



*Sunday, January 21st, 2024*  
*Third Sunday in Ordinary Time*

## **Holy Family Church**

13900 Church Place, Seal Beach, CA 90740 - (562) 430-8170

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**Rev. Joseph Son Nguyen, Pastor**

### **Sunday Mass Schedule**

**Saturday Vigil: 4:00 p.m.**

**Sunday: 8:00 a.m., 10 a.m. & 12 Noon**

### **Weekday Masses**

**Monday –Saturday: 8:30 a.m.**

**Our Lady of Perpetual Help Novena: Wednesdays 8:15a.m**

**Anointing of the Sick Sacrament: Saturdays at 8:30 a.m. Mass**

**Bible Study: 1st and 3rd Monday of the Month 12:30 p.m.**

### **Confessions**

**Saturdays: 9:00am-9:30am / First Fridays 9:00am-9:30am**

## Lent Little Black Book

Next weekend, January 27-28, we will be offering (minimum donation of \$2) the Lent Little Black devotional prayer book after all our masses. We had a great success with the Advent prayer books; so, come prepare and get yours. In this season of prayer, fasting and almsgiving, reflect on Christ's life based on the Passion narrative in the book of Luke. The Little Black Book has daily Lenten reflections beginning February 14, 2024.

## Bereavement Support Series

St. Bartholomew's Catholic Church (5100 E Broadway, Long Beach) is offering another Bereavement Support Series during the spring 2024. The series is free and includes learning materials. They will be conducted in person and online. The ones in person will be held on Wednesdays from 1:00 to 2:30 p.m. beginning 01/31/24 in the Elizabeth Seaton room adjacent to the parish hall. The ones via zoom on Thursdays 7:00- 8:30 p.m. beginning 02/01/24. To register or more information, please contact, Juliann Desmond by January 26 at (562)221-5157 or jzzyjad220@gmail.com. The participants will use the New Day Journal as a resource through these 8-weeks program.

## Your Contributions- Thank you

Sunday, January 14th, 2024: \$4,764

Online Giving: \$706.80

2nd Collection Africa, LA, E. Europe: \$2,056

Thank you for your generosity!

## News from the Diocese

- **World Day of the Sick Mass.**- Presided by Most Rev Bishop Kevin Vann, Bishop of Orange. Sponsored by the Order of Malta. Saturday, Feb. 10, 2024, 10 a.m. Christ Cathedral. (Anointing of the Sick is a Sacrament of the Church and is offered to one is dangerously ill due to sickness, injury or old age. The Sacrament is for serious mental or emotional illness as well. While we should not be excessively concerned about the degree of seriousness of the condition, the casual participation in the sacrament must be avoided in good conscience).
- **Jesus and the Eucharist.** St. Irenaeus Church (Cypress) is offering seven-episode video series that draws viewers to a greater love of the source and summit of the Catholic faith, The Eucharist. Sessions will be held on the second Thursday of the month. February 8, 2024. St. Irenaeus Hall 7p.m.



## Ash Wednesday, February 14 Mass Schedule

**8:30 a.m.**

**12 noon**

**4:00 p.m.**

**Distribution of Ashes will be during Mass.**

# True Fulfillment (Catholic Reflections)

*After John had been arrested, Jesus came to Galilee proclaiming the gospel of God: “This is the time of fulfillment. The kingdom of God is at hand. Repent, and believe in the gospel.” Mark 1:14–15*

Jesus begins His public ministry immediately after being tempted by the devil while in the desert for forty days. As He begins His ministry, He declares: “This is the time of fulfillment.” First, the beginning of Jesus’ public ministry was, historically speaking, the “time of fulfillment,” in that the new era of the Gospel and grace had just begun. But the “time of fulfillment” of which Jesus speaks also refers to each and every time that we hear the Gospel and respond. We do this by sincerely repenting of our sins and by becoming a fuller member of God’s Kingdom. But ponder for a moment the specific word “fulfillment.” What does this mean?

The word “fulfilled” can be contrasted with its opposite “unfulfilled.” To be unfulfilled is always undesirable. In this world, many people find themselves unfulfilled and try to fill this void with many things. Interestingly, the three temptations that Jesus had just experienced in the desert are among the temptations that so many people give into during their search for fulfillment in life.

First, Jesus was hungry, and the devil tempted Him to turn stones into bread to satiate that hunger. This is a temptation to fleshly fulfillment. Second, the devil tempted Jesus to throw Himself off the pinnacle of the Temple to prove He was the Son of God. This is a temptation to fulfillment by pride—pride to convince another of one’s importance and identity. Third, the devil showed Jesus all the nations of the world and promised them to our Lord if Jesus worshiped him. This is a temptation to fulfillment by obtaining earthly wealth and power. Of course, Jesus rejected all three temptations as a way of showing that none of these truly fulfill us. And He did this just prior to the beginning of His public ministry so as to then go forth preaching the true message of fulfillment. “This is the time of fulfillment. The kingdom of God is at hand. Repent, and believe in the gospel.”

True fulfillment is only found in the Gospel, the message of Truth that Jesus shared during His three years of public ministry and then brought to completion by His sacrificial death and resurrection. Only those who heed His words and open themselves to the grace poured forth from the Cross are able to find the fulfillment that they seek.

Reflect, today, upon your own interior desire for fulfillment in life. How do you try to satiate this desire? Do you allow the evil one to trick you into thinking that fleshly desires, pride or wealth are the answer? Reject those temptations with our Lord and then immerse yourself in His Gospel message, which is the only source of fulfillment in life.

***Lord of true fulfillment, You and You alone are the source of the fullness of life. I believe that with all my heart. Please give me the grace I need to reject all temptations in life and to cling only to Your holy Word and the grace given to all who follow You. Jesus, I trust in You.***

## **Sending Valentine's Day Cards**



Sending and receiving Valentine's Day cards is celebrating all loveliness of an ancient tradition. Since the death of St. Valentine around the year 269, legends almost without number have blossomed forth to explain the beautiful practice of sending cards to convey heartfelt affection for loved ones. What can be said with some certainty is that Valentine was a priest, perhaps even a bishop, and a physician who lived in Rome. He was beheaded for his Faith in that city by order of Claudius the Goth on February 14<sup>th</sup>. Because of the love this young priest had for his Lord and for his people, his name has become beautifully and indelibly associated with the devotion that loved ones have for their beloved, that children feel for their parents and that friends bear for friends. People of medieval times believed that birds paired off on February 14<sup>th</sup> and that this was the special day of the year when, through natural law, love abounded and triumphed. No wonder "love birds" are so frequently included in the art on Valentine's Day cards!

Whatever the origins of this ancient tradition, two things are quite clear: Valentines are sent as an outpouring of love, devotion, or affection, and they are received as one of the sweetest gestures and nicest compliments one person can give to another.

## **Laugh out Loud** ☺

**Which book of the major prophets is the easiest to understand???**

**Ezekiel**

## **Prayer Intentions for the Week**

**Monday 8:30 a.m. January 22nd**

Santiago and Fiorella Barreto, Sp. Int. bday

**Tuesday 8:30 a.m. January 23**

Joe Maffucci, Sp. Int. BIRTHDAY

**Wednesday 8:30 a.m. January 24**

Ronald Rasimas, RIP

Isidora Montoya, RIP

Diane Klotz, Sp. Int.

**Thursday 8:30 a.m. January 25**

John and Jeanette Barreras,

**60<sup>th</sup> Wedding Anniversary**



**Friday 8:30 a.m. January 26**

Luis "Lulu" Pacheco, RIP

Tom Palladino, Sp. Int. BIRTHDAY

**Saturday 8:30 a.m. January 27**

Fr. James Hartnett, Sp. Int. BIRTHDAY

**Saturday 4:00 p.m. January 27**

Sal Fernandez, RIP

Peter Tien Pham, RIP

Patriotic Rosary Group, Sp. Int.

**Sunday 8:00 a.m. January 28**

Dodero Family, Sp. Int.

**Sunday 10:00 a.m. January 28**

Matthew Yi, RIP

Peter K. Nguyen, Sp. Int.

**Sunday 12 Noon January 28**

Austin Considine, RIP

Dennis Crow, RIP

James San and Ursula Lan, RIP

Maxine and Ron Robbins, Sp. Int.