

St. Joseph Parish

THE WHOLE BATCH WAS
LEAVENED.

— MATTHEW 13:33 —



SIXTEENTH 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:

For your might is the source of justice;
your mastery over all things makes you lenient to all.
(Wis 12:16)

Psalm:

Lord, you are good and forgiving. (Ps 86)

Second Reading:

And the one who searches hearts
knows what is the intention of the Spirit,
because he intercedes for the holy ones
according to God's will. (Rom 8:27)

Gospel:

"The kingdom of heaven is like a mustard seed
that a person took and sowed in a field.
It is the smallest of all the seeds,
yet when full-grown it is the largest of plants."
(Mt 13:31-32)

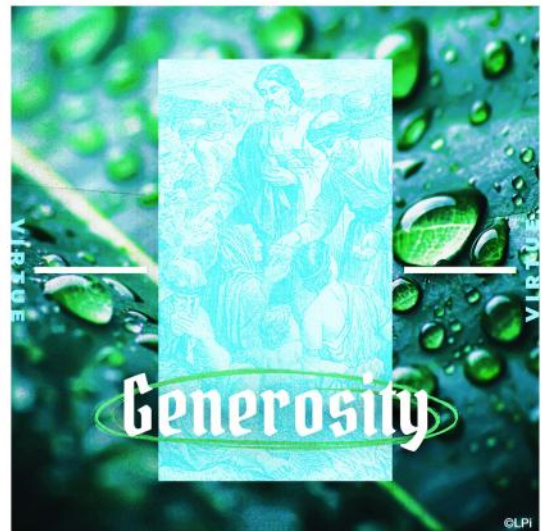
Excerpts from the Lectionary for Mass ©2001, 1998, 1970 CCD.
The English translation of Psalm Responses from Lectionary for Mass © 1969, 1981, 1997,
International Commission on English in the Liturgy Corporation. All rights reserved.

Live The Liturgy Inspiration of the Week

The mustard seed was the smallest seed, but it grew to be the largest plant because it was well-tended. This is faith: looking past what is to see what can be, if only we make the necessary choice.

Observances for the week of July 19, 2026

Sunday:	16th Sunday in Ordinary Time
Monday:	St. Apollinaris, Bishop & Martyr
Tuesday:	St. Lawrence of Brindisi, Priest and Doctor of the Church
Wednesday:	St. Mary Magdalene
Thursday:	St. Bridget, Religious
Friday:	St. Sharbel Makhlūf, Priest
Saturday:	St. James, Apostle
Next Sunday:	17th Sunday in Ordinary Time



Virtues, Explained!

Generosity is a hallmark of Christian discipleship. Christ placed our needs above his own, so we likewise place the needs of others above our own. Our concern for our brothers and sisters must be evident not just in what we do but in how we do it — with cheerfulness and love.

Blessing for Summer

O God,
Pour your blessing upon these summer months of sun and clouds, flowers and growth. In this season of cultivation, cultivate us as we worship, work, play, and rest in You. May this season, and all the others, serve to draw us closer to You.
Amen.

Worship & Meditation

Readings for the week of July 19, 2026

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

Monday:

Mi 6:1-4, 6-8/Ps 50:5-6, 8-9, 16bc-17, 21
and 23/Mt 12:38-42

Tuesday:

Mi 7:14-15, 18-20/Ps 85:2-4, 5-6, 7-8/
Mt 12:46-50

Wednesday:

Sg 3:1-4b or 2 Cor 5:14-17/Ps 63:2, 3-4,
5-6, 8-9/Jn 20:1-2, 11-18

Thursday:

Jer 2:1-3, 7-8, 12-13/Ps 36:6-7ab, 8-9,
10-11/Mt 13:10-17

Friday:

Jer 3:14-17/Jer 31:10, 11-12ab, 13/
Mt 13:18-23

Saturday:

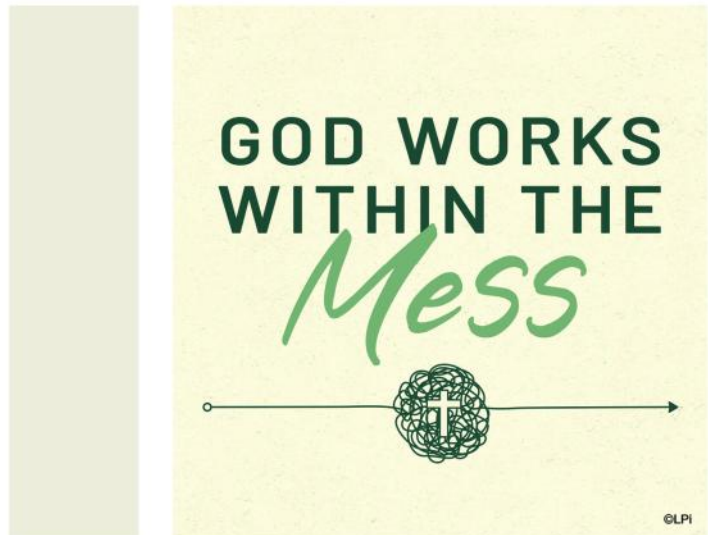
2 Cor 4:7-15/Ps 126:1bc-2ab, 2cd-3, 4-5,
6/Mt 20:20-28

Next Sunday:

1 Kgs 3:5, 7-12/Ps 119:57, 72, 76-77, 127-
128, 129-130/Rom 8:28-30/Mt 13:44-52 or
13:44-46



Excerpts from the Lectionary for Mass ©2001, 1998, 1970 CCD.
The English translation of Psalm Responses from Lectionary for
Mass © 1969, 1981, 1997, International Commission on English in
the Liturgy Corporation. All rights reserved.



Gospel Meditation

Encourage Deeper Understanding of Scripture

A man recently told me he was losing patience with the Church. **"It's supposed to be God's Kingdom on earth,"** he said, **"but it's full of contradictions and hypocrisy. Why can't the Church just be better?"** That last word landed with a judgmental thud. It hurt. Because at times the Church can look painfully ordinary, even disappointing.

But Jesus' parables in today's Gospel meet that frustration head-on. He says, **"The kingdom of heaven may be likened to a man who sowed good seed in his field,"** yet the weeds grow up with the wheat, and the master allows both to grow together until harvest. To his listeners, this sounded strange, even offensive. They expected God's reign to be pure, powerful, and glorious, anything but mixed up, hidden, or small.

Jesus is showing us something essential. The Kingdom always begins small and grows amid imperfection. Grace and weakness exist side by side until the harvest. That is why the Church often looks messy. Yet within that mess, God's quiet work continues. The weeds do not stop the wheat from growing.

When we see the Church's flaws or our own, it helps to remember that this is exactly the field in which Christ chose to plant. The miracle is not that everything looks perfect, but that his Word keeps taking root anyway.

Lord, give me patience with Your field, the Church. Help me see Your hidden life growing even among the weeds. Amen.

— Father John Muir

OUR ANNUAL MISSION CO-OP SUNDAY

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

Greetings from the Most Rev. Bishop Anacleto 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.* 

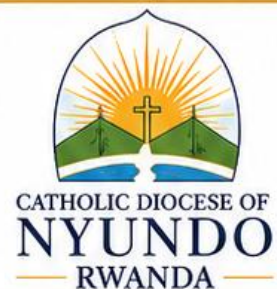


**YOUR
GENEROSITY**
*Changes
Lives*



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.*

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

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.



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

TEE OFF FOR THE HEART

20TH ANNUAL
DON GATH & JEAN BARBAZETTE
MEMORIAL GOLF TOURNAMENT

CELEBRATING AMERICA'S

★ ★ ★ 250TH ★ ★ ★

**WEDNESDAY
SEPTEMBER 16, 2026**

EL DORADO PARK GOLF COURSE
2400 N. STUDEBAKER RD.
LONG BEACH, CA 90815

Golf. Give. Change Lives.

Enjoy a day of golf, community, and impact supporting mothers and babies in need.



562-431-5025
preciouslifeshester.org
P.O. Box 414
Los Alamitos, CA 90720
plinfo@preciouslifeshester.org



Register Today

Precious Life Shelter
Saving Babies, One Mother At A Time
Precious Life Shelter is a 501 (c) 3 private, non-profit agency.
Our Federal Tax ID number is 51-0187577.

NATURAL FAMILY PLANNING

Designed by God
Guided by Love
Open to Life

NFP celebrates God's design for married love and the gift of life.



An educational campaign of the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops

NFP RESEARCH REVEALS MANY SPIRITUAL AND HUMAN BENEFITS:



Improved Couple Communication



Lower Divorce Rates



More Openness to Life

A woman can gain a deeper knowledge of her reproductive health when charting her fertility. This information can be used by physicians to catch root causes of issues that may harm a woman's fertility.



*Live God's Plan.
Love with Confidence.*

FOR MORE INFORMATION
OR TO REGISTER FOR A CLASS:

Greg and Beth Gath
562-377-5877
bethgath@gmail.com
www.ccli.org

"God's plan for married love is total, faithful, and fruitful." – Pope St. John Paul II



**"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

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?

What is Generative Artificial Intelligence?

Generative Artificial Intelligence is technology that allows a user to create new or alter existing images, videos, or text, based on user prompts or requests. It can be misused to create AI-generated child sexual abuse material, including sexually explicit or exploitative images that depict real children. According to the National Center for Missing and Exploited Children, this technology is being used to exploit children, particularly in the creation of GAI Child Sexual Abuse Material, often generated from images that have already been posted or shared online. In many cases, the offenders were people who knew the child victims well. For more information, visit missingkids.org/theissues/generative-ai.

Join us for the Retreat
Cosmic Fire/Human Heart:
A Spiritual Journey with Saint Hildegard and Dom Hélder Câmara
September 12th, 9 am - 5 pm
Monrovia, California

Flavio José Rocha and Kathleen Bond, Maryknoll Lay Missioners
& Social Educators

Learn More and Register
hmenton@aol.com

St. Joseph Senior Group Meeting

The next meeting will be on
Monday, July 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 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~

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

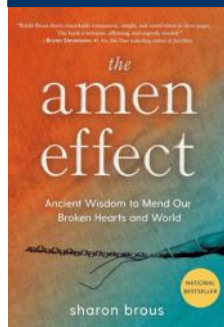


There is also the opportunity to attend an extended retreat which starts September 10-13.



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

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 **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	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.

