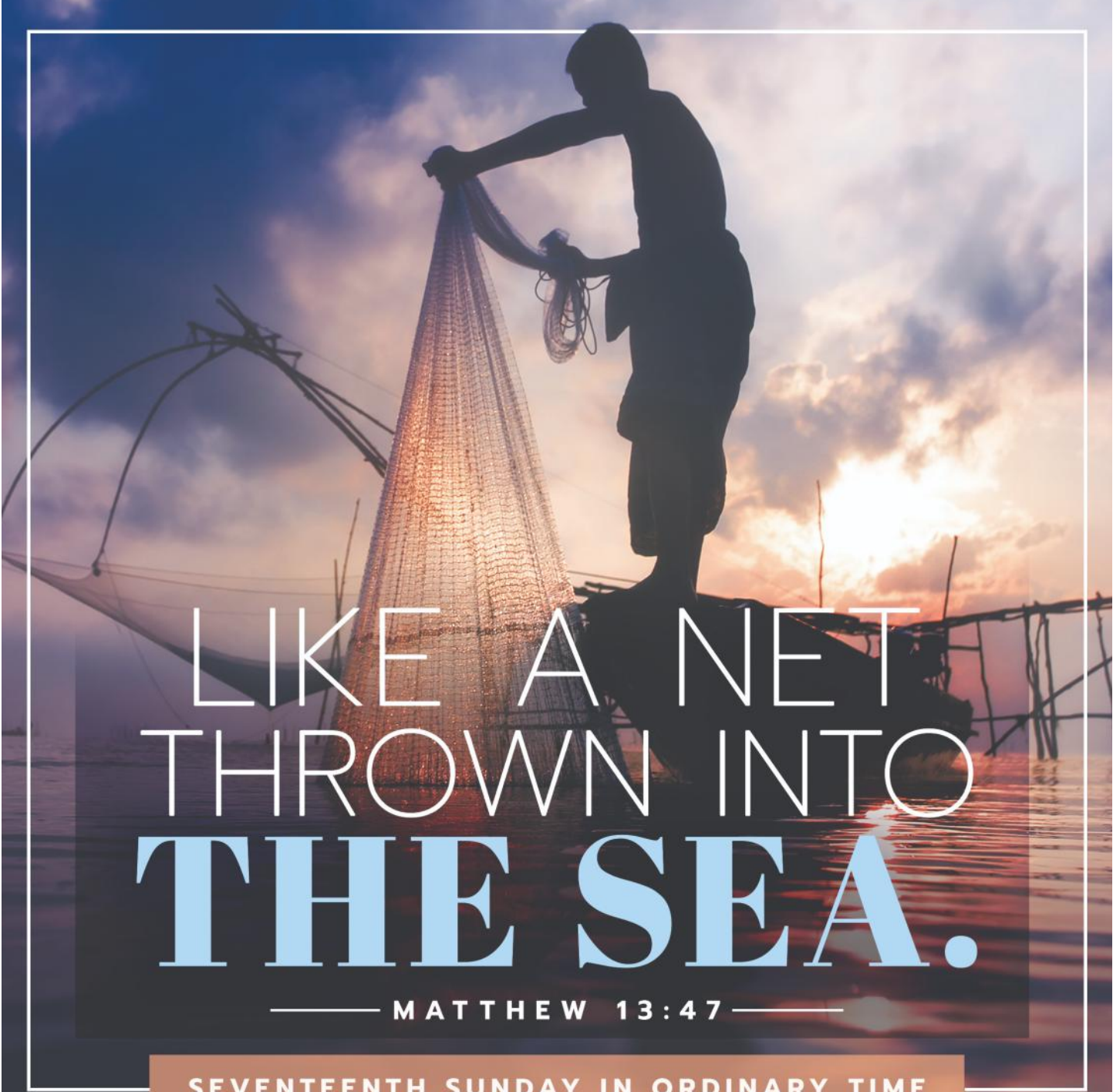


St. Joseph Parish



LIKE A NET
THROWN INTO
THE SEA.

— MATTHEW 13:47 —

SEVENTEENTH 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:

Summer greetings and peace to you! I'm writing this as I am completing this segment of my summer vacation, It has been restful and rejuvenating being with family and friends across the country.

This weekend is our annual Mission Co-Operative Sunday. We are reminded that we serve as disciples of Jesus Christ, and we are called to proclaim the gospel to the world. Reminding us of our mission, we welcome Fr. John Bosco to Saint Joseph's for this weekend. In case you missed his biography, just scroll down below. Thank you for supporting the mission of Fr John and his Church in the Diocese of Nyundo in Rwanda, Africa.

Summer Blessings,
Msgr. Kevin

Weekly Prayer

Sunday's Readings

First Reading:

"Give your servant, therefore, an understanding heart
to judge your people and to distinguish right from wrong.
For who is able to govern this vast people of yours?" (1 Kgs 3:9)

Psalm:

Lord, I love your commands. (Ps 119)

Second Reading:

We know that all things work for good for those who love God,
who are called according to his purpose. (Rom 8:28)

Gospel:

"The kingdom of heaven is like a treasure buried in a field,
which a person finds and hides again,
and out of joy goes and sells all that he has and buys that field."
(Mt 13:44)

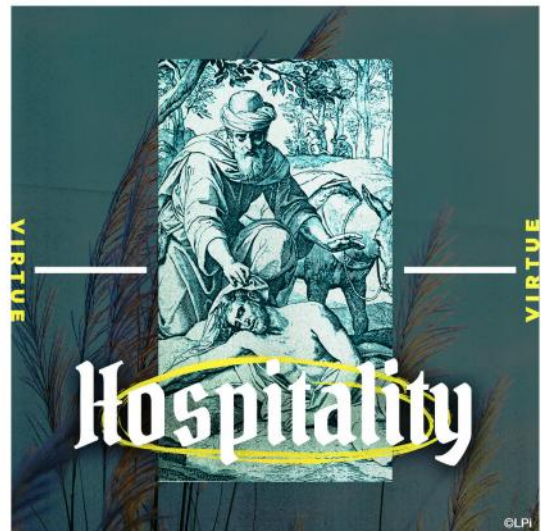
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The English translation of Psalm Responses from Lectionary for Mass © 1969, 1981, 1997,
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Live The Liturgy Inspiration of the Week

Christ compares the kingdom of Heaven to buried treasure — the find of a lifetime, one you would risk everything to keep. Are we doing all we can to hold onto this treasure that we have been lucky enough to discover? What is Heaven worth to us?

Observances for the week of July 26, 2026

- Sunday:** 17th Sunday in Ordinary Time
Wednesday: Sts. Martha, Mary and Lazarus
Thursday: St. Peter Chrysologus, Bishop and Doctor of the Church
Friday: St. Ignatius of Loyola, Priest
Saturday: St. Alphonsus Liguori, Bishop and Doctor of the Church
Next Sunday: 18th Sunday in Ordinary Time



Virtues, Explained!

The virtue of hospitality is characterized by kindness and welcome, particularly to those who are strangers. It is the practice of true Christian love — love purely for the sake of the one "who loved us first" (1 John 4:19).

Blessing for Our Parish

Dear God,
Pour Your blessing upon our
parish, in need of Your renewal and
inspiration.
Prune the places that need pruning,
and pour fresh grace and courage
into our midst.
Help us to find You and, with great
joy, follow You wholeheartedly.
Amen.

Worship & Meditation

Readings for the week of July 26, 2026

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

Monday:

Jer 13:1-11/Dt 32:18-19, 20, 21/Mt 13:31-35

Tuesday:

Jer 14:17-22/Ps 79:8, 9, 11 and 13/
Mt 13:36-43

Wednesday:

Jer 15:10, 16-21/Ps 59:2-3, 4, 10-11, 17, 18/
Jn 11:19-27 or Lk 10:38-42

Thursday:

Jer 18:1-6/Ps 146:1b-2, 3-4, 5-6ab/
Mt 13:47-53

Friday:

Jer 26:1-9/Ps 69:5, 8-10, 14/Mt 13:54-58

Saturday:

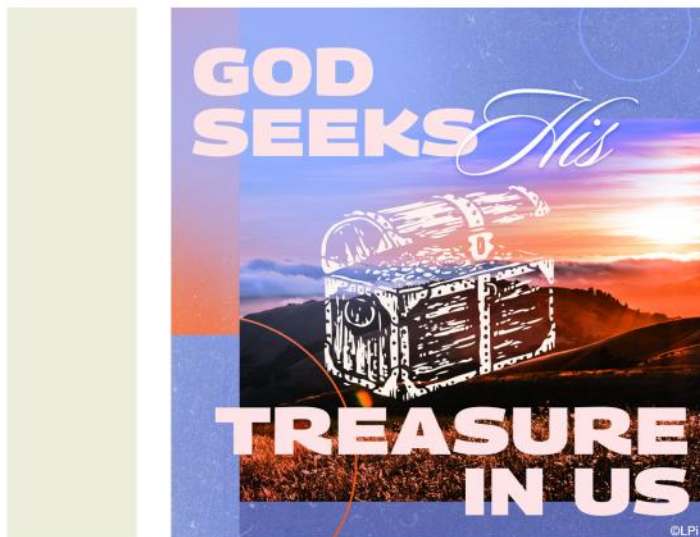
Jer 26:11-16, 24/Ps 69:15-16, 30-31, 33-34/
Mt 14:1-12

Next Sunday:

Is 55:1-3/Ps 145:8-9, 15-16, 17-18/
Rom 8:35, 37-39/Mt 14:13-21



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Gospel Meditation

Encourage Deeper Understanding of Scripture

Around the time that the gold rushes ended in the nineteenth-century West, a curious phenomenon arose in New England known as money diggers. These were men who roamed the countryside with shovels, divining rods, and superstitious hope, convinced that treasure lay buried beneath their feet. Surely there must be gold under our feet. But there was not. The craze of these wild goose chases caused many to lose farms, families, and sanity.

In this week's Gospel, Jesus inaugurates a new era of spiritual money digging. He announces, **"The kingdom of heaven is like a treasure buried in a field."** He invites us to become treasure seekers who search in the right place. What is of greatest value is not money beneath our feet, but the infinite treasure hidden deep in the humanity of Jesus himself, God's own blessed life. The glory of heaven lies veiled in his ordinary life, his teaching, his suffering, his Church.

This teaching about the Kingdom changes things. Now we see the Church's doctrinal and moral teachings are not arbitrary rules. They are a treasure map. Follow them, and we will uncover divine happiness. Ignore them, and we will wander aimlessly, spade in hand, digging in empty fields, discouraged.

Where have we wasted energy seeking treasure in the wrong places? How have we given up on seeking the treasure of truly finding God's love for us? If so, let us repent of both. Then let us dust off our shovels and get back to digging deep into the field of Christ Jesus and his Church. After all, He never ceases seeking his treasure in us.

— 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.* 

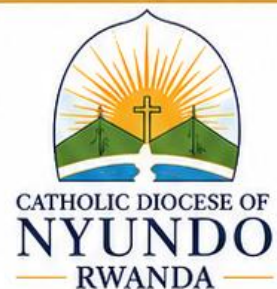


**YOUR
GENEROSITY**
*Changes
Lives*



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
O.C.I.A.

“Come and see, come and hear”

Another opportunity: If you or someone you know is interested in hearing
about being a Catholic

THERE WILL BE AN OPPORTUNITY TO INQUIRE,
ASK QUESTIONS WITH SR.EVA

TUESDAY, AUGUST 18, 2026
7PM - 8PM

LOCATION:
PARISH LIFE CENTER

ALL ARE WELCOME!

Email: SREVA@GMAIL.COM



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®

GRIEF SHARE Starts AUGUST 4!

GriefShare is a caring community for anyone navigating the journey of grief.

You don't have to go through grief alone. GriefShare is a safe place to find understanding, encouragement, and hope—while walking alongside others who truly care.

We're here for you.
We're in this together.



Our next 13-week session begins
Tuesday, August 4



You don't have to go through grief alone. We're here for you.

HOPE • HEALING • ENCOURAGEMENT

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



preciouslifeshter.org



P.O. Box 414
Los Alamitos, CA 90720



plinfo@preciouslifeshter.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



“Children, let us love not in word or speech but in deed and truth.” -1 Jn 3:18

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

Essential Home Furnishings: We have a vibrant ministry to provide home furnishings requested by families in need. Currently seeking, a toddler bed, queen beds, dressers, sofas, smaller smart TV (autistic child), utility bills and appliance repairs. Non-profit donation receipts are available. Can you help? For many opportunities to serve, call Tim Clark, (562) 431-4385.

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?

**Pedestrians Are People Who Walk.
Watch for People.**

CALIFORNIA OFFICE OF TRAFFIC SAFETY
IN PARTNERSHIP WITH CALTRANS

Safety on the road this summer

Summer means more children are using paths and roads for biking, walking, and rolling. That is why the state of California started the “Protect Our Pedestrians. Protect Our Cyclists” education campaign. The campaign calls on drivers to slow down, look out for people of all ages who are biking and walking. One important way to stay safe is to teach children to put phones, headphones and devices down when crossing the street. For more information please visit: gosafelyca.org/share-the-road/.

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

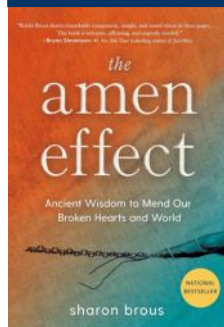


There is also the opportunity to attend an extended retreat which starts September 10-13.



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.

