

**The Deacon's Bench**

**Deacon Jim Carper, Parish Life Director**

The deacon's bench, historically, is where the deacons sat during church services in the early protestant church. It seemed an appropriate title for this small section of our Church Bulletin; since it is an opportunity for me to share with you what's going on in our Parish, from my point of view.

**Archbishop José H. Gomez addressed the recent scandals in the Catholic Church in the United States. Excerpts from the text of his letter follow:**

In one sense, the Church's pastors are no different than any Christian. We are all called to holiness and to grow in our relationship with Jesus and to glorify God by our lives. But the priest above all is consecrated to serve "in the person of Christ."

That is why the evil at the heart of these scandals is so terrible. A sacred trust has been broken by men whom Jesus entrusted to be his representatives on earth. These priests have betrayed Christ and done violence to his children. The cruelty they have done casts a shadow on the priesthood and the vast majority of priests who are good and faithful servants of the Gospel.

I understand the anger and frustration that people have against the Church and her leaders right now. For me, I am feeling a deep sadness. I am horrified that such crimes could be committed against innocent children of God. We need to hold people accountable and we need to atone for these sins as a Church.

Here in the Archdiocese of Los Angeles, we have an effective system for reporting and investigating suspected abuse by priests and for removing offenders from ministry. Our oversight board includes both clergy and lay experts from several disciplines and also includes persons who have experienced abuse. We have also established an extensive program of education and background checks to make sure our children are safe and cared for in our parishes, schools and ministries.

We remain committed to keeping our children safe and providing a compassionate environment in which victim-survivors can come forward to seek justice and find healing. If you or any one you know is a victim of clerical abuse here in Los Angeles, I urge you to call our toll-free number (800) 355-2545 or visit our website: <http://www.la-archdiocese.org/org/protecting/>. Programs, protocols, and best practices are essential. But they are not enough.

We need to begin again right now, starting with those of us who are bishops and priests. All of us in the Church need to commit ourselves again to the basic practices of our Christian life: personal prayer, the Eucharist and Confession, the works of mercy, growing in the virtues.

My brothers and sisters, do not lose hope in the Church. Jesus told us that God permits evil to grow up alongside the good, both in the world and in the Church. This truth does not make us excuse or accept what has happened. Just the opposite. In this moment, our Lord is counting on us. So please do not give in to discouragement. Put your hope in God's promise: where sin increases, his grace will increase even more.

May God grant you peace,  
Most Reverend José H. Gomez, Archbishop of Los Angeles

**Last Sunday's Collection.....\$6,639.00**

Intentions for the Week		
<b>Saturday</b>	<b>5:30PM</b>	<b>Athena Dupart Sherall Young</b>
<b>Sunday</b>	<b>8:00AM 10:00AM</b>	<b>+Joseph Leon Alfred Smith, Sr.</b>
<b>Monday</b>	<b>8:00AM</b>	<b>Intentions of All Parishioners</b>
<b>Tuesday</b>	<b>8:00AM</b>	<b>Intentions of All Parishioners</b>
<b>Wednesday</b>	<b>8:00AM</b>	<b>Shannon Race Brent Dupart</b>
<b>Thursday</b>	<b>8:00AM</b>	<b>Intentions of All Parishioners</b>
<b>Friday</b>		<b>NO MASS</b>

<b>November 11th</b>	
<b>32<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of Ordinary Time</b>	
<b>First Reading</b>	<b>-1 Kings 17:10-16(155B)</b>
<b>Psalm</b>	<b>-146:7, 8-9, 9-10</b>
<b>Second Reading</b>	<b>-Hebrews 9:23-28</b>
<b>Gospel</b>	<b>-Mark 12:38-44 or 41-44</b>
<b>November 18th</b>	
<b>33<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of Ordinary Time</b>	
<b>First Reading</b>	<b>-Daniel 12:1-3(158B)</b>
<b>Psalm</b>	<b>-16:5, 8, 9-10,11</b>
<b>Second Reading</b>	<b>-Hebrews 10:11-14</b>
<b>Gospel</b>	<b>-Mark 13:24-32</b>

**PLEASE PRAY FOR ALL WHO HAVE DIED**

Especially, **the 12 teens and young adults who died in the Thousand Oaks mass shooting.** May they and all who have died be received into Our Lord's heavenly kingdom; and may those grieving the loss of loved ones be consoled and strengthened through faith and prayers.

**VETERANS DAY**

The Rectory/Office will be **closed this Monday, November 12<sup>th</sup>** in observance of Veterans Day. There will be no Mass.

## LOS ANGELES

### SOULFUL BRUNCH

The Knights of Peter Claver Ladies Auxiliary Court #162 invite you to join us in Celebrating National Blacks Catholics Month. **On Sunday, November 11<sup>th</sup>** in the parish hall at 10am-12:30pm Tickets are \$20 per person, and are on sale after the 8 & 10am Mass in the hall. For more information please see flyers located at all exits.

### Christmas Dinner

Will be held on **Saturday, December 1st at 6:30 p.m.** in the church hall. Please contact Bara King @ 323-252-4984, Lorraine Sampson@,323-632-0964 or Vickie Race @ 323-293-4877 if you want to volunteer.

### Bible Study Sessions

Please join us in studying the Bible and in experiencing the Living Word of God.

**Every first and third Thursday of the month in the hall 12:00pm-1:30pm and 7:00pm-8:30pm.**

### Safeguarding The Children Committee

St. Bernadette is looking for 5 volunteers to participate on the Safeguarding the Children Committee. This team meets twice a year to discuss parish responsibilities and planning ways to educate the parish on this important issue. Those who are currently Parents in Child Rearing, Experts who work with community and families (Social Workers, Therapists etc...) or any interested adults from this parish. Please call Mrs. Jackson at 323-293-4877 or email your interest to normajeane@pacbell.net

### Have You Remembered St. Bernadette Catholic Church in Your Will or Trust?

Have you remembered your parish in your Will or Trust? For more information, please contact the Planned Giving Office at (213) 637-7504 or email [plannedgiving@la-archdiocese.org](mailto:plannedgiving@la-archdiocese.org)  
Website [www.ADLAegacy.org](http://www.ADLAegacy.org)

### ST BERNADETTE SPECIAL MONTHLY COLLECTIONS

1<sup>st</sup> Weekend: Christian Service collection  
3<sup>rd</sup> Weekend: Debt-Reduction collection



### COFFEE HOUR

#### November

11<sup>th</sup> Knights of Peter Claver Ladies Soulful Brunch  
18<sup>th</sup> Seniors Group  
25<sup>th</sup> Mike Romo

#### December

2<sup>nd</sup>  
9<sup>th</sup> Santa's Sweet Shop  
16<sup>th</sup>  
23<sup>rd</sup>  
30<sup>th</sup> Rachel's Hope

**To have doughnuts available after mass we need more volunteers from the parish to sponsor them.**

**Please call the rectory @ 323-293-4877**

**if you can assist. Thank you for your support!**

The hosting group will order and purchase donuts. Donations are accepted to cover the cost of the donuts. Hosting group will take the cost of the donuts from the donated funds and turn in to the Rectory any excess funds. In the event the donated funds are not sufficient to cover the cost, the parish will reimburse the difference.

1. Order Donuts (Yum Yum, Slauson Donuts, etc.) Call in donut order not later than Saturday night. Pick up donuts and set up before 8:00am Mass.
2. Make coffee, provide hot water for tea and hot chocolate, make punch. Set up tray with napkins, sugar, creamer, etc.
3. Hosting group will be available to greet and assist parishioners in selecting their choices of donuts and making parishioners feel welcome.
4. At the end of coffee and donut time, hosting group will clean and put away the coffee pot and punch container. However, if there is punch left over, put contain in small white refrigerator next to the freezer. Clean counters and mop floor area around coffee pot and punch container.
5. Arrange a time to get hall key from the Rectory

**Slauson Donuts: 3451 W. Slauson Ave  
323-292-6398**

### Did You Know?

If you're traveling to spend Thanksgiving with friends or family, it's important that everyone in your group is up to speed on travel safety, and this safety starts at home. Make sure you have plans in place that let friends and family know where you're headed, and set up your house to look "lived-in" when you're on the road. Teach kids to pack smart—avoid bringing unneeded valuables and carry only the necessary ID cards and money in the event of an emergency.