

# St. Joseph Parish



## 5TH SUNDAY OF LENT

“And when I am lifted up from the earth,  
I will draw everyone to myself.” - Jn 12:32

6180 E. Willow Street Long Beach, CA 90815

T: (562) 594-4657 F: (562) 431-7424

Office Hours: Monday-Friday 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. (Closed Noon - 1:00 for lunch)

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



# Our Parish

**PASTOR: MSGR. KEVIN KOSTELNIK**

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*sfcuda@yahoo.com*

**Deacon Tom Halliwell**

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Madison Alba

## Religious Education: Marc Leon, DRE

(562) 598-0519

*religioused@stjosephlb.org*

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

*michelle@stjosephlb.org*

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High School Ministry & Confirmation:

Liz Moreno

OCIA:

Fred & Susan Whitcraft

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## Parish Ministries & Organizations

Baptism Preparation

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(562) 594-4657

Director of Music

Vivian Doughty

(562) 594-4657

Eucharistic Ministry

Tonet Risko

*riskotonet@yahoo.com*

Lectors

Steve Koppenheffer

(714) 299-6644

Meditation

Frank Mckown

(310) 633-1744

Esther Ministry

Virginia Young

*estherministry1@gmail.com*

Hospitality Ministry

Deborah Rollinger

(562) 594-4657

Movement For A Better World

Tim Clark

(562) 431-4385

Senior Group

Marilyn North

(562) 429-8891

Knights Of Columbus

Marty Vezzetti

(702) 401-5247

Engaged Encounter

Paciano & Molly Diaz

*Ktmr@Sbcglobal.Net*

Natural Family Planning

Greg & Beth Gath

(562) 377-5877

Precious Life Shelter

Cynthia San Jose

*csanjoselaw@aol.com*

Boy Scouts

Jeff Baer

(562) 537-6722

Sacristans

Joe Dang

(562) 493-2198

Homebound Ministry

Patty Brunter

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May Pace

(562) 833-6370

Cursillo

Tom & Marie Newton

*tjn8343@gmail.com*

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Environment

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Family Altar Servers

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*stjfamilyaltarservers@gmail.com*

Welcome Christ Renews His Parish

Diane Ohde

*stjlbwelcome@gmail.com*

Book Club

Mary Anne Silvestri

*agoodlife@msn.com*

## 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 Fifth Sunday of Lent! Our Lenten journey is nearly complete and what really makes the journey whole is the opportunity to celebrate Reconciliation. This Monday, March 18<sup>th</sup> is our Annual Lenten Penance Service at 7:00 PM in the Church. There will be 7 visiting priests and yours truly present to hear your confession. If it's been a long time, like before COVID, it's time to surrender your souls unto our gracious and merciful God.

After Mass this Sunday from 8:30 to 2:00 you're invited to view the Saint Gallery in the hall, created by our 2<sup>nd</sup> Year Confirmation students. Scroll down for further information.

Next Sunday is Palm Sunday and in keeping with tradition, we will begin the Mass outdoors in front of the church for the Saturday 5 o'clock and Sunday 10:30 and 12:30 Masses. We'll have the Distribution and Blessing of the Palms and Procession of Palms into the Church. For those of you who attend the 8:30 AM Outdoor Mass, Palms will be distributed as you enter through the gate.

By now you have seen our Easter Schedule of Masses. You can also scroll down. If you have never attended the Easter Vigil Mass on Saturday night, (scheduled for March 30 at 8:00 PM) I would strongly encourage you to attend. It's the most beautiful Mass of the year and the fulness of our beautiful Catholic symbols are on display: water, fire, oil, incense, etc. Our Elect, Noel, Shawn and Long will be immersed in the baptismal font and fully initiated into our Catholic Church. The liturgical celebration is long – almost two hours, and you will be deeply moved as we commence the night Jesus rose from the dead!!

Next Saturday morning, March 23, we distribute the Easter Boxes filled with food and children's books. If you would like to help, please scroll down for further information.

Thanks for all your good care!!

Blessings as we near the end of Lent,  
Msgr. Kevin

# Weekly Prayer

## Sunday's Readings

### First Reading:

All, from least to greatest, shall know me, says the LORD, for I will forgive their evildoing and remember their sin no more. (Jer 31:34)

### Psalm:

Create a clean heart in me, O God. (Ps 51)

### Second Reading:

Son though he was, he learned obedience from what he suffered; and when he was made perfect, he became the source of eternal salvation for all who obey him. (Heb 5:8-9)

### Gospel:

"Unless a grain of wheat falls to the ground and dies, it remains just a grain of wheat; but if it dies, it produces much fruit." (Jn 12:24)

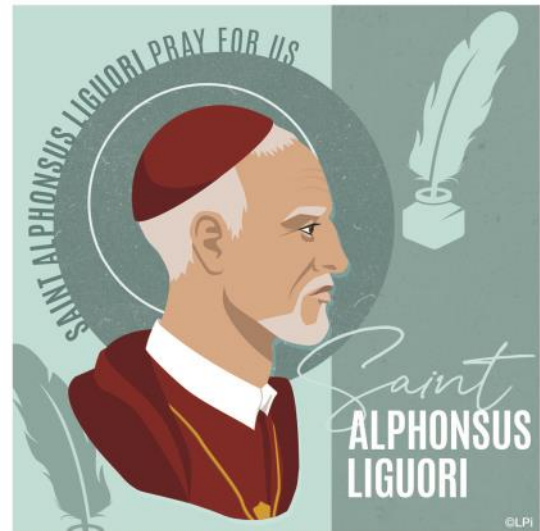
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## Live The Liturgy Inspiration of the Week

Jesus reminds us that the grain of wheat can never realize its potential without sacrifice. God has a plan for each one of us. May He give you strength to become who you were born to be.

## Observances for the week of March 17, 2024

- Sunday:** 5th Sunday of Lent
- Monday:** St. Cyril of Jerusalem, Bishop and Doctor of the Church
- Tuesday:** St. Joseph, Spouse of the Blessed Virgin Mary
- Saturday:** St. Turibius of Mogrovejo, Bishop
- Next Sunday:** Palm Sunday of the Passion of the Lord, Holy Week begins



## Saint of the week

St. Alphonsus Liguori, (1696-1787) was a prolific theologian and founder of the Congregation of the Most Holy Redeemer (The Redemptorists). Renowned for his profound devotion to the Eucharist and insightful theological teachings, he is the patron saint of moral theologians.

## Prayer of Bold Ask

God in heaven,  
Hear me as I call to you! Pour new life into me! Renew my heart in Your word! Help me to know You! Help me to glorify You, worship You, and trust You. Amen.



# Worship & Meditation

## Readings for the week of March 17, 2024

### Sunday:

Jer 31:31-34/Ps 51:3-4, 12-13, 14-15 (12a)/  
Heb 5:7-9/Jn 12:20-33 *Scrutiny*: Ez  
37:12-14/Ps 130: 1-2, 3-4, 5-6, 7-8 (7)/  
Rom 8:8-11/Jn 11:1-45 or 11:3-7, 17, 20-27,  
33b-45

### Monday:

Dn 13:1-9, 15-17, 19-30, 33-62 or 13:41c-62/  
Ps 23:1-3a, 3b-4, 5, 6/Jn 8:1-11

### Tuesday:

2 Sm 7:4-5a, 12-14a, 16/Ps 89:2-3, 4-5, 27  
and 29/Rom 4:13, 16-18, 22/Mt 1:16, 18-21,  
24a or Lk 2:41-51a

### Wednesday:

Dn 3:14-20, 91-92, 95/Dn 3:52, 53, 54, 55,  
56/Jn 8:31-42

### Thursday:

Gn 17:3-9/Ps 105:4-5, 6-7, 8-9/Jn 8:51-59

### Friday:

Jer 20:10-13/Ps 18:2-3a, 3bc-4, 5-6, 7/  
Jn 10:31-42

### Saturday:

Ez 37:21-28/Jer 31:10, 11-12abcd, 13/  
Jn 11:45-56

### Next Sunday:

Mk 11:1-10 or Jn 12:12-16/Is 50:4-7/Ps  
22:8-9, 17-18, 19-20, 23-24 (2a)/  
Phil 2:6-11/Mk 14:1–15:47 or 15:1-39



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## Gospel Meditation

### Encourage Deeper Understanding of Scripture

A middle-aged woman sat on the couch in my parish office and recounted to me a shocking list of terrible calamities in her life: addictions, terminal illnesses, financial loss, broken relationships, and so on. She smiled as she did so. “Please forgive me,” I asked, “but you seem to be smiling as you share this.” She said, “Father John, I am totally overwhelmed. But I’m smiling because I just can’t wait to see what good things God does with this mess.” She expected God would manifest His glory when she most needed it.

This week in the Gospel, God speaks from heaven for the third and final time in Jesus’ earthly ministry. It’s at a tough moment. Gentiles seek Jesus, who announces his terrible suffering, and then boldly prays, “**Father, glorify your name!**” John then writes: **Then a voice came from heaven, “I have glorified it and will glorify it again.”** Was the task of drawing the whole non-Jewish world to himself overwhelming? Or was it the terrible specter of crucifixion? Whatever it was, the crushing weight triggers his turning to the Father with an unshakeable expectation of divine glory to burst through. And indeed, it did on Easter Sunday. In our burdens, our greatest strength is to turn to God and boldly ask Him for His glory.

**Lenten challenge:** This week, I invite you to list out everything which is a burden to you. Write it down. Then add these words: “Father, glorify Your name in all these things!” Put that paper in your pocket or purse when you come to Holy Week liturgies next week. You might smile at the most unlikely times.

— *Father John Muir*

# Holy Week Schedule



## St. Joseph Holy Week & Easter Schedule

### Palm Sunday March 23<sup>rd</sup> & 24<sup>th</sup>

5:00 pm Saturday	Mass Indoors
8:30 am Sunday	Mass on the Grass (Please Bring Your Own Lawn Chairs)
10:30 am Sunday	Mass Indoors
12:30 pm Sunday	Mass Indoors

### Holy Thursday March 28<sup>th</sup>

8:00 am	Morning Prayer – Indoors
7:00 pm	Mass of the Lord's Supper – Indoors

### Good Friday March 29<sup>th</sup>

8:00 am	Morning Prayer – Indoors
1:30 pm	Passion Liturgy – Indoors

### Holy Saturday March 30<sup>th</sup>

8:00 am	Morning Prayer - Indoors
8:00 pm	Easter Vigil Mass – Indoors

### Easter Sunday March 31<sup>st</sup>

8:30 am	Easter Mass on the Grass (Please Bring Your Own Lawn Chairs)
10:30 am	Easter Mass Indoors
12:30 am	Easter Mass Indoors



Welcome Christ Renews His Parish  
*Grateful for Your Prayers!*



*Thank You From All  
Retreat #2 Participants &  
The Welcome Team*

JOIN US FOR A



# Saint Gallery

**SUNDAY, MARCH 17 | AFTER EACH MASS**

**8:30AM - 2:00PM**

**LOCATION: FATHER MARTIN HALL**

**JOIN US FOR A JOURNEY INTO OUR SAINT GALLERY,  
CRAFTED BY OUR YEAR 2 CONFIRMATION  
CANDIDATES!**

**FOR ALL PARISHIONERS TO EXPLORE.**

**OUR CANDIDATES WILL BE EAGERLY AWAITING THE  
ST. JOSEPH COMMUNITY TO SHARE THEIR CHOSEN  
SAINTS.**

**LET THE SPIRIT OF ST. PATRICK INSPIRE AND UPLIFT  
US ON THIS YOUTH SAINT APPRECIATION EVENT!**

**SEE YOU THERE!**

**LIZ MORENO  
YOUTH MINISTER - CONFIRMATION COORDINATOR**



# 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!



## REGISTRATION OPEN



### Women's Fall Retreat September 28<sup>TH</sup> and 29<sup>TH</sup> 2024

The next Women's Welcome Christ Renews His Parish retreat is Saturday September 28<sup>th</sup> and Sunday September 29<sup>th</sup> 2024.

Please visit our parish website to learn more and to sign up. Registration is now open.



### Spots are still available for Men's Welcome Christ Renews His Parish Retreat next Month.

Connect with other men that have the desire to grow in their faith. Experience Welcome Christ Renews His Parish Retreat at St. Joseph. This is important! Take the time and sign up for the Men's weekend, April 13 and 14 2024.

Go to [stjosephlb.org/welcome-Christ-renews/](http://stjosephlb.org/welcome-Christ-renews/)

## 5 THINGS YOU PROBABLY DIDN'T KNOW ABOUT St. Patrick

- 1 He wasn't Irish: Patrick was captured by Irish pirates and brought to Ireland from Roman-Britain in the early 5th Century.
- 2 Experienced a (mystical) vision of the Irish asking him to teach them about Christ.
- 3 Having become a Bishop, he was sent back to Ireland. He preached first to the members of the royal family, and soon his audiences grew. He used the druid rituals as evangelizing tools.
- 4 He used a shamrock to explain the Trinity because the Irish had a love for nature.
- 5 Instituted what is known as the Croagh Patrick Hike, where he prayed that Ireland would always keep her Christian Faith. To this day, young and old hikers follow that famous route in pilgrimage.

HAPPY St. Patrick's DAY!



### St. Joseph Youth Group Schedule

6 March	<b>Stations of the Cross Rehearsal</b>	6:30pm – 8:30pm Drop off: Hall Pick Up: Hall
13 March	<b>Costume Rehearsal</b>	6:30pm – 8:30pm Drop off: Hall Pick Up: Hall
15 March	<b>Stations Performance</b>	5:30pm – 8:30pm Drop off: PLC Pick Up: Hall
17 March	<b>Saint Gallery</b>	8:30am – 2:00pm Father Martin Hall
3 April	<b>Hang Out</b>	7pm – 8:30pm PLC
17 April	<b>Hang Out</b>	7pm – 8:30pm PLC



## Why be a Catechist?

*"If you are what you should be, you will set the whole world on fire!"*  
-St. Catherine of Sienna



Do you hear a calling to serve today's youth?

Join Our Youth Ministry Team!

Contact: Youth Minister - Liz Moreno

(562)598-0519 Ext 230

Liz@stjosephlb.org



## Did You Know?

### What is a traumatic experience?

The National Child Traumatic Stress Network (NCTSN) defines a traumatic event as a "frightening, dangerous, or violent event that poses a threat to a child's life or bodily integrity." This includes events that victimize the children directly or events of this type that children witness, particularly when the person harmed is a loved one. A child's understanding of safety depends on the safety of his caregivers. For more information, read the VIRTUS® article "Healing from Child Trauma" at [lacatholics.org/did-you-know/](http://lacatholics.org/did-you-know/).

## FAMILY ALTAR SERVERS WANTED

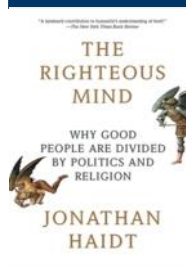


**We are looking for additional families that would like to be altar servers at all Masses!** Catholic Liturgy is meant to be the Work of the People. Families who attend Mass together are encouraged to serve together in this ministry of service. All families that attend St. Joseph are invited to apply. 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](mailto: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.



## 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](mailto:agoodlife@msn.com)





## Movement for a Better World



“You are being enriched in every way for all generosity, which through us produces thanksgiving to God.” 2 Cor 9:11.

**Feed-a-Baby Food Drive:** *Thank you* for the amazing support of last weekend’s baby product drive! Combined with the School’s drive, we collected over *25 shopping carts* of food and other baby products. *\$1,800 in cash donations* were used to purchase additional baby products requested by Catholic Charities, Elizabeth Ann Seton crisis pregnancy residence, and New Life Beginnings.

**Mar. 23: Easter Food and Book Distribution:** As a parish community, we will support 69 families. *Help wanted! Easter is our most challenging holiday to recruit drivers!* Contact Jill Salinaz (562) 822-7367 or [jmsalinaz@yahoo.com](mailto: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



## In Memoriam

**Mary Shivers**

Funeral Mass at All Souls Chapel  
Thursday, March 21st at 9:00 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~



## 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

on-going classes for your support:

**Tuesdays at 9:30am**

Call May 562-833-6370

classes are held in the PLC building.



## Seniors Group



The St. Joseph Senior Group had their last meeting in the old hall with pizza and salad and lots of games and friendship. Msgr. Kevin joined us for lunch and offered the blessing before the meal. Until the new hall is completed, we will meet at the El Dorado Restaurant once a month for breakfast and some games beginning in April. All members will be contacted by phone after Easter with the date and time for our first gathering. Until we meet again in April, we wish you a holy Lent and a blessed Easter.





# ST. JOSEPH FAIR

May 3rd, 4th & 5th 2024

EXCITEMENT IS BUILDING AS WE GEAR UP FOR OUR ANNUAL PARISH FAIR! SAVE THE DATE FOR A WEEKEND FILLED WITH FUN, GAMES, AND COMMUNITY SPIRIT ON MAY 3RD, 4TH AND 5TH. WE CAN'T WAIT TO CREATE LASTING MEMORIES TOGETHER.

TO MAKE THIS EVENT UNFORGETTABLE, THE FAIR COMMITTEE IS ACTIVELY SEEKING SPONSORSHIPS TO HELP OFFSET THE COST AND SUPPORT THE PARISH.

IF YOU OR SOMEONE YOU KNOW IS INTERESTED IN BECOMING A SPONSOR, PLEASE CONTACT THE FAIR COMMITTEE AT [STJOESFAIR2024@GMAIL.COM](mailto:STJOESFAIR2024@GMAIL.COM). YOUR GENEROSITY WILL BE ACKNOWLEDGED, AND SPONSORSHIP LEVELS ARE AVAILABLE TO SUIT VARIOUS CONTRIBUTIONS.

LET'S COME TOGETHER TO MAKE THIS YEAR'S FAIR THE BEST ONE YET! STAY TUNED FOR MORE DETAILS, AND THANK YOU FOR YOUR ONGOING SUPPORT.







March 1, 2024

Dear Potential Sponsor,

Thank you for your continued support of St. Joseph Parish/School and for considering sponsorship support for 2024.

This year's Parish Fair is scheduled for:

**DATES: May 3rd, 4th, 5th 2024**

**LOCATION: St. Joseph Catholic Parish**

Serving our Long Beach community since 1955, our parish and school embrace our mission to serve the community and educate our children and young people. Your Tax-Deductible Donations will help support the parish and school in the following ways:

- **Provide enrichment to our families and the Long Beach Community by ensuring high quality, educational opportunities, and choices for our children at St. Joseph Catholic School.**
- **Offset the costs for various community programs offered by St. Joseph Catholic Church.**

The accompanying flyer lists the various sponsorship levels and benefits. Please note that any amount or donation is welcome.

Please refer to our fair website at: <http://www.stjosephlb.org/fair/> for additional information.

Thank you for your consideration and support.

*Kevin Kostelnik*

Msgr. Kevin Kostelnik, Pastor

***Sponsorship contributions are tax deductible to the greatest extent allowed.***

*For additional information, please visit us at <http://www.stjosephlb.org/fair/>.*



## Sponsorship Levels — 2024

*Gold*

**\$3,000**

### INCLUDES

- 2 three-day unlimited ride bracelets
- \$150 in food/drink tickets
- 1 reserved parking spot during the Fair

### SPONSOR RECOGNITION

- Personalized sponsorship sign on stage
- PA announcement during the Fair
- Online recognition

*Blue*

**\$1,500**

*Knight*

**\$500**

### INCLUDES

- 2 one-day unlimited ride bracelets
  - Choose Friday, Saturday, or Sunday
- \$100 in food/drink tickets

### INCLUDES

- \$50 in food/drink tickets

*Family*

**\$250**

*Contributor*

**\$100**

### INCLUDES

- \$25 in food/drink tickets

### SPONSOR RECOGNITION

The above tiers all include a personalized sign at the Fair.

**Deadline for sponsorship is April 22, 2024 Sponsorship pick up at WILL CALL during the Fair.**

Please print my sign to read as: \_\_\_\_\_

Sponsor name: \_\_\_\_\_

Email address: \_\_\_\_\_

Street address, city, ZIP: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone number: \_\_\_\_\_ Previous sponsor? Yes No

Return this form with check made payable to St. Joseph Parish Fair.  
 St. Joseph Parish Life Center 6180 E. Willow, Long Beach, CA 90815 Attn: Parish Fair Sponsorships  
 Questions on the Parish Fair? Email Fair Chairs at: [sjparishfair@gmail.com](mailto:sjparishfair@gmail.com)





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Jennifer Lumsdaine

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**Tessa Luckey**  
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562-421-3063  
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U.S.C. Grad Parishioner



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