



# ST. BARNABAS CATHOLIC CHURCH

3955 ORANGE AVE., LONG BEACH, CA 90807 | 562-424-8595 | STBARNABASLB.ORG



Church@StBarnabasLB.org

Year A: Reading 808



## 1<sup>ST</sup> SUNDAY OF LENT



Then the devil took Jesus up to a very high mountain, and showed him all the kingdoms of the world in their magnificence, and he said to him, "All these I shall give to you, if you will prostrate yourself and worship me." - Mt 4:8-9

Excerpts from the Lectionary for Mass ©2001, 1998, 1970 CCD.

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**SAVE THE DATE: Parish Lenten Retreat**  
**Saturday: March 18th from 10am-4:30pm**  
**Led by: Rev. Joseph Miller, SVD**

### PARISH OFFICE HOURS:

**Mon-Fri: 9:30am-5:00pm**  
**Saturday: 8:30am-4:30pm**  
**Sunday: 7:30am-2:00pm**

### PASTOR:

**Rev. Dr. Antony Gaspar**

### ASSOC. PASTOR:

**Rev. Bernard Santiago**

**Business Manager: Sam Christi**

**Office Secretary: Dona Trenkle**

**Weekend Secretary: Andrea Marquez**

**Multimedia Coordinator: Olivia Baylen**

### \*\*\* NEW MASS TIMES \*\*\*

**Mon-Sat: 7:00am\***

**Sat Vigil: 5:00pm**

**Wed: 8:00am (School Mass)**

**Sun: 7:00am | 9:00am\***

**11:00am | 12:30pm**

### 1ST FRIDAY OF THE MONTH:

**Fri: 8:00am-9:00am Confessions**

**Adoration: 8:45am-12:00pm**

### 1ST SATURDAY OF THE MONTH:

**7:30am Novena to Our Lady of Fatima**

*\*denotes live-stream via YouTube*

### CONFESSION HOURS:

**Sat: 3:30pm-4:30pm**

For Infant Baptisms, Weddings, Funerals, & Anointing of the Sick, call the Parish Office: 562-424-8595

### NOVENAS / DEVOTIONS:

**Tues: 7:30am\* (Saint Joseph)**

**Wed: 7:30am\* (Our Lady of Perpetual Help)**

### PARISH MISSION STATEMENT

*"We, the Catholic Community of Saint Barnabas Parish, are a people formed by Christ, called in Baptism and united in the Eucharist; we continue the mission of the Church in the world through Prayer, Apostolic Works, Evangelization, and Christian Stewardship."*

## OUR PATRON, SAINT BARNABAS

Barnabas sacrificed himself to be instrumental in God's cultivation of His Church. Paul makes specific mention of the fact that Barnabas, who willingly impoverished himself in the interests of the Church, labored with his own hands to support himself on his missionary journeys. In Acts 4:36, Luke translates Barnabas to mean "son of encouragement" or "son of consolation." The original Greek word rendered "encouragement," *paraklesis*, means encouragement, consolation, comfort, exhortation and entreaty. It may be that the Apostles who gave Joseph the name Barnabas, saw all of these qualities in his character.

## PARISH MINISTRIES

Adoration Coordinator	Faye R
Altar Servers (Youth)	Erika M
Baptism (Infants)	Jay G
Boy Scouts Pack 32 Cub Scouts Pack 32	Laura L/Chris C
Bulletin/Website/Social Media/Publications	Olivia B
CANA Marriage Renewal Movement	Bernie M
Coffee & Holy Donuts	Bill M
Cornerstone Crew	Dave A
Couples for Christ	Roy R/Faye R
Divine Mercy Apostolate	Itima E
Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion	Sam C/Helen C
Filipino-American Association	Gene L
Finance Council	Espi G
Girl Scouts Troop #4283	Jessica C
Holy Name Society	Bob F
I.T. Resource Team	David A
Knights of Columbus #3449	Greg C
Lectors	Marina C
Legion of Mary	Barbara F
Liturgical Music Coordinator	Call Parish Office
Marian Cenacle M.M.P.	Mary C S/Mary S
Ministry of Consolation	Susan C
Mother Theresa Choir	Benildo T
Our Lady of Perpetual Help Novena	Armando P/Gigi L
Our Lady Queen of Peace	Tricia J
Pastoral Council	Darrell S
Planning/Building Team	Sean F
Project Achieve	Michelle S
RCIA/Adult Sacraments	Andrea M/Susana M
Respect Life	Robert K
Sacristans	Sahlee B/Armando P
Safeguard the Children	Elizabeth C
Ushers & Greeters	Darrell S
Wedding/Quinceañera Rehearsal Coordinator	Deb R
Worship Environment	Olivia A

FOR MINISTRY INQUIRIES, or to view our complete listing, please visit [www.stbarnabaslb.org/ministries](http://www.stbarnabaslb.org/ministries) or call our Parish Office.

## PARISH REGISTRATION

We encourage you to register as a Parishioner. To be an "Active" member at our Parish, is to participate in the life of prayer and stewardship. Being a parishioner enables a person to be eligible to sponsor a child for Baptism, to receive financial aid for Catholic Education, to be Married in the Parish, book a Funeral/Memorial Mass and to prepare one's children for the Sacraments. All adults over the age of 21, living with their parents or on their own, are encouraged to register as well. Visit our website to register!

### FAKE TEXT MSG/SPAM E-MAILS

If you received a text message or E-Mail claiming it's from Fr. Antony and/or Staff, asking for money, gift cards or asking for your help, **THIS IS A HOAX! PLEASE IGNORE SUCH MESSAGES (pretending to be our Priest or Staff)** Don't reply to them and immediately delete it. Please ALERT the Parish Office. Thanks for your cooperation.



## CALLED TO RENEW

Called to Renew is a historic, five-year campaign to strengthen parishes, families, and communities through unity and action; together we commit to renewing what is important so we can pass it on to those who we love.

Called to Renew is a bold plan to strengthen every parish and Catholic center in the Archdiocese of Los Angeles, vital ministries that serve thousands each year, education and formation for our children, and the support of Priests and those discerning the call.

More information, visit:  
***CalledToRenew.org***



## FINANCIAL BLESSINGS

02/12/23: \$ 6,532.00  
02/19/23: \$ not avail

Faith-Direct  
Bi-Weekly  
Contribution: \$ 6,808.80  
Period: 1/16 – 1/31

Thanks for your prayerful giving. Your donation supports the operations of our Parish Community.



### Monthly Flower Donors for Tabernacle & our Blessed Mother:

***Deli Marrujo***  
*February 21-April 1*



### ALTAR FLOWERS SPONSORS:

No Sponsor this week.

*Contact the Parish Office  
If you would like to  
Sponsor Altar Flowers!*



**SPIRITUAL COMMUNION:** My Jesus, I believe that You are present in the Most Holy Sacrament. I love You above all things, and I desire to receive You into my soul. Since I cannot at this moment receive You sacramentally, come at least spiritually into my heart. I embrace You as if You were already there and unite myself wholly to You. Never permit me to be separated from You. Amen.

### ST. BARNABAS SCHOOL



Office: (562) 424-7476  
Fax: (562) 981-3351  
3980 Marron Avenue  
Long Beach, CA 90807

**Principal: Jennifer Kellam**  
[jkellam@stbarnabas.school](mailto:jkellam@stbarnabas.school)  
[www.school.stbarnabaslb.org](http://www.school.stbarnabaslb.org)

### PRE-SCHOOL / DAYCARE

Main: (562) 988-8481

### RELIGIOUS EDUCATION & CONFIRMATION

Office: (562) 988-6855

1130 Marshall Place  
Long Beach, CA 90807  
(Office located upstairs of Parish Center)

Interim R.E. Coordinator: **Sandra Solis**  
**562-988-6855** Office  
[religiouseducation@stbarnabaslb.org](mailto:religiouseducation@stbarnabaslb.org)

Confirmation/Youth Ministry Coordinator:  
**Emmanuel Magallanes**  
213-948-7762 cell/text  
[confirmation@stbarnabaslb.org](mailto:confirmation@stbarnabaslb.org)  
[youthministry@stbarnabaslb.org](mailto:youthministry@stbarnabaslb.org)



## ●MARK YOUR CALENDAR

02/26: Coffee & Donuts 8am-11am/Parish Center  
 03/04: MTFC Pancake Breakfast at AppleBee's/8a-10a  
 03/12: Daylight Savings Time! Spring 1-hour ahead!  
 03/16: Fr. Antony's Birthday!  
 03/18: Parish Lenten Retreat/10am-4:30pm/Mass 5pm  
 03/24-25: SBS Spring Event! Moana Jr.

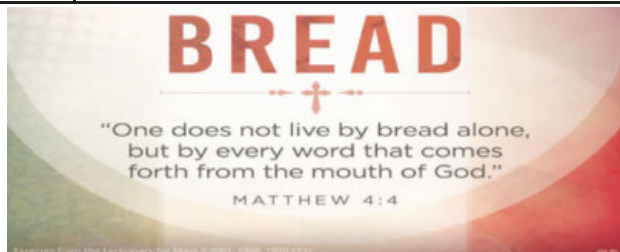
### All Fridays during Lent:

Stations of the Cross: 5:30pm / Lenten Mass: 6pm  
 Fish Fry: 6:15pm-8pm/Hall

## ●WEEKLY MASS INTENTIONS

*Book Mass Intentions via Website, E-mail or by Phone. (+ indicates deceased) Send requests at least 2 weeks in advance, to be listed. Some names may not reflect above, due to early print deadlines or last-minute requests.*

Sat. Feb 25 5:00p.m.	Birthday: Rita Maravilla Repose: +Emmanuel Memije; +Marcellinus Huy Vu; +Dominic Ba Vu; +Maria Thanh Nguyen; +Anthony Ly Vu
Sun. Feb 26 7:00 a.m.	Birthday: Virgil Sangria; Yolanda Theriault Thanksgiving: Sangria Family Special Intentions: Avery Morgia Repose: +Roy Poblete
9:00 a.m.	All Parishioners (no other bookings)
11:00 a.m.	Birthday: Marcos Villas Thanksgiving: Feb Rushing; Roberto & Thelma Coronado & Family Repose: +Rosario Ocampo; +Manuel J. Torrez Death Anniversary: +Luis G. Figueiredo
12:30 p.m.	Birthday: Agyn Atienza; Feb Rushing Repose: +Beatriz Ruiz
Mon. Feb 27	Repose: +Carmen Alvarado Death Anniversary: +Damaso Oracion
Tues. Feb 28	Birthday: Amelia Joya Repose: +Baldomero Monteverde Sr.
Wed. Mar 1	OLPH Devotees Healing: John Fitzpatrick Special Intentions: Gracie Mae Gross
Thur. Mar 2	Thanksgiving: Mikee Ponce Repose: +Jonathan Azul Sabate
Fri. Mar 3	Birthday: Darien Marujo Thanksgiving: Christine Marie Angeles Special Intentions: Kayla Trenkle and Family
Sat. Mar 4 7:00 a.m.	Thanksgiving: Our Lady of Fatima Devotees Repose: +Alexandra Gillette; +Julia Noronha; +Ernesto Medina



## ●IN MEMORY OF

Beda P. Abatay  
 Pope Emeritus Benedict XVI  
 Susan & Estrella Sarte  
 Mel Franklin  
 Jose I Valenzuela  
 Carmelita A Orsoe  
 Alan Clark  
 Bishop David O'Connell

Violeta Belen Fimalino  
 Alice Marcella McNevin  
 Nora French  
 Agripina Mancilla  
 Antonio Edles Sr.  
 Javier Lopez  
 Carmen Alvarado

## ●TODAY'S READINGS: YR. A / 808

**First Reading** — The man and the woman ate the fruit of the one tree that God had told them to avoid, and their shame overtook them (Genesis 2:7-9; 3:1-7).

**Psalm** — Have mercy on us sinners, O Lord (Psalm 51).

**Second Reading** — Death reigned from Adam to Moses, but now grace and life abound in Christ Jesus (Romans 5:12-19 [12, 17-19]).

**Gospel** — Jesus was led into the desert by the Spirit and there he fasted for forty days and forty nights (Matthew 4:1-11).

## ●READINGS FOR THE WEEK

Monday: Lv 19:1-2, 11-18; Ps 19:8-10, 15;  
 Mt 25:31-46  
 Tuesday: Is 55:10-11; Ps 34:4-7, 16-19; Mt 6:7-15  
 Wednesday: Jon 3:1-10; Ps 51:3-4, 12-13, 18-19;  
 Lk 11:29-32  
 Thursday: Est C:12, 14-16, 23-25; Ps 138:1-3, 7c-8;  
 Mt 7:7-12  
 Friday: Ez 18:21-28; Ps 130:1-8; Mt 5:20-26  
 Saturday: Dt 26:16-19; Ps 119:1-2, 4-5, 7-8;  
 Mt 5:43-48  
 Sunday: Gn 12:1-4a; Ps 33:4-5, 18-20, 22;  
 2 Tm 1:8b-10; Mt 17:1-9

## ●PRAYERS FOR HEALING

Ken Augustine, Connie Edwards, Mary Pearson, Betty Chrysler, Kathy Wachter, Sherrie & Heather Wren, Augusto David, Barbara Hendren, Roxanne, Don, Danny & Mike Batovsky, Josh & Pam Batovsky, Cesar Giron, Robert Carambelas, Hector Gustilo, Rose de los Reyes, Alvino Jauregui, Tina Quinn\*, Bridget Vanderwerff, Carmela Chiurazzi, Eva Talastas, Bill & Gloria Dorsey, MaryAnn Salas\*, Lydia Clark, Ted & Terri Furlow, Maxym Velazquez, Bill & Connie Dobberpuhl, Phillip Reher, Lucy Galletes\*, Elizabeth N. Gabrillo\*, Florencio "Junn" Gabrillo Jr.\*, Lorna E Declines\*, Lydia "Julie" Estrada\*, Leo Ascuncion\*, Sue Ann Estrada-Tumakay\*, Arsenia "Paz" Estrada, Nelia N Estrada, Mario & Mely Visperas, Natividad S Fernandez, Michelle G. S., Maribella V.\*, Joan Ingram\*, Bridget Panek, Zoraida Ramos, Dixie Moran, Alberto Toledo, Michele Bartels, Andrea Noir, Rita Valle Moreno, Sr. Deonilda, Victor Adolfo Bracamonte, Jillian Adriano, Maria Linda Evans\*, Arlene G. Monaco\*, Keith Wieland, Pat Madden, Arsenia "Paz" Estrada, T. McQuire, Nathaniel Espinoza, Emmanuel Sarte, Soji VS, Maria Hainey, Edwin de Lara\*, Danilo Masangkay, George S\*, Liza & Michael Cabrea, Katrina Sabate, Theresa Sabate, Luciano Sabate, Rose Sabate, Mary & Chris Divinaflor S., Avery Morgia, Adam Koffler, John Cuico Sr.\*, Mia\*, Veda, Louie Reyes, Samuel Chavez, Juan Carlos Vincent, Rhyann & Camille, Gretchen Hetzler

List updates every 4-6 months. If you would like to be added or RE-ADDED to our prayer list, please email [church@stbarnabaslb.org](mailto:church@stbarnabaslb.org). Names w/asterisks denotes inclusion to St. Peregrine (patron Saint of cancer) prayer list as well.

## ●COFFEE & DONUTS: 8am-11am

Coffee and Holy Donuts will be served this Sunday: **February 26th** at the Parish Center.

Hosted by: Fr. Bernard's Bible Study Group



## ●MTFC PANCAKE BREAKFAST!!!

Please join the Mother Theresa Foundation Choir for a Pancake Breakfast Fundraiser for St. Barnabas!

**Saturday, March 4th at**  
**Applebee's Spring St/Atlantic**  
**Service Time : 8am - 10am only**  
**\$12 /plate**

Pancake, eggs, bacon or sausage, oj or coffee



## ●MISSALETTES FOR SALE

We still have Missalettes available for purchase for \$25/each. This is a complete Missal book with all three cycles, so no need to purchase every year! Please visit our Parish Office or call: 562-424-8595 or E-mail: church@stbarnabaslb.org

## ●PENNIES FOR THE POOR

**“Pennies for the Poor” has returned!**

This popular program has returned and is in full swing! The purpose of this program is to teach the children the joy of giving back to God out of gratitude for all that God has given to them. We invite all our children to prayerfully consider collecting any loose changes (ie. coins, bills), and at each Sunday mass, during the Offertory, they will be invited to come to the Altar to place their gifts in a special basket placed in front of the Altar. This collection will be towards supporting the poor and orphan children for their various needs. For info, contact the Parish Office.



## ●LENTEN REFLECTION BOOKS

This 6-minute daily reflection guide is available for purchase for \$2/each. This will also be sold after all the Sunday Masses, or stop by the Parish Office.

## ●PASTOR'S MESSAGE

### CALLED TO RENEW CAMPAIGN

Blessings to you! We are in exciting times as a faith community in Southern California! Our Archbishop Jose Gomez has called us all to a period of renewal — a renewal of our spiritual life and our resources. In response to this invitation, I am pleased to announce the launch of our Parish's Called to Renew campaign. This historic effort will provide much-needed funding for parishes throughout the Archdiocese of Los Angeles, including ours, and strengthen essential ministries and programs that affect us.

Through God's grace, we have grown from the initial small faith community into a large welcoming parish of vibrant, active, and dynamic parishioners of all ages. We are passionate about our faith, excel in service, and are dedicated to sharing the Good News as they connect us with Christ, one another, and those in need.

We are now launching the Called to Renew campaign alongside every Parish in the Archdiocese of Los Angeles and ask God to bless this ambitious effort. Our campaign will allow us to address the needs of our Parish, ensuring future generations of parishioners may continue to gather, worship, and create lasting friendships.

**The goal for our 5-year campaign is \$1,500,000 of which \$1,000,000 will remain with us at our Parish to address our needs. We will also retain 100 percent of the funds we collect over our goal.**



I am asking you, and every member of our Parish, to make a gift from the heart. As your pastor and fellow parishioner, I will also make a sacrificial pledge. Before you determine your pledge, please prayerfully consider the generosity God has shown you, and the importance of the mission we have been given at St. Barnabas Church.

I realize this request is significant but trust your commitment to our Parish, and our Catholic faith will guide you to make a sacrificial gift. Called to Renew is essential to ensuring our church is vibrant and healthy, and our Parish remains a presence in the lives of parishioners and the community for years to come. I hope you will join me in supporting this historic campaign.

Thank you in advance for your faithful support.  
 Sincerely, —Fr. Antony



*A direct Fund has also been set-up via Faith Direct, so you can also donate via online for convenience.*



## •LOS ANGELES ARCHDIOCESE

Most Reverend José H. Gomez  
Archbishop of Los Angeles

Hall of Justice  
Los Angeles, California  
February 20, 2023

I want to thank you all for being here, and especially for your concern for Bishop David O'Connell.

Bishop Dave was a good friend to Los Angeles.

Out of his love for God, he served this city for more than forty years, as an immigrant from Ireland. And I would say that among the many things that I admired in him in his life and ministry was that he was fluent in Spanish with an Irish accent.

Every day he worked to show compassion to the poor, to the homeless, to the immigrant, and to all those living on society's margins.

He was a good priest and a good bishop, and a man of peace. And we are very sad to lose him.

I am very grateful to Sheriff Luna and to his investigative team for their hard work in bringing a suspect into custody.

So on behalf of the entire Catholic community, we want to express our gratitude for the Sheriff's Office, for their professionalism and sensitivity in what is a sad and painful moment for all of us.

Thank you again for your concern and for your coverage.

And please, let us keep praying for Bishop Dave and his family. And let's keep praying for our law enforcement officials as they continue their investigation. And let's pray for our great city.

Thank you.

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Statement on Los Angeles Sheriff's Determination that the Death of Auxiliary Bishop David O'Connell was a Homicide

Most Reverend José H. Gomez  
Archbishop of Los Angeles

February 19, 2023

We learned early this morning from the Los Angeles County Sheriff's office that they have determined that the death of Auxiliary Bishop David O'Connell yesterday was a homicide. We are deeply disturbed and saddened by this news.

Let us continue to pray for Bishop Dave and his family. And let us pray for law enforcement officials as they continue their investigation into this terrible crime.

We ask Our Blessed Mother Mary to intercede and be a mother for all of us in this moment of sadness and pain.

## •TAX CONTRIBUTION REQUESTS

### TAX LETTERS / CHURCH CONTRIBUTIONS

If you would like to obtain a copy of your 2022 Church Contributions, please e-mail us at: [church@stbarnabaslb.org](mailto:church@stbarnabaslb.org) (preferred, that way we can E-mail your copy faster).



You can also call our Parish Office and leave your full name, address & phone number and we can mail them out. **We will not be sending them out automatically.** These records may or may not reflect some fundraising donations. We can certainly modify your totals, just let us know. Or better yet, also refer to your own bank statements to accompany with your Church contributions. Thanks for your patience and your continued support to our Parish. **Faith Direct Subscribers: It will be mailed to you directly!**

## •PASSION RE-ENACTMENT

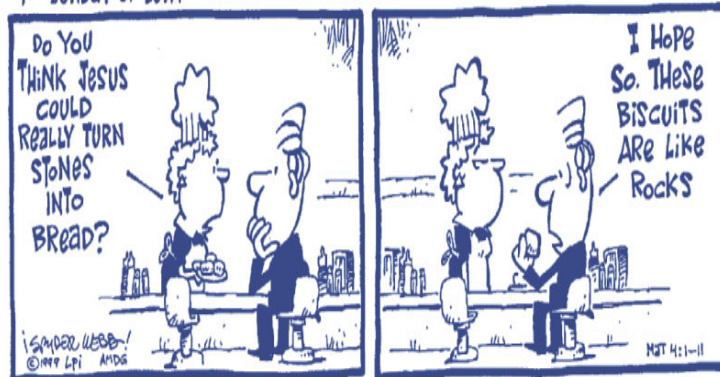
### WE NEED VOLUNTEERS!

Passion Play Re-enactment is back! Eric Lauritzen kindly agreed to be our director. All those who are interested in participating, we will hold practices every Tuesday and Thursday evenings at 7pm inside the Church. Looking for all ages, especially youth! Call our Parish Office for more details! 562-424-8595



**Practice begins on: February 28th  
7:00PM (Meet inside the Church)**

1ST SUNDAY OF LENT



## •CONGRATULATIONS!

### MONTHLY WEDDING ANNIVERSARIES:

Feb 19: Franco & Julie Atienza (45yrs)



### NEW PARISHIONERS:

Nimfa Bederio, Sherwin Camba & Yen Nguyen Camba, Pedro Franco & Zaira Tinoco Franco, Amalia Nynez, Patty Hayes, Edward Mendoza, Daniel & Raquel Szamrej, Maria Zelaya

Email us Names, year you're celebrating, along with your Wedding Anniversary date to: [church@stbarnabaslb.org](mailto:church@stbarnabaslb.org)



# Knights of Columbus®

**ALL  
FRIDAY  
EVENINGS  
DURING  
LENT!**



**50/50 Raffles!**

**\$14 Adults  
\$13 Seniors  
\$8 Children**

**6:15pm-8:00pm  
Parish Hall**

**"To-Go" Orders  
Available!**

**MARK YOUR CALENDAR FOR THESE UPCOMING EVENTS:**

**April 29: Annual Rummage Sale**

**June 17: Annual Car Wash**

*\*more info to come...*

**Handmade Blanket end-event raffle!**





*St. Barnabas Church Presents...*

# PARISH LENTEN RETREAT

**SATURDAY: MARCH 18, 2023 | 10:00AM to 4:30PM**

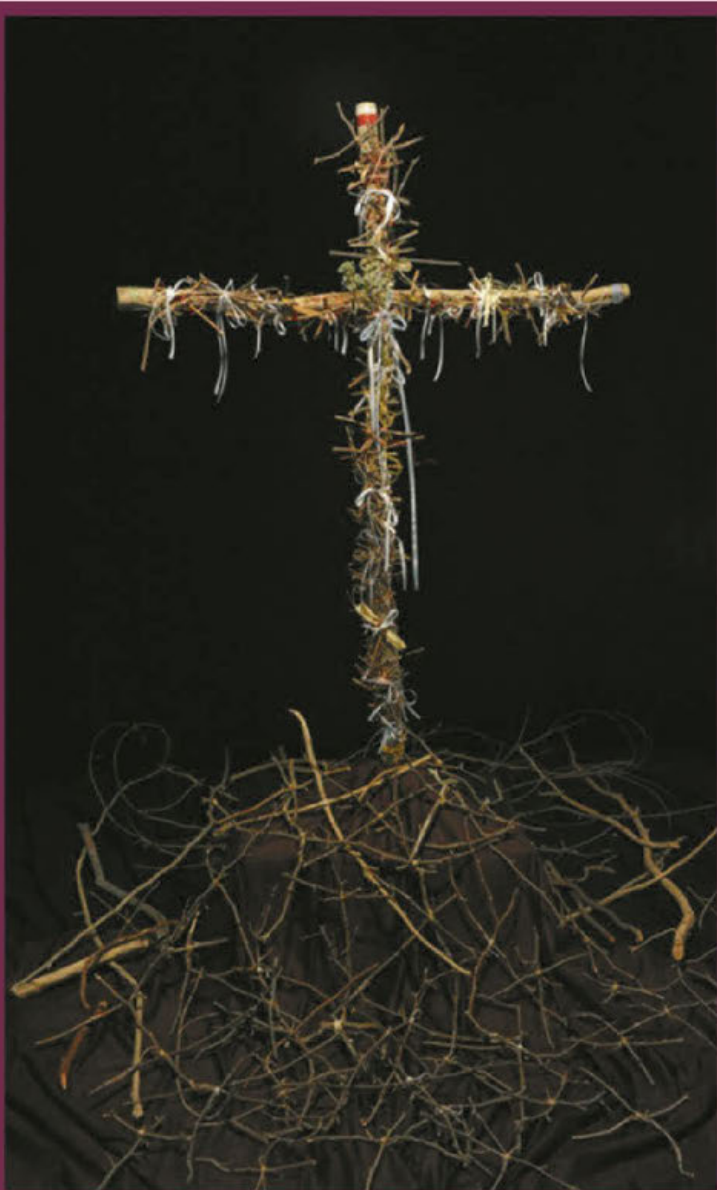
with

**Fr. Joseph Miller, SVD****3955 Orange Avenue, Long Beach, CA 90807  
562-424-8595**

Join us for a quiet and reflective experience to enhance your Lenten Journey.

Our reflection draws us to the Sacred Events remembered in the life of Jesus from His Agony in the Garden through His scourging, condemnation, journey to the cross, persecution, death, burial and His Resurrection.

You will find the presentations simple, profound and prayerful. They help us focus on the Sacred Events remembered in the Sorrowful Mysteries of the Rosary. We will point out some of the Characteristics in the Spirituality of Jesus and Mary which enabled them to embrace their pain. In doing so, we are reminded how our spirituality sustains us.

**Lunch is provided | Adoration & Confessions: 3:30pm - 4:30pm | Mass: 5:00pm****[www.stbarnabaslb.org](http://www.stbarnabaslb.org)**

## ●CATHOLIC PRAYER CORNER

### PRAYER DURING LENT

Holy God,  
now is the acceptable time to return to you.  
As we walk the path of these forty days,  
may we turn away from sin  
and embrace a life of goodness and truth.  
Strengthen us on our Lenten journey  
and keep us focused on the cross and  
resurrection  
of your Son, our Savior and Redeemer.  
He is Lord forever and ever. Amen.

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## ●WEEKLY REFLECTION

### WHO WE ARE AND WHOSE WE ARE

The Lenten season is a fresh invitation to explore again who God is, who we are, and what it means to be human. We begin by hearing the tragic story of the first humans in the book of Genesis. As Paul describes in Romans, our struggles started when our ancestors broke the bond of unity with God, sought self-sufficiency, and grew apart from their true purpose and identity. In Matthew's Gospel, we see how Jesus resists the lure of living outside of unity with God. Jesus rejects false promises of possessions, power, and status. Instead, he puts his life in his Father's hands. As our model for living as a fully human person, Jesus demonstrates that we are created to live in relationship with and trust in God, and in harmony with and for all of creation.

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## ●SAINTS & SPECIAL OBSERVANCES

Sunday:	First Sunday of Lent
Monday:	St. Gregory of Narek; Julian Calendar Lent begins
Friday:	St. Katharine Drexel; Abstinence; First Friday; World Day of Prayer
Saturday:	St. Casimir; First Saturday

## ●FEBRUARY YOUTH MINISTRY

02/06:	Game Night / Study Hall
02/13:	Black History Month (discussion)
02/20:	<u>NO</u> MEETING / President's Holiday!
02/27:	Discuss Lent / Prayer Night

Follow all things Youth Ministry on IG: @stbarnabaslb\_ym  
E-mail for more info: youthministry@stbarnabaslb.org

## ●OUR FASCINATING FAITH

### LENT

One of the liturgical reforms mandated at the Second Vatican Council was that the focus of the season of Lent should be restored as a time of preparation for—or renewal of—baptism. The bishops at the Council were aware of the fact that the origins of Lent as a distinctive liturgical season lay in the early centuries when the Church celebrated the sacraments of Christian initiation only once a year, at the Easter Vigil. In order to prepare those who were to receive those sacraments, a special period of preparation (eventually lasting forty days) gradually developed.

By the time of the Second Vatican Council, the initiatory character of Lent had long been forgotten, and it had become simply a time of penance focused on individual spiritual renewal. The introduction of the Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults and the revision of the Lectionary after the Council have changed all of that. Now the Sunday scripture readings during Lent are very carefully selected with an eye to the journey of those preparing to be initiated at the Easter Vigil. Once again, the entire community is asked to undergo penance in solidarity with the candidates for Baptism, Confirmation, and Eucharist.

Thus, in order to appreciate fully the meaning of the readings during this season, the “filter” through which they must be heard is always the knowledge that we are helping to prepare our sisters and brothers in the catechumenate for their initiation at the Easter Vigil.

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## ●FREE CATHOLIC RESOURCES

We have several FREE pamphlets at the entrances of the church that you can use to deepen your faith and also share with others. Read them and pass them along to share about our Catholic Faith.

- \* Welcome: Thank You for Coming
- \* Why Be Catholic?
- \* 10 Things That Make For a Great Catholic Family
- \* What is Catholic Social Teaching?
- \* Are You Thinking About Becoming Catholic?





# (PRACTICING) CATHOLIC

## Formed and Fallen

There is a version of myself that walks into church on Ash Wednesday and a version of myself that walks into church on Good Friday. Aside from having the same face, these women bear very little resemblance to one another.

Ash Wednesday Me is fired up. She's ready to go. She's got a stomach full of pączki, a forehead full of ashes, an oven full of fasting bread and a whole list of Lenten resolutions. She's got a plan for the next 40 days and she's ready to be transformed.

Good Friday Me is tired. She's lumbering into church dragging six weeks of failure and unfulfilled expectations behind her. Nothing went the way it was supposed to (again). She didn't accomplish what she wanted (again) and she doesn't want to dwell on it (again).

If Satan offered both versions of myself the same deal he offered Christ — submit to me, and you will have the whole world — I have to wonder: which one of these creatures, formed and fallen, would be strong enough to defy him? Would either?

I can't say that the chipper, optimistic woman on Ash Wednesday has more strength than the tired woman on Good Friday. To each of these women Satan offers an easy way out. But to each, too, Christ offers an abundance of grace and the gift of justification.

This Lent, I know that I will be tested. I know that I will fail in many ways. I know that my intentions and my best efforts will not be enough.

But I bring them to the altar anyway, and I leave them there as an offering. And I know that Easter morning will dawn, and the tomb will be empty.

*"The gift is not like the transgression."*  
— Romans 5:15

Colleen Jurkiewicz Dorman

## Why do we do that? Catholic Life Explained

### Question:

Can you recommend some good books for Lenten spiritual reading?

### Answer:

On more than one occasion, a coach being interviewed about his team--successful or not--will be asked about the next step. The inevitable response includes something about getting back to basics. Reviewing the fundamentals of the sport strengthens performance and builds confidence.

The best Lenten reading takes us back to the fundamentals. If Lent is the time for the Church to be on retreat, then we should focus on the texts that help us deepen our understanding of our faith. Spend time reading one of the Gospels and use a Scripture commentary to learn all you can about the passion of Jesus. Read about the lives of the saints, especially your patron saint and that of your parish. Perhaps there is some local candidate for sainthood, like Father Walter Cizek, SJ, who wrote several faith-inspiring books. Finally, you can use the Catechism of the Catholic Church to learn more about the church's teachings and beliefs. The sections on prayer and the Mass are really great reflections. Focusing on the basics really helps us take another step forward in our faith. We have not only a better understanding of what we believe and practice, but also why we believe. With that belief comes the confidence we need to be better, more faithful witnesses to Christ.

## ●FR. BERNARD'S BIBLE STUDY

Greetings to everyone. I am happy to inform you that we are resuming our bible study! We will be dedicating this year to study the books of the Old Testament and we begin the book of Genesis in February for 8 weeks until the Holy Week and after Easter break, we will study the book of Exodus. You are very welcome to join the Bible study. After going through the technical challenges of both in person and online session at the same time, I, after discussing with Fr. Antony, would like to dedicate two days (Wednesday and Thursday) for our bible study in a week.

**Therefore online zoom sessions will be on Wednesdays at 7 PM and in-person sessions will be on Thursdays at 7 PM in the parish hall.** The course is absolutely free. St. Barnabas is truly honored to offer this course for anyone who wants to enrich themselves in the Word of God during the holy season of Lent and Easter.

-Fr. Bernard

**Contact the Parish Office at 562-424-8595 for more info or E-mail directly to: [biblestudy@stbarnabaslb.org](mailto:biblestudy@stbarnabaslb.org) to be added to distribution list.**

## ●LENTEN FRIDAY ACTIVITIES

Join us every Friday during Lent! The following are sponsored by some of our active Ministries at our Parish. Thanks to all the groups who are participating.

**5:30pm: Stations of the Cross**  
**6:00pm: Lenten Mass**



The Knights of Columbus will be having their Fish Fry at the Parish Hall from 6:15pm-8:00pm too!

### Friday 2/24

Hosted by: Divine Mercy Apostolate  
& Consolation Ministry

### Friday 3/3

Hosted by: Marian Cenacle MMP  
& Legion of Mary

### Friday 3/10

Hosted by: St. Barnabas School

### Friday 3/17

Knights of Columbus #3449

### Friday 3/24

Hosted by: Holy Name Society  
& Filipino-American Association

### Friday 3/31

Hosted by: Confirmation/Youth

## ●ST. BARNABAS SCHOOL NEWS

### STUDENT NON-DISCRIMINATION POLICY

The 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.

The 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 the 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.

*[Note that this School Student Non-Discrimination Policy does not provide nor imply that the archdiocese waives any legal exceptions or exemptions that may apply to it as a religious nonprofit organization.]*

This Catholic Elementary School publishes the above policy in the staff and parent/student handbooks, public relations/recruitment brochures and in other publications such as the parish bulletin and school newspaper. The school also publishes applicable grievance procedures in the staff and parent/student handbooks.

## ●CHILDREN'S LITURGY

**THE RELIGIOUS EDUCATION PROGRAM** is now offering **CHILDREN'S LITURGY** on **SUNDAYS in the Parish Hall.**

Children in 1st - 5th grade are welcome to attend.

**Every Sunday at the 9:00am Mass,** the children will be invited to go to the Parish Hall to reflect on the word of God and will return to the Mass at the Prayers of the Faithful. Any questions, call our Rel. Ed Office at: 562-988-6855.



### 1st SUNDAY OF LENT







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