

St. Joseph Parish



AS I HAVE
LOVED YOU.

— JOHN 13:34 —

FIFTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

©LPi

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 5th Sunday of Easter! This week we hear from the last canonical book of the Bible, the Book of Revelation, and it offers us a vision of a new heaven and new earth. This book was written around the year, 100 A.D. to a people who were suffering intense persecution by the Roman Empire. The reading is permeated by the faithful people's awareness that even in the midst of suffering, they live in the faithful presence of God. In the Gospel, the author, St. John has Jesus tell us that the new commandment is to love one another. For us as Christians, this love has no borders, just as there are no borders around heaven or earth. Jesus was in love with his Father, and with all people. When we allow others into our spirit of love, then we are living in the borderless, new heaven and earth. The Scriptures remind us that, although we might be experiencing suffering or difficulties, these experiences will all pass away. What endures and what lasts is God's presence among us!

What an extraordinary time for our church! It was a joy to share with you last weekend some of my experiences during the Jubilee pilgrimage. This weekend, our new Pope Leo XIV will be inaugurated as the 267th Pope of our Catholic Church in a beautiful Mass celebrated outdoors in St. Peter's Square. He will be given the Pallium and the fishermen's ring as a sign of his office. Pray for Pope Leo!!

This weekend is our annual celebration of First Communion for our young people. Almost 65 second graders will be making their First Communion, and the families have all divided up their presence among our Saturday Vigil and Sunday Masses.

You've all been watching as the construction on the hall/gym continues. Every other Wednesday, I meet with the architect, construction team supervisor, project manager, and leadership of the construction company. We review the work that has been done and look to the work that will be accomplished during the next couple of weeks. The completion date is scheduled for late June to mid-July. Just to let you know, the red bricks on the outside of the building will be painted over to match the church!

As I mentioned at all the Masses last weekend, the city has closed the entrance gate to our driveway on Palo Verde Avenue. This past week you've seen the construction going on in the street and it is expected to continue through the end of August. Thanks for your patience. The roads are old and are in need of a facelift!

Thanks for taking the time to click open this bulletin to grow in faith and be informed about the activities here at St. Joseph!

I'm praying for you!
Msgr. Kevin



Photos From Our Pastor

Updated Construction photos from this week!



Weekly Prayer

Sunday's Readings

First Reading:

And when they arrived, they called the church together and reported what God had done with them and how he had opened the door of faith to the Gentiles. (Acts 14:27)

Psalm:

I will praise your name for ever, my king and my God.
(Ps 145) Or: Alleluia.

Second Reading:

I heard a loud voice from the throne saying,
"Behold, God's dwelling is with the human race.
He will dwell with them and they will be his people
and God himself will always be with them as their God."
(Rv 21:4)

Gospel:

I give you a new commandment: love one another.
As I have loved you, so you also should love one another.
(Jn 13:34)

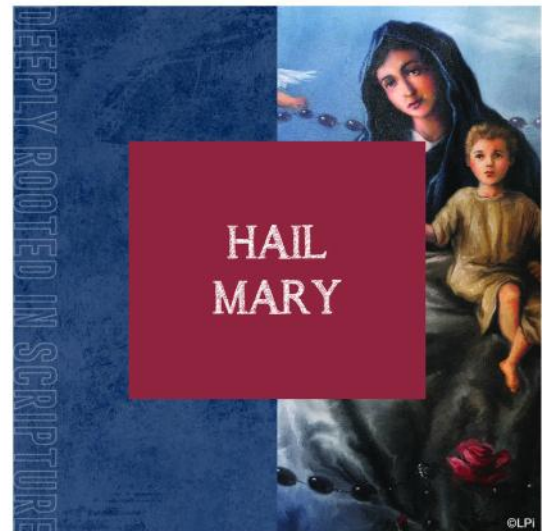
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Live The Liturgy Inspiration of the Week

There is an invitation in the empty tomb and the abandoned burial cloths. What great things could we accomplish, if we only believe that Christ has conquered death? Go forth this Easter season, boldly embracing the hope of the resurrection.

Observances for the week of May 18, 2025

Sunday: 5th Sunday of Easter
Tuesday: St. Bernardine of Siena, Priest
Wednesday: St. Christopher Magallanes, Priest, and Companions, Martyrs
Thursday: St. Rita of Cascia, Religious
Next Sunday: 6th Sunday of Easter



Devotions, *Explained!*

The words of the Hail Mary — undoubtedly the most recognizable Catholic prayer after the Lord's Prayer — are deeply rooted in scripture, but Catholics did not begin to utilize the Hail Mary prayer in its current form until around the 11th century.

Prayer of Christian Love

Fill our hearts, O Lord, with Your love, the deepest, richest, purest love any of us has ever known.
May Your love be our standard for love.
May Your love be what we bring and communicate to the world.
May Your love define us as Christians, made in Your image and likeness.
Amen.

Worship & Meditation

Readings for the week of May 18, 2025

Sunday:

Acts 14:21-27/Ps 145:8-9, 10-11, 12-13 (see 1)/Rv 21:1-5a/Jn 13:31-33a, 34-35

Monday:

Acts 14:5-18/Ps 115:1-2, 3-4, 15-16/
Jn 14:21-26

Tuesday:

Acts 14:19-28/Ps 145:10-11, 12-13ab, 21/
Jn 14:27-31a

Wednesday:

Acts 15:1-6/Ps 122:1-2, 3-4ab, 4cd-5/
Jn 15:1-8

Thursday:

Acts 15:7-21/Ps 96:1-2a, 2b-3, 10/
Jn 15:9-11

Friday:

Acts 15:22-31/Ps 57:8-9, 10 and 12/
Jn 15:12-17

Saturday:

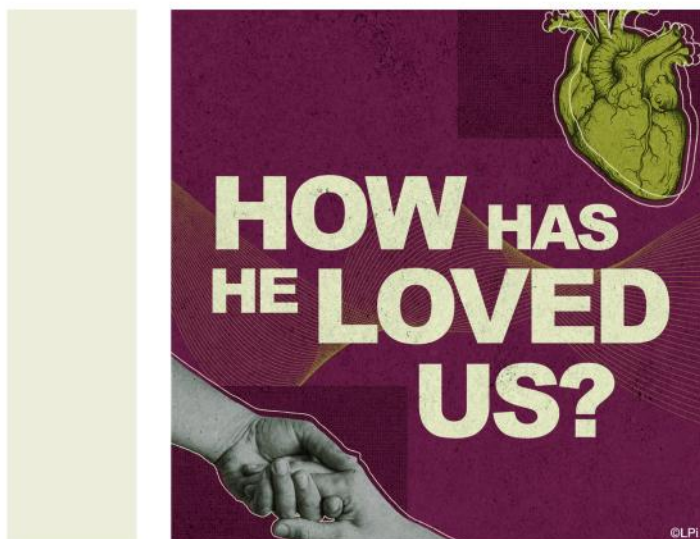
Acts 16:1-10/Ps 100:1b-2, 3, 5/Jn 15:18-21

Next Sunday:

Acts 15:1-2, 22-29/Ps 67:2-3, 5, 6, 8 (4)/
Rv 21:10-14, 22-23/Jn 14:23-29



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Gospel Meditation

Encourage Deeper Understanding of Scripture

I've always found it amazing that Jesus never says to his disciples the straightforward and bumper sticky words "I love you" or "I will always love you" (a la Dolly Parton's song). Why doesn't Jesus say, "I love you"?

Well, actually he does, but in particular ways. He says, **"As the Father loves me, so I love you"** (John 15:9) thereby rooting his love for us in the space of the Holy Trinity. This week he commands, **"Love another as I have loved you"** (John 13:34). He presents his love for us as a completed action which continues into the present moment. How *has* he loved us? By becoming one of us, one with us, and finally giving his life for us in his suffering on the cross. We weren't there when he did that, but neither were his Apostles (except one). Still, that action is his great "I love you" to us.

His love is also hedged in a command: **"Love one another."** So how can we practically follow it? The great St. John XXIII wrote in his diary that each day he followed this rule: "Only for today, I will do one good deed and not tell anyone about it." The hidden nature of a good deed is a sign that it is truly loving. This week, take on St. John XXIII's practical method of following Jesus' great commandment of love. It's a splendid way to say, "I love you."

— Father John Muir

SUNDAY, MAY 18, 2025 | FIFTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

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St. Joseph Honors our Blessed Mother



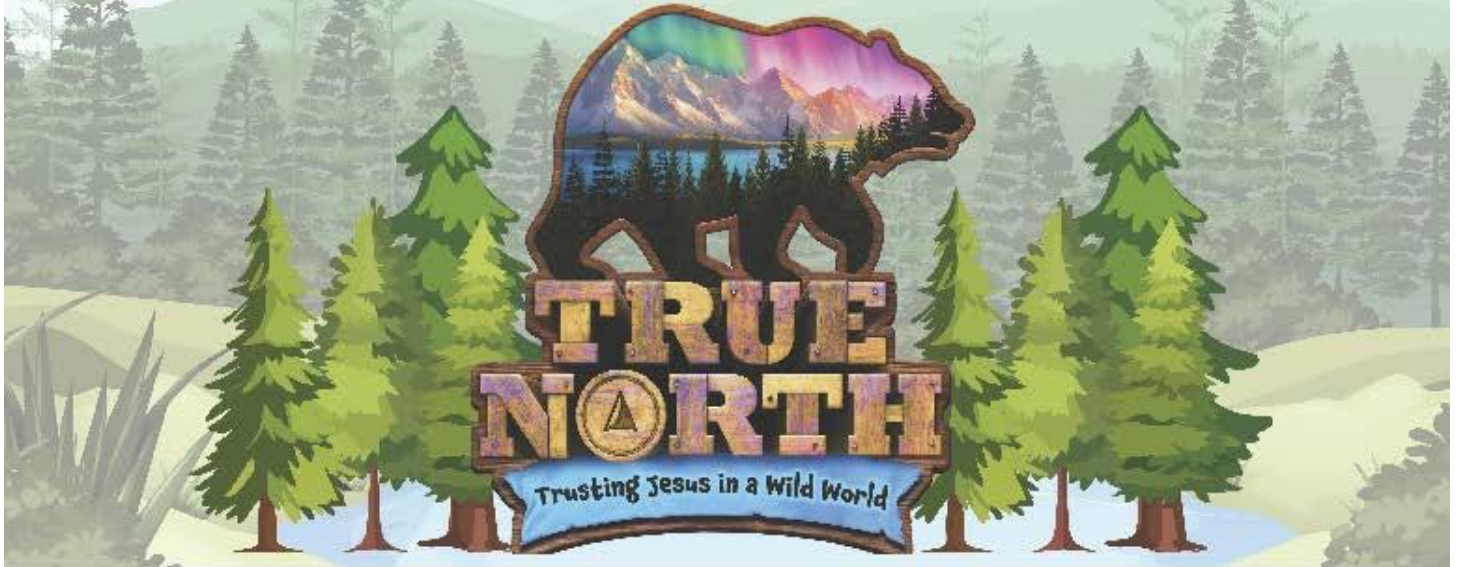
This month, our students gathered in reverence for our annual Living Rosary and May Crowning, a cherished tradition in honor of our Blessed Mother Mary. Selected students represented the decades of the Rosary, leading us in prayerful recitations of the Hail Mary, Glory Be, and Our Father.

The 8th-grade class had the special honor of crowning Mary and offering prayers for the entire school community. These traditions help form our students as Disciples of Christ, teaching them to turn to prayer in times of need and in times of gratitude.



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

VACATION BIBLE CAMP



EXPLORING MOUNTAINS OF FUN WITH GOD!

This camp is open to kids ages 4 to 11

When: June 16th - June 20th 2025

**Where: St. Joseph Church
6180 E Willow St. Long Beach Ca 90815**

Time: 9:00am to 12 noon.

Cost: \$75



To register, scan the QR code for an easy process! For any questions please contact: Marc Leon - (562)598-0519 Ext 1

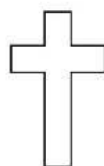
"True North" Vacation Bible Camp offers children an immersive Alaskan adventure. Throughout this week, kids will learn to trust Jesus as their steadfast friend - their True North. Each day features activities such as Bible Adventures, Imagination Station, Glacier Games, Tundra Treats, and music - all designed to reinforce the message of trusting Jesus in every aspect of life.

This is a community event hosted by:

- St. Joseph
- St. Cornelius
- Our Lady of Refuge



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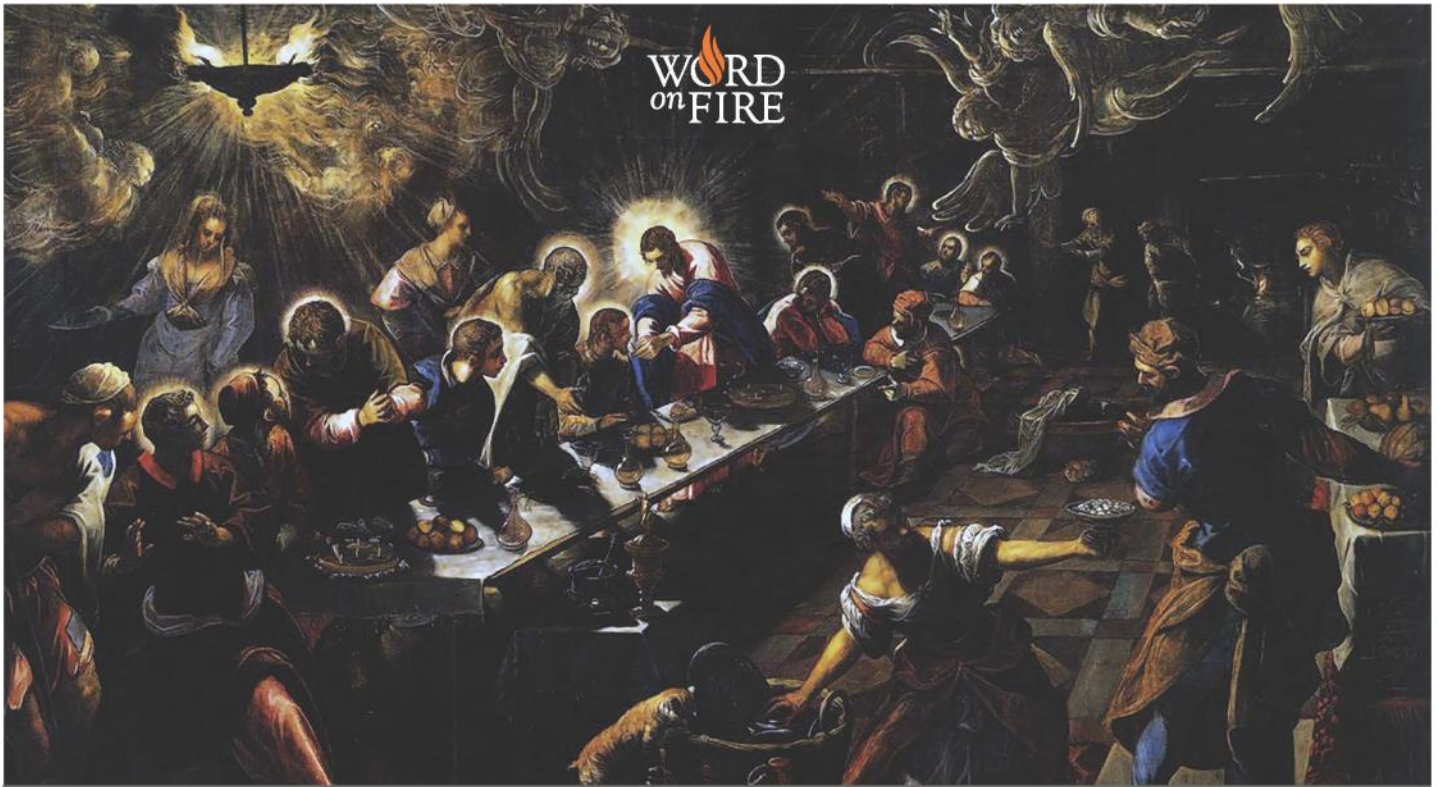


MEMORIAL DAY MASS
Monday, May 26, 2025
10:00 a.m

Principal Celebrant

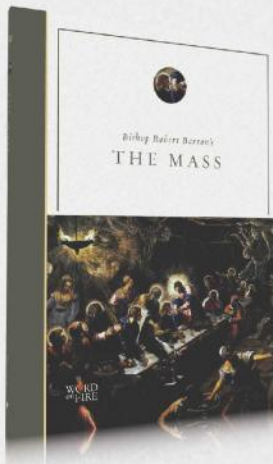
His Eminence Cardinal Roger Mahony

ALL ARE WELCOME!



Bishop Robert Barron's newest study program

THE MASS



Walk through the Liturgy with Bishop Barron and you'll be transformed through insights on this most privileged and intimate encounter with our Lord Jesus Christ.

See how the Mass brings us out of the fallen world and into the heavenly realm, how it resonates with a call from God and a response from his people, the Church, and, most importantly, how we are intimately joined with the Body, Blood, Soul, and Divinity of Jesus through the Holy Eucharist.

The Mass will help you understand how to fully, consciously, and actively participate in the source and summit of the Christian life.

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DATE, TIME, LOCATION

Starting Wednesday, May 14th at 9:00am in the PLC with Sr. Eva and Thursday, May 15th at 7:00pm on Zoom with Mike and Chris.

COST / REGISTRATION

This study is free because the physical Study Guides are sold out.

CONTACT

Sr. Eva - sreva@stjosephlb.org
Mike - mike@stjosephlb.org

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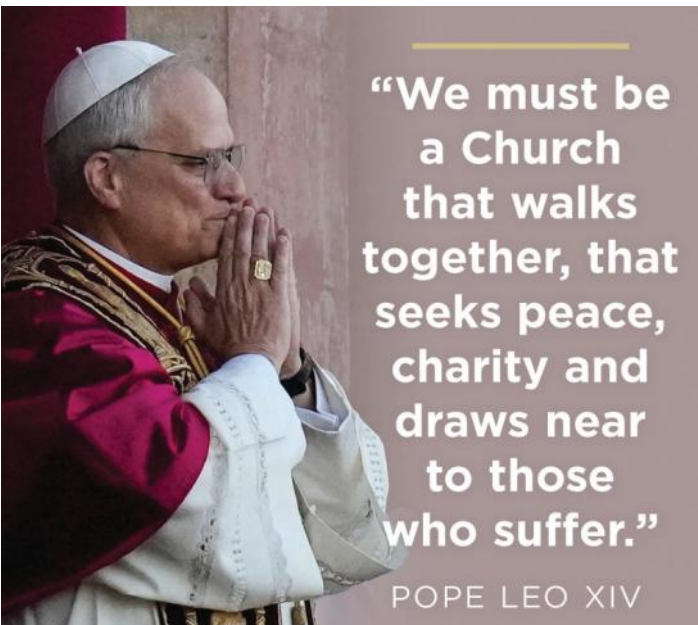


"I have found the paradox that if I love until it hurts, then there is no hurt, but only more love." - St. Mother Teresa

Feed-a-Baby Food Drive: *Thank you* for the parish's support of last weekend's baby product drive! And to the School for their support later in the month. Donated food and baby products will be provided to Catholic Charities, Elizabeth Ann Seton Residence, and New Life Beginnings. *\$1,423 in cash donations* were used to purchase additional baby products requested by these organizations.

June 10 6:30 PM: Committee Meeting: Join us in the Parish Life Center. We will decide what activities to promote and organizations to support in our program year beginning July 1.

June 21-22 Homeless Kit Drive: Provide daily necessities to the marginalized experiencing homelessness. Shopping lists will be available June 14. Can you help? For MANY fulfilling ways to serve, call Tim Clark (562) 431-4385.



"We must be a Church that walks together, that seeks peace, charity and draws near to those who suffer."

POPE LEO XIV

UP CLOSE AND CLASSICAL CONCERT

A free concert at St. Gregory's



The Up Close and Classical chamber music series will present a free concert at St. Gregory's on **Sunday, May 25th at 4:00 PM**. The program includes string quartets by Mozart and Smetana. For more information: upcloseandclassical.org



Did You Know?



Age-appropriate curiosity in young children

Knowing the difference between age-appropriate and inappropriate behaviors in children can help safe adults determine whether something feels "off" about a child's behavior and could indicate potential sexual abuse. For preschool children and young children (around ages 4-6), exploring their bodies is natural. They are not yet old enough to understand the idea of "private" naturally, and may also be curious about others' bodies – parents, friends, etc. These behaviors are common and developmentally appropriate for their age and stage. For more information, read the VIRTUS® article "Differentiating age-appropriate curiosity from harmful sexual behavior" at lacatholics.org/did-you-know/.

Senior Group



Our next get together will be at the
El Dorado Restaurant on
Monday, June 9th 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



The next Grief support 13 week session will begin **June 3rd** and will meet until **August 26th**
Meetings are held on

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

For more information Contact May Pace,
Bereavement Minister, maypace@gmail.com
Or 562/833-6370

CLASSES ARE HELD AT THE PLC BUILDING.

The Culture of Life & Culture of Love *Symposium*

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"What it means to be a Pro-Life Catholic" & find
"Simple Ways on how to be Actively Pro-Life"



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Fr. Alan Benander
St. Michael's Abbey
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JUNE 14 (SAT) 9:30am - 4pm



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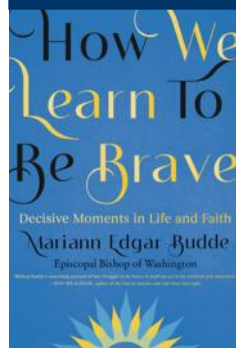
Love and
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Book Club

Our next Book Club meeting is

**Wednesday, August 20th at
7pm on Zoom**

**How We Learn to Be Brave by
Mariann Edgar Budde**



An inspirational guide to the key junctures in life that, if navigated with faith and discernment, pave the way for us to become our most courageous selves, by the bishop of the famed Episcopal Diocese of Washington, D.C." How We Learn to Be Brave: Decisive Moments in Life and Faith: Edgar Budde, Mariann:
[9780593539217: Amazon.com: Books](https://www.amazon.com/dp/9780593539217)

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

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

Office Manager

Brenda Pineda

(562) 594-4657

Office Assistant

Joyce Castaneda

(562) 594-4657

Pastoral Council

Shelley Padilla

(562) 594-4657

Finance Council

George Zuluaga

Zuluaga@aol.com

Safeguard The Children

Parish Office

(562) 594-4657

Parish Bulletin Editor

Brenda Pineda

bulletin@stjosephlb.org

Website Coordinator

Mike Santy

mike@stjosephlb.org

St. Joseph School: Margaret Alvarez, Principal

(562) 596-6115

sjknights.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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