

St. Joseph Parish



• 6TH SUNDAY OF EASTER •

**PEACE I LEAVE
WITH YOU.**

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

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Letter From Our Pastor

Dear Parish Family:

Welcome to the Sixth Sunday of Easter! Next Sunday we celebrate the Ascension of the Lord, followed by Pentecost Sunday and the conclusion of the Great 50 days! This weekend we are invited to learn from the Holy Spirit that underlies our Scripture readings. As we continue to journey through the Acts of the Apostles, the earliest conflict arose in the church when Jewish people committed to following Christ insisted that Gentiles must first become Jewish and follow the Mosaic law before becoming Christians. What did the Church do? They followed the Synodal path by discussing the issue, offering listening sessions, providing various witness, invoking the Holy Spirit, and then making a decision. At the First Council of Jerusalem, St. Peter summarized the Synod by declaring that there was no need for Gentiles to become Jews, only to live as people permeated by God's Holy Spirit. This Synodal example of the First Council of Jerusalem was set forth again by the late Pope Francis. The unprecedented polarization in our world, society, church and families reminds us that we need to leave more room open for the Holy Spirit to teach us. Community building resolutions through the synodal example are possible in our world, our church, and even in your families!

This weekend we are making available the new brochure entitled, "Working Together to Prevent Child Sexual Abuse". In the brochure and on the Archdiocesan website, protect.la-archdiocese.org you will find important background information and resources on our efforts to protect children. Our parish continues to offer children and youth several abuse prevention programs. New Empowering God's children and young people safety programs teach children and young people to protect themselves by learning about such topics as: the five body safety rules and safe adults, boundaries and bullying and Internet safety. We offer these resources recognizing that

parents and families are the primary educators of their children. As Archbishop Gomez says, "Thank you for your care and concern to ensure that children and young people are safeguarded in our parishes, schools, ministries, and communities. Together we are making a difference."

Next Saturday, the Archdiocese of Los Angeles will celebrate the Ordination of eight men to the Priesthood of Jesus Christ. Through the Apostolic Tradition and the Laying on of Hands, Archbishop Gomez will ordain eight new servants for our church. For almost 8 years, I have mentored and supported the journey of Joseph Cruz and I will be honored to invest him in the priestly garment of the chasuble during the Ordination ritual. Later that afternoon, I will concelebrate at his First Mass of Thanksgiving to be held at Saint Denis Church in Diamond Bar. Congratulations to the new Father Joseph Cruz and all his classmates. The Ordination will be live streamed next Saturday, May 31 at 9:00 AM from the Cathedral of our Lady of the Angels at lacatholics.org/ordination. This Memorial Day is the annual remembrance and mourning for Americans who offered their lives in service to our country. Originally this day was called Decoration Day, and it was formalized in 1868. The proclamation calls on Americans "To observe Memorial Day by praying, according to their individual religious faith, for permanent peace." Let us remember the relatives and friends of our parishioners who have died in military service and remember those who are alive and serving with bravery and courage.

As May gray settles in, as the days grow longer leading to the summer solstice, as graduates celebrate their accomplishments, let us give thanks to God.

I'm praying for you and your families,
Msgr. Kevin

Weekly Prayer

Sunday's Readings

First Reading:

If you keep free of these,
you will be doing what is right. (Acts 15:29)

Psalm:

O God, let all the nations praise you! (Ps 67)
Or: Alleluia.

Second Reading:

The city had no need of sun or moon to shine on it,
for the glory of God gave it light,
and its lamp was the Lamb. (Rv 12:23)

Gospel:

"Peace I leave with you; my peace I give to you.
Not as the world gives do I give it to you." (Jn 14:27)

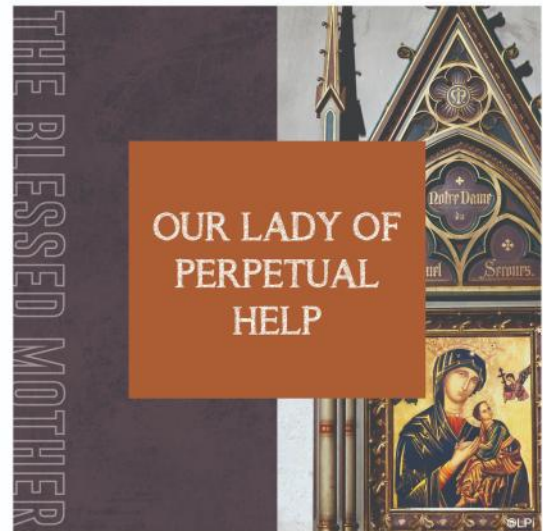
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Live The Liturgy Inspiration of the Week

Thomas needed proof to believe the amazing things that had happened. God, in His mercy, gave him that proof — but it was up to Thomas to accept it. Do we accept the proof we see of God's love every day?

Observances for the week of May 25, 2025

- Sunday:** 6th Sunday of Easter
Monday: St. Philip Neri, Priest; Memorial Day
Tuesday: St. Augustine of Canterbury, Bishop
Thursday: The Ascension of the Lord (holy day of obligation in some U.S. dioceses);
St. Paul VI, Pope
Saturday: The Visitation of the Blessed Virgin Mary
Next Sunday: The Ascension of the Lord;
7th Sunday of Easter;
World Communications Day



Devotions, *Explained!*

Our Lady of Perpetual Help is both a title of the Blessed Mother as well as a corresponding icon that dates to the late Middle Ages, both of which present Mary as a source of strength and comfort for Christ and his followers.

Prayer for Peace

Fill us with Your peace, Lord, as
you promised in Your word.
Peace in our comings and goings,
Peace that You are working and
moving,
Peace for what has happened, the
places we find ourselves today,
and in the future to come.
Amen.

Worship & Meditation

Readings for the week of May 25, 2025

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

Monday:

Acts 16:11-15/Ps 149:1b-2, 3-4, 5-6a and
9b/Jn 15:26-16:4a

Tuesday:

Acts 16:22-34/Ps 138:1-2ab, 2cde-3, 7c-8/
Jn 16:5-11

Wednesday:

Acts 17:15, 22-18:1/Ps 148:1-2, 11-12, 13, 14/
Jn 16:12-15

Thursday:

Acts 18:1-8/Ps 98:1, 2-3ab, 3cd-4/
Jn 16:16-20

Ascension: Acts 1:1-11/ Ps 47:2-3, 6-7, 8-9
(6)/Eph 1:17-23 or Heb 9:24-28; 10:19-23/
Lk 24:46-53

Friday:

Acts 18:9-18/Ps 47:2-3, 4-5, 6-7/
Jn 16:20-23

Saturday:

Zep 3:14-18a or Rom 12:9-16/Is 12:2-3,
4bcd, 5-6/Lk 1:39-56

Next Sunday:

Acts 7:55-60/Rv 22:12-14, 16-17, 20/
Jn 17:20-26

Ascension: Acts 1:1-11/Ps 47:2-3, 6-7, 8-9
(6)/Eph 1:17-23 or Heb 9:24-28; 10:19-23/
Lk 24:46-53



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Gospel Meditation

Encourage Deeper Understanding of Scripture

Jonathan Haidt's 2024 book entitled "The Anxious Generation" argues that today's kids are marked by significant increases in anxiety, as the title suggests. Smartphones, social media, economic uncertainty, the chaos of a global pandemic, fear regarding climate change, and the so-called "meaning crisis" all contribute to strikingly high levels of anxiety in young people today. I'm a bit older than this generation, but I feel it, too. The world can be too much to handle.

The Gospel this week offers a stunning solution for troubled souls. To his overwhelmed and anxious disciples, the risen Jesus says, **"Peace I leave with you; my peace I give to you" (John 14:27)**. His peace is that of the one who was overwhelmed on the cross and then conquered death by the power of his divinity, his bond of love with the Father. He offers us this unshakeable peace.

Of course, mental illness does not magically disappear because of the risen Jesus. But he does walk with us and offer us his peace in the midst of our suffering. The peace the world gives is not like his because it is weak, uncertain, and self-generated. Jesus' peace is strong, sure, and given as a gift from God. He gives it to us amid our anxiety. Will you receive it as a gift? I hope so. He wants to fill the hearts of this generation with his peace.

— Father John Muir

SUNDAY, MAY 25, 2025 | SIXTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

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ST. JOSEPH ALUMNI

Spotlight

Congratulations to Carmen Rodriguez (Class of 2021)!

Congratulations to Carmen, Valedictorian at McBride High School!

Carmen has shown that hard work, determination, and trust in God can lead to incredible opportunities.

Carmen was accepted to nearly all 13 universities she applied to—including UC Berkeley, UC San Diego, UC Irvine, and all the local California State Universities. She has chosen to attend Texas State University this fall with a full tuition scholarship and out-of-state tuition waived!

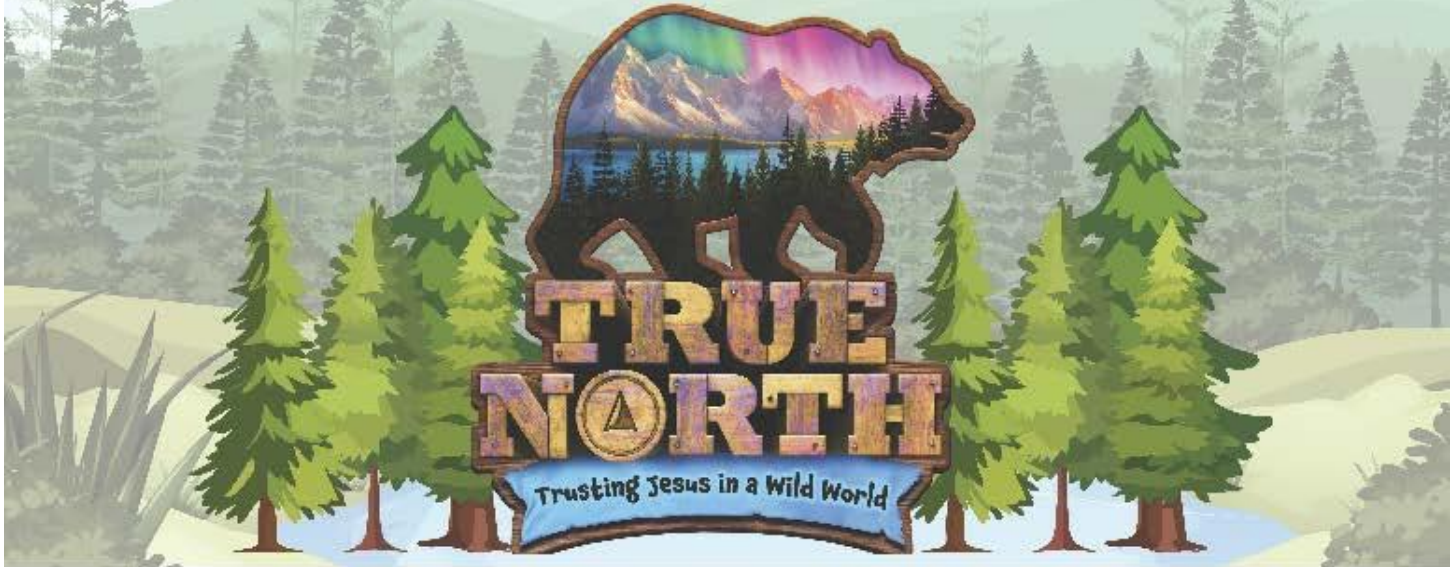
We're incredibly proud of Carmen and all she's accomplished. Her journey is a powerful reminder of what a Tenacious Scholar is capable of.

Go Knights!



CARMEN RODRIGUEZ

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



Discover the Journey to Full Initiation in the
Catholic Faith

Join us to learn about the process of becoming a fully initiated Catholic. Meet Sister Eva and the OCIA team, who are ready to answer all your questions. What is preventing you from fully participating in the Catholic faith?

**DON'T HESITATE ANY LONGER—ENCOUNTER JESUS
CHRIST TODAY!**

WEDNESDAY JUNE 18TH 2025

7:00-8:30PM

IN THE PARISH LIFE CENTER

Do you know any adult who has not completed their sacraments? Invite them to attend this meeting.



WE ARE HIRING!

JR. HIGH TEACHING ASSISTANT

We are seeking a teaching assistant who is passionate about Catholic Education to join St. Joseph School! You will work closely with teachers in grades 6-8 to assist with lessons, supervise students, and help maintain a safe, engaging classroom.

Teaching Assistant Qualifications:

- High school diploma
- Preferred Bachelor's Degree in Liberal Studies or related education field and enrolled in credential program
- Previous experience working with upper elementary/middle school aged children
- Hourly Range: \$18 - \$26

CONTACT:

malvarez@sjknights.net



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“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 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.



BE
GUIDED
BY THE
HOLY
SPIRIT

ST. JOSEPH PARISH CONFIRMATION PROGRAM

SESSIONS: BI-WEEKLY SUNDAYS
MOST HOLIDAY WEEKENDS OFF

TIME: 11:00AM - 12:00PM

BREAK: 12:00PM - 12:20PM

MASS AS A CLASS: 12:30PM - 1:30PM

CLICK HERE 

ENROLLING
NOW!



(562)598-0519 EXT 2



Did You Know?



Age-appropriate curiosity in school-aged children

Last week, we covered young children and natural curiosity about their bodies. This week, we will explore natural curiosity behaviors in school-aged children (around 7-12 years old). It’s important to understand the difference between appropriate and inappropriate, as inappropriate behaviors could a sign of abuse. Common curiosity at this age includes playing games with same-aged friends like “family” or “dating,” or wanting privacy. Children at these ages may also begin to take an interest in members of the opposite sex and ask questions about relationships. For more information, read the VIRTUS® article “Differentiating age-appropriate curiosity from harmful sexual behavior” [lacatholics.org/did-you-know/](https://www.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.

IN HONOR OF THOSE WHO HAVE SELFLESSLY
GIVEN AND VALIANTLY SERVED OUR NATION,

THANK YOU



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Vivian Doughty

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Sacristans

Joe Dang

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Monica Wissuchek

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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

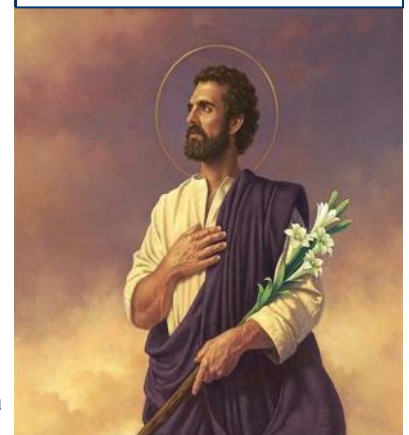
3:45-4:30 p.m.

Inside Church

Adoration

First Fridays

8:00-9:00 a.m.





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