.

Leader: That we may always appreciate the gift of family, we pray...

All: We give thanks to the Lord.

Leader: That our children will be safe and grow in God's love, we pray...

All: We give thanks to the Lord.

Leader: That we may always share our blessings with those in need, we pray...

All: We give thanks to the Lord.

Leader: That we will always see and cherish the image of God in everyone, we pray...

All: We give thanks to the Lord.

Leader: For an end to violence in the world and for peace in the Middle East and Ukraine, we pray...

All: We give thanks to the Lord.

Leader & All: God most provident, we join all creation in raising to you a hymn of Thanksgiving through Jesus Christ, your Son.

For generation upon generation, peoples of this land have sung of your bounty; we too offer you praise for the rich harvest we have received at your hands. Bless us and this food and drink which we share with grateful hearts. Continue to make our land and lives fruitful, and let our love be shown to others as we gather around this beautiful table of abundance.

Praise and glory to you, Lord God, now and forever!

AMEN

Weekly Prayer

Sunday's Readings

First Reading:

She brings him good, and not evil,
all the days of her life.
She obtains wool and flax
and works with loving hands. (Prv 31:12-13)

Psalm:

Blessed are those who fear the Lord. (Ps 128)

Second Reading:

But you, brothers and sisters, are not in darkness,
for that day to overtake you like a thief.
For all of you are children of the light
and children of the day. (1 Thes 5:4-5)

Gospel:

“Since you were faithful in small matters,
I will give you great responsibilities.
Come, share your master’s joy.” (Mt 25:21)

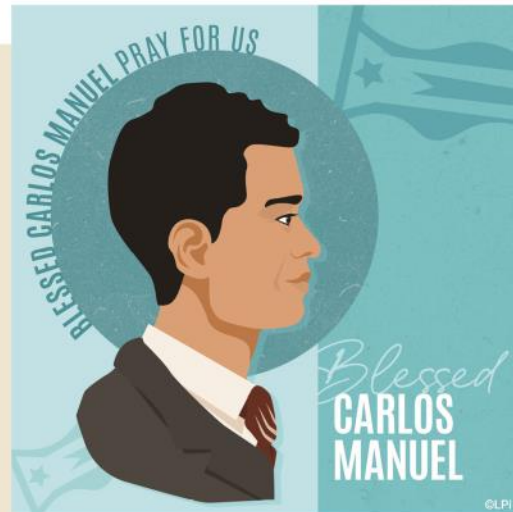
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Live The Liturgy Inspiration of the Week

God entrusts special gifts to each of us, but they are not gifts to be hoarded and hidden. Let's work each and every day to multiply those gifts in the world.

Observances for the week of November 19, 2023

- Sunday:** 33rd Sunday in Ordinary Time
- Tuesday:** The Presentation of the Blessed Virgin Mary
- Wednesday:** St. Cecilia, Virgin and Martyr
- Thursday:** St. Clement I, Pope and Martyr;
St. Columban, Abbot; Bl. Miguel Agustin Pro, Priest and Martyr; Thanksgiving Day
- Friday:** St. Andrew Dũng-Lạc, Priest, and Companions, Martyrs
- Saturday:** St. Catherine of Alexandria, Virgin and Martyr
- Next Sunday:** Our Lord Jesus Christ, King of the Universe



Saint of the week

Blessed Carlos Manuel or, Blessed Charlie, was a Puerto Rican layman who dedicated his life to serving the Church. He worked and studied diligently to spread his love of the Catholic faith, especially the liturgy and sacred music to all those he touched.

Prayer

Oh God, Father of Goodness, who inspired Blessed Carlos Manuel with an ardent devotion to the Paschal Mystery and moved by the generosity of Your grace, led him to the joyful celebration of the mysteries celebrated in the Liturgy; You also filled your servant with apostolic zeal and love for those in need.

Grant us, through his intercession, that, celebrating with faith the holy mysteries of the Death and Resurrection of Your Son, we may live in life what we celebrate in the Liturgy. Grant us, too, the special grace that we now ask of you (ask for the grace that is desired).

Through Jesus Christ your Son and our Lord. Amen.

(Prayer Source: <https://www.pmariaamm.org/vida-4-beato-carlos-manuel.html#:~:text=Oh%20Dios%2C%20Padre%20de%20Bondad,y%20amor%20a%20los%20necesitados.> Translation by LPi.)

Worship & Meditation

Readings for the week of November 19, 2023

Sunday:

Prv 31:10-13, 19-20, 30-31/Ps 128:1-2, 3, 4-5 (see 1a)/1 Thes 5:1-6/Mt 25:14-30 or 25:14-15, 19-21

Monday:

1 Mc 1:10-15, 41-43, 54-57, 62-63/Ps 119:53, 61, 134, 150, 155, 158/Lk 18:35-43

Tuesday:

2 Mc 6:18-31/Ps 3:2-3, 4-5, 6-7/Lk 19:1-10

Wednesday:

2 Mc 7:1, 20-31/Ps 17:1bcd, 5-6, 8b and 15/Lk 19:11-28

Thursday:

1 Mc 2:15-29/Ps 50:1b-2, 5-6, 14-15/Lk 19:41-44

Friday:

1 Mc 4:36-37, 52-59/1 Chr 29:10bcd, 11abc, 11d-12a, 12bcd/Lk 19:45-48

Saturday:

1 Mc 6:1-13/Ps 9:2-3, 4 and 6, 16 and 19/Lk 20:27-40

Next Sunday:

Ez 34:11-12, 15-17/Ps 23:1-2, 2-3, 5-6 (1)/1 Cor 15:20-26, 28/Mt 25:31-46



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Gospel Meditation

Encourage Deeper Understanding of Scripture

When I was a kid, I hated playing Monopoly because my siblings and friends always seemed to win. But worse was how it happened. Scared to risk my fake money on buying properties, I'd hold on to it. My opponents hungrily bought up the various real estate squares on the board. Then, inevitably, my poor, low-equity self would land on their spots, pay them rent, and my money would drain to zero. It seemed so unfair. The rich get richer, and the poor get poorer. I had to learn that monopoly money is meant to be spent. I was scared to lose some of it. So, I lost all of it.

How do we see what we possess? Jesus' parable about the talents is not really about economics but about the investability of everything he entrusts to us. How marvelous that everyone in the fable who places talents in the open market doubles their investment. The only one who doesn't is the man who fearfully buries his one talent. Jesus' success strategy for us seems to be, whatever we have, get it out of our *possession*. Risk it as quickly and as fully as we can.

You and I have precious gifts. We have valuable things to invest — time, talents, treasure. The Lord invites us to be brave and even somewhat reckless, to give as much away as possible. If we give it away in the direction of love and truth, it will grow. If we hold on to it in fear, the little we have will be taken away. Let me challenge you this week: find something in your life you're holding on to, and risk it by giving it away. It won't double if you hold on to it.

— *Father John Muir*



A CHRISTMAS STORY WITH DR. BILL CREASY

Dr. Creasy has an incredible gift of storytelling uniquely bringing the Bible to life. Give yourself a gift this Christmas season...join us this Advent as we join the over 250,000 people who have thus far participated in Logos Bible Study events and courses.

**TUESDAY, DECEMBER 5 AT 7-9PM
OR WEDNESDAY DECEMBER 6 AT 10AM-12PM
ST. JOSEPH CHURCH**

Bill Creasy is a former professor of English Literature at UCLA and founder of Logos Bible Study, where he taught Scripture to a general audience. His popular and highly rated course covered the entire Bible over five years in local churches and at its peak had over 6,000 weekly attendees in Southern California and Arizona.

**"DR. BILL CREASY'S TEACHING IS SO GOOD I ALMOST WANT TO
KEEP IT AS MY SECRET WEAPON." - FR. MIKE SCHMITZ**



Movement for a Better World

**Thanksgiving
FOOD
BASKETS**

“Children, let us love not in word or speech but in deed and truth.” 1 John 3:18

Thanksgiving Food and Blanket

Distribution: **THANK YOU** for your generous support of 104 very grateful families for Thanksgiving! An abundant amount of food, two or more blankets, blessings and hope were provided.

Dec. 2-3 – Christmas Present Drive: Envelopes will be available at Masses for the children of families we will support for Christmas: a child’s name, age, sex, sizes, and instructions. Please return gifts to the Parish Life Center or church **by Dec. 10 at 12:30 pm.**

Dec. 16 - Christmas Food and Present
Distribution: As a parish community, we will support 71 families for Christmas and Easter. **Can you help us deliver?** So meaningful to kids! Please contact Jill Salinaz (562) 822-7367 or jmsalinaz@yahoo.com.

Skip-a-Meal Donations: Please be especially mindful during the holiday season when our needs are greatest. For many fulfilling ways to serve, please call Tim Clark (562) 431-4385.

www.HelpOurMarriage.org



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Please join us for a 5th Grade Fundraiser

PASTA NIGHT

Farewell

TO FR. MARTIN HALL

Friday, December 1, 2023

6 pm - 9 pm

**PASTA DINNER BUFFET,
WINE PULL,
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Safeguard The Children



Holiday hugs and boundaries

As children get older, they need to understand not just the rules of social interaction but why people act (or don't act) these ways. Children need to know how to set their own boundaries. The approaching holidays are a great time to discuss these boundaries and how to express them politely. Talk to your children about whether they would like to give hugs to family members, whether they want to give or receive any other forms of affection. For more information, read the article "Teaching Kids about Boundaries" at childmind.org/article/teaching-kids-boundaries-empathy/.



St. Joseph Grief Support



Offering support and care this holiday season.

We are offering two sessions to help you deal with grief. Both sessions are the same.

Grief support in person session plus video.
November 14th, Tuesday 9:30 am to 11:30 am
in the PLC building.

December 12th, Tuesday 9:30 am to 11:30 am
in the PLC building.

(These Sessions are Complimentary)



Seniors Group



The next meeting of the St. Joseph Senior Group will be on **Monday, November 26**, in the hall. The activities will begin promptly at **11:00 am** and 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 cookies will be provided. We look forward to seeing all our members and any new friends who would like to join us. This meeting will be your last chance to make a reservation for our Christmas luncheon which will be on **Monday, December 11**. The cost of the luncheon is \$10 and must be paid by November 26. Also, we will be collecting hand knit blankets and baby/toddler clothing and toys for Movement for a Better World. I hope you all have a blessed Thanksgiving, and that you will be joining us for our Christmas luncheon.



In Memoriam

Pamela Whisner

Funeral Mass at Mary Star of the Sea Church:
November 21 at
10:30 am

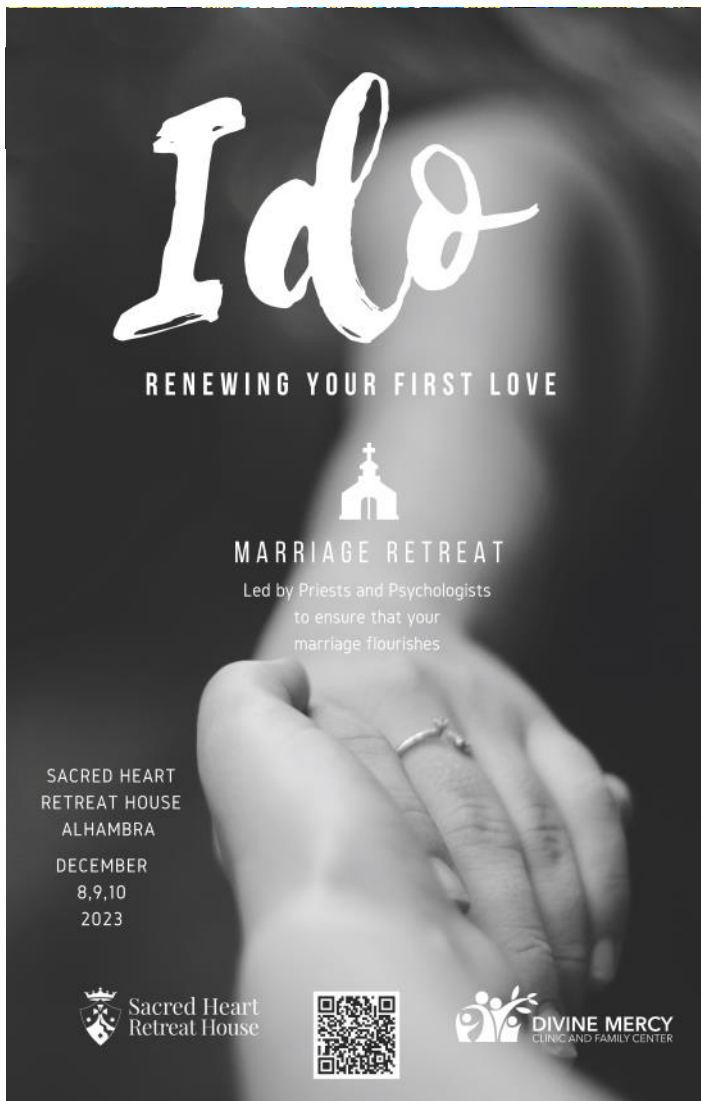
William (B.I.) Mais

Funeral Mass at St. Joseph: December 9th at
10:00 am

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~




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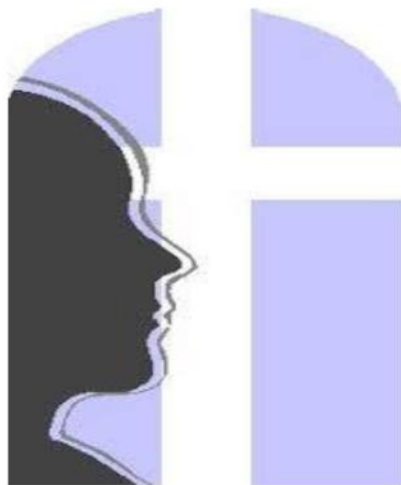
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Order of Christian Initiation of Adults



Are you or someone you know searching for-

- A community of believers?
- An opportunity to explore Catholic beliefs?
- Ways to form a closer relationship with Jesus Christ?
- Preparation for becoming a Catholic?

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OCIA is a process for exploring Catholicism in weekly small group sessions. OCIA is open to any adult who is

- Unbaptized
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Sessions have just begun, but it is not too late to join.

For further information, contact fredandsusan2001@yahoo.com.



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