

# St. Joseph Parish

**YOU ARE**  
WORTH MORE THAN  
MANY SPARROWS.

— MATTHEW 10:31 —



TWELFTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

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](http://stjosephlb.org)



# Letter From Our Pastor

Dear Parish Family:

Welcome to the 12<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time. In this Sunday’s Gospel Jesus says that there is not a sparrow who falls to the ground without our Heavenly Father’s knowledge. He goes on to say that even all the hairs of our head are counted, and that we are worth more than many sparrows. Many of us do not believe that God has a favorable view of us, but as we enter into the mystery of God’s love, we truly discover that God is more delighted with us than we are with ourselves. After all, God has created us, and it is only God’s nature to love what God has created. Be pleased that God delights in you!

You won’t know it, but the summer solstice for our northern hemisphere arrives this Sunday, June 21 at 1:24 AM. I will not be up to celebrate this astronomical event. During this time, the North Pole leans closest to the sun, pushing the sun to its highest point in the sky and creating the most abundant light we see all year. The term *solstice* is derived from the Latin word for “Sun standing still”. Enjoy the sun standing still, this longest day and the shortest night of the year.

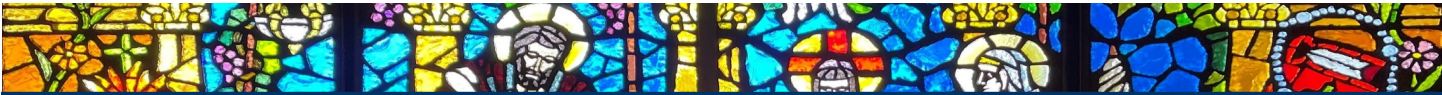
Next weekend is our Feed a Baby weekend. Please scroll down to The Movement for a Better World column to see what is needed.

As I mentioned at all the Masses last weekend, the Parish and School are doing a campus wide new fencing project to replace the 65-year-old rusted, broken and dangerous fence. The project was unanimously approved by the Parish Pastoral Council, the Parish Finance Council and the School Finance Council. Along with almost 900 feet of new fencing, three new electronic gates will be installed to keep our campus secure during emergencies and at night. The total cost is \$326,000 and as I mentioned, the project is completely paid for thanks to your past generosity through Called to Renew and the school fundraisers, including last year’s Oktoberfest. Please scroll down and you’ll see some of the renderings of the new fencing project.

Our Vacation Bible Camp commences this week from Monday thru Friday. Welcome to all the children who signed up from our Parish, Our Lady of Refuge and St. Cornelius. May the children be safe, have fun and fall in love with the stories of the Bible!

School’s out, the school bells have been silenced and summer 2026 is upon us! May the long days of this summer be filled with creating new memories of gatherings, road trips or vacations with family and friends!!

Summer Blessings,  
Msgr. Kevin



# Photos From Our Pastor

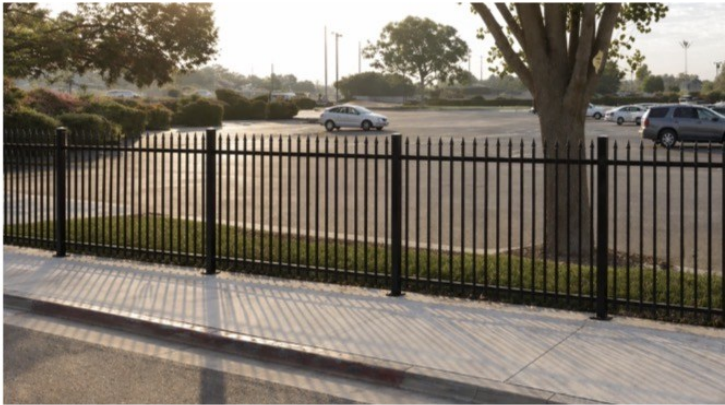
## The St. Joseph Security Fence Project

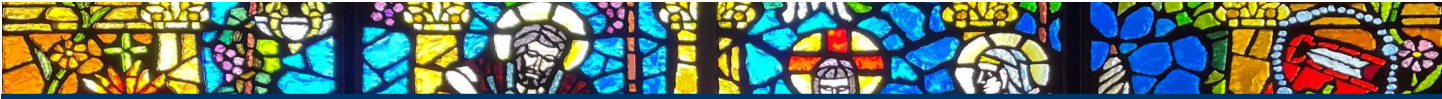
- Partner: LA Central Iron Works (CA License #1007041)
- Address: 6220 E. Willow St., Long Beach, California
- Completion Goal: 2026
- **Total Project Cost: \$298,335** (all materials and labor included)

- Purpose:
- Modernize campus perimeter security
  - Improve curb appeal along E. Willow Street
  - Provide reliable, gated access for staff, students, and emergency services.



## RENDERINGS





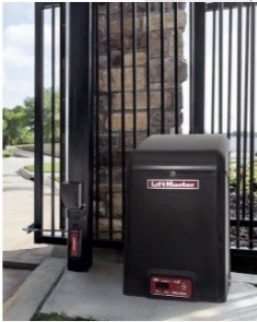
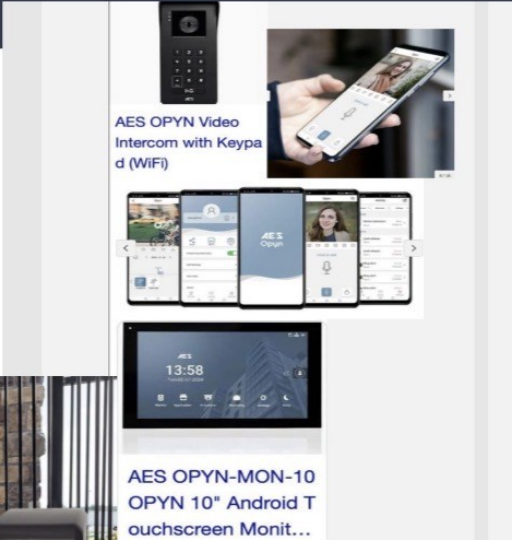
# Photos From Our Pastor Continued...

## Technology & Access Control

- LiftMaster 12VDC Gate Operators – battery backup for power outages
- Knox Box for Fire Department emergency access
- Safety Traffic Loops for vehicle detection
- AES Oryn Wifi Intercoms at each gate
- 10" Touchscreen Monitors inside the school for visual verification

### Impact:

- Secure digital management of access
- Streamlined entry for staff, parents, and visitors
- Peace of mind through modern monitoring



# Community Support & Impact

Your Generosity Builds Safety, Faith, and the Future

- For Students:  
A secure environment for learning and play.
- For Parents:  
Peace of mind that their children are safe every moment.
- For the Parish and Community:  
A beautiful, lasting improvement that reflects our shared values of stewardship and care.

# Worship & Meditation

## Readings for the week of June 21, 2026

### Sunday:

Jer 20:10-13/Ps 69:8-10, 14 and 17, 33-35/  
Rom 5:12-15/Mt 10:26-33

### Monday:

2 Kgs 17:5-8, 13-15a, 18/Ps 60:3, 4-5, 12-13/Mt 7:1-5

### Tuesday:

2 Kgs 19:9b-11, 14-21, 31-35a, 36/  
Ps 48:2-3ab, 3cd-4, 10-11/Mt 7:6, 12-14

### Wednesday:

**Vigil:** Jer 1:4-10/Ps 71:1-2, 3-4a, 5-6ab,  
15ab and 17/1 Pt 1:8-12/Lk 1:5-17

**Day:** Is 49:1-6/Ps 139:1b-3, 13-14ab,  
14c-15/Acts 13:22-26/Lk 1:57-66, 80

### Thursday:

2 Kgs 24:8-17/ Ps 79:1b-2, 3-5, 8, 9/  
Mt 7:21-29

### Friday:

2 Kgs 25:1-12/ Ps 137:1-2, 3, 4-5, 6/  
Mt 8:1-4

### Saturday:

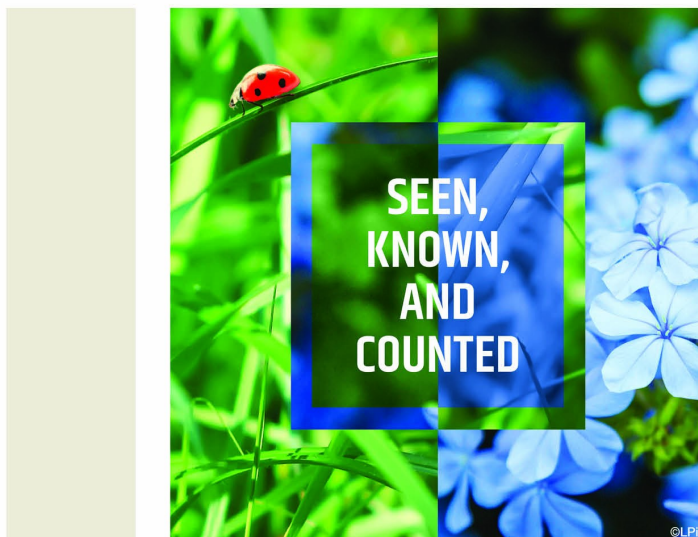
Lam 2:2, 10-14, 18-19/ Ps 74:1b-2, 3-5, 6-7,  
20-21/Mt 8:5-17

### Next Sunday:

2 Kgs 4:8-11, 14-16a/Ps 89:2-3, 16-17, 18-19/  
Rom 6:3-4, 8-11/Mt 10:37-42)



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## Gospel Meditation

### Encourage Deeper Understanding of Scripture

Jean Améry, a Holocaust survivor tortured by the Nazis, later wrote about the abyss of human evil. He described his reaction as an “indignant despair.” Haven’t we all, to some degree, felt that abyss opened beneath us? A sudden loss, a violent headline, a moment of loneliness or panic, when the world feels fragile and meaning seems to collapse?

It is to this fear that Jesus speaks in today’s Gospel: “**Do not be afraid of those who can kill the body.**” (Matthew 10:28) He does not deny evil or pretend we will never suffer. Instead, He reframes the abyss: do not fear those who can kill the body but cannot kill the soul. Your life is seen, known, and counted by the Father. Even the hairs of your head, even the sparrow’s fall.

This is no superficial comfort. Jesus himself has entered the abyss: suffering, death, even our sense of forsakenness, and he has come through it. That is why his words, “Do not be afraid,” hold such weight. They do not erase the abyss but build a bridge across it.

Faith is not pretending everything is fine. It is staring into the abyss and still choosing trust. And in that trust, we discover we are never alone. Christ stands with us, and the Father’s care surrounds us. That is the only comfort deep enough for our (often fearful) hearts.

— *Father John Muir*

# Worship & Meditation

## Readings for the week of June 14, 2026

### Sunday:

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

### Monday:

1 Kgs 21:1-16/Ps 5:2-3ab, 4b-6a, 6b-7/  
Mt 5:38-42

### Tuesday:

1 Kgs 21:17-29/Ps 51:3-4, 5-6ab, 11 and 16/  
Mt 5:43-48

### Wednesday:

2 Kgs 2:1, 6-14/Ps 31:20, 21, 24/  
Mt 6:1-6, 16-18

### Thursday:

Sir 48:1-14/ Ps 97:1-2, 3-4, 5-6, 7/  
Mt 6:7-15

### Friday:

2 Kgs 11:1-4, 9-18, 20/Ps 132:11, 12, 13-14,  
17-18/Mt 6:19-23

### Saturday:

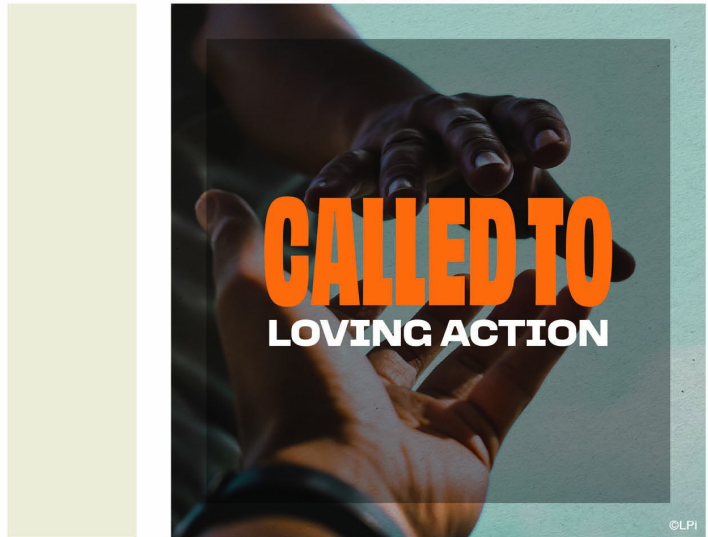
2 Chr 24:17-25/Ps 89:4-5, 29-30, 31-32,  
33-34/Mt 6:24-34

### Next Sunday:

Jer 20:10-13/Ps 69:8-10, 14 and 17, 33-35/  
Rom 5:12-15/Mt 10:26-33



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## Gospel Meditation

### Encourage Deeper Understanding of Scripture

A few years ago, I met a woman in my parish who was a successful lawyer. Yet in her free time, she poured her energy into a nonprofit she founded to advocate for children with special needs. When I asked what inspired her, she spoke of her niece, who was born with disabilities. Her niece was both a glorious gift and a constant challenge. Out of that painful, beautiful experience, she felt called to create something lasting for other children and parents. The nonprofit thrived, not because she had mapped it all out, but because she was deeply moved to act.

In today's Gospel, Jesus is **“moved with compassion” for the crowd, for they were “like sheep without a shepherd.”** (Matthew 9:36) So he calls his disciples, ordinary men with no special qualifications, and sends them to heal, preach, and cast out demons. Their mission flows not from their skills but from his authority and the Spirit's gifts.

The Second Vatican Council teaches that the Spirit continually pours out charisms, special graces for the good of the Church and the world (cf. *Lumen Gentium* 4 & 12). These often arise from the unfolding of our lives: from what breaks your heart, what fills you with hope, what suffering has shaped you. The Spirit works through those very experiences to equip us with gifts that build up others.

What is your charism? Well, what needs around you call you to loving action? This could be where Christ is sending you. Allow your heart to be moved like Christ's. Then get to work.

— *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 Donations needed!

Our **Vacation Bible Camp** is coming soon, and we are excited to welcome our children for a week of faith, fun, learning, and community from **June 22–26!**

To help make this special week a success, we are seeking food donations for our volunteers and participants. If you would like to support our Vacation Bible Camp ministry, we would be deeply grateful for your generosity.

### **How to Help:**

Simply scan the QR Code to view our donation sign-up list and choose an item you would like to contribute. Thank you for partnering with us, your support helps make Vacation Bible Camp a joyful and faith-filled week for all!



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.

## **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**.



June 21, 2026

# 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](http://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?

THORN <sup>1</sup> FOR PARENTS  
**BE YOUR KID'S SAFETY NET**



### Be your Children's safety net

Parents and guardians have a responsibility to be the first line of defense for their children and that starts with boundaries. Set rules around internet use in your home and block access to sites where they can be contacted by others, except for trusted friends and family, wherever possible. If children are older, talk to them about the dangers of taking and sharing inappropriate pictures and videos. For more tips, visit [parents.thorn.org](http://parents.thorn.org).

# St. Joseph Senior Group Meeting

The next meeting will be on  
**Monday, July 13**  
 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



## 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](http://griefshare.org)



## In Memoriam



**Jovita Diaz**

Funeral Mass at All Souls Mortuary Chapel  
 Tuesday, June 23rd at 11:00 am

**Marie Mitchell**

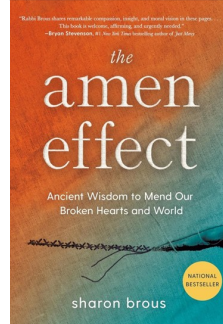
Funeral Mass at St. Joseph Parish  
 Monday, June 29th at 10:00 am

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~

## 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](mailto:agoodlife@msn.com)

# Parish Directory

**PASTOR: MSGR. KEVIN KOSTELNIK**

*stjoseph@stjosephlb.org*

<b>Deacon Shane Cuda</b>		sfcuda@yahoo.com
<b>Deacon Tom Halliwell</b>		dcntom@stjosephlb.org
<b>Deacon Joe Lumsdaine</b>		deaconcouple@gmail.com
<b>Sr. Eva</b> (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](http://sjknights.net)      Fax: (562) 596-6725  
 Assistant Principal:      Madison Alba

**Religious Education: Marc Leon, DRE**

(562) 598-0519      [marc@stjosephlb.org](mailto: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.**

