



Celebrating 80 Years
Long Beach, CA

ST. BARNABAS CATHOLIC CHURCH

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

REV. ANTONY GASPAR | REV. BERNARD SANTIAGO

**Not a hair
on your
head**

**will
be
destroyed**

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LIFE IS HARD, BUT HAVE NO FEAR

Today's readings take a fearless look at reality and reach a conclusion that we all know: life is hard. The prophet Malachi preaches fire and brimstone, warning us that evildoers will perish in flames. Saint Paul offers his own warning to the Thessalonians: keep busy, but never become a busybody. He reminds Christians that the apostles themselves worked in "toil and drudgery" as a model for how we ought to contribute to our community. The Gospel returns to the apocalyptic tone of Malachi, describing the utter chaos of the end-times. We will know the end is near when violence, catastrophe, and hatred dominate the earth. But we must not fear! God's saving plan brings peace to our hearts. Malachi speaks of the sun's "healing rays," and Jesus himself promises to protect every hair on our heads.

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MISSION STATEMENT

"We, the Catholic Community of St. 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."

PARISH OFFICE:
OFFICE # 562-424-8595

OFFICE E-MAIL:
church@stbarnabaslb.org

OFFICE HOURS:
Mon-Fri: 9:00am-7:00pm
Sat: 9:00am-4:30pm
Sun: 9:00am-2:00pm

Office Manager: Olivia Baylen
Business Manager: Sam Christ

CONFESSIONS:
1st Friday of the Month: 7:15am—7:50am
Saturday: 3:30pm—4:30pm

INFANT BAPTISMS:
4th Sunday of the Month: 2:30pm
Email: baptism@stbarnabaslb.org (must pre-register)

WEDDINGS: (6 Months Prior)
Email: church@stbarnabaslb.org

ANOINTING OF THE SICK: (Call Parish Office)

MASS TIMES:

Saturday 8:00am | 5:00pm (Vigil)
Sunday 7:30am | 9:00am | 10:45am
12:30pm | 5:30pm
Monday—Friday 8:00am

EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION:

(1st Friday of the Month)
Adoration: 8:30am—6:15pm | Mass: 6:30pm

MOTHER OF PERPETUAL HELP NOVENA:

Every Wednesday (Novena after Mass)
Rosary: 6:15pm | Mass: 6:30pm

MINISTRY DIRECTORY

ADORATION COORDINATORS	Charito Salas: (562) 490-9853 Faye Rivera: (562) 424-5366
ALTAR SERVERS	Sylvia Gaytan: (562) 477-2143
BASEBALL LEAGUE FOR YOUTH	Joe Fletes: (562) 409-4696
BOY SCOUTS PACK 32/CUB SCOUTS	Laura Moller-Leon: (562) 726-4894
BULLETIN TEAM/SOCIAL MEDIA/WEBSITE	Joyce K: church@stbarnabaslb.org
CANA MARRIAGE RENEWAL MOVEMENT	Bernie Matute: (562) 326-3065
CENACLE MARIAN MOVEMENT	Annie Pallivathukal: (562) 492-9587
COUPLES FOR CHRIST	Roy/Faye Rivera: (562) 424-5366
DIVINE MERCY APOSTOLATE	Itima Eteaki: church@stbarnabaslb.org
EXTRAORDINARY MINISTERS OF HOLY COMMUNION	Samanth Christi: (562) 521-4040 Church Helen Cajayon: (562) 290-2019 The Sick
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FINANCE COUNCIL	Espi Garcia: (562) 426-6897
GIRL SCOUTS TROOP #4283	Jessica Cardenas: (562) 972-7945 jcwillowtree@aol.com
HOLY NAME SOCIETY	Bob Frazier: (562) 843-5824
INFANT BAPTISM	Email: baptism@stbarnabaslb.org
I.T. RESOURCE TEAM	David Ameho: (562) 253-3644
KAIROS PRISON MINISTRY	David Nieto: (310) 569-5900
KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS (Council #3449)	Julio Ramirez: (562) 706-0162
LANDSCAPE BEAUTIFICATION	Robert Kalowes: (562) 225-1946
LECTORS	Marina Cuico: (562) 254-8133 marinacuico@gmail.com
LEGION OF MARY	Barbara Florida: (562) 423-1278
LITURGICAL MUSIC COORDINATOR	Joseph Pham: (562) 505-4275
MINISTRY OF CONSOLATION	Terri Furlow: (562) 427-8048
OUR LADY OF PERPETUAL HELP NOVENA	Gigi R. Lalan: (562) 427-4054 Armando Pablo: (562) 631-6361
OUR LADY QUEEN OF PEACE MINISTRY	Tricia J: (303) 803-0287
PASTORAL COUNCIL	Darrell Stewart: (562) 424-8982
PLANNING & BUILDING TEAM	Sean Farragher: (562) 533-6444
PROJECT ACHIEVE MINISTRY	Michelle Gustilo-Smithson: (310) 344-7862
RCIA / ADULT SACRAMENTAL PREP	Religious Ed Office: (562) 988-6855
RESPECT LIFE	Robert Kalowes: (562) 426-3781
ROSARY MINISTRY	Paula Strickland: (562) 424-4853 Mabel Felix: (562) 852-7116
SACRISTANS	Geraldine Johnston: (562) 498-8187
SAFEGUARD THE CHILDREN & YOUTH	Elizabeth Cantu: (310) 292-1519
STEWARDSHIP COMMITTEE	David Zanatta: (562) 244-7644
USHERS & GREETERS	Darrell Stewart: (562) 424-8982
WEDDING/REHEARSAL COORDINATOR	Deb Ryan: (562) 209-2458
YOUTH MINISTRY: "ACTS 29"	Rose Lucero: (213) 949-9507 cell/text
WORSHIP ENVIRONMENT TEAM	Email: church@stbarnabaslb.org

FINANCIAL BLESSINGS

Weekly Contribution:	\$9,955.55
Faith-Direct Bi-Weekly Contribution:	\$ 3,050.84 Period: 10/16 - 10/31

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

ALTAR FLOWERS SPONSORS:

No Sponsor this week.

If you would like to sponsor, please email: church@stbarnabaslb.org

Monthly Flower Donors for Tabernacle & Blessed Mother:

Jun & Josie Tadique

11/16 - 11/30

DAILY DEVOTIONS

Please join us in reciting the **Rosary** every morning (Mon-Sat) at 7:35am before daily Mass. It's a beautiful and spiritual way to start your day. Every day following weekday Mass, we invite you to join us for the **Chaplet of Divine Mercy**. Prayers usually start approximately 5-10 minutes after Mass (around 8:40am). If you can't join us, you can join the Divine Mercy on EWTN television channel at noon.

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

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION & CONFIRMATION

Office: (562) 988-6855

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

Rel Ed Coordinator: **Juan Rodriguez Jr.**
213-840-8600 cell/text
religiouseducation@stbarnabaslb.org

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

MARK YOUR CALENDAR

11/17 Coats for the Needy - Last day of collection
 11/17 Pack 32 Food Collection (Parish Center only)
 11/23 Altar Servers Pizza Party/Hall 6:30pm
 11/25 Project Achieve mtg/Music Rm/7pm
 11/27-29 School & Office Closed
 11/28 Thanksgiving Mass/9am only



WEEKLY MASS INTENTIONS

Monday, November 18th

8:00 am- Enrique Moreno; Alexa De Leon;
 +Mercedes K. Tudisco

Tuesday, November 19th

8:00 am- Javier Cespes

Wednesday, November 20th

8:00 am- +Francis & +Irene Poblete; +Thomas Jason Medina

6:30 pm- +Michelle St. Pierre

Thursday, November 21st

8:00 am- Val R. Paraiso

Friday, November 22nd

8:00 am- Javier Cespes; +Nicanor Magpayo;
 +Cornelio Villegas

Saturday, November 23rd

8:00 am- +Michelle St. Pierre

5:00 pm- +Cornelius Shea; +James Bomba

Sunday, November 24th

7:30 am- Jamelle Campuno; Noel & Filipinas Manalo

9:00 am- Lina Gustilo; Romeo Lobedecis III; +Julian Yap; +Mary James Boyd

10:45 am- Dr. Steven J. Lake & Family (gratitude);
 Khaleesi Marie Mora; +Remedios Allicer; +Mercedes K. Tudisco; +Elmer Layaoen

12:30 pm- St. Barnabas Parishioners; Javier Cespes

5:30 pm- Brian Sung & Lindsey Yonemura; +Samuel Edles Jr.

Book your Mass Intentions at the Parish Office. (+ indicates deceased)

PRAY & REMEMBER WHO HAVE DIED

Jose Fajardo 10/26

Michelle St. Pierre-Moore 11/8

Samuel Edles, Sr. 10/28

Gloria L. Ramirez 10/28

TODAY'S READINGS

First Reading — For those who fear the name of the Lord, the sun of justice will arise (Malachi 3:19-20a).

Psalm — The Lord comes to rule the earth with justice (Psalm 98).

Second Reading — Those who are living in idleness are urged to earn their own living (2 Thessalonians 3:7-12).

Gospel — Jesus foretells the destruction of Jerusalem, the persecution of his followers (Luke 21:5-19).

The English translation of the Psalm Responses from *Lectionary for Mass* © 1969, 1981, 1997, International Commission on English in the Liturgy Corporation. All rights reserved.

READINGS FOR THE WEEK

Monday: 1 Mc 1:10-15, 41-43, 54-57, 62-63;
 Ps 119:53, 61, 134, 150, 155, 158;
 Lk 18:35-43 or (for the memorial of the
 Dedication) Acts 28:11-16, 30-31;
 Ps 98:1-6; Mt 14:22-33

Tuesday: 2 Mc 6:18-31; Ps 3:2-7; Lk 19:1-10

Wednesday: 2 Mc 7:1, 20-31; Ps 17:1bcd, 5-6, 8b, 15;
 Lk 19:11-28

Thursday: 1 Mc 2:15-29; Ps 50:1b-2, 5-6, 14-15;
 Lk 19:41-44

Friday: 1 Mc 4:36-37, 52-59; 1 Chr 29:10bcd,
 11-12; Lk 19:45-48

Saturday: 1 Mc 6:1-13; Ps 9:2-4, 6, 16, 19; Lk 20:27-40

Sunday: 2 Sm 5:1-3; Ps 122:1-5; Col 1:12-20;

PRAYERS FOR HEALING...

Steve McKim, Ray Paraiso, Ken Augustine, Steven Pearson, Barbara Hendren, Adame, Junn Gabrillo Jr., Carolyn Espinoza, Gerry Johnston, Roseann Vetter, Erlinda Chua, Anna Rachel Posas, Nicandro Bernardo, Myke Bommer, Elizabeth Cannata, James Madura, Ana Raquel Posas, Fr. Mike Grieco, Yvonne Lumampao, Andrea Baylen, Jackie Spiziri, Mara & Sovannary Doun, Blandina Paterson, William & Gloria Dorsey, Mike Repp, Jim & Connie Edwards, Mary Pearson, Keith Wieland, Carol Jane Perreault, Gloria Staudt, Chito Bacuyag, Orlydia Chua, Jude Johnson, Sister Miriam, Leonard Loy, Hector Gustilo, Dolores Garibay, Nathaniel Capitulo, Ana Castillo, Fred & Laura Wong, Leda Wong, Cesar Giron, Mary Sabate, Peggy & Bob Breshears, Sonia Hanson, Len Tanguay, Khin Nwe, Lynda Mendola, Abby Jose, Camilo Velasco, Theresa Brunella, Paul Michael Ignacio, Tony Chiu, Gerald Weekes, Aida Weekes, Mary Harie, Ginger Marshall, Rudy Espeleta, Jennifer Miller, Dolores Lounsbury, Ignacio Binarao, Julie Nevarez, Zenaida Reynaldo Bianzon, Susan Frost, Marino Nufable, Mark Helak, Shannon Chesher, Luz Galvan, Daniel Chavez, Espi Garcia, Dr. John Samson, Mario Salgadoh, Ana Maria Onuna, Gene Henslee, Rosalin Martinez, Herminia Villalpando, Judy Desolo, Richard Hoover, Juanita Hernandez, Valentine Rodriguez

Please pray for them and others already included in the **Prayer Intention Book**, which is presented at each Mass. Call the Office to be added to the Bulletin list. You may also write your own prayer intentions in the Prayer Intention Book, that is available before each Saturday and Sunday Mass, located on a stand at the main entrance of the Church.

PARISH & MINISTRY NEWS

ALL SOULS ENVELOPES

All Souls envelopes are in the pews and in the Church Office. Write your loved ones names on the envelopes or insert list of names inside the blank, white contribution envelopes. Kindly return them to the Church Office or offertory basket. These names will be placed on the altar and prayed for, all throughout the entire month of November.

ALTAR SERVERS APPRECIATION DINNER

There will be a fun **PIZZA PARTY** for our wonderful youth Altar Servers on **Saturday, November 23, 2019 from 6:30pm-8:30pm** in the Parish Hall. Please **RSVP** to Sylvia at: 562-477-2143. Parents: Please pick up your child by 8:30pm.

NEED VOLUNTEERS FOR RELIGIOUS ED

We are looking for at least 2 volunteers to help out in the Religious Ed Office on Sundays from 8:30am-12pm or every other Sunday from 3:30pm-6:30pm. Paperwork filing, collecting payments, answering phones, etc. Please call Sam at the Parish Office: 562-424-8595 or email to: church@stbarnabaslb.org with your information.

ACTS 29 YOUTH MINISTRY

Joins us every 2nd, 4th & 5th Fridays of the month from 7pm-9pm. Must be 13-18 years of age! Text/ Call Rose 213-949-9507 or email: youthministry@stbarnabaslb.org

PARISH REGISTRATION

If you would like to register as a Parishioner, forms are at the exits, or stop by the Parish Office to sign-up! If you'd like to receive free contribution envelopes, let us know and we can add you to the mailing list! Reminder to use your Name and Parish Family # on all loose contribution envelopes and checks, in order to get credit for tax purposes. If you forgot your #, call the Parish Office for assistance.

THANKSGIVING MASS SCHEDULE

THANKSGIVING: THURSDAY—NOV. 28TH

WE WILL ONLY HAVE ONE MASS ON THIS DAY AT 9:00AM

You are encouraged to bring your bread and wine to be blessed at Mass. Please place food items prior to the beginning of Mass at the designated tables near the side of the Altar.

The Parish Office and School will be closed on Wednesday, November 27 through Friday, November 29.

PACK 32 SCOUTS FOOD DRIVE

This Sunday, **November 17th**, Pack 32 Cub Scouts will be doing a good turn, collecting non-perishable food donations for the hungry in our community. Scouts will be going door-to-door to homes in the Bixby Knolls area (Bixby to Marshall, between Orange & Atlantic).



Drop-off donations also gladly accepted on November 17th, 2pm-4pm, at the Parish Center ONLY. All food collected will be

donated to the Catholic Charities Food Bank of Long Beach. Thank you for your support.

CONGRATULATIONS TO

NEW OR RE-REGISTERED PARISHIONERS

Jon Quijano and Family

WEDDING BANNS:

Wedding Banns: Nick Regnier & Erika Capitulo;
Vincent Salinas & Zelene Ospina

WEDDING ANNIVERSARIES:

Matthew & Janine Mays 11/5 (20yrs)
Noel & Filipina Manalo 11/24 (30yrs)
Bill & Gloria Dorsey 11/25 (54yrs)
Richard & Marie Van Vooren 11/2 (55yrs)
Luis & Monie Cazares 11/29 (50yrs)



Celebrating your Wedding Anniversary? Email us Names, year you're celebrating, along with your Wedding Anniversary date to:

church@stbarnabaslb.org

KNIGHTS KORNER

COATS FOR THE NEEDY

Our Knights of Columbus will be collecting gently used winter coats after all the Masses.

Today is the last Sunday to bring your coats.

Contact our Grand Knight, Julio if you have any questions: 562-706-0162. Thanks for your donations!



LAST DAY THIS SUNDAY!!



POPE FRANCIS@PONTIFEX



11/7 Christian hope, nourished by the light of Christ, makes the resurrection and life shine even in the world's darkest nights.

11/12 We ask the Lord to increase our faith in Jesus Christ, the Son of God, in our hearts: He who assumed our human nature, who became Man in order to fight with our flesh and to conquer in our flesh.

11/9 Prayer always arouses feelings of fraternity, it breaks down barriers, crosses borders, creates invisible but real and effective bridges, and opens horizons of hope.

11/8 Holiness is the fruit of God's grace and of our free response to it. Holiness is a gift and a call.

10/30 The protagonist of the Church's mission, is the Holy Spirit, Who guides the path of evangelizers, showing them the way to follow. Let us ask the Holy Spirit for an open heart, sensitive to God and hospitable towards our brothers and sisters.



"It's used to sweep out evil spirits? Hmmm... mind if I borrow it to see if it works on the school's old boiler?"

Good News!

November 17, 2019

Thirty-third Sunday in Ordinary Time (C)

Mal 3:19-20a; 2 Thes 3:7-12; Lk 21:5-19

As we approach the end of the liturgical year, the readings prepare us for the conclusion of our earthly pilgrimage. In this Sistine Chapel fresco, Moses is punishing the rebellious Israelites who were acting as priests without being authorized by him or called by God.

This chaotic scene seems similar to what Jesus describes of the end times in today's Gospel. He warns us not to follow false prophets who will arise and claim to come in his name. He prophesies a time of war, natural disasters, famines, and plagues. Persecution will fall upon his followers, allowing them the chance to give testimony—*martyrion* in Greek. Jesus' monitions for that time are simple: do not follow false prophets or prepare a defense, but persevere instead. In the section "I Believe in Life Everlasting," the *Catechism of the Catholic Church* also speaks to us about the last times. We believe in heaven, hell, and a personal, universal judgment. These last things await us all, and Jesus doesn't keep us in the dark about these realities.

We don't know when the end times may come. But regardless, our call is to live prepared by fulfilling God's will and trusting in him. Jesus clearly wants us to be aware of the end of the world, but he doesn't want us to be overly anxious about it. If we are in Christ, we are already a new creation. The old has passed away. Behold the new has come. Be not afraid!

—Fr. Mark Haydu, LC

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TREASURES FROM OUR TRADITION

We are faced with strong and disturbing readings today that hold a certain fascination, since they seem at first glance to be blueprints for future inevitable wars and hardship. A fundamentalist interpretation focuses on this aspect. Yet we hear them at our Sunday celebration of the Eucharist, which infuses them with hope and optimism. Rather than dreading the future, today's liturgy assures us that God is with us in all of life's inevitable trials, and that we have a role in shaping the outcome of human history. Occasionally, some Christians have attempted to decode these readings for an exact measure of the world's end, but they have thus far been disappointed.

"Nothing lasts forever" is a lyric from a Broadway show. Stars fall from the sky, leaves wither and fall, mountains wash into the sea, human projects and governments totter and collapse with great regularity. Today's liturgy opposes this idea as incomplete, reminding us that Christ has made a permanent change in human history, and that life in him is life forever. Rather than inviting us to throw in the towel, today's liturgy strengthens us for acts of goodness and grace in our families, communities, and world.

—James Field, Copyright © J. S. Paluch Co.

FAITH DIRECT ONLINE E-GIVING



Your prayers, support, and monetary gifts allow St. Barnabas to spread the Gospel and share God's message of love and peace with others. This fall, I prayerfully ask that you consider using our secure and easy-to-use electronic giving program, Faith Direct. Faith Direct will automatically process any offertory or second collections donation of your choosing. Call 1-866-507-8757 or visit www.faithdirect.net or download the free Faith Direct App today! (Use our St. Barnabas Parish Code: CA794)

RESEMBLANCE

The dignity of resembling the Almighty is common to all people; we should then love them all as ourselves, as living images of the Deity. It is in this that we belong to God.—St. Francis de Sales

Dear Padre

November 17, 2019

I have a hard time accepting that my money for the Sunday collection may be used to compensate victims of clerical sexual abuse. Do I have to keep giving to my local parish, only to see my money pay for a sex scandal?

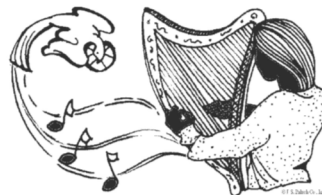
The money you give runs your parish and provides assistance to the poor, both locally and throughout your diocese. Scripture mentions the disciples offering money to meet the needs of the poor. The *Catechism of the Catholic Church* states: "The faithful also have the duty of providing for the material needs of the Church, each according to his abilities" (CCC 2043). Similarly, canon law reminds us that we are "obliged to promote social justice...and to help the poor," both signs of Christian charity (Canon 222).

While you give for the needs of your parish, it appears that these lawsuits create a real concern for you. For the most part, awards for lawsuits are paid from two main sources: insurance and the sale of unused property, such as office space, bishops' homes, and seminaries.

While we are pained by the revelations of clerical abuse, we must also understand the victims' need for healing. Money won't end their pain, but it may help a survivor who needs psychological counseling or someone who has difficulty working due to trauma. This is a devastating time in their lives, but the Church will continue to offer hope and claim its responsibility.

—Fr. John K. Schmidt, CSsR

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Thirty-third Sunday
in Ordinary Time
November 17, 2019

Sing praise to the LORD with the harp,
with the harp and melodious song.

—Psalm 98:5

SUPPORT OUR BULLETIN

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Thank you to our current advertisers. We encourage you, our parishioners, to patronize our advertisers.

SAINTS AND SPECIAL OBSERVANCES

Sunday: Thirty-third Sunday in Ordinary Time
 Monday: The Dedication of the Basilicas of Ss. Peter and Paul; St. Rose Philippine Duchesne
 Thursday: The Presentation of the Blessed Virgin Mary
 Friday: St. Cecilia
 Saturday: St. Clement I; St. Columban;
 Blessed Miguel Agustín Pro;
 Blessed Virgin Mary

St. Cecilia is regarded as the patroness of music, because she heard heavenly music in her heart when she was married, and is represented in art with an organ or organ-pipes in her hand.

Officials exhumed her body in 1599 and found her to be incorrupt, the first of all incorrupt saints. She was draped in a silk veil and wore a gold embroidered dress. Officials only looked through the veil in an act of holy reverence and made no further examinations. They also reported a "mysterious and delightful flower-like odor which proceeded from the coffin."

St. Cecilia's remains were transferred to Cecilia's titular church in Trastevere and placed under the high altar.



The Little Ones

Jim Burrow

I DON'T NEED
EARBUDS TO HEAR
GOD'S VOICE



Jesus answered, "Remember, you are not to prepare your defense beforehand, for I myself shall give you a wisdom in speaking that all your adversaries will be powerless to resist or refute." Lk 21:14-15

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Scripture from the New American Bible, rev. ed., © 2010, 1991, 1986, 1970, CCB, Used with permission.

PRAYER FOR PRIESTLY VOCATIONS

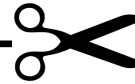
Father, in every generation you provide ministers of Christ and the Church.

We come before you now, asking that you call forth more men to serve our Church in the ministerial priesthood. Give us priests who will lead and guide your holy people gathered by Word and Sacrament.

Bless us with priestly vocations so that we can continue to be a truly Eucharistic Church, strengthened in our discipleship of Jesus Christ, your only Son.

Raise up, we pray, men who are generous in their service, willing to offer their lives and all their gifts for your greater glory and for the good of your people.

We make our prayer in the presence and power of the Holy Spirit, through Christ, Our Lord. Amen



*Please clip this prayer and pray for vocations
in your home every day.*

HOLY HUMOR

A pious man who had reached the age of 105 suddenly stopped going to Mass. Alarmed by the fellow's absence after so many years of faithful attendance, the pastor went to see him. He found him in excellent health, so the priest asked, "How come after all these years we don't see you at Mass anymore?"

The old man lowered his voice. "I'll tell you, Father," he whispered.

"When I got to be 90, I expected God to take me any day. But then I got to be 95, then 100, then 105. So, I figured that God is very busy and must've forgotten about me, and I don't want to remind him."

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

NATIONAL VOCATIONS AWARENESS

The Harvest is abundant, but the Laborers are few
(Luke 10:2)

My dear parish families, boys and girls, young men and women, blessings to you! We dedicate this week as a Vocation week. The Church invites us to reflect and pray for Vocations to Priesthood and Religious life. We particularly need to pray for vocations to respond to the growing needs of our Archdiocese of Los Angeles. In this regard, I and Fr Bernard Santiago are delighted to write to you a brief message on vocation and request you to prayerfully consider your call to priesthood and religious life.

The Church is missionary by its very nature right from her inception until now. Our faith has been taken to every nook and corner of the world and it continues to blossom today. This is because of the dedicated priests, nuns, and lay leaders who journeyed as missionaries to various lands and cultures preaching the Good news of Jesus Christ, and celebrating the Sacraments for those who embraced our faith. We certainly acknowledge and grateful for the pioneer missionaries of our parish, the priests and nuns, who founded and built our parish community with great zeal and dedication. Because of their love and hard work, we have been bearing witness to Christ and the Sacramental life of the church for the past 80 years.

The need to make relevant our Catholic faith and bear witness to Christ has never been diminished in our modern cultures today as we witness the rapid spread of relativism, secularism, and agnosticism. In addition, the erosion of family values, disregard for the dignity of the human person, hostility to faith practices, disengagement from service to the poor and the needy are all real in our local society today. We need men and women to serve God by serving His people in our local church. The words of Jesus in Luke's Gospel invite us to reflect deeper: "The harvest is abundant, but the laborers are few" (Luke 10:2). The longing of our Lord is very much applicable for us today as we recognize that there is a lot more work to do in the life and mission of the church here in Los Angeles. We need priests to celebrate Mass and administer Sacraments; we need religious to serve at Catholic institutions of education and health care; and we need servants of God to continue to engage in evangelization ministry. Unfortunately, with an alarming shortage of priests and nuns in dioceses and religious congregations in our country, there are many sheeps without shepherds. The shortage of priests and religious is indeed a matter of grave concern for families, society, and the Church.

Dear boys and girls, and young men and women of our parish, we strongly encourage you to pray and reflect if

God is calling you to become priests and nuns for God's glory and the sanctification of the society and the church. If you feel called, please speak to us, the priests, or call the parish office to meet with one of us. We will be delighted to have this conversation with you, and guide you.

Dear Parents and grandparents, you are the powerful witness to our faith, and the source of influence in your children's lives. We encourage you to avail every opportunity to talk about the beauty of becoming priests and nuns, and thus sow the seeds of vocation in their mind and heart through your family prayers and conversations, so that, the desire to become priests and nuns may germinate and grow in due time by the grace of our Lord. The seed you plant today may one day might result in giving us a Pope or a Saint from your family! Let us pray for this and keep our hopes high!

Your Shepherds in Christ,

—Fr. Antony Gaspar and Fr. Bernard Santiago



Local theaters showing the movie on 12/2/19:

Regal Edwards Long Beach (TownCntr)- 7:00pm
Cinemark Carson/XD- 7:00pm
Harkins Cerritos 16- 7:00pm
AMC Norwalk 20- 7:00pm
Cinemark Downey/XD- 7:00pm & 7:15pm
AMC Rolling Hills 20- 7:00pm
AMC Del Amo 18- 7:00pm

Make sure to support this movie! Right now it's only showing for ONE NIGHT on: DECEMBER 2ND, 2019