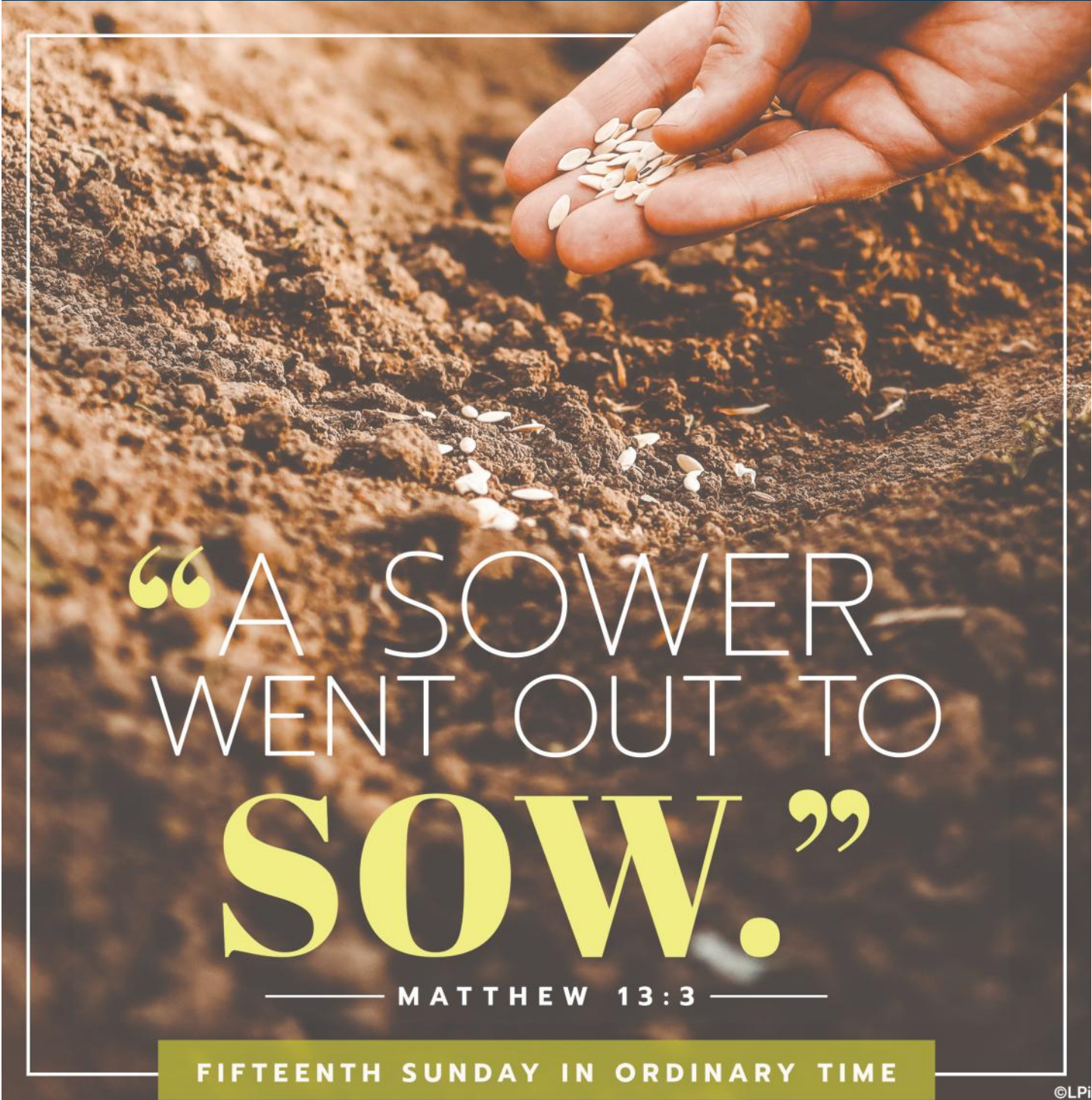


St. Joseph Parish



“A SOWER
WENT OUT TO
SOW.”

— MATTHEW 13:3 —

FIFTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

©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:
I am away on vacation!!

Summer Blessings,
Msgr. Kevin



Weekly Prayer

Sunday's Readings

First Reading:

My word shall not return to me void,
but shall do my will,
achieving the end for which I sent it. (Is 55:11)

Psalm:

The seed that falls on good ground will yield a fruitful
harvest. (Ps 65)

Second Reading:

I consider that the sufferings of this present time are as nothing
compared with the glory to be revealed for us.
(Rom 8:18)

Gospel:

Amen, I say to you, many prophets and righteous people
longed to see what you see but did not see it,
and to hear what you hear but did not hear it. (Mt 13:17)

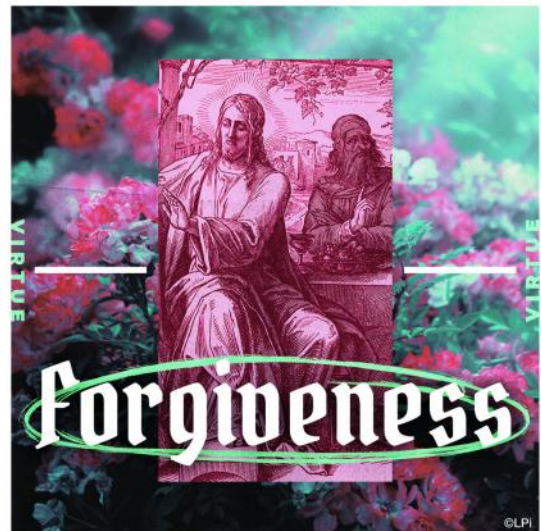
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Live The Liturgy Inspiration of the Week

Our hearts are fertile ground for the Word
of God, but we must be careful gardeners.
Be conscious of what damages and depletes
the soil of your heart. Pay attention to what
nourishes it, so that the goodness of the Word
can bloom forth into the world.

Observances for the week of July 12, 2026

Sunday:	15th Sunday in Ordinary Time
Monday:	St. Henry
Tuesday:	St. Kateri Tekakwitha, Virgin
Wednesday:	St. Bonaventure, Bishop and Doctor of the Church
Thursday:	Our Lady of Mount Carmel
Saturday:	St. Camillus de Lellis, Priest
Next Sunday:	16th Sunday in Ordinary Time



Virtues, Explained!

Forgiveness is love in action. It is
mercy extended for no other reason
than a desire to be like God, who
forgives us out of sheer goodness.
The Catechism says that forgiveness
proves that "love is stronger than
sin."

Blessing for Abundant Growth

Dear God,
Bless our efforts in Your Name.
Help us to understand Your will.
Allow us to follow the invitation You
have provided.
We want to be rich soil — help us
respond
deeply and abundantly to every place
You call.
Amen.

Worship & Meditation

Readings for the week of July 12, 2026

Sunday:

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

Monday:

Is 1:10-17/Ps 50:8-9, 16bc-17, 21 and 23/
Mt 10:34-11:1

Tuesday:

Is 7:1-9/Ps 48:2-3a, 3b-4, 5-6, 7-8/
Mt 11:20-24

Wednesday:

Is 10:5-7, 13b-16/Ps 94:5-6, 7-8, 9-10, 14-
15/Mt 11:25-27

Thursday:

Is 26:7-9, 12, 16-19/Ps 102:13-14ab and 15,
16-18, 19-21/Mt 11:28-30

Friday:

Is 38:1-6, 21-22, 7-8/Is 38:10, 12abcd, 16/
Mt 12:1-8

Saturday:

Mi 2:1-5/Ps 10:1-2, 3-4, 7-8, 14/Mt 12:14-21

Next Sunday:

Wis 12:13, 16-19/Ps 86:5-6, 9-10, 15-16/
Rom 8:26-27/Mt 13:24-43 or 13:24-30



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Gospel Meditation

Encourage Deeper Understanding of Scripture

Sometimes I feel capable of absorbing almost anything except God's Word. My mind soaks up song lyrics, sports trivia, and endless online content. But what was the reading at Mass this morning? I struggle to recall. That realization discourages me, and it leads to an uncomfortable question. What is my heart really for? Is it shaped for constant information and distraction, or is it truly designed for God? Am I capable of deeply receiving His Word?

Jesus speaks directly to this today with a simple image. **"The seed sown on rich soil is the one who hears the word and understands it."** By comparing the Word of the Kingdom to a seed, Jesus reveals something hopeful about us. The human heart is made for that seed. Soil and seed belong together. No matter how compacted, rocky, or overgrown the ground has become, the Sower never stops sowing.

God loves our hearts. He sees them as a farmer sees his fields, full of potential. Human hearts can indeed **"understand the Word."** Understanding does not mean mastering information. It means letting the Word sink in, interacting with it, and giving it a home. It means trusting that, beneath the surface, God is at work in quiet and hidden ways.

When we allow the Holy Spirit to loosen the soil of our hearts through prayer, repentance, and simplicity, the same Word that created the universe begins to bear fruit in us, 30, 60, even a hundredfold.

Lord Jesus, Sower of life, soften the soil of my heart. Let Your Word take root in me again, and bring forth the fruit You desire. Amen.

— Father John Muir

OUR ANNUAL MISSION CO-OP SUNDAY

IS THE WEEKEND OF **JULY 25-26**

Greetings from the Most Rev. Bishop Anaclet Mwumvaneza, Bishop of the Catholic Diocese of Nyundo, Rwanda. He delegated me to speak on his behalf for the Mission awareness in your parish on July 25-26, 2026. I am Rev. John Bosco Musinguzi (I go by Fr. Bosco), based in San Diego, California; I work for the US Navy, as a Chaplain at the Naval Medical Center San Diego. Originally, I come from Uganda.

The Catholic Diocese of Nyundo continues the ministry to support and empower the young adults to build their lives as they move forward to heal from the social and psychological consequences of the 1994 genocide the country experienced. The Bishop in his pastoral response to the needs of the less fortunate young adults is to encourage them to join vocational training schools to acquire practical skills in carpentry, auto mechanics, painting, building, tailoring, culinary, welding, and barber shops.

The Appeal of the Bishop is to help him to supply training materials to Catholic Founded vocational training schools in his Diocese to support the poor young adults who join the schools but cannot afford to provide on their own the required training materials for their training at school.

I greatly appreciate your generosity and sacrifice; I would like to thank the Pastor and the Mission Office for having accepted the Catholic Diocese of Nyundo to participate in the Missionary Cooperative Plan (MCP) in your Catholic Archdiocese of Los Angeles.

God bless you always and your families – and stay under the protection of the Blessed Virgin Mary.

Fr. Bosco



TOGETHER,
*we can build
hope and a
better future.* 

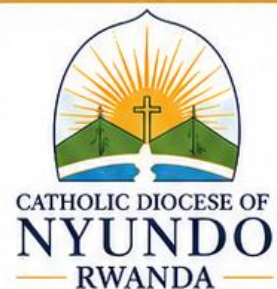


**YOUR
GENEROSITY**
*Changes
Lives*



Your prayers and
financial support
provide young adults
with the tools,
skills, and hope they
need to build a better
future for themselves,
their families, and
their communities.

Thank You!



*May God bless you and your families,
and may the Blessed Virgin Mary always keep you
under her loving protection.*

Nannette
Brodie
DANCE THEATRE



THE BLESSING OF THE PACIFIC

*A community celebration of ocean, land, and spirit
through dance, music, and collective blessing.*

FREE
EVENT



OCEAN BLVD
ACROSS FROM
ALAMITOS BAY



SATURDAY
JULY 18
6:00 PM



BRING A
BEACH CHAIR
FREE & OPEN TO ALL

RSVP TODAY: [NANNETTEBRODIE.ORG](https://nannettebrodie.org)

Music Performances:

St. Joseph - Long Beach - Church Choir
and Golden Sands Chorus

Blessings by: Father Gerard O'Brien
former Pastor - Our Lady of Refuge

East Indian Dancer: Dr. Dimple Kaur Malhotra

Speech: Frank Colonna of the Port of Long Beach

Sponsors: The Port of Long Beach

The Arts Council of Long Beach

The City of Long Beach

The South Coast Interfaith Council

St. Joe's Youth

FIRST SUMMER

See's® CANDIES

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YOUR
SUPPORT
MAKES AN
IMPACT!

SWEET SUPPORT.
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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

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



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LOVE *is a* TRANSFORMATIVE FORCE

Movement For A Better World



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

Feed-a-Baby & Year-End Assistance: Thank you for your incredible generosity! Our parish donated 15 shopping carts of baby items and over **\$1,600** to support Catholic Charities, Elizabeth Ann Seton Residence, and New Life Beginnings. Thanks to your continued support, we also provided fresh fruit, canned meat, hygiene items, undergarments, baby supplies, and laundry detergent to families and individuals in need throughout Long Beach.

Food from the Heart Collection August 15–16: Please help us collect nonperishable food for families served by Catholic Charities of Long Beach

LILY OF THE MOHAWKS

“

LOOK AT THIS CROSS; OH! HOW BEAUTIFUL IT IS! IT HAS BEEN MY WHOLE HAPPINESS DURING MY LIFE, AND I ADVISE YOU ALSO TO MAKE IT YOURS.

”

– ST. KATERI TEKAKWITHA

YOU ARE INVITED TO **WELCOME** CHRIST RENEWS HIS PARISH



A PARISH RETREAT WEEKEND
at St. Joseph Church

TAKE THIS OPPORTUNITY TO GROW IN YOUR FAITH
AND BUILD LASTING FRIENDSHIPS IN OUR PARISH COMMUNITY.

**WOMEN'S
RETREAT WEEKEND**
OCTOBER 10 & 11, 2026

Women's retreat full and taking waitlist only.

**MEN'S
RETREAT WEEKEND**
OCTOBER 24 & 25, 2026

NO COST • MEALS INCLUDED • SPACE LIMITED



➤ SIGN UP NOW! ➤

Scan the QR Code
or visit

stjosephlb.org/welcome-christ-renews/#register



Did You Know?



Summer and water safety at home

While parents are often hypervigilant around pools and lakes, drowning can happen at home in an instant, especially with very young children. This summer, watch children around water at home, including buckets, containers, and kiddie pools. Children and babies can drown in as little as an inch of water, so constant supervision is necessary. It's also important to empty water containers as soon as play is done. For more tips about home water safety, visit safekids.org/watersafety.

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



Chuck Almada

Funeral Mass at St. Joseph Parish
 Tuesday, 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~

MARIAN GARDEN

TO BE RENEWED

A generous family has offered to upgrade and renew the Marian Garden and connect it to the visibility of the new St. Joseph Center.

The plan was presented and unanimously approved by your representatives on the Saint Joseph's Pastoral Council!

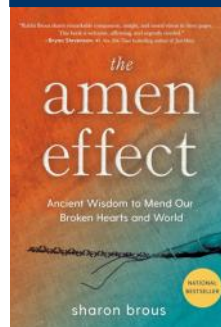
To focus more on the beautiful Image of our Lady, the old trees against the wall of the church will have to be removed. They are now a fire hazard as the roots are dying, and the trees are homes to rodents, vermin and spiders.

The new garden will include trees, rosebushes and color.

Work on the Garden
 WILL COMMENCE IN A COUPLE OF WEEKS.



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

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 **sjknight.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	stjfamilyaltarserver@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.

