

St. Joseph Parish

A wooden cross is partially visible on the left side of the image. A thorny branch, likely representing the Crown of Thorns, runs diagonally across the center. The background is a solid purple color with a large, faint number '4' in the center. The text 'FOURTH SUNDAY OF LENT' is overlaid on the purple background.

FOURTH SUNDAY OF LENT

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



Letter From Our Pastor

Dear Parish Family,

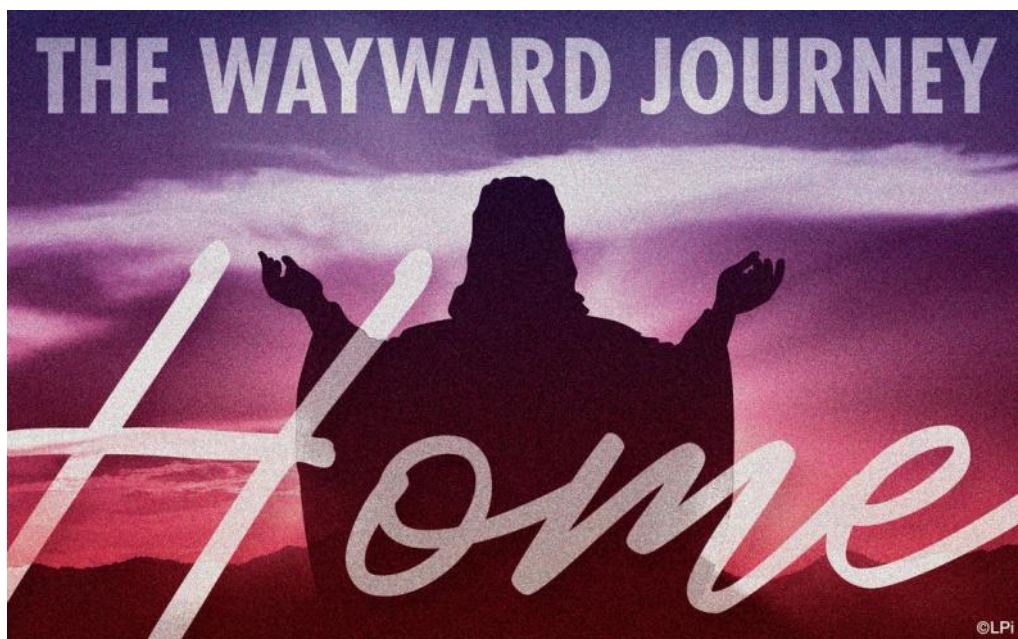
Welcome to the 4th Sunday of Lent! This weekend we hear a story that we all know very well – The Prodigal Son! Through the mercy of the Father bestowed upon his arrogant and wayward son, we meet the Divine One who is the God of compassion. As you continue your Lenten journey, is there anyone that you are estranged from: a relative or friend to whom you need to serve as a messenger of reconciliation? Is there a relationship that is broken and needs to be healed. Lift that name to the Lord this weekend and meet the God who heals broken relationships.

Next weekend is our Annual Fair and thank you for being a part of the record number of volunteers who have signed up to help make the fair a success. Please scroll down to see further information about the fair weekend.

This week's construction photos show the details such as tiles, paint colors, etc. are being applied to the interior.

See you at the Fair!

I'm praying for your Lenten journey,
Msgr. Kevin





Photos From Our Pastor

A couple of minor accent colors
in the new center



The new tile floor in the kitchen
is being installed



The new tile in the restrooms



Holy Week Schedule



St. Joseph Holy Week & Easter Schedule

Palm Sunday April 12th & 13th

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 April 17th

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

Good Friday April 18th

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

Holy Saturday April 19th

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

Easter Sunday April 20th

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

OCIA



Janet



Riley



Vanessa



Blake



Chantal



Sean



Jennifer



Nigel



Keng



Brian



Melissa



David



Jesus



Brad



Mike



Elizabeth

Pray for our elect and candidates!

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!

Weekly Prayer

Sunday's Readings

First Reading:

While the Israelites were encamped at Gilgal on the plains of Jericho, they celebrated the Passover. (Jos 5:10)

Psalm:

Taste and see the goodness of the Lord. (Ps 34)

Second Reading:

And all this is from God,
who has reconciled us to himself through Christ
and given us the ministry of reconciliation. (2 Cor 5:18)

Gospel:

“But now we must celebrate and rejoice,
because your brother was dead and has come to life again;
he was lost and has been found.” (Lk 15:32)

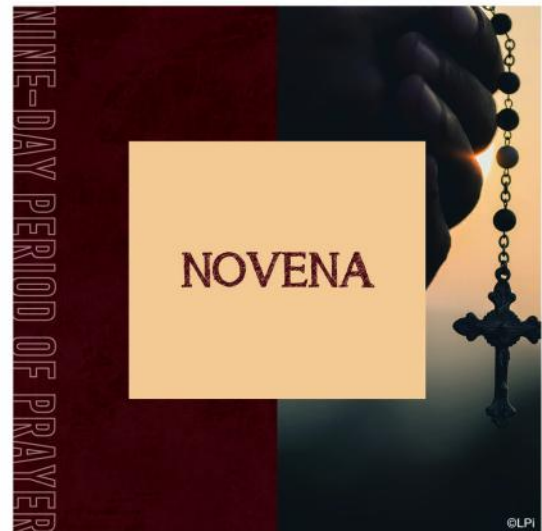
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Live The Liturgy Inspiration of the Week

The Prodigal Son doesn't dare ask for the honor of being called his Father's son again. All he wants is to be close to his Father, to be cared for. But his Father surprises him with his mercy, as God surprises us. He offers more than just forgiveness. He offers redemption.

Observances for the week of March 30, 2025

- Sunday:** 4th Sunday of Lent
Tuesday: April Fools' Day
Wednesday: St. Francis of Paola, Hermit
Friday: St. Isidore, Bishop and Doctor of the Church
Saturday: St. Vincent Ferrer, Priest
Next Sunday: 5th Sunday of Lent



Devotions, Explained!

A novena is a nine-day period of prayer focused on a specific topic, saint, or devotion. There are four basic categories of novenas — novenas of preparation, of mourning, of prayer, and of indulgence. This 9-day period of prayer can be traced back to the Acts of the Apostles.

Prayer of a Father's Blessing

God who wills good things for
your children, Help me to trust
that You will be faithful.
God who will not leave me,
Help me to seek You, too.
God who is ever-waiting for
me, Help me to run straight
towards You.

Amen.

Worship & Meditation

Readings for the week of March 30, 2025

Sunday:

Jos 5:9a, 10-12/Ps 34:2-3, 4-5, 6-7 (9a)/
2 Cor 5:17-21/Lk 15:1-3, 11-32
Scrutiny: 1 Sm 16:1b, 6-7, 10-13a/Ps 23:1-3a, 3b-4, 5, 6 (1)/Eph 5:8-14/
Jn 9:1-41 or 9:1, 6-9, 13-17, 34-38

Monday:

Is 65:17-21/Ps 30:2 and 4, 5-6, 11-12a and 13b/Jn 4:43-54

Tuesday:

Ez 47:1-9, 12/Ps 46:2-3, 5-6, 8-9/Jn 5:1-16

Wednesday:

Is 49:8-15/Ps 145:8-9, 13cd-14, 17-18/
Jn 5:17-30

Thursday:

Ex 32:7-14/Ps 106:19-20, 21-22, 23/
Jn 5:31-47

Friday:

Wis 2:1a, 12-22/Ps 34:17-18, 19-20, 21 and 23/Jn 7:1-2, 10, 25-30

Saturday:

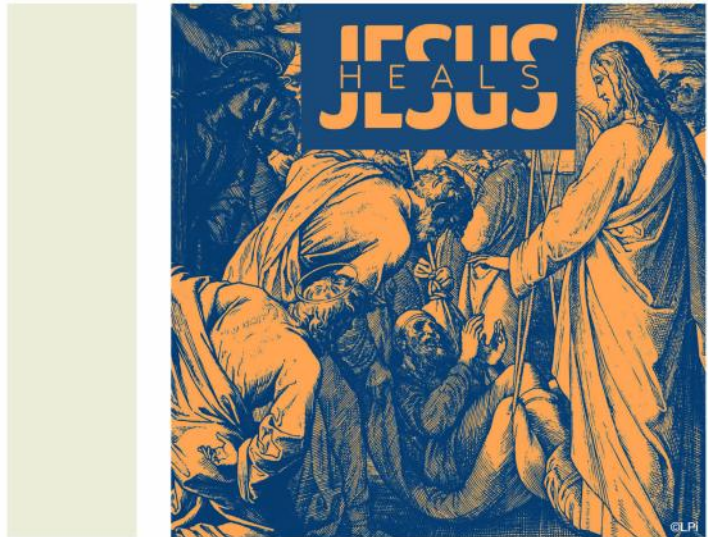
Jer 11:18-20/Ps 7:2-3, 9bc-10, 11-12/
Jn 7:40-53

Next Sunday:

Is 43:16-21/Ps 126:1-2, 2-3, 4-5, 6 (3)/Phil 3:8-14/Jn 8:1-11 *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



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Gospel Meditation

Encourage Deeper Understanding of Scripture

A man looking a bit downtrodden approached me as I filled my car's gas tank. He asked, "May I share with you my testimony about how good God is?" "OK," I skeptically answered. He went on to tell me that he had been an alcoholic and drug addict, and that God had healed him; now he was four years sober. He said, "I didn't deserve it, but now I'm a different person. God is so good! Have a terrific Tuesday!" A few minutes later, as I drove away, I saw him smiling and handing a homeless person some money. I was confronted with a choice: either he was a total fraud or God had changed him. *Something* had happened to him, and it didn't seem fake. Maybe it was God.

When Jesus heals the man born blind, the man becomes a challenge to everyone who meets him. They must decide. Is he the same blind person who they knew before? Who healed him and how? And what is the status of the one who can heal such infirmities? We shouldn't be surprised at the storm of doubt, hatred and animosity that swirls around the healed man — so it often goes when Jesus heals someone even to this day.

Like we often do, the religious leaders confronting the healed man declare that God is not at work. They ask with mocking superiority and dismissive disdain, "**You were born totally in sin, and are you trying to teach us?**" (John 9:34). And they cast him out. When Jesus clearly works in our lives, in us or around us, we should accept it, and give praise and thanks for this wonderful manifestation of his goodness.

Lenten challenge: Think of one way the Lord has healed you. Perhaps he healed a form of selfishness, a physical ailment, or something else. This week, find a person to whom you can share that testimony, and share it. Don't worry if they don't accept it was God who did it.

— Father John Muir

SUNDAY, MARCH 30, 2025 | 4TH SUNDAY OF LENT

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Celebrating St. Joseph's Feast Day

On March 19, St. Joseph School students gathered for a special Mass in honor of St. Joseph, the patron saint of workers, families, and the universal Church. This feast day is a time to reflect on his humility, faith, and dedication to God's will.

During the celebration, students participated in prayer and reflection, seeking to follow St. Joseph's example of kindness and service. May we continue to be inspired by his quiet strength and unwavering trust in God.



ST. JOSEPH
CATHOLIC SCHOOL
6200 E. Willow St.
Long Beach, CA 90815
(562) 596-6115





“The things we pray for Lord, give us the grace to labor for.” St. Thomas More

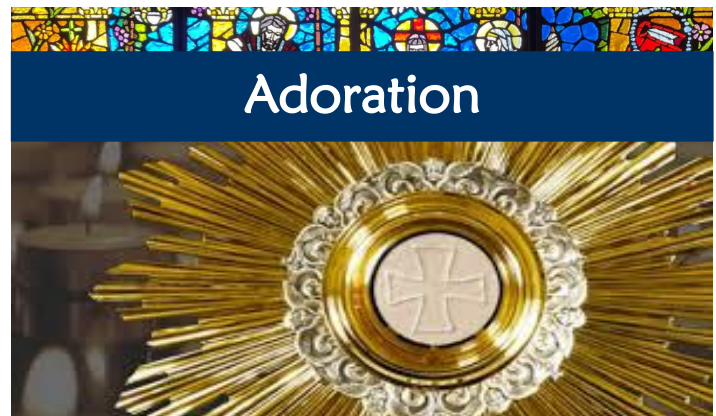
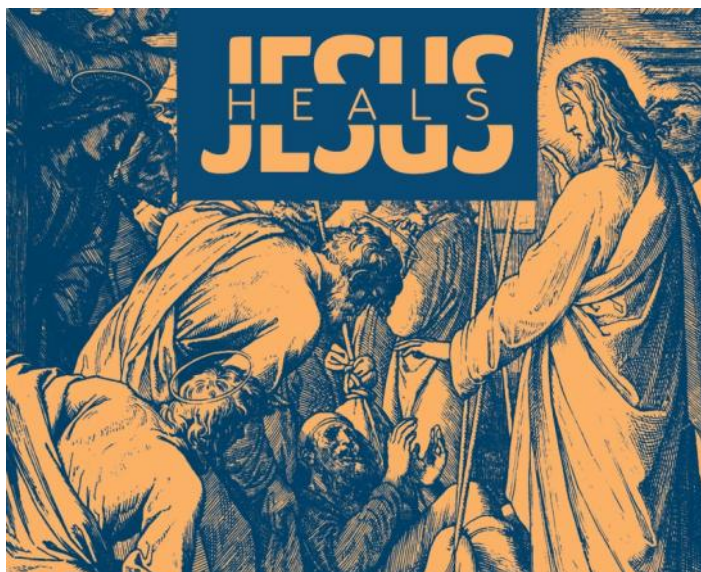
April 12: Easter Food and Book Distribution:

We will support 108 families! *Easter is our most challenging holiday to recruit drivers!* Contact Jill Salinaz (562) 822-7367 or jmsalinaz@yahoo.com. So meaningful to kids!

Family Adoptions: Would you like to adopt a family to support for Easter? Call Donna Luciene at (562) 421-4993 or e-mail Rose Bauss. rhbauss@gmail.com.

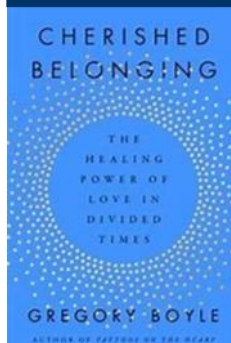
Committee Meeting: Thanks to the many that joined us last Wednesday night to celebrate and learn from the most recent NINE major activities we facilitated so far this program year and to coordinate our Easter distribution April 12. For information about MANY fulfilling ways to serve, call Tim Clark, 562-431-4385.

Skip-a-Meal- Please be especially mindful of Skip-a-Meal donations during the holiday season when our needs are greatest.



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 Joe & Dianne Lumsdaine will lead Eucharistic Adoration this **Friday April, 4th** at **8:00 am**.



Our next Book Club meeting is **Wednesday, May 14th at 7pm** on Zoom

Cherished Belonging: The Healing Power of Love in Divided Times by Gregory Boyle

“In a world increasingly marked by division and discord, beloved Jesuit priest Gregory Boyle offers a transformative vision of community and compassion.” Cherished Belonging: The Healing Power of Love in Divided Times: Boyle, Gregory: 9781668061855: Amazon.com: Books

All are welcome. For more info, email agoodlife@msn.com

Senior Group



Our next get together will be at the
El Dorado Restaurant on
Monday, April 14th at 9:30 am.

Please join us for a nice time catching up with old friends and meeting new friends. When you arrive, tell the server that you are with St. Joseph and he/she will direct you to the area we are gathering in. Everyone will order and pay for his/her own breakfast. We look forward to seeing you there. For future reference, we meet there on the 2nd Monday of every month, at the same time. Looking forward to seeing you!

St. Joseph Grief Support

Grief support



If you think you can't survive grieving, and
Your dreams feel shattered, consider joining
Our support group:

Tuesday 9:30 -11:30 a.m. each week

Contact May Pace,

Bereavement Minister, maypace@gmail.com

Or 562/833-6370

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ST. JOSEPH PARISH CONFIRMATION PROGRAM

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NOW!**

SESSIONS START IN SEPTEMBER!!!

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Teaching Boundaries

Teaching your children boundaries

Communities thrive with appropriate boundaries in place. Without them, everyone is left vulnerable, especially children, in an “anything goes” culture. As safe adults, we can empower children by defining and strengthening our own boundaries. Children learn by watching the adults around them. Seeing us make and hold boundaries will teach them this incredibly important skill. To learn more about setting and upholding boundaries, read the VIRTUS® article “When Boundaries Abound, Our Lives Can Flourish” at lacatholics.org/did-you-know/.



ST. JOSEPH FAIR

PARISH ADDRESS: 6180 E. WILLOW ST. LONG BEACH, CA 90815

FAIR COMMITTEE EMAIL: SJSpringFair@gmail.com

APRIL 4-6, 2025

FRIDAY 5PM-11PM ★ SATURDAY NOON - 11PM ★ SUNDAY NOON - 8PM

BANDS: FRIDAY: DJ MIKE GALLO/36 WAIST LIVE MUSIC
SATURDAY: GRAND JUNCTION COUNTRY MUSIC
SUNDAY: FAMILIAR FACES

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2025 Lenten Fish Fry

Friday, April 4th Only

5:00 - 7:00 pm

Pre-sale Plates:

Adult \$15	2 pieces of fried 4 oz cod fish
Child \$12 (10 & under)	1 piece of fried 4 oz cod fish
Senior \$12 (65 & over)	1 piece of fried 4 oz cod fish

All Meals are served with French Fries and Coleslaw

BUY PRESALE MEAL TICKET NOW!!

Return ORDER FORM to Parish with payment
or buy online at <https://stjosephlb.org/fair>

April 4 2025 Fish Fry Order Form

Name: _____

of meals:

Adult Meal \$15

Child Meal (10 & under) \$12

Senior Meal (65 & over) \$12

Total: -----

Make checks payable to: St. Joseph Parish Fair

Dinner provided by the Knights of Columbus and your friendly fair volunteers!

Our Parish

PASTOR: MSGR. KEVIN KOSTELNIK

stjoseph@stjosephlb.org

Deacon Shane Cuda

sfcuda@yahoo.com

Deacon Tom Halliwell

dcntom@stjosephlb.org

Sr. Eva (Director of Adult Faith Formation)

sreva@stjosephlb.org

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Joyce Castaneda

(562) 594-4657

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Shelley Padilla

(562) 594-4657

Finance Council

George Zuluaga

Zuluaga@aol.com

Safeguard The Children

Parish Office

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siknights.net

Fax: (562) 596-6725

Assistant Principal:

Madison Alba

Religious Education: Marc Leon, DRE

(562) 598-0519

marc@stjosephlb.org

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

michelle@stjosephlb.org

Administrative Assistant:

Michelle Johnson

High School Ministry & Confirmation:

Liz Moreno

OCIA:

Sr. Eva

sreva@stjosephlb.org

Parish Ministries & Organizations

Baptism Preparation

Brenda Pineda

(562) 594-4657

Director of Music

Vivian Doughty

(562) 594-4657

Eucharistic Ministry

Tonet Risko

riskotonet@yahoo.com

Lectors

Steve Koppenheffer *lectorsstjosephlb@gmail.com*

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) 519-0154

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

pjbstampin@aol.com

Bereavement Ministry

May Pace

(562) 833-6370

Cursillo

Tom & Marie Newton *tjn8343@gmail.com*

Parish Fair

Pete Wroblecky

sjspringfair@gmail.com

Environment

Jessica Gil

bpax.g4@gmail.com

Family Altar Servers

Monica Wissuchek

stjfamilyaltarservers@gmail.com

Welcome Christ Renews His Parish

Diane Ohde

stjlbwelcome@gmail.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.





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