St. Joseph Parish

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:

Welcome to November and welcome to the Celebration of All Saints. Each of this weekend's three readings, describe people who have been through the process of coming to live in Christ. That was the mission of the community of Saints, knowing that they belong to Jesus Christ and nothing could stop them from caring for His mission. Whenever we profess our faith through the Creed, we declare the Communion of Saints a reality, and throughout our lives, we must integrate the Saints deeply into our life of faith. Our belief in the community of Saints declares that we belong to the biggest extended family in the universe!! May all of us grow like the Saints, becoming truly like Christ, and when we are on the other side, may we see Christ as He is! Let's keep good company and make merry with all the Saints!

Our Parish community is pleased to announce a new Care Calls Ministry to the homebound. Do you know a Saint Joseph parishioner who is homebound or healing from surgery/illness? Our ministry offers friendly weekly check-in calls to help our parishioners stay connected to our church community. For more information about this ministry or if you know someone who would like to receive a call, please contact Katie Kasprzyk at her e-mail address stjcarecalls@gmail.com

This weekend is our annual MBW Blanket drive. If you have an opportunity to bring a new blanket, you will support our Thanksgiving basket drive and blankets will also be distributed to the homeless. Thanks for your good care!!

Next weekend, my only living Aunt, my family's beloved Aunt Marlene is celebrating her 90th birthday. I'll be joining my family in San Diego for a weekend celebration. Thanks to the following priests who will be here to celebrate the Eucharist with you:

Saturday 5:00 Vigil – Fr. Athanasius

Sunday 8:30 Mass on the Grass – Fr. Cesar Carrasco

Sunday 10:30 and 12:30 – Bishop Marc Trudeau

Letter From Our Pastor Continued...

Monday, November 2 is All Souls Day! While we will have a Mass here at St. Joseph's at 8:00 AM – it will be brief as I have been honored to be invited to Preside at the annual All Souls Mass at All Souls Cemetery at 10:00 AM. They anticipate that over 1,000 people will attend! If you are free, please come to the cemetery and pray for all the Souls of the Faithful departed.

A couple of Saturday's ago, our Parish school hosted their annual fundraiser called Oktoberfest. Thanks to many of you who participated either through attendance or joining in the live online auction. While, the final numbers are not yet in, the evening exceeded the goal of $150,000. Thanks to all for your amazing generosity. For the Oktoberfest festivities, our new Center was transformed:

Blessings in this first week of November,

Msgr. Kevin

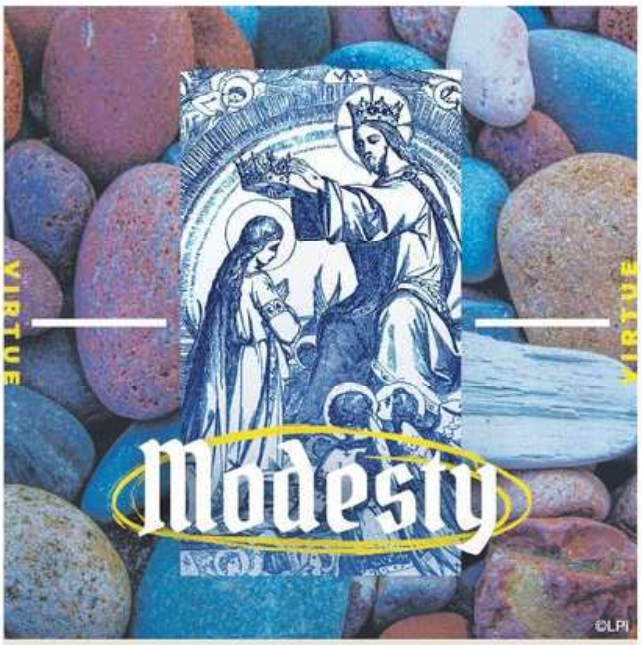
St. Joseph Movement for a BETTER WORLD

NEW BLANKET DRIVE

Oct. 31st – Nov. 1st

Collecting new blankets
for local families in need.
Standard bed sizes are most useful.

Weekly Scripture



Virtues, *Explained!*

One of the 12 fruits of the Holy Spirit is modesty, related to the cardinal virtue of temperance, or moderation of passions. It means "refusing to unveil what should remain hidden" and in doing so "protects the intimate center of the person" (CCC 2521). This virtue is a guide for how we interact with others in a way that honors their inherent dignity.

Christ notably said that those who look upon others with lust commit adultery in their heart (Matthew 5:28), indicating that modesty is concerned not just with action but with thoughts and interior disposition. Parents are obliged to instruct their children in the ways of modesty as part of teaching respect for others.

"The forms taken by modesty vary from one culture to another," we read in the Catechism. "Everywhere, however, modesty exists as an intuition of the spiritual dignity proper to man. It is born with the awakening consciousness of being a subject" (CCC 2524).

Sunday's Readings

First Reading

"Amen. Blessing and glory, wisdom and thanksgiving,
honor, power, and might
be to our God forever and ever. Amen." (Rv 9:12)

Psalm

Lord, this is the people that longs to see your face.
(Ps 24)

Second Reading

See what love the Father has bestowed on us
that we may be called the children of God.
(1 Jn 3:1)

Gospel

Blessed are they who are persecuted for the sake of righteousness,
for theirs is the Kingdom of heaven. (Mt 5:10)

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Live The Liturgy

Inspiration of the Week

Got a broken heart? Rejoice! An empty bank account? Rejoice! Are you undervalued, overlooked? Rejoice! In the Beatitudes, Jesus offers more than just sweet sayings. He offers a challenge, one we can only meet if he is at our side: rejoice!

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Worship & Observances

Prayer - For Everyday and Everybody

Blessing for All Saints
God,
Bless us as we journey in faith, a journey marked with twists and turns.
Bless us with the inspiration and friendship of those who have gone before us, the saints.
May their lives serve as guiding lights, beckoning us through the darkness to safety and rest.
Amen.

Readings for the Week of November 1, 2026

Sunday
Rv 7:2-4, 9-14/Ps 24:1bc-2, 3-4ab, 5-6/1 Jn 3:1-3/ Mt 5:1-12a

Monday
Wis 4:7-14/Ps 25:6, and 7b, 17-18, 20-21/Rom 5:17-21/ Mt 11:25-30

Tuesday
Phil 2:5-11/Ps 22:26b-27, 28-30ab, 30e, 31-32Lk 14:15-24

Wednesday
Phil 2:12-18/Ps 27:1, 4, 13-14Lk 14:25-33

Thursday
Phil 3:3-8a/Ps 105:2-3, 4-5, 6-7Lk 15:1-10

Friday
Phil 3:17-4:1/Ps 122:1-2, 3-4ab, 4cd-5/Lk 16:1-8

Saturday
Phil 4:10-19/Ps 112:1b-2, 5-6, 8a and 9/Lk 16:9-15

Next Sunday
Wis 6:12-16/Ps 63:2, 3-4, 5-6, 7-8/1 Thes 4:13-18 or 4:13-14/Mt 25:1-13

Observances for the Week of November 1, 2026

Sunday
All Saints; *Daylight Saving Time Ends*; National Vocation Awareness Week

Monday
The Commemoration of All the Faithful Departed (All Souls' Day)

Tuesday
St. Martin de Porres, Religious; *Election Day*

Wednesday
St. Charles Borromeo, Bishop

Next Sunday
32nd Sunday in Ordinary Time

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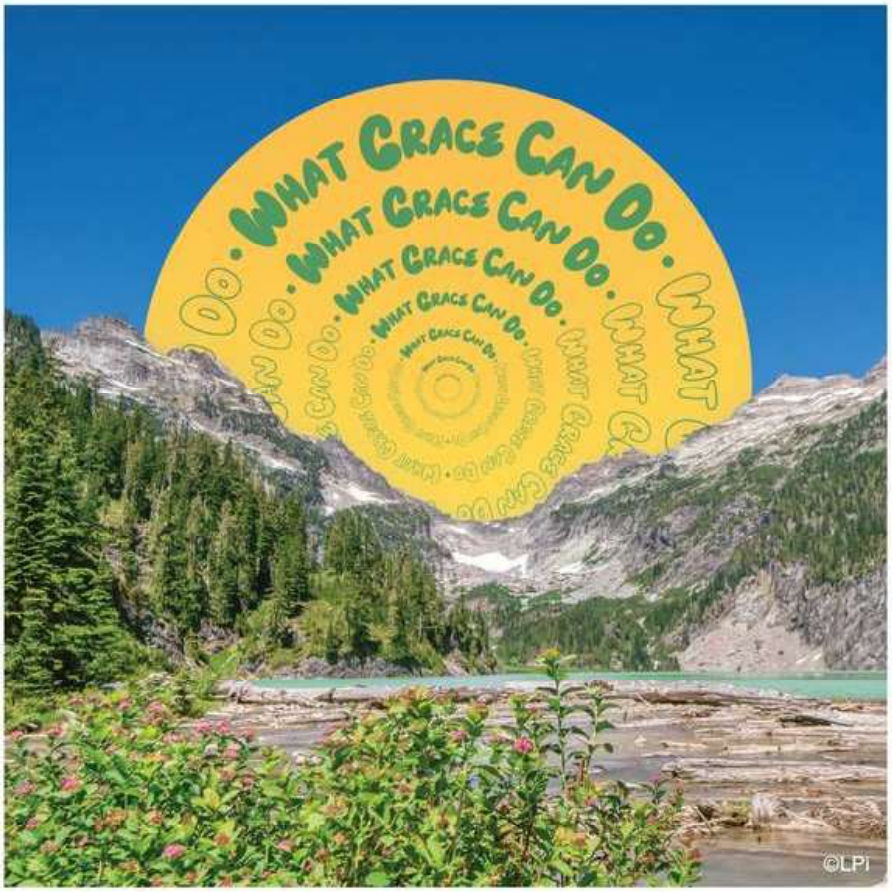
Gospel Meditation



Encourage Deeper Understanding of Scripture

Matthew 5:1-12

At the end of her short life, my hero, St. Thérèse of Lisieux, found herself in a curious position. Audaciously, she was convinced that she would become a great saint and would be loved by many after her death. At the same time, she insisted that she was weak, impatient, and ordinary. She became arguably the greatest saint in modern times. How is it possible that an ordinary and imperfect person can also be a great saint?

On this All Saints' Day, Jesus overturns our assumptions about holiness. He says, **"Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven" (Matthew 5:3).** The blessed are not the impressive or the self-sufficient, but the poor in spirit, the meek, the merciful, and the persecuted. These are not heroic traits by normal standards. They are signs of a heart that has learned to rely on God rather than itself. That's what St. Thérèse, and all the saints, are all about.

All Saints' Day is not a celebration of spiritual elites. Rather, it announces what grace can do in our ordinary lives. The saints are not those who avoid weakness or suffering, but those who allow these things to deepen their trust. What good news for us! The smaller and weaker we are, the more qualified we are to be great saints.

— Father John R. Muir

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SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 1, 2026 | ALL SAINTS DAY

Welcome
Christ Renews His Parish

Thank You All for Your Prayers

We extend our heartfelt gratitude to **Monsignor Kevin** for his unwavering support, spiritual guidance, and encouragement in bringing **Welcome Christ Renews His Parish** to St. Joseph Church. His dedication and commitment to this ministry have been a true blessing to our parish community.

Last weekend, we joyfully celebrated the completion of our **Seventh Men's Welcome Christ Renews His Parish Retreat** at St. Joseph Church.

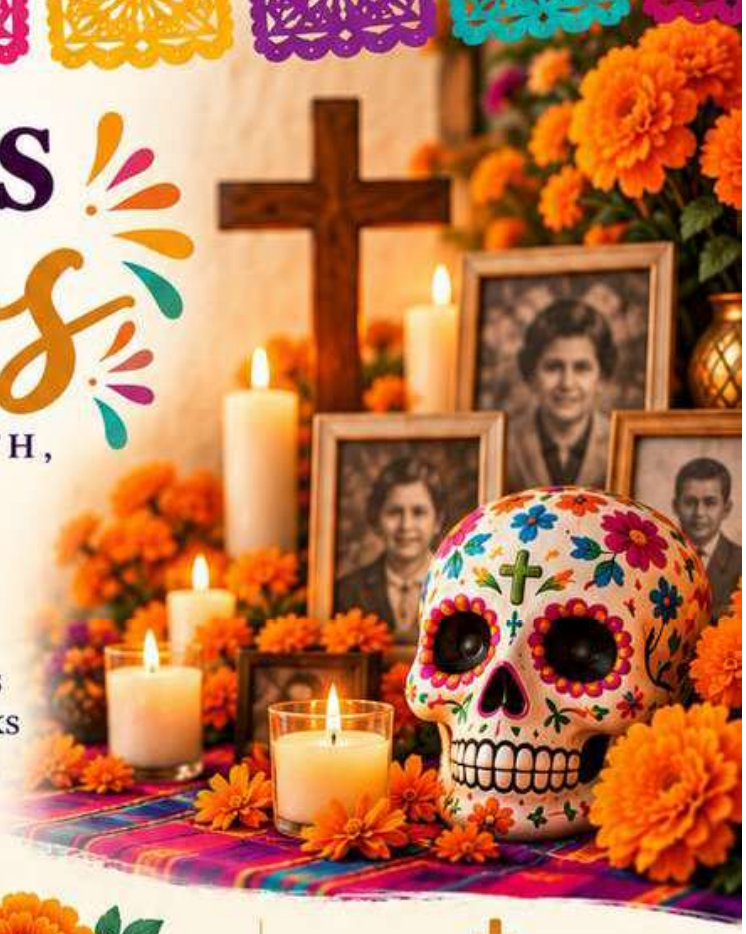
This beautiful, faith-filled weekend was led by dedicated women of our parish, with Monsignor Kevin serving as our Spiritual Guide. Through prayer, personal testimonies, Scripture, and fellowship, participants were invited to deepen their relationship with Jesus Christ, open their hearts to the Holy Spirit, and experience the joy of spiritual renewal.

A particularly meaningful moment came during the **10:30 AM Sunday Mass**, when Monsignor Kevin introduced the retreat participants and team members to the congregation and offered a special blessing upon them. The weekend was a wonderful experience of faith, love, and fellowship for everyone involved, including our retreat participants, Lay Formation Team, and Support Team.

We give thanks to God for the many blessings of this retreat, for the generosity of all who served, and for Monsignor Kevin's continued love and support of this ministry. May the Holy Spirit continue to guide and strengthen our Welcome Christ Renews His Parish community as we grow together in faith and love of Christ.

Día de los Muertos

A CELEBRATION OF FAITH, FAMILY, AND HOPE



Día de los Muertos (Day of the Dead) is a beautiful Mexican tradition that honors and remembers our loved ones who have died. It is a time to give thanks for their lives, pray for their souls, and celebrate the belief in everlasting life with God.

A CATHOLIC ROOT

The celebration coincides with the Church's feasts of All Saints (November 1) and All Souls (November 2), when we pray for all the faithful departed and remember the communion of saints.

A CULTURAL TRADITION

Families create ofrendas (altars) with photos, flowers, candles, and favorite foods to honor their loved ones. Marigolds, called cempasúchil, are believed to guide the souls back home with their bright color and distinctive fragrance.

A MESSAGE OF HOPE

Día de los Muertos reminds us that death is not the end, but a transition to eternal life with God. It is a joyful celebration of love, family, and the promise of the Resurrection.

We remember. We pray. We celebrate.

FAMILIES *Needed* TO BE ALTAR SERVERS AT ST. JOSEPH PARISH

Catholic Liturgy is meant to be the Work of the People. **Families** who attend Mass together are encouraged to serve together in this beautiful ministry of service.

- **A BEAUTIFUL WAY TO GROW IN FAITH AS A FAMILY**
- **HELP LEAD OUR PARISH IN PRAYER AND WORSHIP**
- **A MEANINGFUL WAY TO SERVE GOD AND OUR COMMUNITY**
- **TRAINING WILL BE PROVIDED NO EXPERIENCE NEEDED**

All families that attend St. Joseph are invited to apply. Families who apply will receive appropriate training in the ministry before serving, and then they will be added to an Altar Server schedule. Most families will serve at one Mass during the weekend.

We hope your family will join in this special ministry!

NEXT TRAINING:
SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 21st

TO SIGN UP OR FOR MORE INFORMATION, PLEASE CONTACT

THE ALTAR SERVER COORDINATOR:
Monica Wissuchek
at stjfamilyaltarservers@gmail.com

Monica will work with each family to help meet their individual needs and to train and schedule them for liturgies throughout the year.

ADMISSIONS NOW OPEN!

ST. JOSEPH CATHOLIC SCHOOL

JOIN OUR SCHOOL FAMILY!

Discover a place where your child can truly flourish. We combine a passion for 21st-century learning with a deep devotion to faith, helping every student grow into a Tenacious Scholar and a faithful Disciple of Christ.

Openings available for Alpha K and Kindergarten
(All other class levels are FULL)

SIGN UP FOR YOUR TOUR TODAY!

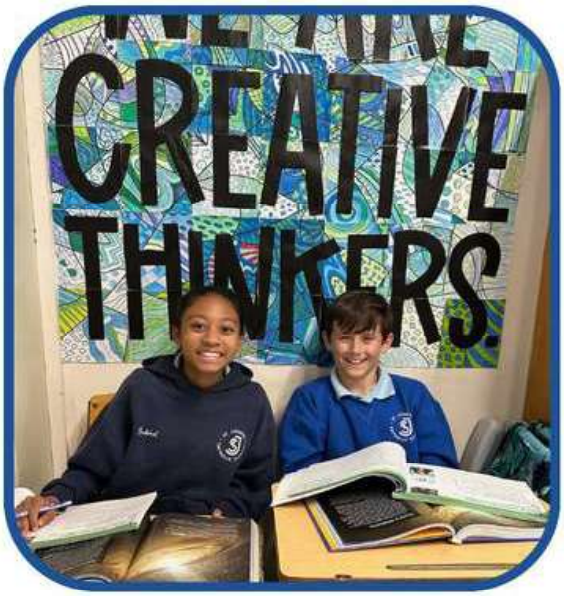
6200 E. Willow St. Long Beach, CA 90815 (562) 596-6115

St. Joseph Elementary School

ST. JOSEPH CATHOLIC SCHOOL
6200 E. Willow St.
Long Beach, CA 90815
(562) 596-6115

NONDISCRIMINATION POLICY 2025-2026

St. Joseph Elementary School, mindful of its mission to be a witness to the love of Christ for all, admits students regardless of race, color, national origin, and/or ethnic origin to all rights, privileges, programs, and activities generally accorded or made available to students at the school.



St. Joseph Elementary School does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, disability, medical condition, sex, or national and/or ethnic origin in the administration of educational policies and practices, scholarship programs, and athletic and other school-administered programs, although certain athletic leagues and other programs may limit participation and some archdiocesan schools operate as single-sex schools.

While St. Joseph Elementary School does not discriminate against students with special needs, a full range of services may not always be available to them. Decisions concerning the admission and continued enrollment of a student in the school are based upon the student's emotional, academic, and physical abilities and the resources available to the school in meeting the student's needs.

"Happiness is a warm BLANKET!"
-Charlie Brown

This Weekend - Blanket Drive: Collecting new blankets for our Thanksgiving Food and Blanket Distribution to 120 families. Blankets that are standard bed sizes are most useful. Opportunities to help during the holidays are abundant.
Call Tim Clark (562) 431-4385.

Nov. 21 - Thanksgiving Food and Blanket Distribution: Can you help us deliver? So meaningful to kids!! Contact Jill Salinaz (562) 822-7367 or jmsalinaz@yahoo.com.

Family Adoptions: Would you like to adopt a family to support Thanksgiving, Christmas, and Easter? Call Donna Luciene at (562) 421-4993 or e-mail Rose Bauss rhbauss@gmail.com

ST. JOSEPH SENIOR GROUP

UPCOMING MEETINGS

Monday, November 9 &
Monday, November 23

THANK YOU, KATIE KASPRZYK!

Thank you to Katie Kasprzyk for her delightful talk about her new ministry, *Reaching Out to the Homebound.*

CHRISTMAS LUNCH
RESERVATIONS REQUIRED

Monday, December 14
Cost: $10 per person

Reservations can be made at either the November 9 or November 23 meeting. You must have a reservation to attend.

ACTIVITIES, FRIENDSHIP & FUN

Bingo

Poker Card Games

Mexican Train & More!

Bring One, Take One Table of Books & Puzzles

50/50 Raffle Tickets Available

Trip Information & Schedules Available

BRING YOUR BROWN-BAG LUNCH!
Coffee, tea, water & goodies provided.

We look forward to seeing all our members and welcoming new friends!

Questions? Contact Marilyn North at (562) 519-0154

ST. JOSEPH

Care Calls Ministry
to the Homebound

Do you know a St. Joseph parishioner who is homebound or healing from surgery/illness?

Our ministry offers friendly weekly check-in calls to help our parishioners stay connected to our church community.

For more information, contact Katie Kasprzyk at
stjcarecalls@gmail.com

GriefShare

Surviving the Holidays

provides encouragement, support, and valuable tools to navigate the season.

Join us for this 2-hour seminar.

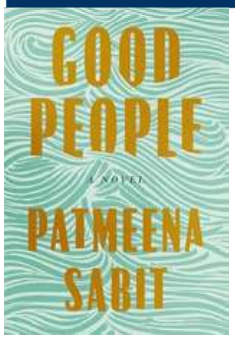
Location
6180 East Willow Street
Long Beach, CA
Parish Life Center
(PLC Building)

Date & Time
Tuesday,
December 8, 2026
9:30 – 11:30 a.m.

Contact Info
May Pace
562-833-6370
maypace@gmail.com

griefshare.org/holidays

Book Club



Our next Book Club meeting is Wednesday, November 18th at 7pm on Zoom

Good People by Patmeena Sabit.

In the debut novel by Afghan American author, Good People is a literary mystery told through a kaleidoscope of perspectives, exploring family, cultural tension, and the American immigrant experience.

All are welcome. For more info, email agoodlife@msn.com

LEO XIV

GENERAL AUDIENCE

Wednesday, 28 October 2026
[**Multimedia**]

Catechesis. "The Documents of the Second Vatican Council. IV. Constitution Gaudium et Spes. 7. The relationship between faith and culture (GS, 53-62)".

Dear brothers and sisters, good morning and welcome!

The Second Vatican Council could not fail to address the subject of culture and its relationship with the Christian faith. It does so in the second chapter of the second part of the Constitution *Gaudium et Spes* (GS).

The Catholic Church has always been concerned with accompanying the preaching of the Gospel with the establishment of schools of every kind, aimed at advancing the human, cultural and spiritual formation of men and women across the five continents. Medieval universities, as we know, were born from the heart of the Church, making a decisive contribution to the development of Western civilization. At the same time, the progress of culture and knowledge raises ever new and deeper questions, prompting believers to give an account of their faith (cf. *1 Pet* 3:15–17). Finally, as expressions of the spiritual dimensio of the human being, the various manifestations of culture contribute to opening minds to the perennial questions on the meaning of the world and of human existence, thus preparing people to receive the Gospel of Jesus Christ.

The relationship between faith and culture finds its primary foundation in the Incarnation: i the divine Word became flesh and came to dwell among us (cf. *Jn* 1:14), then faith too is ar incarnate reality, interwoven with the culture in which it is immersed. It is also required to *become culture*, that is, to reach the person in their living environment, made up of human words, traditions, religious meaning, art and poetry, thought and science. As Saint John Paul II loved to repeat, "a faith that does not become culture is a faith not fully accepted, not entirely thought out, not faithfully lived". [1]

Faith can be embodied in all cultures, because it does not identify itself with any of them ir a specific one. It dwells within them, shaping them from within according to the "form" of Jesus Christ; that is, through charity, service and the filial recognition of God's fatherhood. In this way, the Church draws from the various cultures all that is good, beautiful and true, in order to embody and transmit the message of the Gospel. At the same time, "the Church, sent to all peoples of every time and place, is not bound exclusively and indissolubly to any race or nation, any particular way of life or any customary way of life recent or ancient. Faithful to her own tradition and at the same time conscious of her universal mission, she can enter into communion with the various civilizations, to their enrichment and the enrichment of the Church herself" (*GS*, 58).

The Church promotes culture because it is a good in itself, a service to the human being and to the fulfilment of her vocation on earth. For this reason, *Gaudium et Spes* exhorts th international community to ensure that everyone has access to fundamental cultural goods, by overcoming illiteracy and the lack of education. All those who are capable of accessing higher education – the Council boldly states – must be placed in a position to dc so in practice. Furthermore, "it will belong to all to acknowledge and favour the proper and necessary participation of women in the cultural life" (*GS*, 60).

In addition, *Gaudium et Spes* upholds the need to direct teaching towards a certain *unity of knowledge*, even though changing living conditions may make this more difficult (cf. *GS* 61). Christians are the first who must strive to bring about this unity of wisdom, first and foremost within themselves. Although they have received from Revelation the answers to the great questions of existence, they are not thereby exempt from patient intellectual and cultural formation; on the contrary, their human and scientific knowledge must go hand in hand with the substance of their faith, which must be continually deepened with age and in accordance with their level of study. The Council addresses a particular appeal to theologians: "Let those who teach theology ... strive to collaborate with men versed in the other sciences through a sharing of their resources and points of view. Theological inquiry should pursue a profound understanding of revealed truth; at the same time it should not neglect close contact with its own time that it may be able to help these men skilled in various disciplines to attain to a better understanding of the faith" (*GS*, 62).

Brothers and sisters, the Constitution *Gaudium et Spes* reminds us not to live the faith in a spirit of opposition or hostility towards the world, culture and its human expressions, but rather exhorts us as follows: "May the faithful, therefore, live in very close union with the other men of their time and may they strive to understand perfectly their way of thinking and judging, as expressed in their culture" (*GS*, 62). Achieving a mature and responsible synthesis between faith and culture is, in fact, a necessary condition for persevering in the Christian vocation, as well as an essential requirement for bearing witness to the faith before the world and communicating it to others in a credible manner.

I extend a warm welcome to all the English-speaking pilgrims and visitors taking part in today's Audience, especially those from England, Ireland, Denmark, Sweden, Ghana, Japan, Jordan, Laos, Pakistan, the Philippines, Canada and the United States of America. In particular, I greet the members of the Youth Group from the Diocese of Samoa-Pago Pago on their pilgrimage to Rome and Assisi. Upon each of you and your families, I invoke the joy and peace of our Lord Jesus Christ. God bless you all!

The Second Vatican Council's Pastoral Constitution *Gaudium et Spes*, reflecting on the Church in the modern world, also addresses the topic of culture. In promoting culture in a its forms, the Church has always combined the proclamation of the Gospel with the establishment of schools, seeking to foster human and spiritual formation, encouraging believers to give an account of their faith (cf. *1 Pet* 3:15–17) and preparing all peoples to receive the Gospel. The authentic relationship between faith and culture is rooted in the Incarnation. Faith, therefore, enriches and brings to fulfillment every culture it encounters, and is itself called to become a culture that is shaped by Christ. In this way, *Gaudium et Spes* affirms the need to cultivate a fruitful integration of knowledge, expressed in a way of living the faith marked by a positive outlook on the world and history.

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[1] St. John Paul II, *Address to participants in the Congress of the Ecclesial Movement of Cultural Commitment (MEIC)*, 16 January 1982.

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St. Joseph Parish

PARISH DIRECTORY

A Catholic Community
Rooted in Faith,
Growing in Love,
Serving All.

PASTOR & CLERGY

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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

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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 Allba

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

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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.