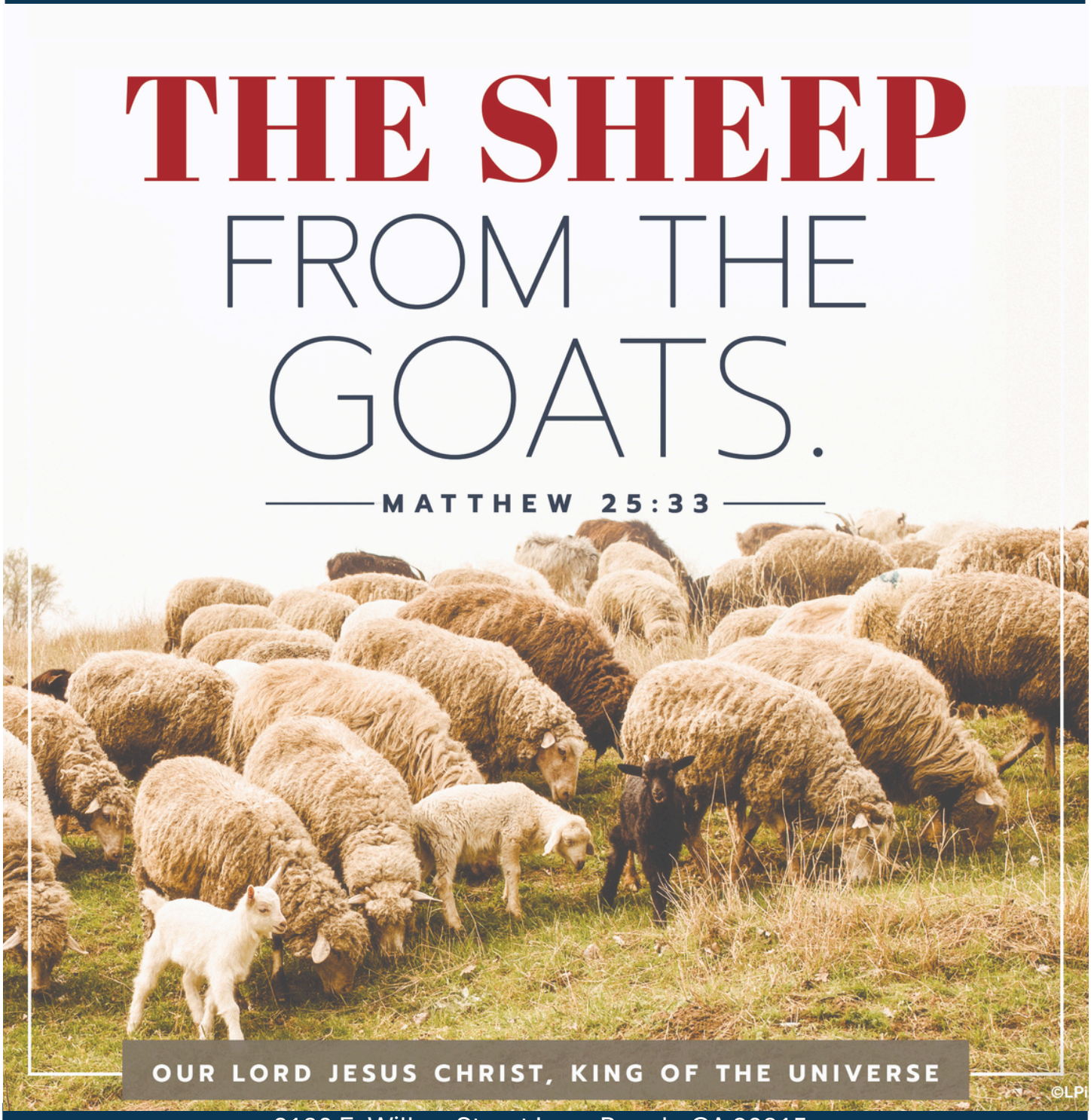
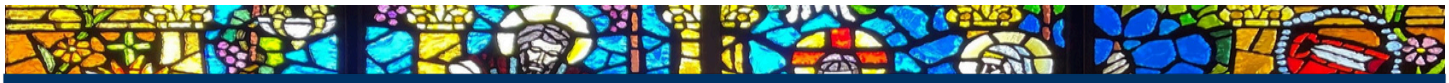
St. Joseph Parish



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 the last weekend of the Church Year. The liturgical year culminates with the celebration of the Solemnity of Jesus Christ, the King of the Universe. During this past year it has been a joy to listen to St. Matthew's Gospel, calling us to conversion and discipleship through our ordinary lives. All of the evangelist's parables and teachings encouraged us to make Jesus the Master and King of our lives. Next week we commence the Season of Advent. As the lights of the Advent candles grow brighter each week, may the light of Christ grow brighter in our lives, dispelling the darkness of sin and temptation.

December days are hectic, busy and stressful. Last weekend we offered you the annual little gift of the Advent reflection booklet. If your family did not pick one up, please do so this weekend and take two minutes a day for the meditation and reflection and you will be at peace to help you with all the busyness of December.

Please join us for our Thanksgiving Day Mass this Thursday at 9:00 AM. Please feel free to bring the bread and wine that may grace your table on Thursday afternoon/evening and we will bless the food. Please do not bring the turkey! May this Thanksgiving help us to recognize and cherish all the moments of grace in our lives, both big and small and may we always open our hearts to others, sharing kindness, compassion, and generosity!

Scroll down to the next page and I have included the Thanksgiving blessing that my family will pray around our table on Thanksgiving afternoon. You can download the page or print it and make it an interactive prayer around your table. Someone can proclaim the scripture ,another lead the intercessions and everyone can pray the blessing together.

Thanksgiving Blessings to you and your family,

Msgr. Kevin

2026

Thanksgiving FAMILY BLESSING

SCRIPTURE READING: FROM THE GOSPEL ACCORDING TO LUKE:

AS HE WAS ENTERING A VILLAGE, TEN PERSONS WITH LEPROSY MET HIM.
THEY STOOD AT A DISTANCE FROM HIM AND RAISED THEIR VOICES, SAYING,
"JESUS, MASTER! HAVE PITY ON US!" AND WHEN HE SAW THEM, HE SAID,
"GO SHOW YOURSELVES TO THE PRIESTS."
AS THEY WERE GOING, THEY WERE CLEANSED.
AND ONE OF THEM, REALIZING HE HAD BEEN HEALED,
RETURNED, GLORIFYING GOD IN A LOUD VOICE;
AND HE FELL AT THE FEET OF JESUS AND THANKED HIM.

Leader: That we may always appreciate the gift of family, we pray…
All: ***We give thanks to the Lord.***

Leader: That our children will be safe and grow in God's love, we pray…
All: ***We give thanks to the Lord.***

Leader: That we may always share our blessings with those in need, we pray…
All: ***We give thanks to the Lord.***

Leader: That we will always see and cherish the image of God in everyone, we pray…
All: ***We give thanks to the Lord.***

Leader: For an end to violence in the world and for peace in the Middle East and, we pray…
All: ***We give thanks to the Lord.***

Leader & All: God most provident, we join all creation in raising to you a hymn of Thanksgiving through Jesus Christ, your Son.
For generation upon generation, peoples of this land have sung of your bounty; we too offer you praise for the rich harvest we have received at your hands. Bless us and this food and drink which we share with grateful hearts. Continue to make our land and lives fruitful, and let our love be shown to others as we gather around this beautiful table of abundance.
Praise and glory to you, Lord God, now and forever!

AMEN

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS®
Council 3629

Home Decorating for Christmas

The Knights of Columbus, Council 3629 (serving St. Cornelius, St. Joseph, and St. Maria Goretti), will once again be offering an opportunity to have your home decorated for the Christmas Holiday.

We look forward to assisting our senior Brothers, senior parish members or those who may require assistance in getting up that ladder to hang Christmas lights and do small outdoor decorating. Our mission is to brighten your Christmas, in the hope of making your home a more festive and glorious place for your family and friends.

We will try to accommodate all requests, but may need to work on a first come, first serve basis.

Requestors will need to supply their own lights and decorations, but we can offer some small hardware that may be required to help in the decorating process.

If you are interested in having your home decorated for Christmas, please fill out the form below and call **310-738-4396.**



May God Bless you and your family during this joyous season!

Knights of Columbus keeping Christ in Christmas!

The Knights of Columbus Council 3629

Yes... I would like to have my home decorated for Christmas.

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____

Phone #: _____

Parish: _____



"He has anointed me to bring glad tidings to the poor." -Lk 4:18.

Thanksgiving Food and Blanket Distribution: Next weekend, Nov. 21. Can you help 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

Dec. 5 Christmas Present Drive: Christmas trees decorated with envelopes representing more than 200 children will be available. Parishioners are invited to select one or more envelopes and purchase gifts for children in need this Christmas. All gifts must be returned by **12:30 p.m. on Dec. 13.**







St. Joseph Senior Group

Upcoming Meeting

Next Meeting:
Monday, November 23 at 10:00 a.m.

Christmas Lunch

Last Chance to Make a Reservation!

Monday, December 14
Cost: $10 per person
You must have a reservation to attend.

Baby Clothes Collection

The Senior Group will be collecting *baby clothes*, sizes newborn to 2 years, to be given to *Movement for a Better World* for the families at Christmas.

These items may be brought to the November 23 and December 14 meetings.

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



The holidays are challenging when you're grieving a loss.

GriefShare

Surviving the Holidays

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

Join us for this 2-hour seminar.

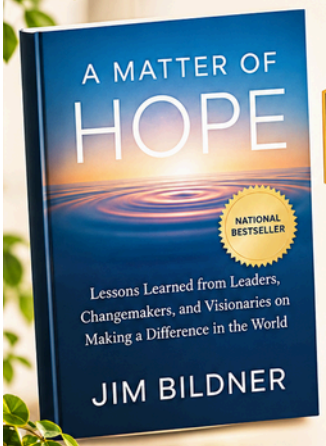
Location
6180 East Willow Street
Long Beach, CA
Parish Life Center
(PLC Building)

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

St. Joseph BOOK CLUB



Our next Book Club meeting is

Wednesday, February 17th at 7pm on Zoom

A Matter of Hope

by Jim Bildner

There is one human characteristic that separates those who see a world full of problems from those who see a world full of potential: ***hope.***

All are welcome!

For more info, email
agoodlife@msn.com

Weekly Scripture



Virtues, *Explained!*

Confidence, in its virtuous aspect, describes the hope that man has in himself when he is under God's care and inviting the direction of the Holy Spirit. Its very name is derived from the Latin noun fides, which means faith.

Confidence is connected with the virtue of fortitude, but also with the virtue of hope, writes St. Thomas Aquinas, who quoted the Book of Job: "And you shall be secured, because there is hope; you shall look round you and lie down in safety" (Job 11:18).

It is confidence that Abraham exhibits when he petitions God to spare the righteous of Sodom (Genesis 18:25). Though he knows he is "only dust and ashes," Abraham has learned enough of the ways of God to be able to articulate them in prayer. This is the same confidence we have when we pray, entrusting our needs to God (1 John 5:14).

Sunday's Readings

First Reading

As for you, my sheep, says the Lord GOD,
I will judge between one sheep and another,
between rams and goats. (Ez 34:17)

Psalm

The Lord is my shepherd; there is nothing I shall want. (Ps 23)

Second Reading

When everything is subjected to him,
then the Son himself will also be subjected
to the one who subjected everything to him,
so that God may be all in all. (1 Cor 15:28)

Gospel

"When the Son of Man comes in his glory,
and all the angels with him,
he will sit upon his glorious throne,
and all the nations will be assembled before him.
And he will separate them one from another,
as a shepherd separates the sheep from the goats." (Mt 25:31-32)

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Live The Liturgy

Inspiration of the Week

At the end of time, the ones who neglected God will claim ignorance. "We never saw you!" they'll insist. But God is everywhere, making Himself known in every time and place. We can see Him, respond to Him — or we can look the other way. Which will we choose?

Worship & Observances

Prayer – Blessing for Thanksgiving

Dear Lord,
We thank You for the gifts of the season.
We ask Your blessing upon this
Thanksgiving meal.
Bless each of us gathered,
hold the prayers we carry within us,
anoint our conversations and company
with Your light and hope.
Amen.

Readings for the Week of November 22, 2026

Sunday
Ez 34:11-12, 15-17/Ps 23:1-2a, 2b-3, 5, 6/
1 Cor 15:20-26, 28/Mt 25:31-46

Monday
Rv 14:1-3, 4b-5/Ps 24:1bc-2, 3-4ab, 5-6/Lk 21:1-4

Tuesday
Rv 14:14-19/Ps 96:10, 11-12, 13/Lk 21:5-11

Wednesday
Rv 15:1-4/Ps 98:1, 2-3ab, 7-8, 9/Lk 21:12-19

Thursday
Rv 18:1-2, 21-23; 19:1-3, 9a/Ps 100:1b-2, 3, 4, 5/Lk 21:20-28

Friday
Rv 20:1-4, 11-21:2/Ps 84:3, 4, 5-6a and 8a/Lk 21:29-33

Saturday
Rv 22:1-7/Ps 95:1-2, 3-5, 6-7ab/Lk 21:34-36

Next Sunday
Is 63:16b-17, 19b; 64:2-7/Ps 80:2-3, 15-16, 18-19/1 Cor 1:3-9/Mk 13:33-37



Observances for the Week of November 22, 2026

Sunday
Our Lord Jesus Christ, King of the Universe

Monday
St. Clement I, Pope and Martyr; St. Columban, Abbot; Bl. Miguel Agustin Pro, Priest and Martyr

Tuesday
St. Andrew Dũng-Lạc, Priest, and Companions, Martyrs

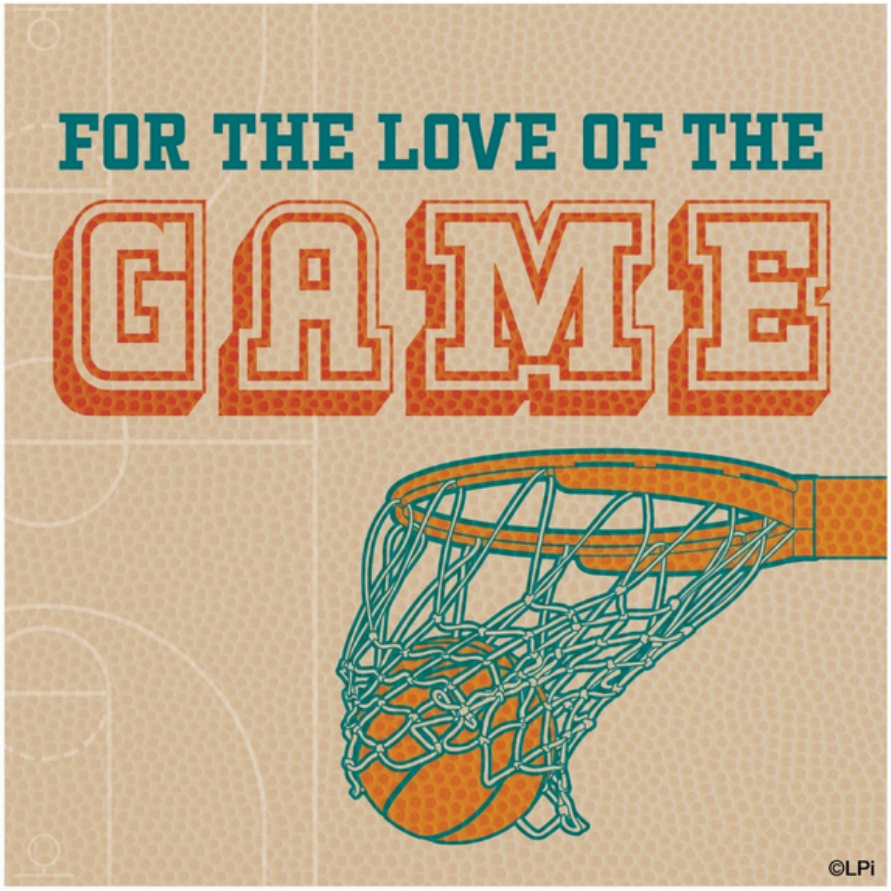
Wednesday
St. Catherine of Alexandria, Virgin and Martyr

Thursday
Thanksgiving Day

Next Sunday
1st Sunday of Advent

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Gospel Meditation



Encourage Deeper Understanding of Scripture

Matthew 25:31-46

I remember middle school baseball tryouts. A friend of mine, Robert, was trying to make the team to please his father, but his heart wasn't in it. He was lackadaisical and unenergetic. When the final cut-list was announced and his name wasn't on it, he was relieved. He realized the coach was not insulting him but essentially telling him, "Bobby, this only works if you actually want to play ball." I was saddened he'd miss out on the fun, but I knew it was best. Putting Robert onto the team would not have been kindness. It would have made him miserable.

Jesus speaks to us today about his identity as our King and Judge. He separates those who inherit the kingdom from those who do not. The King explains, **"Whatever you did for one of the least brothers of mine, you did for me" (Matthew 25:40)**. His judgment hinges on willingness to participate in love. Heaven is not a prize imposed at the end of life. It is a life freely chosen and engaged. Hell is not a destination prepared for human beings, but a terrible and sad acknowledgment of an opting out which God never intends for us.

Jesus' role as judge proclaims to us: "Heaven only works if you actually want to love." How do we know if we want it? How we serve the hungry, the sick, the imprisoned, and the forgotten. These acts of mercy are not arbitrary tests. They are the very shape of divine life. There is no better game to play than this. We ought to begin playing it right now. The King will come to judge us.

— *Father John R. Muir*

©LPi SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 22, 2026 | OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST, KING OF THE UNIVERSE

ADMISSIONS NOW OPEN!

ST. JOSEPH CATHOLIC SCHOOL



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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.

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SIGN UP FOR YOUR TOUR TODAY!



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LEO XIV

GENERAL AUDIENCE

Saint Peter's Square
Wednesday, 18 November 2026
[Multimedia]

Dear brothers and sisters, good morning and welcome!

I returned to Rome yesterday morning from my long and beautiful Apostolic Journey to Uruguay, Argentina and Peru. Peru, as you know, is the country where I lived for many years, as a missionary and then as a bishop. Argentina is the homeland of Pope Francis, and I wished to visit it, to meet the people whom he loved so dearly. Uruguay is a nation where Catholics are a minority, and it is significant that my itinerary began right there.

The motto of the pastoral visit to Uruguay was *"I bring you news of great joy" (Lk 2:10)*. These are the words with which, in the Gospel of Luke, the angel brings the news of the birth of Jesus Christ to the shepherds in Bethlehem. And in effect, I went to that Country ir order to proclaim Him, the Lord, God made man, who bestows fullness of life in truth and in love. I am very pleased because I found a warm and heartfelt welcome amongst the Uruguayan people, so that I was able to remind everyone how important faith in God is anc how valuable human life is; and how faith helps us to face the trials of life and to be builders of peace.

In Argentina, the motto was *Welcome, everyone. Go and proclaim!* These words echo the magisterium of Pope Francis, a son of that great South American country. This is the visior of the Church that he has passed on to us: a welcoming Church, open to all, where everyone can feel at home, be listened to, recognized in their dignity, be reconciled with God, with themselves and with the community, and be valued for their gifts and limitations and, at the same time, a Church that is wholly missionary, finding her coherence and joy in evangelizing. In Argentina, I experienced the enthusiastic and harmonious participation of the holy people of God. In this atmosphere of great affection for the Pope – which I shall never forget – I urged them to cultivate communion in the richness of diversity, and I encouraged their commitment to building a just and supportive society, in accordance with the principles of the Social Doctrine of the Church.

The visit to Peru was a little longer, because I owe a special debt of gratitude to the People of God living in that country. The motto of this third leg was *"Let us open our hearts!"* To follow Christ, we must open our hearts to the Holy Spirit, following the example of the saints. The history of Peru would not have been the same without the presence and work of Saint Turibius of Mogrovejo, Saint Rose of Lima, Saint Francis Solano, Saint Martín de Porres and Saint Juan Macías. Together with faith, hope and charity, they promoted respect for human dignity, a sense of the sanctity of life, reconciliation and peace: they built the civilization of love. Their witness is alive and relevant today, and even now there is no shortage of men and women who, with hearts open to God and to their neighbour, are committed to building a more just and fraternal Peru. It was a great joy for me to be able to encourage them with the grace proper to the Petrine ministry; and I also sought to do so by meeting personally, here as in other countries, some victims of abuse.

In Chiclayo, in particular, I felt at home. I rediscovered the simple and genuine faith animated by popular piety; I felt the embrace of the rural communities of the Cordillera; I was able to meet again with people who have left a deep mark on my life. My heart was filled with gratitude at being able to be amongst those communities and to strengthen them in faith and hope. Thanks be to God, I was also able to visit Cusco, where the fruits of the marvellous work of inculturation of the Gospel carried out by the missionaries are still being enjoyed, and then the Amazon region, to meet those peoples rich in traditional culture yet wounded by injustices and violence.

Dear friends, by visiting the local Churches during the Apostolic Journeys, the Pope is able to see the beauty of the People of God on their journey, despite the difficulties that may be encountered depending on the contexts and the historical moments. Indeed, everywhere one recognizes how the Holy Spirit helps the Church to be a sign and instrument of unity, in listening to the Word of God, in the celebration of the holy Mysteries and in the service of charity.

A constant presence that accompanied every leg of this Journey was that of the Virgin Mary. This is easy to understand, for she is truly part of the history of those peoples; she walks with them, guides them and comforts them. I too thank her for her protection and entrust to her intercession all those who, in countless ways, have welcomed and supported me on this mission. I renew my gratitude to the Bishops and the civil authorities of the countries I visited, to the priests, consecrated men and women, all the faithful who participated in person or spiritually. May the Lord, who has given me this great grace, always bless those peoples and guide them on the way of peace in justice and in fraternity.

APPEALS

This 21 November marks World Fisheries Day, the theme of which this year is "Come and eat". My thoughts turn in particular to fishermen exposed to war, piracy and captivity, as well as those whom the sea has torn away from their loved ones, who are still waiting for news. I also remember migrant fishermen, those who are exploited, and coastal communities who are put to the test by climate change and an increasingly depleted sea.

Today in Italy we celebrate the National Day of Prayer for Victims and Survivors of Abuse, organized by the National Service for the protection of minors and vulnerable adults, of the Italian Episcopal Conference. The theme, "Listening that heals, communities that rebuild", reminds us that, for the Christian community, the prevention and countering of abuse is a way of living out evangelical conversion, starting by listening to those who have been hurt calling evil by its name and embarking on paths of truth, justice and reconstruction.

Special greetings:

I greet all the English-speaking pilgrims and visitors taking part in today's Audience, particularly the groups from England, Ireland, The Netherlands, Sweden, Ghana, Australia, Japan, the Philippines, Thailand, Vietnam, Canada and the United States of America. In particular, I welcome the pilgrims from the Church of Saint Thomas in the Czech Republic, who have brought a replica of the miraculous Icon of Our Lady of Saint Thomas. May she continue to intercede for us! Upon you and your families, I invoke the joy and peace of our Lord Jesus Christ. God bless you all!

Summary of the Holy Father's words:

Dear brothers and sisters,

my Apostolic Journey to Uruguay, Argentina and Peru was a very special gift from the Lord. To the people of Uruguay, I reiterated the message of salvation: "I bring you good news of great joy (*Lk* 2:10), that is, Jesus Christ, the Truth that enlightens every person.

Argentina, the homeland of Pope Francis, welcomed me with warm enthusiasm. Millions of the faithful gathered for the major celebrations. It was with joy that I was able to convey the motto of the visit: "Welcome, everyone. Go and proclaim!"

Finally, on arriving in Peru, I felt the embrace, full of affection and faith, of the people amongst whom I had served as a missionary and as a bishop. I visited various parts of the country, inviting everyone to open their hearts to the love of Christ, so that together we might build a more just and fraternal society. I thank everyone who prayed for the success of the Apostolic Journey. Let us continue to pray that it bears much fruit and ask the Blessed Virgin Mary to guide those peoples in the ways of the Gospel!

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St. Joseph Parish

PARISH DIRECTORY

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

PASTOR & CLERGY

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

PARISH OFFICE

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 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

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	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.

