

St. Joseph Parish

MY YOKE IS EASY,
AND MY BURDEN
LIGHT.

— MATTHEW 11:30 —

FOURTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

©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 14th Sunday of Ordinary Time! As we continue to listen to Saint Matthew's Gospel, we are extended an invitation from Jesus: "Come to me, all you who labor and are burdened and I will give you rest." Our world can seem very heavy at times, and we are invited to ask our loving God for help; to learn from Jesus how to make our way through it in small and humble service to others! That is where we find peace!

GOD BLESS AMERICA! As our nation celebrates its 250th Anniversary this weekend, let's continue to pray for this land of the free and the home of the brave! Let's pray for our nation, encountering Christ in all those around us, and remembering the faithful men and women whose courage, sacrifice and witness helped shape our country, our church and our communities. We remember our founding fathers who were inspired by God to write the Declaration of Independence. Let us pray that God will continue to strengthen our nation by recognizing the dignity of every person. The Church recently consecrated our nation to the Sacred Heart of Jesus, and may our nation be transformed into the heart of Jesus.

I will be taking some vacation time from July 8 through July 25. For the two weekends I am away, Fr., Athanasius and Monsignor Jim Halley will preside at Eucharist for you during the weekend of July 11 and 12th. During the weekend of July 18 and 19th, Fr. Francis Kim will be here. Father Francis is a friend in my priest support group and he was ordained a few years ago. He currently serves as one of the associate directors of formation at St. John's Seminary. The M,T,W, weekday Masses will be celebrated by Fr. Kim and Fr. Brian Culley a Claretian Priest who has assisted us in the past. Please extend your most gracious Saint Joseph's hospitality to these generous Priests who will be taking care of you while I'm away!

The weekend of July 25-26 is our Annual Missionary Cooperative weekend. The Rev. John Bosco Musinguzi from the Diocese of Nyundo in the Western Province of Rwanda will be here to share with us his missionary experience. Please see this bulletin starting next weekend to learn more about Fr. John and his missionary work!!

While I'm on vacation, I will also vacate this column!

I'm praying for you,
Msgr. Kevin

Weekly Prayer

Sunday's Readings

First Reading:

See, your king shall come to you;
a just savior is he,
meek, and riding on an ass,
on a colt, the foal of an ass. (Zec 9:9)

Psalm:

I will praise your name for ever, my king and my God. (Ps 145)
Or Alleluia.

Second Reading:

For if you live according to the flesh, you will die,
but if by the Spirit you put to death the deeds of the body,
you will live. (Rom 8:13)

Gospel:

Take my yoke upon you and learn from me,
for I am meek and humble of heart;
and you will find rest for yourselves. (Mt 11:29)

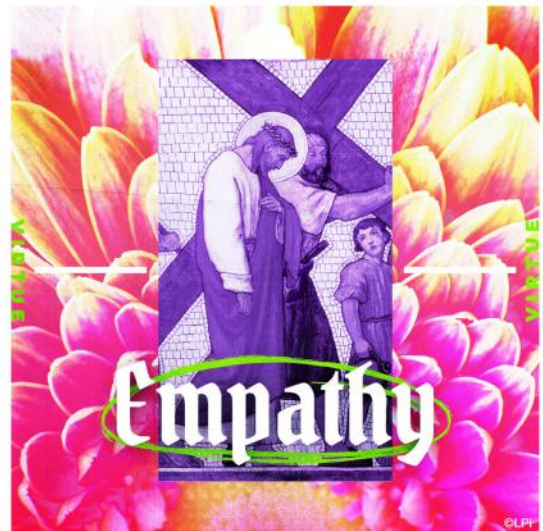
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Live The Liturgy Inspiration of the Week

These days, everyone's an expert. We have a world of information at our fingertips. But some answers can't be found in newspapers or even history books. What God hides from the wise, He reveals to the little ones. Are you looking in the right place?

Observances for the week of July 5, 2026

Sunday: 14th Sunday in Ordinary Time
Monday: St. Maria Goretti, Virgin and Martyr
Thursday: St. Augustine Zhao Rong, Priest, and Companions, Martyrs
Saturday: St. Benedict, Abbot
Next Sunday: 15th Sunday in Ordinary Time



Virtues, Explained!

Empathy describes our ability to connect emotionally with the suffering of others, as Christ connected emotionally with our suffering in original sin. This virtue flows directly from the virtue of charity, and growth in charity will enable growth in empathy.

Blessing for Our Country

Dear God,
Bless this land that we love, a land
You created, in love.
We are at our best when we're
close to You.
Please inspire, guide, and govern
our leaders and our vision,
that our greatness may be
founded in and defined in You.
Amen.

Worship & Meditation

Readings for the week of July 5, 2026

Sunday:

Zec 9:9-10/Ps 145:1-2, 8-9, 10-11, 13-14/
Rom 8:9, 11-13/Mt 11:25-30

Monday:

Hos 2:16, 17c-18, 21-22/Ps 145:2-3, 4-5,
6-7, 8-9/Mt 9:18-26

Tuesday:

Hos 8:4-7, 11-13/Ps 115:3-4, 5-6, 7ab-8,
9-10/Mt 9:32-38

Wednesday:

Hos 10:1-3, 7-8, 12/Ps 105:2-3, 4-5, 6-7/
Mt 10:1-7

Thursday:

Hos 11:1-4, 8e-9/Ps 80:2ac and 3b, 15-16/
Mt 10:7-15

Friday:

Hos 14:2-10/Ps 51:3-4, 8-9, 12-13, 14 and
17/Mt 10:16-23

Saturday:

Is 6:1-8/Ps 93:1ab, 1cd-2, 5/Mt 10:24-33

Next Sunday:

Is 55:10-11/Ps 65:10, 11, 12-13, 14/
Rom 8:18-23/Mt 13:1-23 or 13:1-9



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Gospel Meditation

Encourage Deeper Understanding of Scripture

This weekend, our nation celebrates the 250th anniversary of the signing of the Declaration of Independence. Unlike most nations, the United States was not founded primarily on a shared ethnicity, language, or culture. Instead, our founders built a political community out of diverse peoples united by a shared vision of liberty. That vision echoes something deep in the Christian mystery revealed in today's Gospel.

Jesus returns to his hometown. The people see only what is familiar: the carpenter, the son of Mary, one of their own. As Mark tells us, **“They took offense at him. Jesus said, ‘A prophet is not without honor except in his native place and among his own kin and in his own house.’”** Their narrow vision blinds them. Jesus has come to inaugurate a new communion that transcends geography, bloodlines, and culture. He has come to unite all people in himself.

At its best, America's national unity reflects this possibility, which fully subsists only in the Catholic Church. Our unity is not based on ancestry or tribe, but on a shared commitment to higher ideals. For this reason, we can love our country with gratitude while situating patriotism within the broader horizon of faith.

Rooted in Christ, we are less vulnerable to the unholy tribalism that threatens civic life and faith. This weekend, let us thank God for our nation and pray that we also live as citizens of Heaven in Jesus Christ.

— Father John Muir

St. Joe's Youth

FIRST SUMMER

See's CANDIES

Yum-Raising!

YOUR
SUPPORT
MAKES AN
IMPACT!

SWEET SUPPORT.
STRONGER YOUTH.
BRIGHTER FUTURES.

Funds raised will support
our *Youth Ministry*
activities!

SCAN HERE
TO SUPPORT!



THANK YOU
FOR MAKING A
DIFFERENCE!



For more information contact: Liz Moreno (562)598-0519 Ext 2

— 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.



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



"Live simply so that others can simply live." -St. Mother Teresa

Feed-a-Baby and Year-end Assistance:

Many thanks for the parish's very generous support of our baby products drive! We collected 15 shopping carts of food, diapers, hygiene products and over \$1,600 for the infants and children supported by Catholic Charities, Elizabeth Ann Seton Residence, and New Life Beginnings.

After fulfilling our planned commitments for the 2025-2026 program year, we were blessed to provide generous assistance to Catholic Charities and others serving families and homeless in Long Beach with fresh fruit, canned meat, men's and women's undergarments, feminine and baby hygiene products, and laundry detergent.

Aug. 15-16 Food from the Heart: Collecting food for families served by Catholic Charities of Long Beach.



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?

Experienced **online sexual grooming** ('solicitation') by an adult:

More than **1 in 4** girls

26.3%

Girls

7.6%

Boys

What is grooming?

Child safety experts consider grooming a core component of sexual abuse. Grooming is a manipulative process in which a person who intends harm gains access to a child, often through behaviors that seem innocent, and builds up a relationship that will ultimately allow the predator to abuse the child. Children who are groomed are slowly taught to accept and excuse any behaviors by the predator, because of the relationship that has been built up over time. A predator relies on manipulation to reduce a child's resistance and to maintain secrecy. For more information on grooming, read the VIRTUS® article "Behind the Smile: Uncovering the Warning Signs of Grooming, Part 1" at lacatholics.org/did-you-know.

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

In Memoriam



Susan Klodt

Funeral Mass at St. Joseph Parish
 Friday July 10th at 11:00 am

Chuck Almada

Funeral Mass at St. Joseph Parish
 Thursday, July 28th 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!

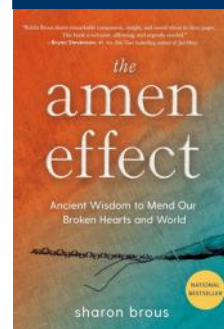
Mark Your Calendar!

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 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, 24 June 2026

[Multimedia]

**Catechesis. The Documents of the Second Vatican Council. III. Constitution
Sacrosanctum Concilium. 4. *The Mystery of the Eucharist***

Dear brothers and sisters, good morning and welcome!

We will continue our catechesis on the documents of [the Second Vatican Council](#), particularly the Constitution [Sacrosanctum Concilium](#) (SC) on the Liturgy.

When Saint Augustine wanted to explain the mystery of the Body of Christ to those who were newly baptized, he took up the passage from Saint Paul that we have just heard: "Now you are Christ's body, and individually parts of it." (1 Cor 12:27). He adds: "It is your own mystery that you receive. To what you are, you respond: Amen, and your response is like your signature. You are told, 'The Body of Christ,' and you reply, 'Amen.' Be therefore members of the Body of Christ, so that your Amen may be true. [...] Be what you see, and receive what you are" (*Sermon 272*: PL 38, 1247).

Immediately after recalling Jesus' Last Supper, the Constitution on the Liturgy speaks of the Eucharist in these Augustinian terms. For Christians, taking part at the Lord's table means being "instructed by God's word and ... nourished ... [giving] thanks to God" (cf. [SC](#) 48). It is by receiving Him in His Word and in the Eucharist that we become what we receive. We become the Body whose Head is the risen Christ, seated at the right hand of the Father (cf. Col 1:18), who prepares a place for us in heaven (cf. Jn 14:3). Thus, the Eucharist is the sacrament of the Kingdom that is to come. It is the Bread for the journey that leads us to our heavenly homeland, until that blessed day when "God will be all in all!" (1 Cor 15:28).

The liturgical assembly offers the Sacrifice "not only through the hands of the priest, but also with him" ([SC](#), 48). From this perspective, the Eucharist is the form of the spiritual sacrifice of Christians (cf. Heb 13:16; Rom 12:1), as the path to union with God and with one another. By participating in it, they learn "to offer themselves; through Christ the Mediator, they should be drawn day by day into ever more perfect union with God and with each other" ([ibid.](#)). Thus, by incorporating us into Christ, the Eucharist teaches us to adopt the very style of life of the Lord Jesus, which was marked by the free gift of Himself. This gift draws us into the dynamic of unity, offering a powerful antidote to the forces of division that undermine our world, our communities, our families, and our hearts (cf. [SC](#), 47).

Dear brothers and sisters, when we participate in the Eucharist, we are invited to listen to the Word of God and to be nourished at the Lord's table, where He offers Himself to the Father. These two parts of the Mass, the Liturgy of the Word and the Liturgy of the Eucharist, "are so closely connected with each other that they form but one single act of worship" ([SC](#), 56).

With regard to the Word of God, it is important to remember that it is not merely a matter of acquiring intellectual knowledge of the Scriptures, but of receiving the Word that is "living and effective" (Heb 4:12), spoken by God to everyone and at the same time to each individual. This Word nourishes and sustains us together with the Eucharistic Bread and leads us from the decay of sin to new life in Christ. "The Eucharist opens us to an understanding of Scripture, just as Scripture for its part illumines and explains the mystery of the Eucharist." (Benedict XVI, *Verbum Domini*, 55).

The Second Vatican Council called for the treasures of the Bible to be opened more abundantly, so that a richer fare from the table of God's Word might be provided for the faithful (cf. SC, 51). The liturgical reform translated this request into the treasure that is the *Lectionary*, the book that gathers all the biblical readings for liturgical celebrations. This richness has been drawn from the purest source of the living Tradition, which combines fidelity with tradition; with openness to legitimate progress (cf. SC, 23).

The beginning of Chapter II of the Constitution on the Liturgy is woven with references to the great river of Tradition, that continues from the Fathers of the Church down to us. I will quote from it: "At the Last Supper, on the night when He was betrayed, our Saviour instituted the eucharistic sacrifice of His Body and Blood. He did this in order to perpetuate the sacrifice of the Cross throughout the centuries until He should come again, and so to entrust to His beloved spouse, the Church, a memorial of His death and resurrection: a sacrament of love, a sign of unity, a bond of charity, a paschal banquet in which Christ is eaten, the mind is filled with grace, and a pledge of future glory is given to us." (SC, 47).

Dear brothers and sisters, let us draw with faith from this source of divine life and allow ourselves to be transformed by the mystery we celebrate.

Special greetings:

I greet this morning all the English-speaking pilgrims and visitors taking part in today's Audience, particularly groups from England, Sweden, Malawi, Tanzania, Indonesia, Singapore, South Korea, Canada and the United States of America. Upon all of you and your families, I invoke the peace and joy of our Lord Jesus Christ. God bless you!

Summary of the Holy Father's words:

Dear brothers and sisters, as we continue our series of catecheses on the [Second Vatican Council](#), today we consider the celebration of the Eucharist as presented by the Constitution on the Liturgy, [Sacrosanctum Concilium](#). This sacred mystery is described in the second chapter of the document as “a sacrament of love, a sign of unity, a bond of charity, ‘a paschal banquet in which Christ is received, the mind is filled with grace, and a pledge of future glory is given to us’” (n. 47). The Constitution also emphasises that at Mass, the faithful are not passive spectators. Rather, all are encouraged to offer themselves in union with Jesus Christ, the spotless victim, to the Father, through the hands of the priest and together with him. Participation in the Eucharistic sacrifice also means being formed by God’s word and nourished at the table of the Lord’s body. Indeed, these two parts of the Mass, the Liturgy of the Word and the Eucharistic Liturgy, “are so closely connected with each other that they form but one single act of worship” (n. 56). Brothers and sisters, as we seek our nourishment from this abundant source of divine life, let us allow ourselves to be transformed by the mystery we celebrate.

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The **HOLY SEE**

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Parish Directory

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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
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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.

