

St. Joseph Parish

YOU ALSO
MUST BE
PREPARED.

— MATTHEW 24:44 —

FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT

©LPi

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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 a new Church Year. Welcome to the First Sunday of Advent. Welcome to the first four Sundays, in which we prepare to celebrate Christmas, the birth of our Savior and King, the Lord Jesus Christ!

The season of Advent has a twofold character. It is a time of preparation for Christmas when the first coming of God's Son is recalled by the prophets. It is also a season when our hearts and minds are directed to Christ's second coming at the end of time. Advent is a season of joyful and spiritual expectation. Advent is about waiting and hoping! What are you waiting for during these December days leading up to Christmas? The four weeks of Advent are not a time to pretend that Christ has not yet come in that he will be born on December 25. As Christians, we firmly believe that Jesus has already been born and come into our lives. This Advent may the revelation of Jesus Christ be revealed in all the daily circumstances of our lives. This Advent may the evil ways in our world be turned upside down! This Advent may the Goodwill in people's hearts shine forth! This Advent, let's pray that the world will do right by loving God and loving others!

Please scroll down to review the December calendar and avail yourselves of the opportunities to celebrate Advent and be hopeful.

Last Saturday, almost 150 people filled our Center to receive a blessing and then take the Thanksgiving gifts out to over 108 needy families in our community. Thanks to all of you who participated in any way. Thanks to Tim Clark and the MBW team for orchestrating a most successful event while also coordinating a new movement at our Lady of Refuge.



Letter From Our Pastor Continued...

Last Saturday, yours truly stood on the sidelines cheering on our Saint Joseph's Knights who competed in the final championship flag-football game at Salesian high school stadium just south of downtown LA. Our team reached the finals against the Saint Monica Mariners from Santa Monica. The Pastor of Saint Monica's, my good friend Monsignor Lloyd Torgerson cheered on the Mariners. Congratulations to the Mariners who won the game. I reminded our team that they could stand proud having reached an 11-1 season. Congratulations to the girl's A volleyball team that also reached the championship game and took home the second-place trophy. Through the years, Saint Joseph's has produced some amazing athletes!



Enjoy the rest of this Thanksgiving weekend, and may your hearts always be filled with gratitude for the many ways in which God cares for you and your families!
Happy Advent!

Msgr. Kevin

Weekly Prayer

Sunday's Readings

First Reading:

O house of Jacob, come,
let us walk in the light of the LORD! (Isa 2:5)

Psalm:

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

Second Reading:

You know the time;
it is the hour now for you to awake from sleep.
For our salvation is nearer now than when
we first believed. (Rom 13:11)

Gospel:

"So too, you also must be prepared,
for at an hour you do not expect,
the Son of Man will come." (Mt 24:44)

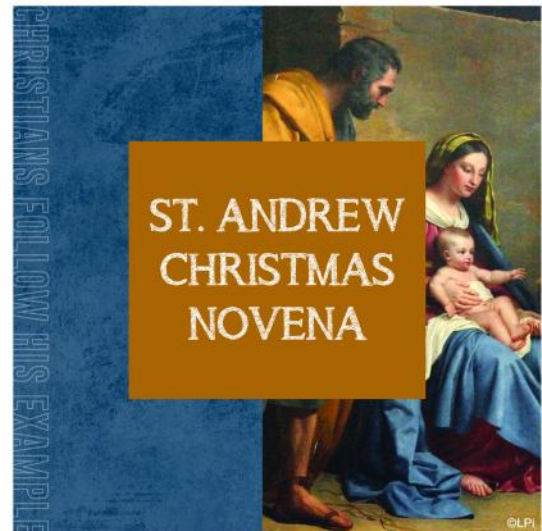
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Live The Liturgy Inspiration of the Week

"You do not know on which day your Lord will come," Jesus says. He is reminding us that we do not know the mind of God. But we do know the heart of God, and we know that it is filled with mercy for those who heed the warning: Stay awake!

Observances for the week of November 30, 2025

- Sunday:** 1st Sunday of Advent; Respect Life Sunday
Wednesday: St. Francis Xavier, Priest
Thursday: St. John Damascene, Priest and Doctor of the Church
Saturday: St. Nicholas, Bishop
Next Sunday: 2nd Sunday of Advent



Devotions, *Explained!*

The St. Andrew Christmas novena is a prayer said from Nov. 30 through Christmas Eve. St. Andrew was the first disciple of Christ, and in saying this prayer Christians follow his example of prescient faithfulness throughout the days of Advent.

Prayer for Advent - Arise

Bless God's Holy Name!
Prepare our hearts for Your coming, Lord.
Awaken them from any places that have become sleepy or despondent.
Inspire us with new visions.
Be with us as we climb closer to You.
Amen.

Worship & Meditation

Readings for the week of November 30, 2025

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

Monday:

Is 4:2-6/Ps 122:1-2, 3-4b, 4cd-5, 6-7, 8-9/
Mt 8:5-11

Tuesday:

Is 11:1-10/Ps 72:1-2, 7-8, 12-13, 17/
Lk 10:21-24

Wednesday:

Is 25:6-10a/Ps 23:1-3a, 3b-4, 5, 6/
Mt 15:29-37

Thursday:

Is 26:1-6/Ps 118:1 and 8-9, 19-21, 25-27a/
Mt 7:21, 24-27

Friday:

Is 29:17-24/Ps 27:1, 4, 13-14/Mt 9:27-31

Saturday:

Is 30:19-21, 23-26/Ps 147:1-2, 3-4, 5-6/
Mt 9:35-10:1, 5a, 6-8

Next Sunday:

Is 11:1-10/Ps 72:1-2, 7-8, 12-13, 17 (see 7)/
Rom 15:4-9/Mt 3:1-12



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Gospel Meditation

Encourage Deeper Understanding of Scripture

A few years ago, my house was broken into on Super Bowl Sunday. Turns out, it's a great day for burglars. If the TV isn't on, people are probably watching the game somewhere else, so ... easy pickins'. I'll never forget walking into my bedroom and realizing someone had been there. My stuff was thrown all over the floor. The closet was torn apart. It was disorienting and disturbing — someone had invaded the space I thought was secure. After that, I bought an alarm system. And every Super Bowl Sunday since, I'm extra careful to lock the doors and keep the lights on. That experience made me more alert. Not scared. Just attentive.

That's much like the spiritual place Jesus wants us to be on this first Sunday of Advent. He doesn't start the season with soft candlelight and cozy manger scenes. He starts with two brutal images: a flood and a thief. In other words, chaos and violation.

Why? Because life will flood us. Chaos *will* come. And in the midst of it, Christ will come like a thief — not to steal from us, but to steal us back. He is the intruder we should want. The one who breaks in, not to ransack, but to rescue.

Christ presents himself as the thief but also the new Noah. He builds the ark of the Church to carry us through the flood. And he invites us to join him. How? By participating fully in our parishes. By making our homes places of prayer. By guarding our hearts with truth. By refusing to let spiritual complacency leave us exposed. By repentance.

This Advent, don't just stay vaguely "awake." Prepare. Build. Watch. The flood will come. But so will he.

— Father John Muir

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 30, 2025 | 1ST SUNDAY OF ADVENT

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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.



Hosted By: St. Joe's Youth Event Leadership Team

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



ST. JOSEPH *Annual Fund*



As 2025 comes to a close, we give heartfelt thanks for your support of Saint Joseph Catholic School. Your generosity helps us form young hearts and minds as Disciples of Christ, Tenacious Scholars, and 21st-century Learners.



**MAKE YOUR
GIFT TODAY!**

Our Goal: \$85,000 to continue providing an exceptional Catholic education for every student.

This year's Annual Appeal focuses on three priorities:



- **Supporting Our Teachers:** Help us offer competitive salaries to retain our devoted educators.
- **Investing in Professional Development:** Enabling teachers to grow and inspire students; last year our students earned top STAR Reading scores in the Archdiocese!
- **Enhancing Campus Security:** New perimeter fencing ensures a safe and welcoming environment for all.

Thank you for your prayers, support, and generosity!



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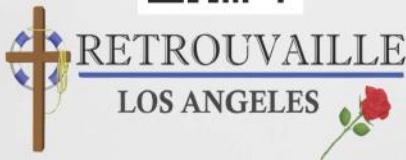
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Advent Retreat for Adults

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



Heart of Jesus
RETREAT CENTER

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



Adoration



**Come spend an hour with our Lord Jesus Christ
in the Blessed Sacrament.**

Enter what Catholic author Matthew Kelly calls
“*The Classroom of Silence*,” and answer Jesus’
invitation:

**“Could you not watch with me one
hour?” (Matthew 26:40)**

Join **Deacon Joe & Dianne Lumsdaine** for
Eucharistic Adoration
this **Friday, December 5th at 8:00 a.m.**

**94TH 2025
PROCESSION AND MASS
IN HONOR OF OUR LADY OF
GUADALUPE
CAUSE OF OUR JOY AND HOPE**

**SUNDAY
DECEMBER 7**

OUR LADY OF SOLITUDE
4561 E. CESAR CHAVEZ, LA 90022
THE PROCESSION BEGINS AT 10:30 AM

**THE HOLY MASS
BEGINS AT 1:00 PM**

**CELEBRANT
ARCHBISHOP JOSÉ H. GOMEZ**

EAST LA COLLEGE
1301 CESAR CHAVEZ AVE.
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**2025 PILGRIMAGE OF
THE IMAGES OF OUR LADY OF
GUADALUPE AND ST. JUAN BOSCO**

**SAN GABRIEL PASTORAL REGION
SEPTEMBER 13 - OCTOBER 17**

- 15-16 St. Ignace, Los Angeles
- 17-18 St. John Vianney, Los Angeles
- 19 St. John Vianney, Los Angeles
- 20-21 St. Ignace, Los Angeles
- 22-23 St. Ignace, Los Angeles
- 24-25 St. Ignace, Los Angeles
- 26 Our Lady of Guadalupe, Los Angeles
- 27 Our Lady of Guadalupe, Los Angeles
- 28 Sacred Heart, Los Angeles
- 29 Immaculate Conception, Los Angeles
- 30-31 Our Lady of Guadalupe, Los Angeles
- 1-2 Our Lady of Guadalupe, Los Angeles
- 3-4 Our Lady of Guadalupe, Los Angeles
- 5-6 Our Lady of Guadalupe, Los Angeles
- 7-8 Our Lady of Guadalupe, Los Angeles
- 9 Assumption, Boyle Heights
- 10 St. Ignace, Los Angeles
- 11 Holy Cross Cemetery, Monterey Park
- 12 San Francisco, East LA
- 13 Sacred Heart, Altadena
- 14-15 Our Lady of Guadalupe, Los Angeles
- 16-17 St. Ignace, Los Angeles

**SAN FERNANDO PASTORAL REGION
OCTOBER 18-31**

- 18 Good Shepherd Cemetery, Lancaster
- 19-20 St. Ignace, Los Angeles
- 21-22 St. Ignace, Los Angeles
- 23-24 St. Ignace, Los Angeles
- 25-26 Our Lady of Guadalupe, Los Angeles
- 27-28 Our Lady of Guadalupe, Los Angeles
- 29-30 St. Ignace, Los Angeles
- 31 Immaculate Conception, Los Angeles

**SANTA BARBARA PASTORAL REGION
NOVEMBER 1-17**

- 1 Santa Clara Cemetery, Santa Barbara
- 2-3 St. Louis de Montfort, Santa Barbara
- 4-5 Our Lady of Guadalupe, Santa Barbara
- 6-7 Our Lady of Guadalupe, Santa Barbara
- 8-9 Our Lady of Guadalupe, Santa Barbara
- 10-11 St. Ignace, Los Angeles
- 12-13 St. Ignace, Los Angeles
- 14-15 St. Ignace, Los Angeles
- 16-17 St. Ignace, Los Angeles
- 18-19 St. Ignace, Los Angeles
- 20-21 St. Ignace, Los Angeles
- 22-23 St. Ignace, Los Angeles
- 24-25 St. Ignace, Los Angeles
- 26-27 St. Ignace, Los Angeles
- 28-29 St. Ignace, Los Angeles
- 30-31 St. Ignace, Los Angeles

**SAN PEDRO PASTORAL REGION
NOVEMBER 18-22**

- 18-19 St. Ignace, Los Angeles
- 20-21 St. Ignace, Los Angeles
- 22-23 St. Ignace, Los Angeles
- 24-25 St. Ignace, Los Angeles
- 26-27 St. Ignace, Los Angeles
- 28-29 St. Ignace, Los Angeles
- 30-31 St. Ignace, Los Angeles

**OUR LADY OF THE ANGELS
PASTORAL REGION
NOVEMBER 23 - DECEMBER 5**

- 23 Our Lady of the Angels, Los Angeles
- 24-25 Our Lady of the Angels, Los Angeles
- 26-27 Our Lady of the Angels, Los Angeles
- 28-29 Our Lady of the Angels, Los Angeles
- 30-31 Our Lady of the Angels, Los Angeles
- 1-2 Our Lady of the Angels, Los Angeles
- 3-4 Our Lady of the Angels, Los Angeles
- 5-6 Our Lady of the Angels, Los Angeles

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 7
10:30 AM Mass at East LA College Stadium



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

Thanksgiving Food and Blanket

Distribution: *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!!*

Dec. 6-7 – Christmas Present Drive: 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. **Please return gifts to church by Dec. 14 at 12:30 pm** or to the Parish Life Center during the week.

Dec. 20 - Christmas Food and Present

Distribution: 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.**

The Knights of Columbus, Council 3629, proudly serving St. Cornelius, St. Joseph, and St. Maria Goretti, are thrilled to offer a special holiday decorating service. We are here to help our senior brothers, senior parish members, or anyone needing assistance with hanging Christmas lights and arranging outdoor decorations.

Our goal is to enhance your Christmas celebrations, creating a festive and warm atmosphere for your family and friends.

- *We will accommodate requests on a ****first-come, first-served**** basis.*
- *Please provide your own lights and decorations. We can supply some small hardware if needed.*

*If you're interested in having your home decorated for Christmas, please call ****310-738-4396****.*

May God bless you and your family during this joyful season!

*Knights of Columbus: Keeping Christ in Christmas!**

Did You Know?

Facts about community grooming

There is a third type of grooming: *community grooming*. In community grooming, a predator creates a controlled environment, projecting an image of a responsible, caring adult. They mimic the behavior of good people around them, to get closer to children and then select a victim. Adults often have trouble seeing potentially troubling behavior, because they have been groomed to see the predator as an upstanding person. For more information, read the VIRTUS® article “The Grooming Process” at lacatholics.org/did-you-know.



Senior Group



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.



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



**The holidays are
challenging when you're
grieving a loss.**

GriefShare

Surviving the Holidays

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 Long Beach PLC Building	Tuesday, 9:30 - 11:30 a.m. November 18 or December 16	May Pace 562/833-6370 maypace@gmail.com

griefshare.org/holidays



In Memoriam



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~

Parish Directory

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(562) 596-6115

OCIA: Sr. Eva

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(562) 596-6115

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Director of Music

Vivian Doughty

(562) 594-4657

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Esther Ministry

Virginia Young

estherministry1@gmail.com

Hospitality Ministry

Deborah Rollinger

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Tim Clark

(562) 431-4385

Senior Group

Donna Luciene

(562) 810-5244

Knights Of Columbus

Marty Vezzetti

(702) 401-5247

Natural Family Planning

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Boy Scouts

Jeff Baer

(562) 537-6722

Sacristans

Joe Dang

(562) 431-1876

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Cursillo

Tom & Marie Newton

tjn8343@gmail.com

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Jessica Gil

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Monica Wissuchek

stjfamilyaltarservers@gmail.com

Welcome CRHP

Diane Ohde

stjlbwelcome@gmail.com

Book Club

Mary Anne Silvestri

agoodlife@msn.com

Meditation

Frank McKown

frmckown@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.

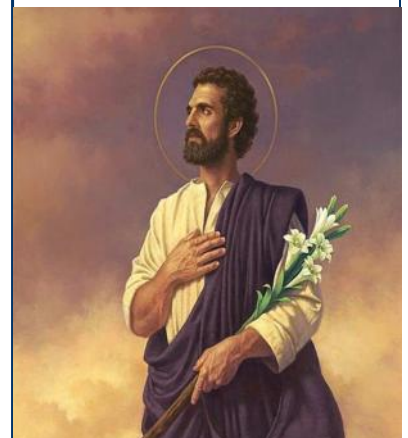
Adoration

First Fridays

8:00-9:00 a.m.

Third Tuesdays

7:00-8:00 p.m.





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