

St. Joseph Parish



1st SUNDAY OF LENT

“This is the time of fulfillment. The kingdom of God is at hand.
Repent, and believe in the gospel.” - Mk 1:15

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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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Mary Anne Silvestri

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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:

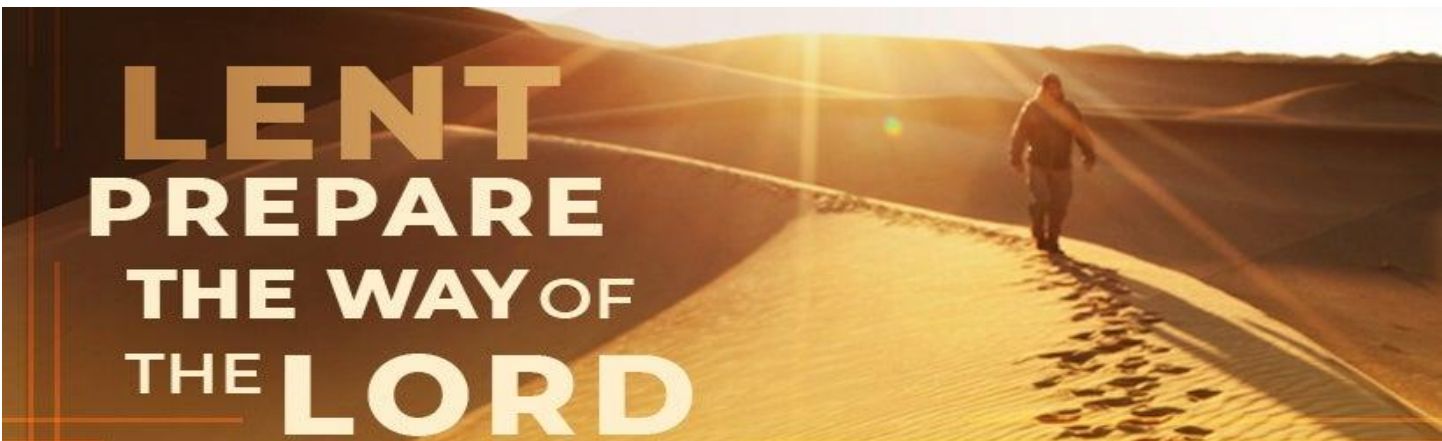
Welcome to the **First Sunday of Lent!** Lent has a twofold purpose: through prayer, fasting and almsgiving we imitate Jesus Christ as he leads us through His Passion to the glory of the Resurrection at Easter. We are also motivated to pray and lead our catechumens and candidates to the Sacraments at Easter.

Welcome Fr. Michael Driscoll! This week is a special time for our parish as we will have our first Spiritual Mission in years. My friend, Fr. Michael Driscoll from the University of Notre Dame will be here this Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday evenings to inspire us to have a greater love for the Eucharist. Join us each night in the Church from 7:00 PM until 8:30 PM. Let's all come together and be inspired by the witness of Fr. Driscoll as we journey through Lent. Scroll down to the next page and see the flyer about this Lenten Mission.

Many thanks to those of you who made a pledge to the **Together in Mission** campaign. Last Sunday, you generously pledged \$33,000. We're almost halfway to our goal of \$75,333. This weekend is our follow up weekend for those who did not have an opportunity to make a pledge and TIM envelopes will be available. You can also give online at timgive.org. Just click "Select the parish" and select "Saint Joseph - Long Beach" and complete the secure, online form. Thank you for supporting our most needy parishes and schools in our local church!

I'm praying for you and your families during Lent!

Blessings, Msgr. Kevin



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THE WAY OF
THE LORD**

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MISSION**

The Archdiocese of Los Angeles
Office of Annual Appeals, 6th Floor
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Los Angeles, CA 90010

Thank you to all our Ash Wednesday volunteers.
Your spirit of service touched our community. Blessings to all!



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

Weekly Prayer

Sunday's Readings

First Reading:

God said to Noah and to his sons with him:
"See, I am now establishing my covenant with you
and your descendants after you
and with every living creature that was with you."
(Gn 9:8-10)

Psalm:

Your ways, O Lord, are love and truth to those who
keep your covenant. (Ps 25)

Second Reading:

It is not a removal of dirt from the body
but an appeal to God for a clear conscience,
through the resurrection of Jesus Christ. (1 Pt 3:21)

Gospel:

He was among wild beasts,
and the angels ministered to him. (Mk 1:13)

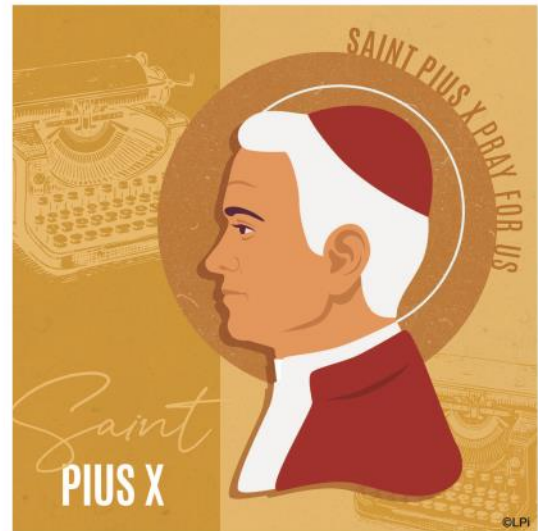
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Live The Liturgy Inspiration of the Week

In the desert, Jesus endured forty days of hardship and temptation. But he did not endure it alone: "the angels ministered to him," the Gospel tells us. Remember that you do not face Lent alone. God is beside you in your journey to the desert.

Observances for the week of February 18, 2024

- Sunday:** 1st Sunday of Lent
Monday: Presidents' Day
Wednesday: St. Peter Damian, Bishop and Doctor of the Church
Thursday: The Chair of St. Peter the Apostle
Friday: St. Polycarp, Bishop and Martyr
Next Sunday: 2nd Sunday of Lent



Saint of the week

St. Pius X's devotion to the Eucharist was truly inspiring! He lowered the age of First Communion to seven years old, encouraging young hearts to encounter Christ early-on. He also advocated that everyone, regardless of their social class, should have access to the Eucharist.

Prayer for Lent

Dear Jesus,
This is the first Sunday of Lent, and I want to commit myself more deeply to you this season. Inspire me with the Lenten penances you most desire, the ones that help me to grow ever nearer to you.
Amen.

Worship & Meditation

Readings for the week of February 18, 2024

Sunday:

Gn 9:8-15/Ps 25:4-5, 6-7, 8-9 (see 10)/
1 Pt 3:18-22/Mk 1:12-15

Monday:

Lv 19:1-2, 11-18/Ps 19:8, 9, 10, 15/
Mt 25:31-46

Tuesday:

Is 55:10-11/Ps 34:4-5, 6-7, 16-17, 18-19/
Mt 6:7-15

Wednesday:

Jon 3:1-10/Ps 51:3-4, 12-13, 18-19/
Lk 11:29-32

Thursday:

1 Pt 5:1-4/Ps 23:1-3a, 4, 5, 6/Mt 16:13-19

Friday:

Ez 18:21-28/Ps 130:1-2, 3-4, 5-7a, 7bc-8/
Mt 5:20-26

Saturday:

Dt 26:16-19/Ps 119:1-2, 4-5, 7-8/Mt 5:43-48

Next Sunday:

Gn 22:1-2, 9a, 10-13, 15-18/Ps 116:10, 15,
16-17, 18-19 (116:9)/Rom 8:31b-34/
Mk 9:2-10



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Gospel Meditation

Encourage Deeper Understanding of Scripture

When I feel down, I sometimes watch the famous “Double Rainbow” video on YouTube to feel better. It’s hilarious. A young man camping in Yosemite Park sees two rainbows stretching across the sky. He bursts into a kind of ecstasy. “Double rainbow, all the way! Oh my God!” he announces. Then he starts to weep. He cries out, “What does it *mean*?” Beneath the humor of his glorious overreaction is the deep intuition we all have, I think, when we see the colorful bow in the sky. This Sunday, God sends a rainbow to Noah, and to us. What *does* it mean?

Long before YouTube had the double rainbow, Dante’s medieval poem *The Divine Comedy* featured one in his image of paradise. Seeing two rainbows, he muses that one is born of the other. The bow is God’s promise of peace. For Dante, it’s even more: nature’s encrypted image of the Trinitarian God. One visible rainbow (God the Son) is begotten of another usually invisible one (God the Father) united by invisible light between them (God the Spirit). Like invisible light, Trinitarian glory surrounds us in every moment — but Jesus has made it visible in his glorious body.

Lenten challenge: This might seem silly, but this Lent I invite you to find a rainbow and meditate on it. You might have to make one yourself, like this current desert-dweller will. Gaze on it. See there a natural gift from the Creator, saying to you, “Here I am! I will love and protect you, surrounding you in My glory.” This Lent let’s embrace that with confidence, rain, or shine.

— *Father John Muir*

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 18, 2024 | 1ST SUNDAY OF LENT

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JOIN US

FOR ADORATION & STATIONS OF THE CROSS FRIDAYS

Adoration 6:30pm
Stations of the Cross 7pm

Lenten Guidelines and Practices

Lenten Fasting and Abstinence

Ash Wednesday and Good Friday are obligatory days of universal fast and abstinence. Fasting is obligatory for all who have completed their 18th year until the beginning of their 60th year. Fasting allows for one full meal and two smaller meals not to equal one full meal. Abstinence from meat is obligatory for all who have completed their 14th year of age.

Fridays in Lent are obligatory days of abstinence from meat for all who have completed their 14th year. As always, anyone for whom fasting or abstinence would pose a health risk is excused. For example, pregnant women (breastfeeding mothers) or people receiving medical treatment are not obligated to fast. Nevertheless, people especially in this category are invited to practice another form of fasting besides food.

OCIA

OCIA

Catechumens:



Long



Noel



Shawn

Candidates:



John



Robert

Pray for our candidates and elects!

OCIA Prayer

Lord, we pray for those in the OCIA process who journey to you. Strengthen their faith. Open their hearts to the fullness of your love. Deepen their understanding. Set their hearts on fire for the kingdom of God. We ask this through Jesus, who is the Way, the Truth, and the Life for all.

Amen!

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.



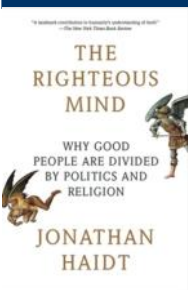
Did You Know?

Stand Up Speak Out

Why does it help to communicate your concerns?

If you have concerns about someone's behavior, sharing those concerns is critical to protecting the children in that person's life. If you see or hear about inappropriate behavior, you can take your concerns to a supervisor or program director for further action. This helps those in charge launch an investigation, ask questions, and start to look for signs on their own — all of which can help keep children safe from potential abuse. Communicating your concerns, and having them investigated, can also discourage a potential offender, pushing them to leave the program or stop their behaviors. For more information, read the VIRTUS® article "Communicating Your Concerns Matters" at lacatholics.org/did-you-know/.

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

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Movement for a Better World



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

March 2-3: Feed-a-Baby Food Drive: We will collect non-perishable baby food and products for Catholic Charities, Elizabeth Ann Seton Residence, and New Life Beginnings of Long Beach.

Mar. 23: Easter Food and Book Distribution: As a parish community, we will support 69 families. **Easter is our *most* challenging holiday to recruit 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



St. Joseph Grief Support



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

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on-going classes for your support:
Tuesdays at 9:30am
Call May 562-833-6370
classes are held in the PLC building.



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.

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

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



Seniors Group



The next meeting of the St. Joseph Senior Group will be on **Monday, February 26, 2024**, 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. **Because this meeting will be our last meeting in the old hall, we will be treated to pizza and salad for lunch.** We will still have coffee, tea, water, and snacks to enjoy during the games, and cookies for dessert. We look forward to seeing all our members and any new friends who would like to join us. Information on what will be happening to the Senior Group when the construction begins will be forthcoming.



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