

St. Joseph Parish

I AM

THE LIVING BREAD.

— JOHN 6:51 —

THE MOST HOLY BODY AND BLOOD OF CHRIST

©LPI

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



Letter From Our Pastor

Dear Parish Family:

Welcome to the Solemnity of the Most Holy Body and Blood of Christ! This annual commemoration of the Holy Eucharist is a reminder that like our ancestors of old, who were saved by God, God continues to rescue and feed us! Let's renew our love for the Eucharist by remembering that every Sunday, we fulfill the command of the Lord to "Take and eat and Take and drink." The Eucharist is all about real presence and communal sharing with Jesus Christ and one another!

As we approach summer, many of you will be going on a road trip. With the escalating cost of fuel, it might be a shorter trip than in the past. While I was growing up, our family made three road trips a year to visit our grandparents, (my dad's parents) in Lorain Ohio, the place of my birth. My grandparents, affectionately known to my three brothers in the Kostelnik clan as Mimi and Poppa always threw open the door and their arms when we arrived! Planning for our summer excursion started a week before as we stuffed the back of the Ford station wagon with every toy and game imaginable: card games, board games and of course GI Joes!! The summer road trip started from our home in Saint Clair Shores, Michigan, a suburb outside of Detroit. It was a three hour drive down Interstate 75 through Southeastern Michigan, and then a drive along the Ohio Turnpike. Three restless elementary school boys in the back of the car and after 20 minutes, we began the endless litany: "Are we there yet?" "Are we there yet?" More about my "Summer Road Trip" in a future summer bulletin!

For those who attend the Sunday Mass on the Grass, you may have noticed the new Succulent Garden located adjacent to the PLC and the field. The variety of plants and colors are stunning, and a big parish thank you to Cheryl Mantong for the idea, vision and creation of the new garden. You can reach her at Cheryl's Stunning Succulents! Thank you Cheryl and team for bringing beauty to our St. Joe's Campus!!

Continued next page...



Letter From Our Pastor Continued...

As our nation prepares to celebrate the 250th Anniversary of the signing of the Declaration of Independence on July 4, the Bishops of the United States will concentrate our country to the most Sacred Heart of Jesus on June 11. Archbishop Gomez, in a letter to the faithful said, “The devotion to the Sacred Heart, reminds us of the boundless love and mercy of Christ poured out for the salvation of the world. In consecrating our nation to the Sacred Heart, we seek to renew our alliance upon God and trust our country to the love and care of Christ, and call the faithful to deeper conversion, reparation, charity, and missionary discipleship. In a time marked by division, uncertainty, and suffering, we entrust our nation, anew to the heart of Jesus, praying that his love may heal wounds, strengthen families, inspire holiness, and guide our country in truth and justice.” All are invited to join the faithful on Friday, June 12 for the 12:10 Mass at the Cathedral of our Lady of the Angels as Archbishop Gomez celebrates the Feast of the Sacred Heart of Jesus. For resources, prayers and reflections or guidance to make the Sacred Heart Novena, please go to the Archdiocesan website lacatholics.org where you will find daily posts.

Next weekend, The Archdiocese will offer a special collection for the Priest Retirement Fund. Your special gift to this fund is a meaningful investment and true blessing for the care and comfort of the spiritual Fathers as they enter the later chapters in life, (yours truly will be there in a few years)! Many of you received a mailing and there are also envelopes available in the church. Thanks for remembering all the Priests who have served you in the past and will attend to your spiritual needs in the future.

Gratefully in the Sacred Heart of Jesus,
Msgr. Kevin



THE MOST SACRED
Heart of Jesus

©LPi

Weekly Prayer

Sunday's Readings

First Reading:

"Do not forget the LORD, your God, who brought you out of the land of Egypt, that place of slavery." (Dt 8:14)

Psalm:

Praise the Lord, Jerusalem. (Ps 147)
Or Alleluia.

Second Reading:

Because the loaf of bread is one, we, though many, are one body. (1 Cor 10:17)

Gospel:

"I am the living bread that came down from heaven; whoever eats this bread will live forever; and the bread that I will give is my flesh for the life of the world." (Jn 6:51)

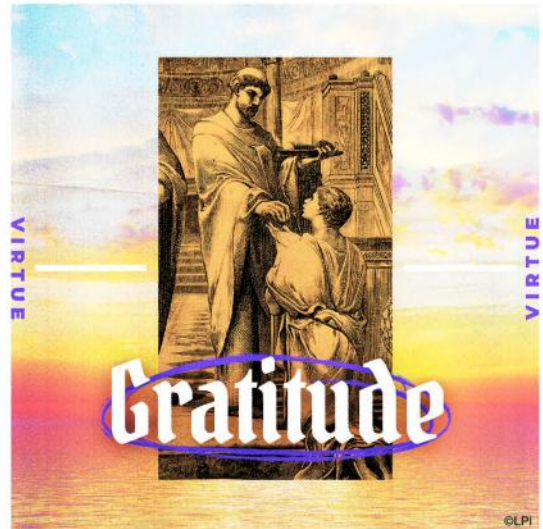
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Live The Liturgy Inspiration of the Week

The starving Israelites found their physical salvation in manna, "a food unknown to your fathers." We find our spiritual salvation in the Body and Blood of Jesus Christ, a food unknown to too many souls. Blessed are we to partake of the Bread of Life.

Observances for the week of June 7, 2026

- Sunday:** The Most Holy Body and Blood of Christ
Tuesday: St. Ephrem, Deacon and Doctor of the Church
Thursday: St. Barnabas, Apostle
Friday: The Most Sacred Heart of Jesus
Saturday: The Immaculate Heart of the Blessed Virgin Mary;
St. Anthony of Padua, Priest and Doctor of the Church
Next Sunday: 11th Sunday in Ordinary Time; *Flag Day*



Virtues, Explained!

Gratitude pays a kind of "moral debt." Children owe it to their parents; citizens owe it to their country. The Eucharist is the most perfect act of gratitude, wherein God is acknowledged as the source of all good.

Corpus Christi Prayer

O Precious Jesus,
The gift of your Body and Blood,
shared with us, is unfathomable.
Like manna that satiated our
hunger, fill us where we lack.
Like the bread given to Elijah
in the desert, sustain us.
Grace us with a glimpse into your
love for us,
now and forever, present in the
Eucharist.
Amen.

Worship & Meditation

Readings for the week of June 7, 2026

Sunday:

Dt 8:2-3, 14b-16a/Ps 147:12-13, 14-15, 19-20/1 Cor 10:16-17/Jn 6:51-58

Monday:

1 Kgs 17:1-6/ Ps 121:1bc-2, 3-4, 5-6, 7-8/ Mt 5:1-12

Tuesday:

1 Kgs 17:7-16/ Ps 4:2-3, 4-5, 7b-8/ Mt 5:13-16

Wednesday:

1 Kgs 18:20-39/ Ps 16:1b-2ab, 4, 5ab and 8, 11/Mt 5:17-19

Thursday:

Acts 11:21b-26; 13:1-3 (580)/Ps 65:10, 11, 12-13/Mt 5:20-26

Friday:

Dt 7:6-11/Ps 103:1-2, 3-4, 6-7, 8, 10/ 1 Jn 4:7-16/Mt 11:25-30

Saturday:

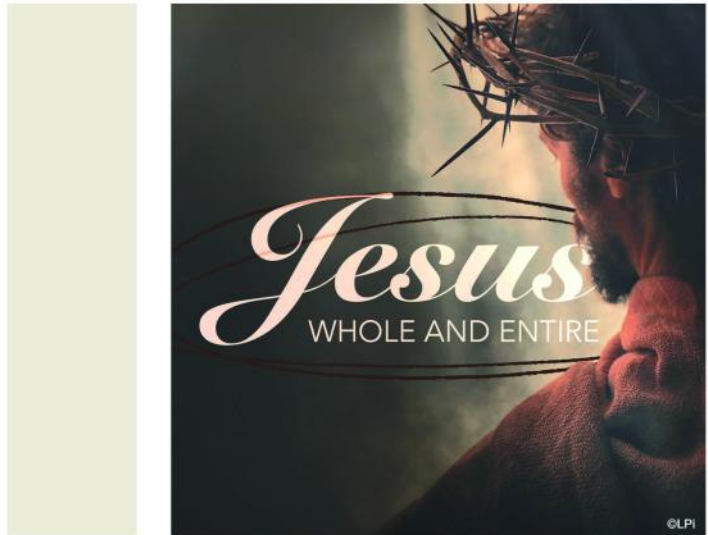
1 Kgs 19:19-21/Ps 16:1b-2a and 5, 7-8, 9-10/Mt 5:33-37

Next Sunday:

Ex 19:2-6a/Ps 100:1-2, 3, 5/Rom 5:6-11/ Mt 9:36-10:8



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Gospel Meditation

Encourage Deeper Understanding of Scripture

When I was a young altar server, I once overheard two very different comments about the Eucharist. One person asked, "Is Father distributing the bread or the wine?" Later, another asked, "Can you go get Jesus from the tabernacle?" Same parish, same Mass, but two very different ways of speaking. I pondered: So, is it bread that we pretend is Jesus? Or is Jesus a tiny white thing in a box? I was utterly confused.

This Feast of Corpus Christi is an excellent time to think about how we should speak about the Eucharist. In today's Gospel, Jesus declares: "**My flesh is true food, and my blood is true drink.**" (John 6:55) His words scandalized his listeners, who feared cannibalism, and even today puzzle many, who reduce them to metaphor. Both miss the truth.

The Church gives us better words that honor Jesus' words in the Gospel. After the consecration, we do not call it "bread" or "wine." Nor do we say, "a piece of Jesus" or even "Jesus." We say: *the Eucharist*. We say: *the Body and Blood of Christ*. We say: *the Real Presence*. We say: *the Most Blessed Sacrament*. These words safeguard the astonishing reality that Christ himself is truly present, whole and entire, under the appearances of bread and wine.

If we speak well about the Eucharist, we will think more clearly and believe more deeply. And if we believe more deeply, we will adore more truly the One who gives himself to us — not bread, not wine, but Jesus Christ himself, whole and entire.

— *Father John Muir*

— YOU ARE INVITED TO —

Welcome

Christ Renews His Parish



+

A PARISH RETREAT WEEKEND
HERE AT ST. JOSEPH CHURCH



“Come to Me,
all you who labor
and are burdened,
and I will give you rest.”

— MATTHEW 11:28

JOIN YOUR PARISH FAMILY FOR A LIFE-CHANGING RETREAT WEEKEND
filled with prayer, inspiring talks, fellowship,
and a renewed encounter with Jesus.



ENCOUNTER

Experience God's love
in a personal and
powerful way.



GROW

Deepen your faith
through prayer,
Scripture and talks.



CONNECT

Build meaningful
friendships and a
stronger parish family.



BE RENEWED

Leave refreshed with
a heart on fire
for Jesus.



BE SENT

Return home
empowered to live
and share your faith.

REGISTRATION IS OPEN



Women's
RETREAT WEEKEND
OCTOBER 10TH & 11TH, 2026



Men's
RETREAT WEEKEND
OCTOBER 24TH & 25TH, 2026



MEN AND WOMEN: YOU ARE NEEDED. YOU ARE INVITED. YOU BELONG.

Invite a friend to attend with you. Grow in faith together.

Walk with Christ. Be renewed. Go and make a difference.



VACATION BIBLE CAMP



Exploring The Nature of God

This camp is open to kids grades TK-5th

When: June 22nd- June 26th 2026

**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

"Grab your hiking boots and take a step through the misty air of Rainforest Falls, overflowing with wild waterfalls, towering trees, and colorful creatures. Beneath a canopy of chattering birds and howling monkeys, kids plunge into a lifelong adventure of discovering the nature of God. They'll explore what it means to be rooted in relationship with God, their creator, a refuge in life's storms.

This is a community event hosted by:

- St. Joseph
- St. Cornelius
- Our Lady of Refuge

ST. JOSEPH PARISH
LONG BEACH

HIGH SCHOOL CONFIRMATION PROGRAM



SESSIONS: BI-WEEKLY

MOST HOLIDAY WEEKENDS OFF

TIME: 11:00AM - 12:15PM

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

SCAN TO REGISTER!



**VISIT OUR WEBSITE TO
REGISTER TODAY!**

**ENROLLING
NOW!**



ST.JOSEPHYM

WWW.STJOSEPHLB.ORG

(562)598-0519 EXT 2



YOUTH EVENT LEADERSHIP TEAM

YOUTH MINISTRY **VOLUNTEERING**

At St. Joseph Catholic Church, our youth ministry is growing, and we're looking for caring adults who want to make a difference in the lives of teens.

Just bring:

- ♥ A heart for youth
- ♥ A love for Christ
- ♥ A willingness to serve

Volunteer Opportunities:

- Event Helpers
- Retreat Chaperones
- Hospitality & Snacks
- Small Group Leaders
- Preparing Arts & Crafts Activities
- Games & Social Time
- Youth - Led Devotionals
- Outreach Opportunities

CALL: (562)598-0519 EXT 2
EMAIL: LIZ@STJOSEPHLB.ORG



LOVE *is a* TRANSFORMATIVE FORCE

Movement For A Better World



“Charity is the form, mover, mother and root of all the virtues.”

- St. Thomas Aquinas

Homeless Kit Drive: Many THANKS for the *generous* support! Kits and supplies for over **200 kits** were provided! \$907 was donated from which additional kits will be made. Fifteen Homeless Ministry parishioners assembled food and homeless kits to serve 120 last weekend. Two Missionaries of Charity sisters from St. Emydius assisted and provided spiritual encouragement.

June 27-28 Feed-a-Baby Food Drive: Collecting non-perishable baby food and products for Catholic Charities, Elizabeth Ann Seton Residence, and New Life Beginnings. For many opportunities to serve, call Tim Clark **(562) 431-4385**.



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.



REGISTRATION IS NOW OPEN
for the weekend of
September 11-13, 2026



Registration is done directly on their website sacredheartretreathouse.com. However, if you have any questions or would like to carpool to the retreat house please contact:



Marie Newton 562-209-1298
Tina Gath 562-481-2301



There is also the opportunity to attend an extended retreat which starts **September 10-13**.



This is a wonderful time of spiritual renewal. Don't miss out!

Did You Know?



Pinwheels for Prevention

**PROTECTING KIDS.
IT'S ALL YEAR LONG.**

Consistency is key

Safe adults who consistently follow the rules and observe healthy boundaries that keep children safe are key to building trust with the children in their care. When you demonstrate healthy boundaries, children are more likely to identify adults who do not follow boundaries. They also learn that they can trust you in difficult situations and can come to you with information about unsafe adults or abuse. For more information, read the VIRTUS® article “The Importance of Child Abuse Prevention Month—All Year Long” at lacatholics.org/did-you-know.

St. Joseph Senior Group Meeting

The next meeting will be on
Monday, June 8th
 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 Available!

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



In Memoriam



Tom Wilhelm

Funeral Mass at St. Joseph Church
 Saturday, June 13th at 11:00 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~

GriefShare®

SAVE THE DATE

GriefShare is taking a break for the summer!

Thank you to everyone who has been a part of our GriefShare Support Group. We're grateful for the connections, encouragement, and hope we've shared together.



 We will return in August!

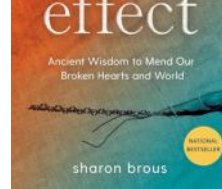
Mark Your Calendar!

Our next 13-week session begins **Tuesday, August 4**

We look forward to walking alongside you on your grief journey.
griefshare.org



Book Club



Our next Book Club meeting is Wednesday, August 19th at 7pm on Zoom

The Amen Effect: Ancient Wisdom to Mend Our Broken Hearts and World by Sharon Brous.

From one of the most prominent rabbis in Los Angeles, an inspiring book about what it will take, in a time of loneliness and isolation, social rupture and alienation, to mend our broken hearts and rebuild our society.

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



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

LEO XIV

GENERAL AUDIENCE

Saint Peter's Square
Wednesday, 3 June 2026
[Multimedia]

Catechesis. The Documents of the Second Vatican Council. III. Constitution Sacrosanctum Concilium. 3. Rite, sign and symbol

Dear brothers and sisters,

As we continue our catechesis on the Conciliar Constitution *Sacrosanctum Concilium* (SC), we wish to pause and reflect on some of the fundamental elements of the sacred liturgy, such as the rite, the sign and the symbol.

The Second Vatican Council, building on the valuable work of the Liturgical Movement, has helped us to rediscover a truth that was very much alive in the consciousness of the early Church and in the teaching of the Fathers. The rites of the Christian liturgy are not a mere external covering of the sacramental mystery, a collection of arbitrary ceremonies, but are the ecclesial mediation through which the divine gift reaches us. Precisely for this reason, the Council invites us to understand the *Mysterium fidei* which is realized in the liturgy through rites and prayers (cf. SC, 48).

The rite gives shape to liturgical action and, through it, to our lives, generating a spiritual sensibility in us that makes us capable of savouring the presence of God through Jesus Christ. Naturally, this happens if we do not remain strangers or silent spectators (cf. *ibid.*) with regard to the liturgy, but rather participate in it fully — body, mind and heart — in obedience to the Lord's command. Through the sacred rite we are thus formed in listening to the Word of God, in giving thanks and in adoration, in fraternal sharing and in ecclesial communion. We discover that we are an assembly with many faces, united by the same faith.

The rite involves us in a well-defined sequence of gestures and prayers, which can sometimes be at odds with our individual tendency towards spontaneity. Its logic, however, is not to constrain freedom within rigid frameworks. On the contrary, with the solemn simplicity of its rhythms, the rite interrupts our frenetic activities, leading us back to what is essential. We thus discover another dimension of action that is not guided by calculations of productivity, and another experience of time and space. In the rite, we experience a logic of gratuitousness, we find a pause that regenerates the heart, we recognize that we are preceded by divine grace and we learn to live in a rhythm inhabited by the Holy Spirit.

The grammar of the rite is interwoven with the signs and symbols proper to the liturgy. In it, as *the Council* states, “the sanctification of the man is signified by signs perceptible to the senses, and is effected in a way which corresponds with each of these signs” (*SC*, 7). *The Catechism of the Catholic Church* explores the value of these signs, recalling that “their meaning is rooted in the work of creation and in human culture, specified by the events of the Old Covenant and fully revealed in the person and work of Christ” (no. 1145). The sign of water is emblematic: from the origins of Creation to the Flood, from the crossing of the Red Sea to the Jordan, right up to the water flowing from Christ's side, which becomes a sacramental sign of immersion in his death and resurrection.

“Sign” and “symbol” are terms that are often used as synonyms. In reality, a sign is symbolic when it is able to refer not only to an idea, but to an entire system of meanings and values. In this way, for example, when we are sprinkled with holy water, our awareness of the gift received at Baptism and our commitment to new life in Christ is rekindled. Secondly, symbols are essentially practical in nature, being first and foremost actions: some simple and common, such as kneeling and exchanging the sign of peace, or more demanding, such as the constitutive acts of each Sacrament. Above all, symbols have a unique performative and transformative dimension, both in relation to the material elements of which they are composed and to those who come into contact with them, engendering a sense of belonging, touching the heart and mind, and giving rise to authentic ecclesial relationships.

In the Apostolic Letter *Desiderio desideravi*, *Pope Francis*, echoing a statement by Romano Guardini, identified “the first task of the work of liturgical formation: man must become once again capable of symbols” (no. 44). We need to allow ourselves to be educated by the rites of the liturgy, caring for the beauty of our celebrations with a delicate touch and without arbitrariness, and committing ourselves to an authentic mystagogy. The experience of a living and devout liturgy, accompanied by appropriate mystagogical catechesis, is the best resource for reawakening in everyone that openness to the encounter with God which, in the logic of the Incarnation, can only take place by involving the whole person: spirit, soul and body (cf. 1 Thess 5:23).

Special greetings:

I greet all the English-speaking pilgrims and visitors taking part in today’s Audience, particularly the groups from England, Sweden, Australia, Indonesia, Myanmar, the Philippines, South Korea, Canada, and the United States of America. I greet in particular the scholars and participants in the conference “Revising the World Medical Association Declaration of Taipei” and the organizing partners of the Global Summit, “Fostering Hope for Children.” As we prepare for the Solemnity of the Most Holy Body and Blood of Christ, let us be strengthened by this divine gift and become witnesses of his love to all we encounter. God bless you!

Summary of the Holy Father's words:

Dear brothers and sisters, in our series of catecheses on [the Second Vatican Council](#), we continue our reflection on [Sacrosanctum Concilium](#), by looking at the elements of the rite, the sign, and the symbol found in the sacred liturgy. The rite of the Christian liturgy is the ecclesial mediation through which the divine gift reaches us. In the liturgy, we are invited to participate — body, mind, and heart — and enter into a dimension inhabited by the Holy Spirit. In order to enter into this dimension, the liturgy is woven with signs and symbols that have a performative and transformative dimension. For example, kneeling is a sign of our worship of God while exchanging the sign of peace points to our ecclesial communion. Further, signs help us to recall the constitutive acts of the Sacraments as when we are sprinkled with holy water we remember our commitment to Christ. As we prepare for the Solemnity of Corpus Christi, may each of us reawaken our openness to an encounter with God by rediscovering the signs and symbols of the sacred liturgy.

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The **HOLY SEE**

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Parish Directory

PASTOR: MSGR. KEVIN KOSTELNIK

stjoseph@stjosephlb.org

Deacon Shane Cuda		sfcuda@yahoo.com
Deacon Tom Halliwell		dcntom@stjosephlb.org
Deacon Joe Lumsdaine		deaconcouple@gmail.com
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
Website Coordinator	Mike Santy	mike@stjosephlb.org

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) 598-0519
 High School Ministry & Confirmation: Liz Moreno (562) 598-0519
 OCIA: Sr. Eva sreva@stjosephlb.org (562) 598-0519

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
Lectors	Steve Koppenheffer	lectorsstjosephlb@gmail.com
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) 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
Homebound Ministry	Patty Brunter	pjbstampin@aol.com
Bereavement Ministry	May Pace	(562) 833-6370
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	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.

