



**From the
Pastor**

Dear Friends,

Traditionally we celebrate the feast of the Ascension on the Thursday forty days after Easter Sunday. Many dioceses around the world and some in the eastern US, including New York, Boston and Philadelphia, still do so. However all the dioceses of the western US including Los Angeles have transferred the celebration to the following Sunday. This means that our feast of the **Ascension of the Lord** will be on **Sunday, May 24** and not on Thursday May 21. The number forty in the bible is never to be taken literally, it is always symbolic. Remember Jesus fasted 40 days in the desert; Noah was in the ark 40 days; Moses was in the desert 40 years. The number forty in those contexts always indicate a length of time long enough for the Lord to get the job done. Coincidentally I will be a priest 40 years this June 7th. This proves that the number 40 is definitely not to be taken literally because the Lord is not finished with me yet!

One of my favorite quotes from Mother Teresa is her response when she was asked to identify the greatest problem in the world. Her reply was that people draw their family circles too small. St. Peter got that revelation today in the first reading. After heated discussions about who should or should not be welcomed into the band of disciples, the early Christian Church, Peter came to this realization: "In truth, I see that God shows no partiality. Rather, in every nation whoever fears him and acts uprightly is acceptable to him." All of today's reading including the responsorial psalm, underscore Peter's statement. All nations have received the saving power of God. Everyone who loves is begotten by God. God is the one who does the choosing. It is not up to us to choose who is to be part of God's kingdom; it is up to us to love one another so that each of us is worthy to remain in God's kingdom.

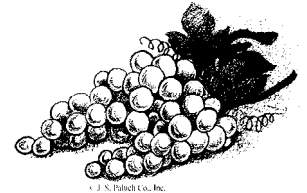
Fr. McNamara

Sixth Sunday of Easter

May 17, 2009

It was not you who chose me, but I who chose you and appointed you to go and bear fruit.

— John 15:16



Reminder - To All Potential Altar Servers

The **3 mandatory** Altar Server trainings on start this Sunday, May 17th:

May 17th, 1:15 - 2:15 pm in the Library

May 24th, 1:15 - 3:15 pm in the Church

May 31st, 1:15 - 3:15 pm in the Church

Anyone interested in becoming an Altar Server must be at least in the 4th grade and willing to attend all three meetings.

Please contact **Maria Giammatteo** in the Library at **818-8842-2736** for more information.



© J. S. Paluch Co., Inc.

EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION

Every **Tuesday**, in the Chapel, beginning at **7:00 am** and ending with **Benediction** at noon.



Continuing Bible Study:
The Gospel of Mark
(through June 9)
Tuesdays, 7:00 - 8:30 pm in the
Parish Library
All are welcome!
Please bring your bible!



ALTAR CARE - May 22, 2009
Marilyn Byloos, Jerry & Theresa Cofsky,
Stella Como, Anne Falatico and
Helen Robsinon



IMPORTANT DATES

- May 16/17** Food gathering for Guadalupe Center and Loaves and Fishes Pantry
- June 6/7** Sandwich Sunday. Bagged meals (sandwich, chips, dessert, fruit), water, socks and blankets will be collected at all the Masses for distribution to those in need in the San Fernando Valley.

Retirement Fund for Archdiocesan Priests

This weekend, **May 16 & 17th**, all parishioners will be asked to give generously to support the Retirement Fund for Archdiocesan Priests via a special collection. Envelopes can be found in the pews and the back of the church.



Youth Ministry events are open to 9-12 graders

- Sunday, May 17th:** The AfterMass
6:45-9 pm, Parish Hall (Pizza Dinner for \$5)
- Tuesday, May 19th:** What Would Joan (of Arcadia) Do, 7-9 pm, Parish Hall

Confirmation Preparation Process

Sunday, May 17th: Year One

Catechetical Session,

3:15-5:15 pm, Parish Center

Year One Confirmation Candidates must also attend at least one Youth Ministry event per month in addition to their required Catechetical Sessions!

Sunday, May 31st, 5:30 pm

On Sunday, May 31, the Sacrament of Confirmation will be celebrated at the 5:30 Mass. We are pleased to welcome Bishop Joseph Sartoris as our principal celebrant. We welcome you to join us at this special liturgy, but please know that the church will be quite crowded with parents, sponsors and candidates attending this Mass.

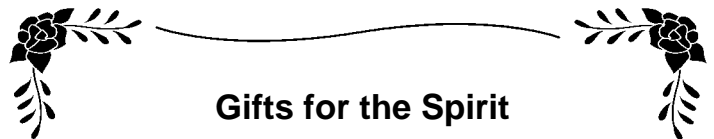


FOCUS ON DONATIONS

Here is a **WIN WIN** situation. Do you have some good quality, good condition (maybe a little dusty?) religious books taking up space? Why not consider donating them to the Parish Library? We get the books and you get a receipt for your tax donation plus the knowledge that others will benefit from your gift. Also, if you want to give a book to the Library in honor or in memory of someone, we will provide a bookplate to commemorate the occasion.

We need volunteers to staff the Library for an hour or so after Sunday Masses. Training is provided. **This is a great way to spend a little time in your library. Contact Maria, 818 884 2736 for times and hours available.**

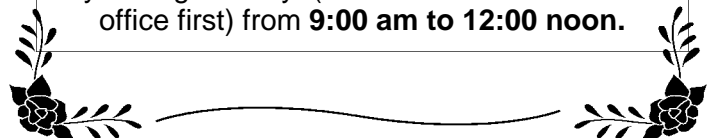
The Parish Library is open Monday—Friday, 9:00-11:30 am and most Sundays, after the 7:00 am, 8:30 am, 10:00 am, 12:00 noon Masses, as well as 5:00 pm - 7:00 pm.



Gifts for the Spirit

Confirmation and Graduation cards and gifts are available at your Parish gift shop. "Chicken Soup for the Soul" and "Living Catholic Faith" books still available. Great gift idea for R.C.I.A., Confirmation, Graduation or just to give a friend. Come and see. We also repair broken rosaries **"free of charge"**

Gifts For the Spirit is located upstairs in the Parish across from the Hall. The shop is open Sundays from **9:15 am until 1:30 pm** and Monday through Friday (check in the Parish Center office first) from **9:00 am to 12:00 noon.**



Become an OASIS Volunteer!

- **OASIS** is a **Catholic Charities Program** operating through the Guadalupe Community Center in Canoga Park. We offer services to seniors in parishes in the seniors in parishes in the West San Fernando Valley.
- We help seniors and their caregivers in your own parish by providing **free** 2-4 hours per week a wide variety of the following services:
friendly home visit; shopping escorts; transportation to MD or Dental appts.; minor home repairs; or light yard work
- The next OASIS New Volunteer Trainings will be held at the Guadalupe Community Center at *21600 Hart Street in Canoga Park* on the following two Saturdays. New volunteers need to attend both sessions. A complimentary breakfast and lunch will be served at both sessions plus free materials will be provided.

*Saturday, June 6th 8:45 am-1:00 pm

*Saturday, June 13th 8:45 am-1:00 pm

Please join us and make a difference! Please contact **Adele** or **Sunny** at our OASIS Volunteer Program office at **818-340- 5100** to make a reservation and for more information



In your charity please pray for the sick of the parish:

Laurie Pearson, daughter of Lori Reed; Rabbi Bill Gordon; Mary Beth Ross; Fr. Joe Carroll; Laura Caliguirri; George Gibbs;

Lisa Rogers, daughter-in-law of Ted Rogers; Carista Steele, mother of Carmen Smith; Sharon Roque; Anna Mae Orlando; Aurelio Salazar; Linda McClean; Donald White; Kevin Cordasco; Trish Greens; John Bellere; Eileen Pratt; James Doran; Mildred Jansen; Mark Kaszynski; Amelia Hunt



Please pray for the happy repose of the souls:

Emily Morgan, aunt of Peter Enos

Mass Intentions For The Week



© J. S. Paluch Co., Inc.

May 17 through May 23, 2009
SUNDAY

7:00 am Pro Populo

8:30 am Robert Lauer+

10:00 am Novena

12:00 noon Geronimo Veneracion+

5:30 pm Stanley & Anne Nowak+

MONDAY

6:30 am Novena

8:30 am Benjamin Puno+

TUESDAY

6:30 am Catherine Cassidy

8:30 am Miriam McGilvray+

WEDNESDAY

6:30 am Albert Perez+

8:30 am Anna Christine Hessler

THURSDAY

6:30 am Brenda Robinson+

8:30 am Jesus S. Pasos II +

FRIDAY

6:30 am Connie Plese+

8:30 am Flordeliza Fortu+

SATURDAY

8:30 am Kathleen Cassidy

5:00 pm Fred Lucero+

Feast Day of
 St. Bernardine of Siena
 Wednesday, May 20th

© J. S. Paluch Co., Inc.



Give the Gift of Sight

During the entire month of May, the Peace and Justice committee will be collecting used eyeglasses for the needy. Please place any of your old glasses in collection box located at the back of the Church. Thank you for your continued support!

ST. BERNARDINE'S PARISH LEADERS

Parish Council	Cathy Borowski	348-5650
Altar Care	Lucy Kerecman	998-6701
Altar Servers	Maria Giammatteo	884-2736
Baptism Classes	Deacon Jerry Cellner	888-8200
Bible Study (Thurs Grp)	Shirley Grochalski	347-6228
Cross Bearers	Dave Goracke	347-0192
Detention Ministry	Rudy Vlasak	347-7144
Environment	Maria Giammatteo	884-2736
Eucharistic Ministers	Robert Nicholas	346-8244
(To Sick/Homebound)	Deacon Dale Taufer	888-8200
Festival Chairpersons	Michelle Sjolander	999-6169
	Todd Borowski	348-5650
Finance Committee	Kristin Pudwill	712-9991
Funeral Buffet	Shirley Grochalski	347-6228
Gift Shop	Jean Sampson	888-7073
Justice & Peace Ministry	Michael Miller	340-4193
Lectors	Jack Maranto	887-6310
Library	Maria Giammatteo	884-2736
Magnificat	Pat Dunlap	346-5460
Marriage Encounter	Ed/Anna Marie Pudwill	348-1632
Mommy & Me	Kari Lovequist	710-1484
Music Ministry	Marilyn Enos	710-9788
Nursery Care Program	MichelleReams/8:30 Mass	207-5441
	Carole Williamson/10:00	999-3764
OASIS	Monica Goudis	348-5100
Parent/Teacher Assoc.	June Hunter	713-8120
Pre-School	Charlene Barks	716-4730
RCIA	Steve & Sharron Ellms	340-2087
Religious Education	Eileen Fewless	340-1440
Retreats (Men's)	Jim Birkhead	348-4616
Safeguard the Children	Ray Barks	888-0833
Silverado Music Ministry	Jo & Rudy Vlasak	347-7144
School	Peggy Hill	340-2130
Scouting (Boy Scouts)	Gary Bishop	998-7917
(Cub Scouts)	Richard Robinson	703-7572
(Girl Scouts)	Kim Palkovic	992-0737
Senior Luncheon	Karen Brown	591-1520
Social Activities	Janet Barnet	348-6262
	Susan Bougetz-Aulbach	999-3138
Sunday Pre-School	Wendy Sciuto	592-0049
Ushers	Donna Forrester	712-9922
Welcoming Committee	Darma Trafecanty	884-1686
Women on the Journey	Jean Sampson	346-8116
Youth Ministry	Andrew Gafvert	710-1662

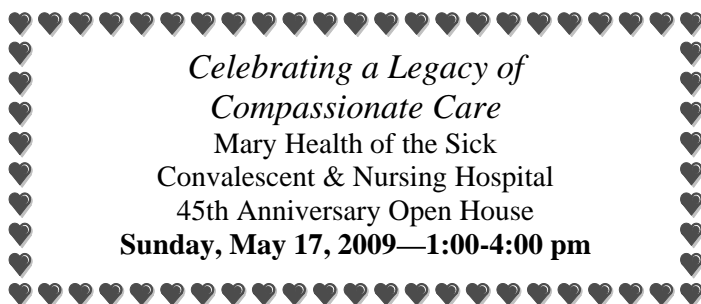


Society of St. Vincent De Paul - Bundle Sunday

On **Sunday, May 31st**, our Parish is having Bundle Sunday for the Society of St. Vincent de Paul.

Please bring your **useable** clothing and household items to their truck, which will be located by the School Pavilion from **8:00 am - 1:30 pm**. Help them in their endless efforts to assist the needy.

Call for pick up of heavy items at 323-224-6280 or 800-974-3571.



*Celebrating a Legacy of
Compassionate Care*

Mary Health of the Sick
Convalescent & Nursing Hospital
45th Anniversary Open House

Sunday, May 17, 2009—1:00-4:00 pm

**Spring Escape
FAMILY & MUSIC**

**Festival of Woodland Hills
Sat. & Sun., May 16th & 17th**

Warner Center Park (Woodland Hills)

All proceeds go to The Elevate Hope Foundation, which helps abused and abandoned children seek therapy through music and the arts.

www.familyandmusicfestival.com

**CATHOLIC THRIVE-
For SINGLES of ALL Ages**
Anaheim Marriott - May 22-24, 2009
World-class speakers and music
Beach events**

Sacraments Gala Dance and Benefit for Singles Serving Orphans
Register today @ www.catholicthrive.com



Crisis Pregnancy Hotline
(800)973-7334
Abortion Recovery Help
(877)467-3463 &
www.rachelsvineyard.org
Holy Family Adoption Services
(805)374-2785



Child Abuse Is A National Problem

According to the U.S. Dept. of Health and Human Services there were 905,000 reported child abuse victims in 2006 alone. Imagine if a disease claimed that many young lives. What would be our national response? Abuse, even if it is not fatal, robs a life and damages a child's spirit. It changes who that person is on a fundamental level.

For more information on how you can become more informed and involved in keeping our children safe, please call the parish office or visit <http://www.archdiocese.la/protecting/index.php>. For particular help, you may call **Assistance Ministry at 213-637-7650**



© J. S. Paluch Co., Inc.

Back by Popular Demand
The Estate Planning Seminar:

“What You Don’t Know CAN Hurt You!”

In the past, the Finance Committee of St. Bernardine’s parish conducted estate planning seminars that were very well received. Based on the response, we will be conducting a new seminar on Estate Planning on **Tuesday, June 16**. No pressure. No sales pitch. Just information and education. **Times have changed. Has your estate plan kept up with the times?**

Who should attend? Anyone with concerns about any of the following issues:

- * **Do you want to control your assets**, or is it OK if the State of California does it for you?
- * **Do you want to choose your children’s guardian**, or is it OK if the courts make that decision for you?
- * **Do you want the federal government to keep up to 85% of your IRA** or retirement plan at your death? You can prevent it from happening.
- * **Do you know how to protect your family’s assets**, even after death?
- * Who should have a will?
- * What’s the difference between a *living will* and a *living trust*?
- * How should I plan for college funding?
- * How should I plan for retirement?
- * How should I plan for nursing home care? Will Medicare help?
- * When does a reverse mortgage make sense ... if ever?
- * **What’s the best way to make gifts?**
- * How can I reduce my estate taxes and make things easier for my heirs?
- * **Do you know how your choice of beneficiary** can impact your IRA?

We’ve put together a panel of our very own professionals to deal with all of these issues and more. Plan now to attend. Remember sometimes the things we put off are the things that we should have done yesterday.

Date: Tuesday, June 16th, 2009
Location: St. Bernardine’s Parish Hall
Time: 7:30 PM



© J. S. Paluch Co., Inc.