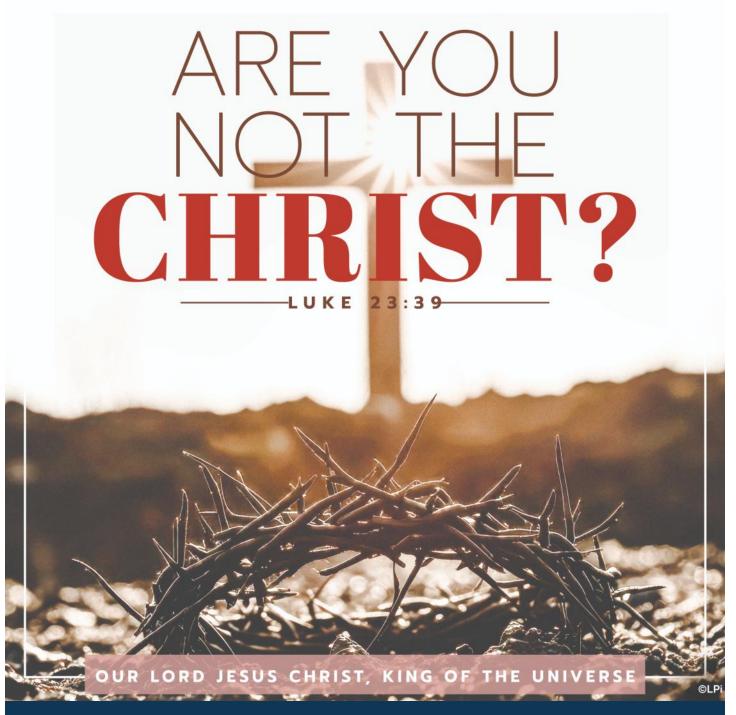
St. Joseph Parish



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



Dear Parish Family:

Welcome to the last Sunday of the Church's liturgical year. The 34 Sundays of Ordinary Time culminates with the annual Solemnity of "Jesus Christ, the King of the Universe." This is the last Sunday we listen to the Gospel of Luke and the Lucan version of King Jesus places us on the hill of Golgotha witnessing the crucifixion of Jesus between two other broken men. While our King was humbled and beaten, he trusted in His Father's love and his victory over death is our victory. You are a person of amazing faith and remember that King Jesus is with you to help you overcome all the battles, struggles and difficulties in your life!

Just a reminder that our annual Thanksgiving Day Mass is this Thursday, Thanksgiving Day at 9:00 AM. If you would like a special blessing over the bread and wine that will grace your dinner table, please bring them to the church and place them on the steps in front of the Altar before Mass.

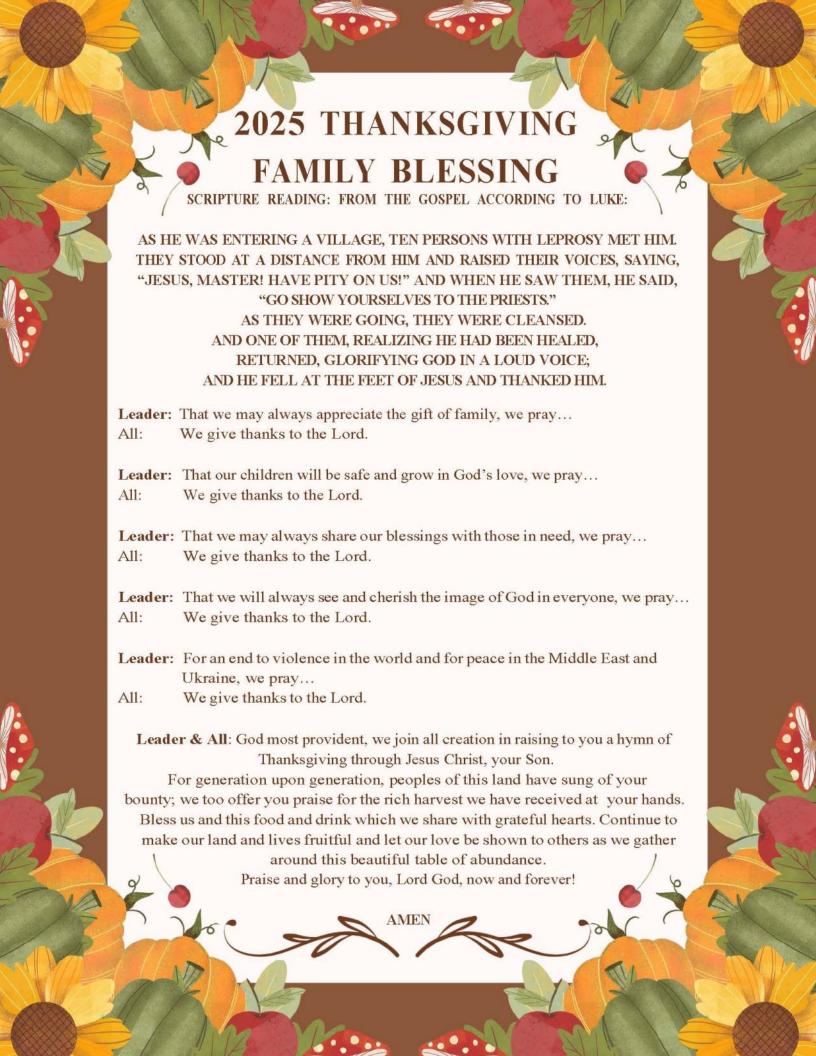
Next Sunday, we commence the beginning of the liturgical year with a season of Advent! This weekend we offer you the annual Parish gift of a little booklet called "Daily Reflections for Advent and Christmas - Waiting in Joyful Hope." We invite you to prepare for the celebration of Christ's coming at Christmas with this popular and inviting Advent guide. The author, Mary DeTurris Poust is a writer, retreat leader, spiritual director, and author of numerous books on Catholic spirituality. Her daily, brief and down-to-earth reflections, accompanied by prayer and scripture will enhance and inspire your Advent journey. Please pick up a book, one per family to be shared and offer three minutes a day to the Lord, and you will make it a great Advent!

Scroll down and join us for an Advent experience of Contemplation!

During this Thanksgiving week, St. John Paul II once said, "We must find time to stop and thank the people who make a difference in our lives." Thank you for making a difference in my life and the life of your Parish family!

Wishing you a blessed and joyful Thanksgiving week!

Msgr. Kevin



Weekly Prayer

Sunday's Readings

First Reading:

"And the LORD said to you,
"You shall shepherd my people Israel
and shall be commander of Israel."" (2 Sm 5:2)

Psalm:

Let us go rejoicing to the house of the Lord. (Ps 122)

Second Reading:

For in him all the fullness was pleased to dwell, and through him to reconcile all things for him, making peace by the blood of his cross through him, whether those on earth or those in heaven. (Col 1:19-20)

Gospel:

He replied to him,
"Amen, I say to you,
today you will be with me in Paradise." (Lk 23:43)

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Live The Liturgy Inspiration of the Week

Our king wears a crown of thorns, not a crown of gold. His glory is not in riches but in suffering. His law is written in his own blood, shed for the love of us. Do we understand the gift that it is, to be subject to such a king?

Observances for the week of November 23, 2025

Sunday: Our Lord Jesus Christ, King of the Universe

Monday: St. Andrew Dung-Lac, Priest, and

Companions, Martyrs

Tuesday: St. Catherine of Alexandria, Virgin and Martyr

Thursday: Thanksgiving Day **Next Sunday:** 1st Sunday of Advent



Devotions, Explained!

The Jesse Tree is an Advent practice which recounts the history of salvation by tracing the lineage of Christ — the foretold "shoot from the stump of Jesse" who will bring peace and unity to the people of God (Isaiah 11:1).

Jesus is King

Dear Jesus,
I see the kingdom you love,
the one full of the broken and
forgotten.
I see the crown you wear —
thorns out of love for me.
I pick you as my King.
Mold my heart to be a worthy
member of your kingdom.
Amen.

©LPi SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 23, 2025 | OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST, KING OF THE UNIVERSE

Worship & Meditation

Readings for the week of November 23, 2025

Sunday:

2 Sm 5:1-3/Ps 122:1-2, 3-4, 4-5 (see 1)/ Col 1:12-20/Lk 23:35-43

Monday:

Dn 1:1-6, 8-20/Dn 3:52, 53, 54, 55, 56/ Lk 21:1-4

Tuesday:

Dn 2:31-45/Dn 3:57, 58, 59, 60, 61/ Lk 21:5-11

Wednesday:

Dn 5:1-6, 13-14, 16-17, 23-28/Dn 3:62, 63, 64, 65, 66, 67/Lk 21:12-19

Thursday:

Dn 6:12-28/Dn 3:68, 69, 70, 71, 72, 73, 74/Lk 21:20-28

Friday:

Dn 7:2-14/Dn 3:75, 76, 77, 78, 79, 80, 81/ Lk 21:29-33

Saturday:

Dn 7:15-27/Dn 3:82, 83, 84, 85, 86, 87/ Lk 21:34-36

Next Sunday:

Is 2:1-5/Ps 122:1-2, 3-4, 4-5, 6-7, 8-9/ Rom 13:11-14/Mt 24:37-44



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Gospel Meditation

Encourage Deeper Understanding of Scripture

Not long ago, I was called to a hospital to anoint a woman in her early 80s. She was dying, and visibly in pain. But what struck me most wasn't her suffering — it was the atmosphere in the room. She had eight children and 30 foster kids, and many of them were gathered around her. You'd expect sorrow, fear, maybe even despair. But the room was filled with something else entirely — a quiet strength, a kind of sweetness. It was as if she was suffering not just with them, but for them. And they, in love, were suffering for her. The pain was real. But so was the peace. I didn't want to run. I felt as if I was in a little paradise, beeping machines and all.

I think of that moment when I hear today's Gospel. Jesus, hanging on the cross, doesn't look like a king. But one of the crucified, dying men beside him sees through the suffering and says, "Jesus, remember me when you come into your kingdom" (Luke 23:42). That word — remember — literally means to make someone a member again. He's asking to be joined to Christ, to become part of his Body. And Jesus says, "Today you will be with me in paradise."

He doesn't say, "I'll take your suffering away." He says, **"You will be with me."**

That's the strange power of Christ the King. He doesn't rule by avoiding suffering. He reigns by entering into it, and transforming it with love

What are you suffering right now in your life? Likely you want it to stop. But if we are willing to suffer with him — paradise begins even today.

- Father John Muir

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 23, 2025 | OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST, KING OF THE UNIVERSE

In Quiet Expectation: A Contemplative Advent Gathering

December 10th at 7:00 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. and

December 11th at 8:30 a.m. to 10:00 a.m. St. Joseph Parish Center

Step into the quiet beauty of Advent.

You are invited to a peaceful gathering of contemplative prayer and reflection as we prepare our hearts for the coming of Christ.

Walk the Labyrinth - A gentle, meditative path representing our spiritual journey.

Visio Divina - Pray with sacred images and Scripture.

Meditative Song & Silence - Rest in the stillness and presence of God.

Refreshments - Fellowship and quiet conversation following prayer.

All are welcome—no experience with contemplative prayer is needed. Come as you are, and discover the peace and stillness of Advent.

Any questions contact: mwissuchek@gmail.com

Walk. Pray. Listen. Wait.



A Season of Hope & Wonder Parish Community Event Saturday, December 13, 2025 6:00pm - 7:30pm- SJ Center

Professional Christmas Carolers



"The Silver Belles"



Hot Chocolate & Cookies



Hot Apple Cider



Crafts & Activities for children

Information: Youth Minister, Liz Moreno (562)598-0519 Ext 2



Advent Retreat for Adults

LOS ANGELES

Saturday, December 13th
Sunday, December 14th
10am – 3pm

Mass and lunch are included.

A freewill offering is greatly appreciated. Suggested donation \$35.00.

Please RSVP by December 5th

to 714-557-4538 or RetreatCenter@joyfulapostolate.org



2927 S Greenville St. Santa Ana, CA 92704 www.joyfulapostolate.org/advent-retreat-2







"Children, let us love not in word or speech but in deed and truth." -1 John 3:18.

Thanksgiving Food and Blanket

<u>Distribution</u>: *THANK YOU* for your generous support of 114 *very* grateful families including over 300 children! An abundant amount of food, blankets, blessings and *hope* were provided!

Through our Called to Renew initiative with partner, Our Lady of Refuge, our key leads assisted OLR to serve an ADDITIONAL 35 families including over 75 children! *Over 750 people overall!!*

<u>Dec. 6-7 – Christmas Present Drive:</u> Envelopes will be available at Masses for the children of families we will assist for Christmas: a child's name, age, sex, sizes, and instructions. <u>Please return gifts to church by Dec. 14 at 12:30 pm</u> or to the Parish Life Center during the week.

Dec. 20 - Christmas Food and Present

<u>Distribution</u>: As a parish community, we will assist 80 families for Christmas, and Easter. **Can you help us deliver?** So meaningful to kids! Please contact Jill Salinaz (562) 822-7367 or jmsalinaz@yahoo.com.

For many fulfilling ways to serve, please call Tim Clark (562) 431-4385.

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



Facts about psychological grooming

A few weeks ago, we looked at physical grooming and how predators use it to lure victims. Another type of grooming is psychological, in which a predator spends a great deal of time with his or her victim, showering them with attention and making the victim feel a shared connection. When the predator becomes a peer to the child, then he has control. He can then offer special treatment — or threaten to take away that treatment, and even make threats against the child's family, pets, and other friends. For more information about psychological grooming, read the VIRTUS® article "The Grooming Process" at lacatholics.org/didyou-know.



Hello all you St. Joseph Seniors,

Our St. Joseph Senior Social Group has been meeting once a month at the El Dorado Golf Course Restaurant for breakfast. We will have one more breakfast meeting at the El Dorado on Monday, **December 8 at 9:30am**.

This will be a Christmas breakfast, and we are asking everyone to bring a nice "white elephant" gift, wrapped, and we will draw numbers to pick a gift... It will be a fun morning to celebrate the beginning of the Christmas Season. It is also a Holy Day - The Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception, so we can go to 8:00 am Mass and then to the El Dorado Restaurant. Then the exciting news is that we will begin having our regular Senior Social Group gatherings in our new St. Joseph Center starting in January 2026.



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



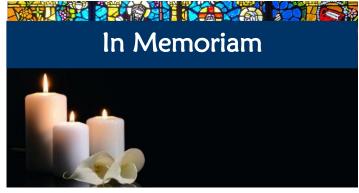


provides encouragement, support, and valuable tools to navigate the season.

Join us for this 2-hour seminar

Location	Date & time	Contact info
6180 East Willow	Tuesday, 9:30 - 11:30 a.m.	May Pace
Long Beach	November 18 or	562/833-6370
PLC Building	December 16	maypace@gmail.com

griefshare.org/holidays



Mark Nakagawa

Funeral Mass at St. Joseph Church Saturday, December 5th at 10:00 am

Marcia Carizzales

Funeral Mass at St. Joseph Church Saturday, December 6th at 10:00 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~



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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 mike@stjosephlb.org Website Coordinator Mike Santy

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

Administrative Assistant: Michelle Johnson (562)596-6115 High School Ministry & Confirmation: Liz Moreno (562) 596-6115 OCIA: Sr. Eva sreva@stjosephlb.org (562) 596-6115

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 Steve Koppenheffer lectorsstjosephlb@gmail.com Lectors **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 **Donna Luciene** (562) 421-4993 **Knights Of Columbus** Marty Vezzetti (702) 401-5247 **Natural Family Planning** Greg & Beth Gath (562) 377-5877 **Boy Scouts** Jeff Baer (562) 537-6722 Sacristans Joe Dang (562) 431-1876 **Homebound Ministry Patty Brunter** pjbstampin@aol.com Bereavement Ministry (562) 833-6370 May Pace Cursillo Tom & Marie Newton tjn8343@gmail.com Parish Fair Pete Wroblicky sjspringfair@gmail.com Environment Jessica Gil bpax.g4@gmail.com Altar Servers Monica Wissuchek stjfamilyaltarservers@gmail.com Welcome CRHP Diane Ohde stilbwelcome@gmail.com

Mary Anne Silvestri

Frank McKown

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. **Third Tuesdays** 7:00-8:00 p.m.



Book Club

Meditation

frmckown@gmail.com



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