

St. Joseph Parish



4TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

His fame spread everywhere throughout the whole region of Galilee. - Mk 1:28

6180 E. Willow Street Long Beach, CA 90815

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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.





Letter From Our Pastor

Dear Parish Family:

Welcome to the Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time. Welcome to the annual celebration of **Catholic Schools Week**. Our great Saint Joseph Catholic school will hold an Open House on Sunday of this weekend from 9:30 AM to 12 o'clock noon. There will be ongoing tours, and you can see the genius and creativity of our students at work with their exhibitions in the art fair. There will be wonderful activities this week, including the Grandparents Day Mass, the family picnic, the school spelling bee – yours truly serves as the moderator, and the faculty vs. the eighth-grade volleyball game. Please pray that the life of our St. Joseph School may continue to grow and flourish!

Check out the flyer below this column and join us for three nights of our **Lenten Mission** on Feb. 19, 20, 21. Father Michael Driscoll, a retired Priest from the University of Notre Dame, will offer three conferences on the Eucharist. I've known Fr. Michael since 1992 when he served as one of the three Professors on my Comprehensive Exams Board. I was pursuing a Master's Degree in Liturgical Studies – I passed the test and Fr. Michael and I have been friends ever since!! Please join us for all three nights as you'll find him to be theological, practical, scholarly and inspiring. Do it for your LENT!!

The annual **Archdiocesan Together In Mission** campaign is a couple of weeks away. Most of us will receive the pledge envelope in the mail during these weeks. Please save and bring it to church and we'll fill out our pledges together on Sunday, February 10-11, Together in Mission Commitment Weekend.

We've had great success with our **Family Altar Server Program**. We're looking for a few more families – please scroll down and see the announcement and step up with your children to serve at our Holy Masses!! Your family will be blessed!!

Blessings in this New Week of our Lord,
Msgr. Kevin

THE EUCHARIST AS THE EMBODIMENT OF LOVE

Strengthen Your Faith with Us

Join us for our Lenten Mission, a series of 3 conferences on the enduring power of the Eucharist to unite us in love and sacrifice.



Feb. 19th (Mon)

Feb. 20th (Tue)

Feb. 21st (Wed)

7:00–8:30 pm

In The Church

All Are Welcome!

St. Joseph Parish
6180 E. Willow St.
Long Beach, CA 90815

Good Faith Donation
Appreciated

The Eucharist is a mystery to be a celebrated, believed and lived. The retreat will make the connection between cult, creed, and code, to the extent that how we pray shapes what we believe and how we act as Christians living in the world. Particular attention is given to the liturgical celebration. Monday – The Eucharist as a Mystery to be celebrated (liturgical dimension). Tuesday – The Eucharist as a Mystery to be believed (theological dimension). Wednesday – The Eucharist as a Mystery to be lived (ethical dimension).

Rev. Michael S. Driscoll is a priest of the Diocese of Helena in Montana and since 2017 professor emeritus in theology at the University of Notre Dame where he has taught sacramental theology and liturgy since 1994. He is the founding director of the graduate program in Sacred Music (MSM) and the Interdisciplinary Minor in Liturgical Music Ministry at Notre Dame. He is an active member of several professional groups having served in the leadership of each: North American Academy of Liturgy (NAAL), the *Societas Liturgica*, and the Catholic Academy of Liturgy (CAL). He has published two books, many book chapters, and numerous articles in journals such as *Worship*, *Ecclesia Orans* and *Traditio*.

STJOSEPHLB.ORG

Ash Wednesday

February 14, 2024

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.

6:15 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



Weekly Prayer

Sunday's Readings

First Reading:

"I will raise up for them a prophet like you from among their kin, and will put my words into his mouth; he shall tell them all that I command him." (Dt 18:18)

Psalm:

If today you hear his voice, harden not your hearts. (Ps 95)

Second Reading:

An unmarried woman or a virgin is anxious about the things of the Lord, so that she may be holy in both body and spirit. (1 Cor 7:34)

Gospel:

The people were astonished at his teaching, for he taught them as one having authority and not as the scribes. (Mk 1:22)

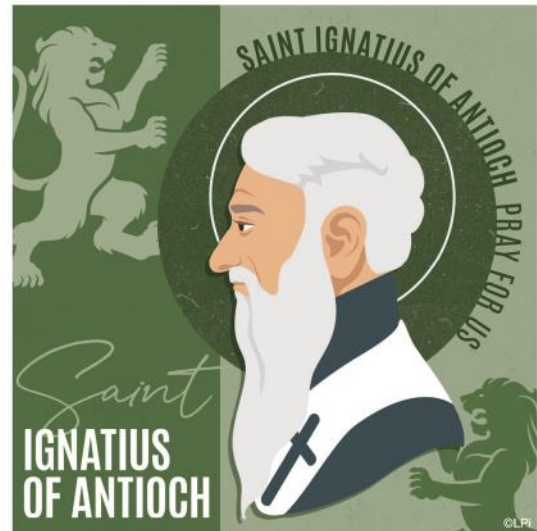
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Live The Liturgy Inspiration of the Week

With one swift command, Jesus freed a man from the possession of evil spirits. He has that same power to banish the shadow of sin from our own lives. Let's invite him into our hearts, asking him to cleanse the darkness he finds there.

Observances for the week of January 28, 2024

- Sunday:** 4th Sunday in Ordinary Time, Celebrate Catholic Schools Week
- Wednesday:** St. John Bosco, Priest
- Friday:** The Presentation of the Lord, World Day for Consecrated Life
- Saturday:** St. Blaise, Bishop and Martyr; St. Ansgar, Bishop
- Next Sunday:** 5th Sunday in Ordinary Time



Saint of the week

St. Ignatius of Antioch, a bishop of Antioch in the first century, was a direct disciple of the apostle John. Despite being thrown to the lions and martyred in Rome's Colosseum for his faith, his teachings and hope for Christian unity live on as early examples of Christian theology.

Prayer for the Youth

Dear Lord,
Be with our young people this week and always — keep them in Your care. Help them to form godly friendships, speak the truth, and know You in the personal way that will challenge, shape, and guide them. Amen.

Worship & Meditation

Readings for the week of January 28, 2024

Sunday:

Dt 18:15-20/Ps 95:1-2, 6-7, 7-9 (8)/
1 Cor 7:32-35/Mk 1:21-28

Monday:

2 Sm 15:13-14, 30; 16:5-13/Ps 3:2-3, 4-5,
6-7/Mk 5:1-20

Tuesday:

2 Sm 18:9-10, 14b, 24-25a, 30—19:3/
Ps 86:1-2, 3-4, 5-6/Mk 5:21-43

Wednesday:

2 Sm 24:2, 9-17/Ps 32:1-2, 5, 6, 7/Mk 6:1-6

Thursday:

1 Kgs 2:1-4, 10-12/1 Chr 29:10, 11ab,
11d-12a, 12bcd/Mk 6:7-13

Friday:

Mal 3:1-4/Heb 2:14-18/Ps 24:7, 8, 9, 10/
Lk 2:22-40 or 2:22-32

Saturday:

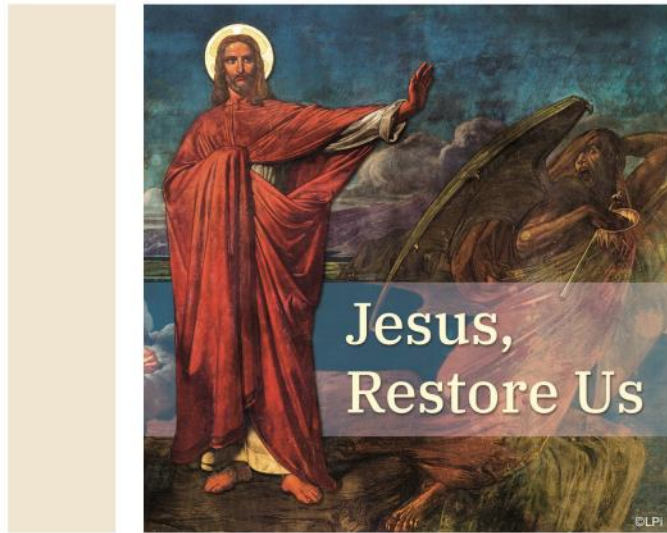
1 Kgs 3:4-13/Ps 119:9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14/
Mk 6:30-34

Next Sunday:

Jb 7:1-4, 6-7/Ps 147:1-2, 3-4, 5-6
(see 3a)/1 Cor 9:16-19, 22-23/Mk 1:29-39



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Gospel Meditation

Encourage Deeper Understanding of Scripture

I love movies about exorcisms. Apparently, so do many others. The 2023 movie “Nefarious” features a possibly possessed inmate on death row. Critics were not impressed, but audiences scored it at 97% on the website Rotten Tomatoes. Most people have an appreciation for the demonic realm, even if cultural elites are generally embarrassed about it. As is standard in exorcism movies, the afflicted person (in this case, a man named Edward Brady) thinks and acts like *multiple* persons. He is someone besides himself. We know what that is like. We feel *fake* sometimes, not ourselves.

The same dynamic is on dramatic display this week in the Gospel. Jesus the Exorcist approaches a possessed man who utters, **“What have you to do with us, Jesus of Nazareth?”** Notice the plural, *us*. The basic effect of the demonic is division. The man’s identity is fractured, divided, and thus many. Jesus powerfully expels the spirit by saying, **“Quiet! Come out of him!”** Jesus’ word has the power to restore the man’s singularity — *him* — and indeed it does.

All this helps us to dismiss childish images of demons sporting red goat tails. Equally, it overcomes the cultured aloofness that dreams demons are mere metaphors for evil. We see instead that fallen angels are conscious and intelligent beings who orient their agency toward division. They bring about schism where there should be unity, e.g., in persons, families, communities, politics, and so on. Thankfully, Jesus commands demons to flee from all these places to restore wholeness and peace. What if we made room for his word where we need it?

— Father John Muir

SUNDAY, JANUARY 28, 2024 | 4TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

©LPi



Adoration



Come and spend an hour with our Lord Jesus Christ in the Blessed Sacrament. Experience what Catholic author Matthew Kelly calls “The Classroom of Silence,” and respond to Jesus’ call: “Could you not watch with me one hour?” (Matthew 26:40). Deacon Tom & Pat Halliwell will lead Eucharistic Adoration this **Friday February 2nd at 8:00 am.**

FAMILY ALTAR SERVERS WANTED

We are looking for additional families that would like to be altar servers at all Masses! Catholic Liturgy is meant to be the Work of the People. Families who attend Mass together are encouraged to serve together in this ministry of service. All families that attend St. Joseph are invited to apply. Families who apply will receive appropriate training in the ministry and will meet with Monsignor Kevin prior to serving. Then they will be added to an Altar Server schedule. We hope that you will join in this special ministry!

Please email the Altar Server Ministry Coordinator, Monica Wissuchek, at stjfamilyaltarservers@gmail.com to register for the next training in early February. Monica will work with each family to help meet their individual needs, and to train and schedule them for liturgies throughout the year.



A Special Opportunity for our Parish Men and Women

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 – March 9-10, 2024, is currently full but register and you will be placed on the waitlist.

Men’s Weekend – April 13-14, 2024 Registration is open.

To learn more and to sign up, visit: stjosephlb.org/welcome-christ-renews/.

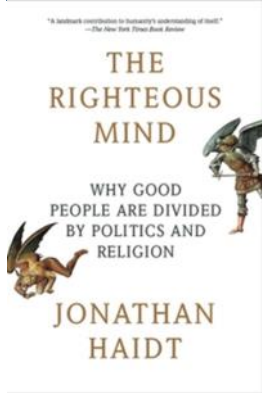
I ENCOURAGE YOU, DEAR STUDENTS, TO MAKE YOUR TIME OF FORMATION AN UNREMITTING QUEST FOR GOD

St. John Paul II | Catholic Schools Week

©LPI



Book Club



Our next Book Club meeting is **Wednesday, April 17 at 7pm** on Zoom

The Righteous Mind: Why Good People Are Divided by Politics and Religion by Jonathan Haidt

“The acclaimed social psychologist challenges conventional thinking about morality, politics, and religion in a way that speaks to conservatives and liberals alike a “landmark contribution to humanity’s understanding of itself” (The New York Times Book Review).”

All are welcome!

For more info, email agoodlife@msn.com



Did You Know?

The crime of child pornography

Child pornography is the visual depiction of a minor in sexually explicit conduct. There is some general public confusion surrounding the term “child pornography” — for example, some people believe that child pornography can be accidentally found while browsing the internet, or that the “children” depicted are actually older and simply appear younger. Using the term “child pornography” can also minimize the horrors of children being exploited for profit in this way. To learn more, read the VIRTUS® article “Responding to the Crime of Child Sexual Abuse Materials” at lacatholics.org/did-you-know/.

RE CONGRESS
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OPEN | 7:00 AM - 2:30 PM
AT ANAHEIM CONVENTION CENTER

For more information contact:
Youth Minister Liz Moreno
(562)598-0519 Ext 230

THURSDAY 15 FEBRUARY

Sign Up Now!



Sunday, January 28th



9:30am - 12pm

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new student applications available
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Movement for a Better World



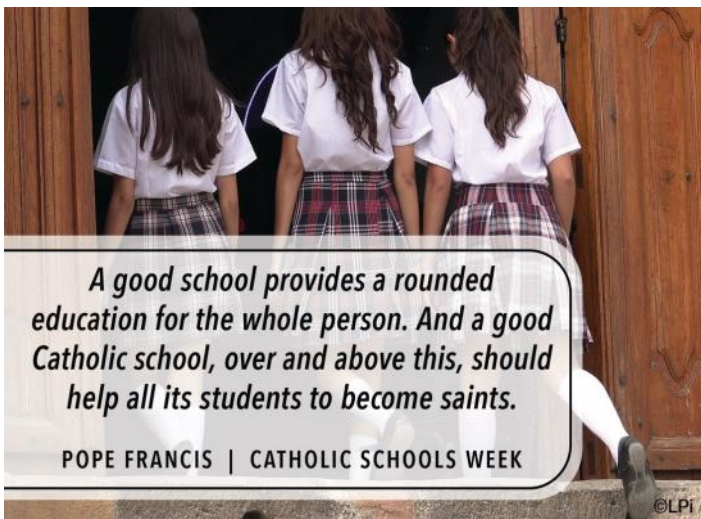
"If you want to go fast, go alone. If you want to go far, go together." - African Proverb

Homeless Kit Drive: *thanks* to everyone that contributed to a VERY successful Homeless Kit Drive Jan. 13-14! Combined with an outstanding drive by the School, we collected kits and extra supplies to assemble over 325! Supplies for 45 additional kits will be purchased from \$575 in cash donations. They will be distributed to homeless encampments by the St. Joseph Homeless Ministry and by Catholic Charities of Long Beach.

Feb. 3-4: Book Drive: Collecting new and gently used reading books for the children of our supported families for Easter.

Mar. 23: Easter Food and Book Distribution: As a parish community, we will support 69 families. Easter is our most challenging holiday to enlist drivers! Contact Jill Salinaz (562) 822-7367 or jmsalinaz@yahoo.com. So meaningful to kids!

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



A good school provides a rounded education for the whole person. And a good Catholic school, over and above this, should help all its students to become saints.

POPE FRANCIS | CATHOLIC SCHOOLS WEEK

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Seniors Group



The next meeting of the St. Joseph Senior Group will be on Monday, **February 12, 2024**, in the hall. The activities will begin 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. We will have a special treat that day. The Alpha K, Kindergarten, 1st and 2nd graders will be entertaining us with a Patriotic Program commemorating Presidents Day. The program will begin promptly at 11:00 so come a little early. We will continue to collect dues for 2024 at this meeting. The dues are \$15 for the year. See you on the 22nd.



St. Joseph Grief Support



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

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Tuesdays at 9:30am

Call May 562-833-6370

classes are held in the PLC building.



BOOK DRIVE



February 3rd - 4th

Collecting new or gently used children's reading books (toddler through age 17) for our Easter Food and Book Distribution to local families in need.

Books can be brought to church or to the Parish Office

Questions? Tim Clark, (562) 431-4385



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