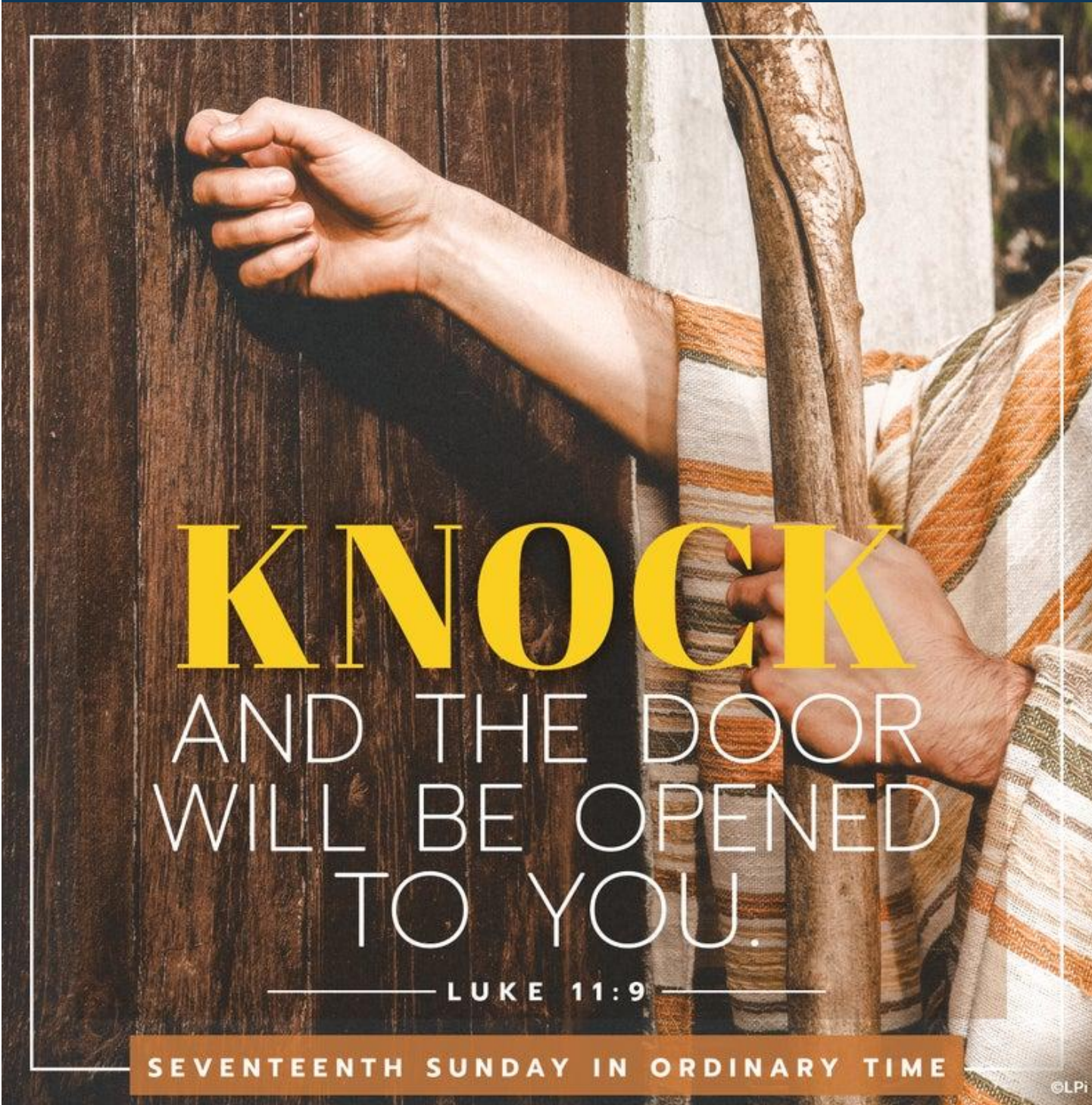


St. Joseph Parish

A photograph of a hand knocking on a dark wooden door. In the background, a person wearing a striped robe holds a wooden staff. The scene is framed by a thin white border.

KNOCK
AND THE DOOR
WILL BE OPENED
TO YOU.

— LUKE 11:9 —

SEVENTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

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Letter From Our Pastor

Dear Parish Family:

Welcome to the 17th Sunday in Ordinary Time! In this weekend's Gospel, Jesus' disciples ask for a lesson on prayer and Jesus obliges. We have all been praying the Our Father since we were children and this weekend let's renew our commitment not just to say the words of this amazing prayer, but to pray it, which means to meet, encounter and deepen our relationship with God. In our role as disciples, persistence in prayer proves necessary in which we realize that God is willing to hear us and offer us the best gifts!

This past week all the old asphalt in the courtyard between the two school buildings and the children's playground area was removed. The new paving and striping have commenced and our contractor informs me that the project should be completed by next Friday. For one more week, this will be a major construction zone, vehicles will not be allowed on these two parcels of our property. We want to keep everyone safe. This weekend, the 8:30 Mass on the Grass will take place in the church. Sorry for the inconvenience, as we continue to beautify our campus property.



Thanks to many who have already RSVP'd for our Parish celebration of our 70th Anniversary and the Opening of our new Saint Joseph Center on Saturday evening, August 23 at 6:00 PM. Please scroll down and use the QR code or go to our website and click the link to RSVP so that we can have an accurate number for dinner! The deadline to RSVP is August 9th!!

Calling all men of our parish to surrender one weekend, September 27 and 28 to join us on the Welcome Retreat. Receive the Blessings of the Welcome weekend and scroll down for further information or check out our website and sign up!!

Summer Blessings,
Msgr. Kevin

Weekly Prayer

Sunday's Readings

First Reading:

Far be it from you to do such a thing,
to make the innocent die with the guilty
so that the innocent and the guilty would be treated alike!
Should not the judge of all the world act with justice?" (Gn 18:25)

Psalm:

Lord, on the day I called for help, you answered me. (Ps 138)

Second Reading:

You were buried with him in baptism,
in which you were also raised with him
through faith in the power of God. (Col 2:12)

Gospel:

"And I tell you, ask and you will receive;
seek and you will find;
knock and the door will be opened to you." (Lk 11:9)

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The English translation of Psalm Responses from Lectionary for Mass © 1969, 1981, 1997,
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Live The Liturgy Inspiration of the Week

"Lord, teach us to pray." The disciples are asking how to approach God, how to communicate with Him. Jesus' answer? Have no fear, and have no embarrassment. God waits at the door. Knock. The conversation is yours to start.

Observances for the week of July 27, 2025

- Sunday:** 17th Sunday in Ordinary Time
Tuesday: Sts. Martha, Mary and Lazarus
Wednesday: St. Peter Chrysologus,
Bishop and Doctor of the Church
Thursday: St. Ignatius of Loyola, Priest
Friday: St. Alphonsus Liguori,
Bishop and Doctor of the Church
Saturday: St. Eusebius of Vercelli, Bishop;
St. Peter Julian Eymard, Priest
Next Sunday: 18th Sunday in Ordinary Time



Devotions, *Explained!*

The daily examen is a spiritual practice whereby one places himself in the presence of God, prayerfully reflecting on the blessings of the day, the actions he took, and the invitation God has for his future decisions.

Prayer for Hope

Lord,
Restore my hope!
Where I fear the future, write a
new script in my heart.
Where I doubt Your goodness, fill
me anew.
Give me steadfast hope for a
beautiful tomorrow.
Amen.

Worship & Meditation

Readings for the week of July 27, 2025

Sunday:

Gn 18:20-32/Ps 138:1-2, 2-3, 6-7, 7-8 (3a)/
Col 2:12-14/Lk 11:1-13

Monday:

Ex 32:15-24, 30-34/Ps 106:19-20, 21-22,
23/Mt 13:31-35

Tuesday:

Ex 33:7-11; 34:5b-9, 28/Ps 103:6-7, 8-9,
10-11, 12-13/Jn 11:19-27 or Lk 10:38-42

Wednesday:

Ex 34:29-35/Ps 99:5, 6, 7, 9/Mt 13:44-46

Thursday:

Ex 40:16-21, 34-38/Ps 84:3, 4, 5-6a and
8a, 11/Mt 13:47-53

Friday:

Lv 23:1, 4-11, 15-16, 27, 34b-37/Ps 81:3-4,
5-6, 10-11ab/Mt 13:54-58

Saturday:

Lv 25:1, 8-17/Ps 67:2-3, 5, 7-8/Mt 14:1-12

Next Sunday:

Eccl 1:2; 2:21-23/Ps 90:3-4, 5-6, 12-13, 14,
17 (1)/Col 3:1-5, 9-11/Lk 12:13-21



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Gospel Meditation

Encourage Deeper Understanding of Scripture

Once I went to a hospice facility to celebrate Last Rites for an elderly dying man. His family had told me that he had been uncommunicative for days. At the conclusion of the ritual, we began to recite the Our Father prayer. To everyone's surprise, his lips moved, clearly mouthing the words to the Lord's prayer. Stripped of most of his faculties, the man could still pray those precious God-given petitions. A lifetime of prayer had planted the words even deeper than his failing consciousness.

Do we want the Lord's prayer to be as deeply embedded in us? If we want to be people of hope, we should. Recall that our Lord immediately follows the prayer by saying: **"Ask, and it will be given to you; search, and you will find; knock, and the door will be opened to you" (Luke 11:9).** We only ask, search and knock because we hope that the request is not in vain. Everything we could possibly hope for is contained in the prayer. Praying the Our Father deepens our hope.

We should consciously pour all our hopes into the Lord's prayer; we should allow it to be an expression of hope, not simply rote words. Then, over time, it builds up our hope in God. It sinks deep into our souls and bodies. How blessed we are when these words of hope are on our lips, even when everything else seems to fail.

— *Father John Muir*

SUNDAY, JULY 27, 2025 | 17TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

©LPI

St. Joseph 70th Anniversary and Re-Opening of the St. Joseph Center



**We cordially invite you
to join us in celebrating
our 70th year of ministry
and service and the
Re-opening of the St.
Joseph Center**

Saturday August 23, 2025

Location: St. Joseph Center

6:00 pm - Social

6:25 pm - Blessing

6:30 pm - Buffet Dinner

7:30 pm - Worship Concert - (bring lawn chair for concert)

RSVP Required by August 9th

<https://bit.ly/44owGKZ>





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Now accepting students for:

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Quest (3rd, 4th, 5th graders)

Middle School

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CONTACT US



Director of Faith Formation: Marc Leon



(563) 594-4657 Ext:231



marc@stjosephlb.org

HIGH SCHOOL CONFIRMATION PROGRAM



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MOST HOLIDAY WEEKENDS OFF**

TIME: 11:00AM - 12:00PM

BREAK: 12:00PM - 12:20PM

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

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Now*

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A Special Opportunity for the Men of our Parish

Openings are still available for Men's Welcome Christ Renews His Parish Retreat. Do you sense that something is missing from your life? Do you feel that if you weren't too 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 is 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 Men in the parish, improve your prayer life, or just take a break from the craziness of your everyday, you will find what you are looking for and more.

Retreat Dates

Men's Weekend Retreat:

Saturday, September 27 & Sunday, September 28, 2025

Women's Weekend Retreat:

Saturday, September 20 & Sunday, September 21, 2025

(Currently full — waitlist registration available.)

For more information or to sign up for the retreat
please visit the parish website

<https://stjosephlb.org/welcome-christ-renews/>

EXPLORE HOW TO **LIVE AS A CHRISTIAN**
IN THE MIDST OF A PAGAN CULTURE IN

First Corinthians

AN 11-PART BIBLE STUDY FEATURING
TIM GRAY



Dates – Times – Location

Starting Wednesday September 10th
at 9:00am in the PLC (Sr. Eva) and
Thursday, September 11th at 7:00pm
on Zoom (Mike and Chris)

Cost – Registration

The cost for the study guide is \$20.
Please register by sending email to
sreva@stjosephlb.org or
mike@stjosephlb.org.

For More Information

Contact: Mike at mike@stjosephlb.org
or Sr. Eva at sreva@stjosephlb.org.

St. Paul's first letter to the Corinthians addresses many of the same topics in the news headlines today: scandals, promiscuity, debates and controversies, and issues related to prosperity versus poverty. Clearly, the struggles faced by the early Christians are in many ways similar to our own.

First Corinthians: The Church and the Christian Community explores the key elements of the gospel message that Paul introduced to a new and growing Church. Presenter Tim Gray examines Paul's advice for living an authentic Christian life in a pagan culture, as well as his teachings about the nature of grace, the Church as the body of Christ, and the most powerful gift of all—the Eucharist.

“This study has given me a renewed love of the Word, a desire to learn more, and most of all a closeness to Jesus that I have not experienced before.”

—Linda F.



Visit ascensionpress.com to learn more!



“Be the change you want to see in the world.” -Mahatma Gandhi

Opportunities: Thanks to all who generously supported our FOURTEEN Movement for a Better World initiatives during our 2024-2025 program year. **Sandwich Ministry-** Can you deliver sandwiches to Catholic Charities, in rotation, once per month? **Multi-Services Center-** Can you serve as a point of contact with the City of Long Beach HHS Multi-Services Center? For this and many other opportunities to serve, call Tim Clark, (562) 431-4385.



Meditation



St. Joseph's Meditation Group currently meets every Tuesday evening at 7:00PM via Zoom. Our weekly session is based on the teachings of Fr. John Main, OSB. Meditation is an age-old Christian practice and open to everyone. No experience is required and beginners are welcome. For more information, contact Frank McKown at (310) 633-1744 or frmckown@gmail.com



Adoration



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 August, 1st at 8:00 am.**



Did You Know?

Authority figures and boundary responsibilities

When an adult uses their authority to control or manipulate a situation, this puts children and vulnerable adults at risk for abuse. Manipulation can often occur through grooming behaviors, which can lead to boundary violations and ultimately abuse. It is always the responsibility of the adult to maintain appropriate, healthy boundaries with children in their care. For guidelines on how to interact with minors at our parishes, schools and ministries please visit <https://lacatholics.org/policies-and-procedures/>, and for more tips read the VIRTUS® article “Ministerial Boundaries, Power, and Authority” at lacatholics.org/did-you-know/.

Senior Group



**Our next get together will be at the
El Dorado Restaurant on
Monday, August 11th 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!

Women's Retreat

**September 12th
Women's Silent Retreat**

Ladies of the parish! Please join your sisters in Christ for a refreshing and peaceful weekend with the Carmelite sisters at Sacred Heart Retreat House. Our parish weekend is September 12-14, 2025.

Registration is open now. To register go to sacredheartretreathouse.com/retreats.

If you have any questions or need help registering please contact Marie Newton by phone at 562-209-1298.

This is a wonderful time of spiritual renewal. Don't delay as the weekend fills up quickly.

St. Joseph Grief Support



Grief support 13 week sessions from
June 3rd — August 26th

Meetings are held on
Tuesdays 9:30 -11:30 a.m. each week
You can start on any week.

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

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One Mother, Many Peoples

During this *Pilgrims of Hope* Jubilee Year, join Archbishop José H. Gomez and representatives of many cultural groups, papal orders, and fraternal service orders to honor Our Lady of the Angels, the patroness of the city and Archdiocese of Los Angeles.

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 6, 2025

Cathedral of Our Lady of the Angels
555 West Temple Street
Los Angeles, CA 90012

10:00 a.m. Procession
10:30 a.m. Multilingual Rosary
11:00 a.m. Mass



**PILGRIMS
of HOPE**

For more information:
lacatholics.org/one-mother-many-peoples

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Knights Of Columbus

Marty Vezzetti

(702) 401-5247

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Greg & Beth Gath

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Jeff Baer

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Welcome CRHP

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

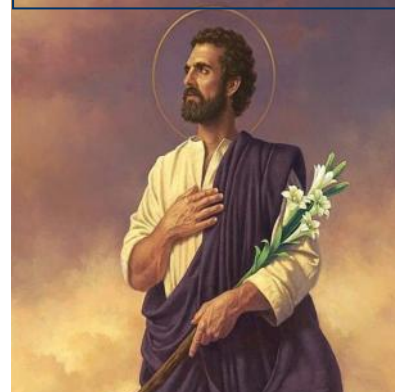
Saturdays

3:45-4:30 p.m.

Adoration

First Fridays

8:00-9:00 a.m.





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