



ST. BARNABAS CATHOLIC CHURCH

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

SUNDAY, MARCH 26, 2023

5[™] SUNDAY OF LENT

610

Jesus told her, "I am the resurrection and the life; whoever believes in me, even if he dies, will live."

- Jn 11:25

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

IMPORTANT ANNOUNCEMENTS:

March 28: Lenten Penance Service 6:30pm-9:00pm Look for our Holy Week Schedule on page 7

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.

who gave Joseph the na	me Barnabas, saw a				
PARISH MIN	IISTRIES				
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 <u>MINISTRY INQUIRIES</u>, or to view our complete listing, please visit *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. 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 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

\$ 6,673.00 03/12/23:

Faith-Direct Bi-Weekly Contribution: \$ 9,009.04

Period: 2/16 - 2/28

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 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

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



MARK YOUR CALENDAR

03/26: Coffee & Donuts/8am-11am/Parish Center 03/26: Lenten Service Project Collection Day!

03/27: No School! (Teacher-in-Service)

03/28: Lenten Penance Service/6:30pm-9pm

04/02: Palm Sunday/blessing of palms & procession

All Fridays during Lent:

Stations of the Cross: 5:30pm / Lenten Mass: 6pm

Fish Fry: 6:15pm-9pm/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. Mar 25 5:00p.m.	Birthday: Juan Marquez Jr. Special Intentions: Brian Choice Repose: +Rene Pineda; +Archie Pineda 40th Day of Death: +Deo Oblepias
Sun. Mar 26 7:00 a.m.	Special Intentions: Avery Morgia; Dr. Mbagwu & Family Repose: +Antonina Cemania; +Jose Sohnza
9:00 a.m.	Repose: +Jake Summers; +Belinda Herdorn 1st Death Anniversary: +Ana Adamos; Robin Ruediger
11:00 a.m.	Repose: +Bonifacio, +Hermenia, & +Francis Avancena; +Florence Gotvald; +Rose Agbemenu
12:30 p.m.	All Parishioners
Mon. Mar 27	Repose: +Carmen Alvarado; +Jose Sohnza Death Anniversary: +Trinidad Medina
Tues. Mar 28	Birthday: Michael Crisostomo Repose: +Jose Palaganas; +Seiuli & +Maria Muagututia
	OLPH Devotees; Birthday: John Medina Repose: +Jose Sohnza 40th Day: +Bishop Dave O'Connell Death Anniversary: +Jeronimo Guevarra Sr.; +Gracia Mendoza
Thur. Mar 30	Thanksgiving: To all our Bible Study Students Repose: +Jose Sohnza
Fri. Mar 31	Repose: +Leonard Contreras
Sat. Apr 1 7:00 a.m.	Birthday: Mahlia Palaganas Thanksgiving: Our Lady of Fatima Devotees Repose: +Alexandra Gillette



• IN MEMORY OF Maria Mendez

Jose I Valenzuela Carmelita A Orsoe Alan Clark Mary Novotny Martha Martinez William Fargas Rosario S Estrera Maria Mendez
William Jeff Sr
Bishop David O'Connell
Sr. Gemma Magnetico, OP
Felix Diaz Sr
Jose Ocampo
Leonard M Contreras
Maria Hainey

•TODAY'S READINGS: YR. A / 820

First Reading — Thus says the LORD GOD: I will open your graves, have you rise from them, and settle you on your land. (Ezekiel 37:12-14).

Psalm — The Lord is kind and saves us (Psalm 130).

Second Reading — If Christ is in you, the spirit is alive even if the body is dead because of sin (Romans 8:8-11).

Gospel — Lazarus, dead for four days, came out of his tomb when Jesus called his name. Many of those who had seen what had happened began to believe in Jesus (John 11:1-45 [3-7, 17, 20-27, 33b-45]).

• READINGS FOR THE WEEK

Monday: Dn 13:1-9, 15-17, 19-30, 33-62 [41c-62];

Ps 23:1-6; Jn 8:1-11

Tuesday:Nm 21:4-9; Ps 102:2-3, 16-21; Jn 8:21-30

Wednesday: Dn 3:14-20, 91-92, 95; Dn 3:52-56;

Jn 8:31-42

Thursday: Gn 17:3-9; Ps 105:4-9: Jn 8:51-59

Friday: Jer 20:10-13; Ps 18:2-7; Jn 10:31-42 **Saturday:** Ez 37:21-28; Jer 31:10, 11-13; Jn 11:45-56

Sunday:Mt 21:1-11 (procession); Is 50:4-7; Ps 22:8-9, 17-20, 23-24; Phil 2:6-11; Mt 26:14 — 27:66 [27:11-

54]

•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, The Dorsey Family, 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, 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, Keith Wieland, Pat Madden, Arsenia "Paz" Estrada, T. McQuire, Nathaniel Espinoza, Emmanuel Sarte, Soji VS, 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, Emma Martinez, Mary Rende & Family, Jim Moore, Josephin, Cecilio Bautista, Emily Dunn*, Arlene Gerona Monaco*, Elizabeth Lazarte*, Owen Maternal*, Ernesto Corpuz*

List updates every 4-6 months. If you would like to be added or RE-ADDED to our prayer list, please email church@stbarnabasib.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: March 26th at the Parish Center. (cash only)

Hosted by: Infant Baptism Team

(subject to change at any time)



• TAX CONTRIBUTION REQUESTS TAX LETTERS / CHURCH CONTRIBUT

If you would like to obtain a copy of your 2022 Church Contributions, please e-mail us 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 accompany with your Church statements to contributions. Thanks for your patience and your continued support to our Parish. Faith Direct **Subscribers:** It will be mailed to you directly!

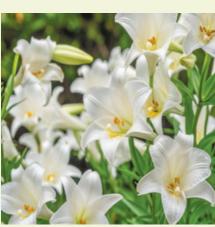
• MISSALETTES FOR SALE

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

• EASTER LILIES

DONATE EASTER LILIES FOR OUR ALTAR

If you would like to donate Easter Lilies to help make our Altar look festive, PLEASE DROP THEM OFF NEAR THE BAPTISMAL FONT DURING THE WEEK OF APRIL 2ND-8TH.



Please provide a note you whom would like to honor the flowers for and drop it in donation basket, or call/visit our Parish Office. We will book a free Mass Intention on no particular date, and we will choose according to what needs to be filled.

PASTOR'S MESSAGE CALLED TO RENEW CAMPAIGN

Blessings to you! We are in exciting times 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.

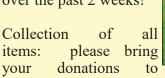
I realize this request is significant but trust your commitment to our Parish, and our Catholic faith will guide you to make a sacrificial gift. Called to Renew is essential to ensuring our church is vibrant and healthy, and our Parish remains a presence in the lives of parishioners and the community 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 FAITH DIRECT Direct, so you can also donate via online for convenience.

• LENTEN SERVICE PROJECT BE A "SIMON OF CYRENE" Hosted by: St. Barnabas Project Achieve Kitchen

Thanks to everyone who picked up a donation cross from our Simon of Cyrene boards over the past 2 weeks!





church on Sunday, 3/26. We will be in the parking lot (under a pop-up tent) after all masses on Sunday (approximately 7:30am-1:45pm).

We are grateful for the blessing that you are to those most in need. Thanks again.

RETURN YOUR DONATIONS ON: SUNDAY, MARCH 26TH FROM 7:30AM-1:30PM IN THE CHURCH PARKING LOT

• FIRST FRIDAY ADORATION EVERY 1ST FRIDAY OF THE MONTH

Come join us for meditative prayer before Our Lord in the Blessed Sacrament, every 1st Friday of the month, immediately after our School Mass, approximately beginning before 9am, until 12 Noon. Spend some quiet time with our Lord.

•FIRST SATURDAY NOVENA EVERY 1ST SATURDAY OF THE MONTH NOVENA TO OUR LADY OF FATIMA

Join us every 1st Saturday of the month, with a Novena in honor of Our Lady of Fatima <u>after</u> the 7:00am mass in the Church. All are welcome to join us in this special Marian Devotion.

• LENTEN PENANCE SERVICE



Please make an effort to attend our Lenten Penance Service on:

Tuesday, March 28th from 6:30pm-9:00pm. We will have various Priests available to hear your confession, as you continue your Lenten journey.



PURCHASE YOUR RAFFLE TICKET FOR A CHANCE TO WIN A BEAUTIFUL HANDMADE BLANKET!

• PARISH LENTEN RETREAT WITH FR. JOSEPH MILLER ON 3/18/23

We would like to thank Fr. Joseph Miller and guest, Esther, for visiting our Parish last Saturday for our Lenten Parish Retreat. It was very spiritual and helped us reflect and prepare for Easter. Thanks to everyone who attended and participated.



Good News!

March 26, 2023 Fifth Sunday of Lent (A) Ezekiel 37:12-14 / Romans 8:8-11 / John 11:1-45 or John 11:3-7, 17, 20-27, 33b-45

FR. JOSEPH JUKNIALIS

When I feel sorry for myself or just down in the dumps, when I feel buried by life not going the way I think it should, sometimes I remember to stop thinking about myself and my problems, and I say to myself, I need to go care about someone else. It seems that doing so pulls me out of that tomb of darkness and back into the light. Then I ask myself, Why didn't I do that sooner? The truth is, I didn't remember. But the very fact that I eventually do remember is the spirit of God dwelling within me that pulls me back into life, just as Paul once wrote (Romans 8:9 and the verses afterward). It's like hearing a voice calling me out of a dreary tomb of death, just as sure as Lazarus heard Jesus calling him out.

Have you experienced times when your spirit feels deader than dead, but then someone or something calls you back into life? I have. When that happens to us, I think we've been blessed with a hint of the resurrection. When I find myself wondering if there is really life beyond death, if resurrection really does happen to us, then I think about all the times that what I thought was a death turned out to be some unexpected doorway to new life. If that happens with such little deaths along the way, wouldn't it also happen on our last day on this earth? •

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•R.C.I.A. CANDIDATES

Let us pray for these elect whom the Church has confidently chosen. May they successfully complete their long preparation and at the paschal feast find Christ in His Sacraments. Let us keep them all in our prayers.



Angela DeLaCruz Antonio Ortega Elizabeth Ruiz Eloisa Barragan Gerardo Martinez Jose Suarez Krystal Cabrera Maribel Salazar Mary Lopez Nichole Cord



Dear Padre

March 26, 2023

Are Catholic religious orders dying?

Yes...and no.

In Africa and Asia, some religious orders are vibrant, with orders of men and women religious increasing in number. In the United States, Europe, and Oceania, it's a different story. As many as 300 of the 420 institutes of women religious in the US are in their final decades of existence (Leadership Conference of Women Religious, 2019). One-third of all women's congregations in the US have fewer than fifty members. In the US, sisters over age ninety far outnumber those under sixty. Consequently, many communities fall short of the number of active ministers needed to replace their elderly and retiring members. The story is similar for many orders of religious men.

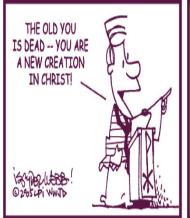
As those in religious orders struggle to remain effective in their mission and ministry for God and humanity, they are reimagining styles of leadership, levels of administration, and, in short, ways of getting the job done. This includes, for example, creative partnerships with laypeople to share in the charism, community life, and ministry of the religious order.

People are still drawn to Jesus and the work of building the kingdom. Only God knows how this "building process" will look in the future. As in all challenging times, the Church remains hopeful. From crisis comes resurrection!

- Fr. Byron Miller, CSsR / DearPadre.org

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5TH SUNDAY IN LENT





•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-9:00pm 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



FR. ANTONY'S SILVER JUBILEE

PLEASE SAVE THE DATE

Sun. May 21, 2023

11:00am Mass

Reception After

St. Barnabas Catholic Church 3955 Orange Avenue | Long Beach, CA 90807



• PALM SUNDAY

SATURDAY: APRIL 1

Vigil Mass: 5:00pm / Blessing of Palms & Procession

SUNDAY: APRIL 2

7am Mass / 9am Mass / 11am Mass / 12:30pm Mass

• HOLY THURSDAY

THURSDAY: APRIL 6

NO 7:00am daily Mass / 7:00am Prayers led by Priest 7:00pm Mass / "Mass of the Last Supper"

Process to the Hall after Mass for Adoration & Night Prayers 8:45pm-10:45pm

• GOOD FRIDAY

FRIDAY: APRIL 7 (Special Holy Land Collection)

NO 7:00am daily Mass / 7:00am Prayers led by Priest

12:00pm / Stations of the Cross led by Priest

12:30pm Services only / Veneration of the Cross

3:00pm / Meditations: 7 Last Words of Jesus

5:00pm / Stations of the Cross led by Priest

5:30pm Services only / Veneration of the Cross

7:30pm / Live Stations of the Cross Passion Play

• EASTER VIGIL

SATURDAY: APRIL 8

NO 7:00am daily Mass / 7:00am Prayers led by Priest NO 5:00pm Mass

7:30pm Easter Vigil Mass

• EASTER SUNDAY

SUNDAY: APRIL 9

7am Mass / 9am Mass / 11am Mass / 12:30pm Mass

• WEDDING ANNIVERSARIES FREE MONTHLY FEATURE!

If you would like to celebrate your Wedding Anniversary, by featuring it in our bulletin, please Email us your full names, year you're celebrating, along wedding with your anniversary date church@stbarnabaslb.org, ATTN: BULLETIN

If you would like to book a Mass Intention for it, please contact the Parish Office to book your date. Donation cost is \$10 per Mass Intention. 562-424-8595

• CATHOLIC PRAYER CORNER

PRAYER BEFORE A CRUCIFIX

Look down upon me, good and gentle Jesus while before your face I humbly kneel, and with burning soul pray and beseech you to fix deep in my heart lively sentiments of faith, hope, and charity; true contrition for my sins, and a firm purpose of amendment.

While I contemplate with great love and pity, your five most precious wounds, pondering over them within me, I call to mind the words which David, your prophet, said of you, my good Jesus: "They have pierced my hands and my feet, they have numbered all my bones."

WEEKLY REFLECTION

LIFE FROM GOD

As we approach Holy Week, our readings speak of a God who, in the midst of death, brings new life to the people. In Ezekiel, we hear that God will open the graves of the people of Israel, who faced near extinction. In the Gospel of John, Jesus gives new life to Lazarus in a manner that prefigures the resurrection of Jesus. Paul tells the Romans that in Christ, God will not only give life to our bodies after death, but God offers us abundant life here and now. We observe that the external conditions for the people described in these readings did not radically change. Israel was still in exile. Lazarus would eventually face death again. But now God's presence and power are revealed. Even when our situation in life is difficult and perhaps not likely to change soon, we remember that the Spirit dwells within us. Copyright © J. S. Paluch Co. Inc

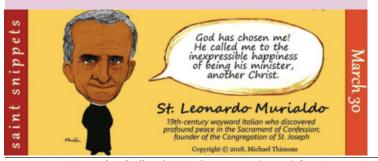
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•SAINTS & SPECIAL OBSERVANCES

Sunday: Fifth Sunday of Lent

Friday: Abstinence

Saturday: First Saturday; April Fool's Day



•OUR FASCINATING FAITH

THE THREE LENTEN DISCIPLINES: ALMSGIVING

In addition to prayer and fasting, Lent gives us the chance to give alms to those who are most needy. By helping others, we practice charity and social justice. We look to carry our own cross and help others carry theirs as well. In other words, we practice the same generosity as God, who makes the rain to fall on the good and on the bad and loves people without distinction. To help others is to confront the poverty of this world with the hope of the kingdom of God.

Charity is a Christian virtue because Jesus is the best example of what charity is. Charity is more than giving alms; it is love and justice. It is complying with the commandment to love one another in a world where most people are poor and abandoned. To be charitable is to give to the needy what they need from our time, talent, and treasure; it is to work for social changes that promote human dignity and the economic wellbeing of all. Charity is love and God is love. May we live in that love. Friar Gilberto Cavazos-González, OFM, Copyright © J. S. Paluch Co., Inc.

HOLY HUMOR

Several Catholic children found a dead robin. Feeling that a proper burial should be performed, they secured a small box and some rags, dug a hole in the back yard, and made ready to dispose of the deceased.

The deacon's five-year-old son was chosen to say the prayer. And with great dignity, he intoned, "Glory be to the Father...and to the Son... and into the hole he goes."

The 2nd Book of Catholic Jokes by Deacon Tom Sheridan, Published by ACTA Publications, Chicago, Il Copyright@2010

•FREE CATHOLIC RESOURCES

We have several <u>FREE</u> 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?











Join us for Coffee & Holy Donuts on (some) Sundays at the Parish Center from 8am-11am. Listen for announcements!

CATHOLIC

Offerings

Offer it up. My grandmother used this phrase with her children, and my mother, in turn, used it with me. It's a kind of verbal heirloom, a gift of wisdom from a generation that knew suffering all too well.

We know it to be true that God will work through our suffering if we invite him to. We know it and we have seen it — we have only to look at Lazarus and his sisters Martha and Mary.

But, often, I invite God into my suffering only to tell Him where I want Him to stand. I make an offering of suffering but expect God to do something very specific with it. Teach me this, please. Give me this specific grace. Show me this specific answer.

The happy ending in today's Gospel is not the alleviation of the sorrow Martha and Mary feel because it isn't alleviated, Lazarus is still human, and death still awaits him. Someday, his sisters will have to mourn at his tomb. That loss and pain will not be avoided.

The happy ending is that he is resurrected now, and in doing so, brings so many to belief. The happy ending is that Martha and Mary do not abandon discipleship because things didn't work out exactly the way that they wanted. They run out to meet Christ, eyes dim with tears. They fling themselves into his company and onto his providence.

They made an offering of their suffering, and their happy ending is that their offering was accepted.

"You are not in the flesh, on the contrary, you are in the spirit." — Romans 8:9

Colleen Jurkiewicz Dorman

Why do we do that? Catholic Life Explained

Question:

Who invented the Stations of the Cross?

Answer:

The first Stations of the Cross were walked by Jesus himself on the way to Calvary. Known as the "Via Dolorosa" ("The Way of Suffering") or the "Via Crucis" ("The Way of the Cross"), it was marked out from the earliest times and was a traditional walk for pilgrims who came to Jerusalem. The early Christians in Jerusalem would walk the same pathway that Jesus walked, pausing for reflection and prayer. Later, when Christians could not travel to the Holy Land, artistic depictions of "The Way of the Cross" were set up in churches, or outside and Christians would walk from station to station, reading the Gospel account of the Passion, or simply praying and reflecting on each event. While the content or place of each station had changed, the intention was to make a mini-pilgrimage and follow--literally--in the footsteps of Jesus.

This devotion became better known in the Middle Ages, and the Franciscans are credited with its spread. Lent is a time when many people make the Stations and some churches present Passion plays or Living Stations. But anyone can pray the Stations at any time. It is a simple and personal reflection on the passion of Jesus and what it means to us.

Kids Corner

BELIEVES

Prayer

Thank you for showing me that you are my Savior, Jesus.

Mission for the Week

Write the words, "God can do anything" on a piece of paper. Read it every morning.

Sharing the Gospel

Instead of telling people he was the Savior, Jesus showed them. By raising Lazarus from the dead, Jesus sent a message loud and clear. Jesus was the Savior they had all been waiting for. He was filled with God's love and power, and many people believed in him.

Now color the picture!



Find and circle these words from today's Gospel: LAZARUS

GOD'S SON

SICKNESS RISE				MARY MARTHA		WEEPING WRAPPED				
S	Α	0	Ε	Т	R	Н	1	E	Т	Υ
Т	W	R	Α	P	P	E	D	Н	0	N
0	Ε	K	R	W	Υ	Α	0	Y	U	Т
В	Ε	L	1	E	٧	E	S	Т	S	Н
Н	Р	T	S	Α	0	M	Υ	N	1	E
Т	1	Н	E	U	N	A	J	Н	C	S
U	Ν	S	٧	M	A	R	Υ	L	K	0
0	G	K	Н	Ε	I	Т	D	W	Ν	U
Т	P	Α	Υ	N	0	Н	S	Υ	Ε	Α
1	S	D	L	Α	Z	Α	R	U	S	Н
G	0	D	S	S	0	N	F	E	S	R



SAFEGUARD THE CHILDREN

DID YOU KNOW? March 25-26 **Prevention Includes Sports**

All coaches who serve in archdiocesan Catholic schools in the Archdiocese of Los Angeles are required to undergo a multi-hour VIRTUS® "Protecting God's Children for Adults Training." They are also required to participate in the Play Like a Champion Today program, a national program that works with sports organizations at the youth and high school level to educate ethically responsible coaches.

For more information about coaching requirements in the Archdiocese of Los Angeles, visit playlikeachampion.org and https://handbook.la-archdiocese.org/chapter-9/section-9 -4/topic-9-4-3.

• CHILDREN'S LITURGY

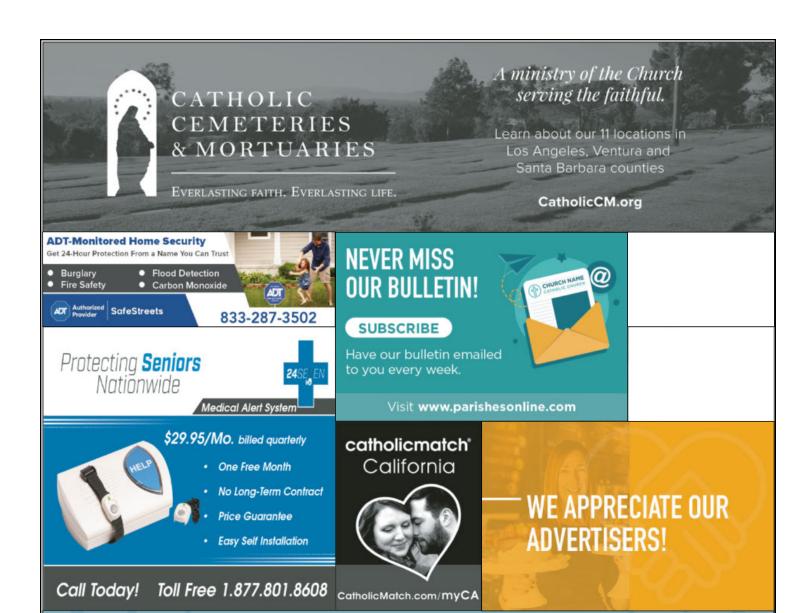
RELIGIOUS EDUCATION PROGRAM now offering **CHILDREN'S** LITURGY **SUNDAYS** in the Parish Hall. Children in 1st - 5th grade are welcome to attend.

Every Sunday at the 9:00am Mass, the

children will be invited 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.







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