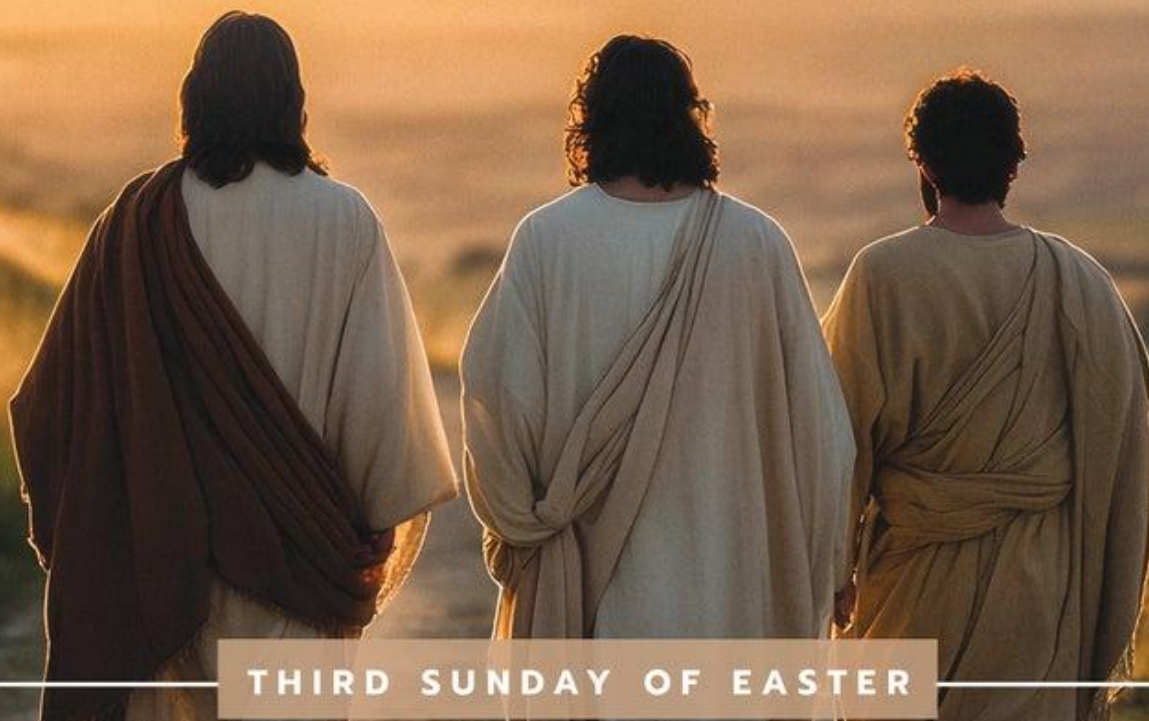


St. Joseph Parish

JESUS

HIMSELF DREW
NEAR AND WALKED
WITH THEM.

— LUKE 24:15 —



THIRD SUNDAY OF EASTER

©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 the 3rd Sunday of Easter!! This weekend, we will listen to one of the most beloved stories in the New Testament. It's a 7-mile biblical road trip walking from Jerusalem to Emmaus. Two of the disciples are downcast as they mourn the loss of their friend, Jesus. They do not recognize the Lord when he walks with them. However, they do recognize him in the breaking of the bread! That's the theme for this Sunday, recognize the Lord, recognize the Risen Lord.

April is Child Abuse Prevention Month. For years, the Archdiocese of Los Angeles has instituted abuse prevention and reporting programs for adults and minors; fingerprinting and background checks for church employees and volunteers at parishes and schools; clergy formation programs to prevent abuse. Since many of these programs were established twenty plus years ago more than 400,000 adults have been trained in abuse prevention and reporting; 1.4 million Catholic students have received age-appropriate training that teaches them to understand appropriate and inappropriate boundaries; more than 168,000 adults have been fingerprinted and undergone background checks.

Know that St. Joseph's has an active Safeguard the Children Committee and we are committed to keeping our children safe. Let us always remember and pray for the healing of victim-survivors of abuse and protection against abuse and misconduct. This weekend we'll be distributing this year's newest brochure called "Promise to Protect- Pledge to Heal". Please read and keep this brochure in your home.

Our annual Parish Fair is just two weeks away during the weekend of May 1-3.

Pre-sales and volunteer sign-ups will be held this weekend and next weekend outside of the residence garages. You can buy food/drink tickets, ride tickets, wristbands, and we need you to help. If you can volunteer for 2 to 4 hours and serve your Parish, thank you! The picture below shows our new Center kitchen in full use as the men prepared 1,200 eggs for the Fair!!



This Friday, our Parish will welcome Bishop Marc Trudeau who will impart the gifts of the Holy Spirit upon our second year Confirmation Class and several adults who are completing their initiation as Catholics. Congratulations upon all of those who are celebrating the Sacrament of Confirmation, and we pray that you will be strong disciples in the name of the Lord!

Easter Blessings,
Msgr. Kevin

Weekly Prayer

Sunday's Readings

First Reading:

"Exalted at the right hand of God,
he received the promise of the Holy Spirit from the Father
and poured him forth, as you see and hear." (Acts 2:33)

Psalm:

Lord, you will show us the path of life. (Ps 16)
Or Alleluia.

Second Reading:

He was known before the foundation of the world
but revealed in the final time for you. (1 Pt 1:20)

Gospel:

Then they said to each other,
"Were not our hearts burning within us
while he spoke to us on the way and opened the
Scriptures to us?" (Lk 24:32)

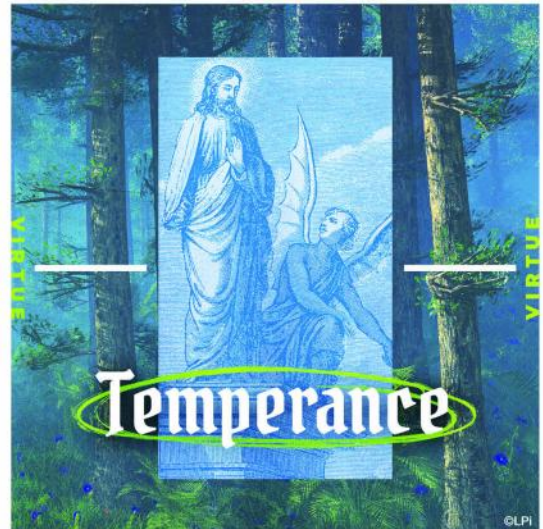
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Live The Liturgy Inspiration of the Week

Like Cleopas, we make our way
through this world with weary feet and
disappointed hearts. Christ falls into step
beside us. He can open our eyes. Will we
let him?

Observances for the week of April 19, 2026

- Sunday:** 3rd Sunday of Easter
Tuesday: St. Anselm, Bishop and Doctor of the Church
Wednesday: *Administrative Professionals' Day; Earth Day*
Thursday: St. George, Martyr; St. Adalbert, Bishop and Martyr
Friday: St. Fidelis of Sigmaringen, Priest and Martyr;
Arbor Day
Saturday: St. Mark, Evangelist
Next Sunday: 4th Sunday of Easter;
World Day of Prayer for Vocations



Virtues, Explained!

This cardinal virtue of temperance is shown in the person who is master of his passions and his attachment to the world. "It ensures the will's mastery over instincts and keeps desires within the limits of what is honorable," we read in the Catechism.

Blessing for Spring

Dear Lord,
As this new season begins,
bring new life to our hearts as well.
Prune what has grown
despondent,
brush back that which darkens
and clouds.
As the flowers bud and bloom,
bless us with new wonder, new
hope, new promise, new joy.
Amen.

Worship & Meditation

Readings for the week of April 19, 2026

Sunday:

Acts 2:14, 22-33/Ps 16:1-2 and 5, 7-8,
9-10, 11/1 Pt 1:17-21/Lk 24:13-35

Monday:

Acts 6:8-15/Ps 119:23-24, 26-27, 29-30/
Jn 6:22-29

Tuesday:

Acts 7:51-8:1a/ Ps 31:3cd-4, 6 and 7b and
8a, 17 and 21ab/Jn 6:30-35

Wednesday:

Acts 8:1b-8/ Ps 66:1-3a, 4-5, 6-7a/
Jn 6:35-40

Thursday:

Acts 8:26-40/ Ps 66:8-9, 16-17, 20/
Jn 6:44-51

Friday:

Acts 9:1-20/ Ps 117:1bc, 2/Jn 6:52-59

Saturday:

1 Pt 5:5b-14/ Ps 89:2-3, 6-7, 16-17/
Mk 16:15-20

Next Sunday:

Acts 2:14a, 36-41/Ps 23:1-3a, 3b-4, 5, 6/
1 Pt 2:20b-25/Jn 10:1-10



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Gospel Meditation

Encourage Deeper Understanding of Scripture

When I first read Homer's *Odyssey* as a teenager, one scene captured my imagination: Odysseus finally returning home after 20 years, yet no one recognized him. Disguised as a beggar, he speaks with his wife, his son, and even his enemies. He is fully present, yet hidden. Only at the right moment does he reveal himself, and everyone realizes he has been with them all along. I was struck by the mystery that he could be so close to his loved ones, and yet they simply could not identify him.

A similar mystery is at the heart of today's Gospel. Two disciples walk the road to Emmaus with Jesus, but **"their eyes were prevented from recognizing him."** (Luke 24:16) He listens, teaches, and eats with them, yet they remain blind until he breaks the bread. Suddenly their eyes are opened — and at that very moment, he vanishes. His disappearance is not absence. Rather, it is revelation. The Risen Lord is now present in a new way, in the breaking of the bread and in the life of His Church.

Faith is this shift of vision. Instead of searching for a visible Jesus as if he were absent, we learn to recognize him unveiled in hidden ways — in Scripture proclaimed, in the Eucharist, in the sacraments, in the very life of the Church.

And what is true of him is true of us. Just as he disappears into the mission of his Body, we too are meant to be hidden in him. When we live hidden in Christ, we are seen for who we really are.

— *Father John Muir*



◆ Men's Retreat ◆ This Weekend

Please keep in your prayers our Men's *Welcome Christ Renews His Parish* retreat taking place this weekend. We ask the Holy Spirit to guide every detail so that the retreat flows smoothly and all who are involved may be strengthened with wisdom, energy, grace, and joyful hearts. May the men attending the retreat be renewed in Christ, touched by the power of the Holy Spirit, and encouraged to grow in faith. May this retreat deepen their connection with God, with one another, and with our St. Joseph Parish community.



Eucharistic Adoration

Every third Tuesday | 7:00 PM - 8:00 PM

St. Joseph Catholic Church



Next Adoration:

Tuesday, April 21, 2026

Give your faith a boost!



Did You Know?

Special liturgies to be held at Gardens of Healing for Child Abuse Prevention Month

The Office of Victims Assistance Ministry is collaborating with the parishes where the five Gardens of Healing are located, to hold special liturgies throughout April in recognition of Child Abuse Prevention Month. Dedicated to those harmed by sexual abuse, in their family, church or community, the Gardens of Healing are located at St. Camillus Pastoral Center in Boyle Heights, Our Lady of the Assumption Parish in Ventura, St. Francis de Sales Parish in Sherman Oaks, St. Bernadette Parish in Los Angeles, and Our Lady of Refuge in Long Beach. The gardens offer a sacred space for all those impacted by abuse to seek comfort and solace. For details about the special liturgies and more information about the Gardens of Healing, please visit lacatholics.org/healing-gardens.

St. Joseph ANNUAL PARISH FAIR
MAY 1st-3rd

We Need Your Help!
Accepting Donations for the Fair:

- Smart & Final Gift Cards
- Bottled Water (16.9 oz Packs)

Please Drop Off Donations At:

- School Office
- Parish Office

★ Thank you for your support! ★

St. Joseph Senior Group Meeting

The next meeting will be on
Monday, April 27 in the beautiful new
St. Joseph Center!

Activities from 10:00 am to 1:30 pm!

Bingo, Poker, Card Games, Mexican Train & More!

Bring One, Take One Table of Books & Puzzles!

50/50 Raffle Tickets! **Trip Info & Schedules Available!**

Bring Your Brown Bag Lunch!
Coffee, Tea, Water & Goodies Provided!

We look forward to seeing all our members and new friends who would like to join us!

Annual Dues: \$20

Any questions?
 Contact Marilyn North (562) 519-0154

GriefShare®

Grieving the **death** of a loved one?

Join us:

FEBRUARY 10 - MAY 5, 2026

PLC ROOM AT 6180 E. WILLOW

9:30 TO 11:30 AM

INFO: MAY PACE, BEREAVEMENT
 562/833 - 6370



With Gratitude and Appreciation

Administrative PROFESSIONALS DAY

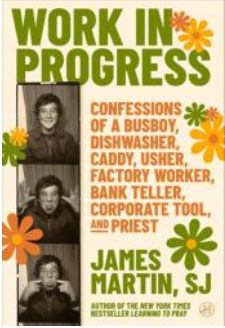


We are grateful for the outstanding support, dedication, and care that our parish and school administrative staff provide. Your hard work and kindness are truly appreciated today and every day.

God bless our amazing administrative team!



Book Club



Our next Book Club meeting is **Wednesday, May 20th at 7pm** on Zoom

Work in Progress: Confessions of a busboy, dishwasher, caddy, usher, factory worker, bank teller, corporate tool, and priest by James Martin

In this funny, wise and inspiring memoir, Jesuit priest James Martin reminisces about the summer jobs that prepared him for his calling and reminds readers “of the ways that grace works through all our lives, no matter who we are or how ordinary our daily activities may seem.”

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



AR - DE - EN - ES - FR - HR - IT - PL - PT - ZH_TW

LEO XIV

GENERAL AUDIENCE

Saint Peter's Square
Wednesday, 1st April 2026
[Multimedia]

Catechesis. The Documents of the Second Vatican Council. II. Dogmatic Constitution *Lumen gentium*. 6. *Living stones in the Church and witnesses in the world: the laity in the People of God*"

Brothers and sisters, good morning!

Let us continue on our path of reflection on the Church as she is presented to us in the Conciliar Constitution *Lumen gentium* (LG). Today we will look at the fourth chapter, which deals with the laity. Let us all remember what [Pope Francis](#) liked to repeat: "Lay people are put simply, the vast majority of the people of God. The minority — ordained ministers — are at their service" (Apostolic Exhortation *Evangelii gaudium*, 102).

This section of the Document seeks to explain, in positive terms, the nature and mission of the laity, after centuries in which they had been defined simply as those who are not part of the clergy or the consecrated life. For this reason, I would like to revisit with you a very beautiful passage that speaks of the greatness of the Christian condition: "Therefore, the chosen People of God is one: 'one Lord, one faith, one baptism' (*Eph 4:5*); sharing a common dignity as members from their regeneration in Christ, having the same filial grace and the same vocation to perfection; possessing in common one salvation, one hope and one undivided charity" (*LG, 32*).

Before any distinction of ministry or state of life, the Council affirms the equality of all the baptized. The Constitution does not want us to forget what it had already affirmed in the chapter on the People of God, namely that the condition of the messianic people is the dignity and freedom of the children of God (cf. *LG, 9*).

Naturally, the greater the gift, the greater the commitment too. For this reason, the **Council** along with dignity, also emphasizes the mission of the laity in the Church and in the world. But on what is this mission founded, and in what does it consist? The very description of the laity offered by the Council tells us: "The term laity is here understood to mean all the faithful... [who] are by baptism made one body with Christ and are constituted among the People of God; they are in their own way made sharers in the priestly, prophetic, and kingly functions of Christ; and they carry out for their own part the mission of the whole Christian people in the Church and in the world" (*LG, 31*).

The holy People of God, therefore, is never a formless mass, but the body of Christ, or, as Saint Augustine said, the *Christus totus*; it is a community organically structured by means of the fruitful relationship between the two forms of participation in the priesthood of Christ: the common priesthood of the faithful and the ministerial priesthood (cf. *LG, 10*). By virtue of Baptism, the lay faithful participate in the very priesthood of Christ. Indeed, "the supreme and eternal Priest, Christ Jesus, since He wills to continue His witness and service also through the laity, vivifies them in this Spirit and increasingly urges them on to every good and perfect work" (*LG, 34*).

In this regard, how can we fail to recall [Saint John Paul II](#) and his Apostolic Exhortation [Christifideles Laici](#) (30 December 1988)? In it, he emphasized that “the Council, with its rich doctrinal, spiritual and pastoral patrimony, has written as never before on the nature, dignity, spirituality, mission and responsibility of the lay faithful. And the Council Fathers, re-echoing the call of Christ, have summoned all the lay faithful, both women and men, to labour in the vineyard” (no. 2). In this way, my venerable Predecessor relaunched the apostolate of the laity, to which the Council dedicated a specific Document, which we will talk about later (cf. Second Vatican Ecumenical Council, Decree [Apostolicam actuositatem](#), 18 November 1965).

The vast field of the lay apostolate is not confined to the Church, but extends to the world. Indeed, the Church is present wherever her children profess and bear witness to the Gospel: in the workplace, in civil society and in all human relationships, wherever they, through their choices, show the beauty of Christian life, which foretells here and now the justice and peace that will be accomplished in the Kingdom of God. The world needs to “be permeated by the spirit of Christ, and more effectively fulfil its purpose in justice, charity and peace” (LG, 36). And this is possible only through the contribution, service and witness of the laity!

It is an invitation to be the Church ‘which goes forth’ that [Pope Francis](#) spoke to us about: a Church embodied in history, always open to mission, in which we are all called to be missionary disciples, apostles of the Gospel, witnesses of the Kingdom of God, bearers of the joy of Christ whom we have encountered!

Brothers and sisters, may the Easter we are preparing to celebrate renew in us the grace to be, like Mary Magdalene, like Peter and John, witnesses of the Risen One!

Special greetings:

I extend a warm welcome to all the English-speaking pilgrims and visitors taking part in today’s Audience, especially those coming from Nigeria, the Philippines and the United States of America. I greet in particular the students participating in the 2026 UNIV International University Conference. May this Holy Week lead us to celebrate the resurrection of the Lord Jesus with hearts that are purified and renewed by the grace of the Holy Spirit. Upon all of you and your families, I invoke the joy and peace of our Lord Jesus Christ. God bless you all!

Summary of the Holy Father's words:

Dear brothers and sisters,

In our ongoing catechesis on the Dogmatic Constitution *Lumen Gentium*, we turn today to consider the laity. Rather than limiting itself to defining the laity for what they are not, the Second Vatican Council sought to shed light on their innate dignity as members of the People of God and underline the peculiarity of their role in the mission of the Church. Having been incorporated into Christ through Baptism, the laity are made sharers in their own way in his priestly, prophetic and kingly office. The Church is present wherever her children profess the Gospel and bear witness to Christ. For this reason, lay men and women are particularly called to carry Christ's presence to all spheres of life and so transform them from within by bearing witness to the beauty of a life in Christ and the elevating power of his grace.

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The **HOLY SEE**

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(562) 598-0519 marc@stjosephlb.org

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OCIA: Sr. Eva	sreva@stjosephlb.org	(562) 596-6115

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Senior Group	Donna Luciene	(562) 810-5244
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
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Bereavement Ministry	May Pace	(562) 833-6370
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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.

