St. Cornelius
Catholic Church

The Lord is kind and merciful!

Service Schedule

Monday	Mass - 5:00 pm
Tuesday	Mass - 5:00 pm
Wednesday	Mass - 5:00 pm
Thursday	Mass - 5:00 pm
Friday	Mass - 5:00 pm
Saturday	Rosary - 7:30 am
	Mass - 8:00 am
	Mass - 5:00 pm Vigil
	[Except Holy Saturday]
Sunday	Mass - 8:00 am
	Mass - 10:00 am
	Mass - 12:00 pm

5500 E Wardlow Rd, Long Beach, CA 90808
Church: 562-421-8966 • stcorneliuslb.org
School: 562-425-7813 • stcornelius.net
Livestream is available: Sun 10am.
See our website for link to our YouTube channel.

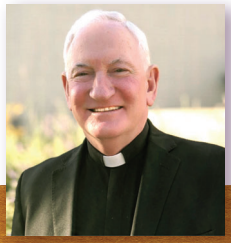
Confession [in the Confessional] : After Friday 5:00 Mass, Saturday 4-4:45, After all Sunday Masses, Confession also available by appointment, contact the Rectory

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 24, 2023

4TH SUNDAY OF ADVENT

"Behold, you will conceive in your womb and bear a son, and you shall name him Jesus." - Lk 1:31

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



Pastor's Corner

We associate Christmas with home. "I'll be home for Christmas if only in my dreams" the old song says. Millions of people are traveling to be with family and at home for the holidays. The readings today are a meditation on home, not so much our coming home to God but God making a home with us, in our flesh, in our world. King David has defeated his enemies and set up his new capital in Jerusalem so he feels that he should make a fine home for God who has been living in a tent (tabernacle), a fine home of cedar like he himself has.

God tells him through the prophet "Who do you think you are? thinking you will generously make a home for me when I brought you from nowhere and set you up here" Then God promises that He will come and make his home in one of David's descendants. The gospel tells us how God found his home in Mary and in her 'yes' to the announcement of the angel to her. God's home is not in some building but rather he makes his home wherever His will is done. "Anyone who loves me will obey my word, and my Father will love them and we will come and make our home with them" (Jn 14:23).

On behalf of Fr Hieu and all of us on the team here at St Cornelius I pray blessings and peace in your home in these days and that you feel God's presence with you wherever you find yourself and in whatever circumstances. We pray a special grace of God for all those who are homeless at this time.

A blessed Christmas to all,

Fr. Jay

Mass Schedule

Christmas Eve
Sunday, December 24
3:30, 5:30 & 10:00 pm
(10:00pm Mass will be by candlelight)

Christmas Day
Monday, December 25
8:00 & 10:00 am & 12:00pm

New Years Day
Monday, January 1 9:00am

Women together in Prayer

Thursday, December 28, 2023
6:30pm-7:30pm
In the Parish Center

Women coming together ~ connecting their faith through prayer, scripture, song, reflection, community, tears and laughter.

One of the great things about praying is that it reflects the heart of God. A woman's strength and beauty root her in Christ's character. As she commits to God's ways, she holds close to His promises. Deuteronomy 11:18 tells us, "Commit yourselves wholeheartedly to these words of mine. When a woman prays, something wonderful happens. Not just to the person for whom the prayers are spoken, but also for the person praying. Prayer changes things and people.

For any questions,
please contact Janet Uy (562) 922-0096

(PRACTICING) CATHOLIC

What Is Your Fiat?

Are you an anxious people-pleaser prone to overcommitting yourself? Welcome to the club! We have slogans, and for your convenience I've listed them here:

"Sounds great!"

"No worries!"

"Absolutely, I can do that, not a problem!"

These are your go-to responses for when someone requests a favor that is a huge inconvenience, but you would rather die than disappoint. It's not exactly disingenuous — it's just a little neurotic. Again, welcome to the club.

You know who doesn't belong to this club? The Blessed Mother. For many reasons, I'm sure, but the biggest one is that she's always completely up-front. Take her response to the Angel Gabriel: "Let it be done."

If there are more powerful words than these, I can't think of them now. And yet, as responses go, this certainly isn't an enthusiastic one. There was never a human creature more willing to obey God than Mary, full of grace, so it makes it all of the more striking that her response to Gabriel is this reserved — and it makes it all the more certain that she means exactly what she says.

Let it be done.

Not: Yes, this is exactly that I asked for!

Not: Nope. This sounds awful. Count me out.

But precisely this: If God is asking, my answer is yes.

The Angel Gabriel visits us all, in a way, at some point or another, bearing news we did not expect. When we can say, in the face of that uncertainty, "Let it be done," we are embracing our calling as disciples. We are becoming like Mary.

"Behold, I am the handmaid of the Lord." — Luke 1:38

Colleen Jurkiewicz Dorman

Why do we do that?

Catholic Life Explained

Question:

Why do Catholics light candles in church?

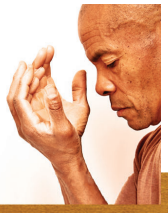
Answer:

Candles have been part of the Church's worship from the earliest times. In the days before electricity, candles and oil lamps were the ways that people lighted buildings. Even today, we often still depend on candles during power outages, relying on their flickering flames to bring light into the dark.

Like our ancestors, we also light candles on special occasions. Think about a festive family meal or a romantic dinner for two — there will often be candles on the table, special objects for a special event. We light candles on birthday cakes and carry them in processions. We also place candles at makeshift memorials that appear when there has been an accident or act of violence. In these moments, their light casts aside a different kind of darkness — the darkness of grief, fear, and death.

The custom of the early Christians lighting candles and lamps at the tombs of the martyrs gave way to the practice of having candles at Mass, honoring the sacredness of the celebration.

As Christians decorated their worship spaces with statues and icons, they would burn candles in front of sacred images and the relics of the saints, basically "shining a light" on what they held to be sacred. When pilgrims would visit these shrines, they would often bring candles to light before the image or relic. These candles came to be a symbol of the person, and their prayer and the burning these candles came to be understood as an extension and continuation of the prayer that was offered. What began as a practical way to provide light has come to be a symbol of the hopes, desires, loves, losses, fears, and faith of everyday Christians offering their prayers to God and his saints.



Prayer

MASS INTENTIONS

Sunday 12/24 8:00am H Laurie Ann
† Marcey McConnell-Flood
† Lance Edwall
† Lolita Reyes

10:00 am † Cornelio B. Milo
† Lilly S. Milo
† Remedios Caguioa
† Cornelio Batoon Jr.

12:00 pm † Antonio Pavia
† Mirna Saluquen

3:30 pm SI Carol Pentruncola
† John Mc Fayden
† Amanda Bernice Cooke

5:30 pm † Antonio Mortel
† Ruben Lopez Diaz
† Jerry Pohl

10:00 pm † Fred & Mildred Betts
† Anthony Paracca

Monday 12/25 10:00 am B Michael Timoney
H Maria Baltran
† Ruben Lopez Diaz

12:00 pm † Pamela Mueller

Tuesday 12/26 5:00 pm † All souls in Purgatory

Wednesday12/27 5:00 pm B Christina Salas

Thursday 12/28 5:00 pm † John Mc Fayden

Friday 12/29 5:00 pm † Fr. Tom Finnegan
† Paul Trudel
† Rogelio T. Garibay

Saturday12/30 8:00 am † All Souls in Purgatory

5:00 pm † Leo Cutter
† Henry & Joan Boatright

SI Special Intention B Birthday
H Health I Illness
T Thanksgiving † Rest in Peace A Anniversary

Prayers for the Sick
Please remember these loved ones
in Prayer

Kathy Haley	George Ganem
Michael Andrew Napoleone	Nicolas Ganem
Maria Corona	Xavier Alvarez
Jess Escandon	Heather Deitz
Kieth Perkins	Julia Ackley
Steve Easley	Rocio Mota
Justin Ferreras	Gina Arruda
Jean Wells	Kathy Bond
Nicolas V. Garcia Jr.	Hayleen Markle
Flo Wendt	Trinity Owen
Tom Ostoich	Panfilo Huerta
Alex Mendoza	Fanny Pallares
Eddie Lopez	Trudy Howard

If you would like a loved one or yourself included, please submit via the form on our website stcorneliuslb.org

Sunday 12/31 8:00 am † Antonio Mortel
SI Familia Nuñez Vivar

10:00 am † Felix Roberto Cortez
† Thomas Frankhart
† Bernard Chabot

12:00 pm SI Familia Lopez Vivar
SI Erin Ferlekin

Community

St. Vincent de Paul - December 24 Fourth Sunday of Advent: Imagine how Mary felt at the birth of Jesus: excited, awed, frightened. Deep faith was her light in the darkness, for Jesus was born during the night of the year when darkness is the longest. Your gift to the Society of St. Vincent de Paul brought light into the darkness surrounding the heart of those living in poverty bringing them the real, lasting, and deep joy of Christmas.

WOMEN'S RETREAT - How is your soul? Is it taking little steps toward heaven or is it flying there? Registration is open for a 3 day retreat, Feb. 9-11, 2024 at the **Sacred Heart Retreat House**, Alhambra. Other dates are also available. For more information, call Pam Branch 562-397-0749.

The Spiritual Care Services Department at St. Mary Medical Center currently has volunteer opportunities. - Three (3) Eucharist Ministers (Saturdays and Sundays) - Three (3) Sacristans Those interested in learning more about these volunteer opportunities, in a healthcare setting, are invited to call the Spiritual Care Services Department at 562-491-9675 for more information. St. Mary Medical Center Spiritual Care Services Department 562-491-9675.

PFO Luncheon and Entertainment: Friday, January 12, 2024 From 12:00 p.m. to 2:00 p.m. in the St. Cornelius School Large Hall. Entertainment: St. Cornelius School Students.
We are looking for new volunteers. Everyone is welcome! Come and meet new friends during our activities. Guests include residents of convalescent and nursing homes, and people from the community. If you need transportation to attend the PFO activities, or need a ride to a doctor appointment please contact Sean Gunning 562-209-3051. PFO provides fish, chicken, salad, drinks, 50-50 raffle, free Bingo and Bingo prizes, birthday bag, and more. Optional donation: a hot dish, vegetable dish, bread rolls, fruits or dessert.
Meeting: Tuesday, January 9, 2024 at 10:00 am in the Parish Center.
Rosary and 5:00 pm Mass: Saturday, January 10, 2024 we pray the Rosary at 4:30 pm and attend Mass. Questions: John Gaudy 562-597-6917; Jenny Davidoff 562-234-7043.

St. Cornelius School Applications for 2024-2025
St. Cornelius School is now accepting applications for the 2023-2024 school year. Transitional Kindergarten (TK) and Kindergarten applications are due to the school office by January 31. Children applying for Transitional Kindergarten must be 4 years old by September 1, 2023. Children applying for Kindergarten must be 5 years old by December 1, 2023. Kindergarten applicants will be screened for readiness in February. Please call the school office at (562) 425-7813 or drop by to pick up an application packet. Applications are available on the school website at www.stcornelius.net . Click on the Admissions link at the top of the home page and then click on Application Form.

YLI - Faith must be an active experience! We are offering a way for women, 16 and older, to have a faith filled place to meet and do all of the following and more... The Young Ladies Institute meets at St. Cornelius on the second Tuesday of the month in the 8th grade classroom. We invite you to come find out more about this vibrant organization, filled with charity and love, that has existed since 1887 when 3 young, Catholic women got together to help a friend in need. We are now 6,000 women strong in 4 western states. Please come meet some amazing women who work very hard to support our church and make the world a better place. Become a member and experience a more active faith! For more information, call Colleen Smith at 562-427-5745, or Stacy McCombs at 562-547-5450 - Next meeting is Tuesday January 9th.

Ministry

December 23-24 || What is a trial balloon?

One of the best ways safe adults can help children who are suffering from abuse is to recognize and listen to their disclosures — even if they are done in stages or in subtle ways. A child may float a "trial balloon" disclosure, meaning he may use a single sentence or phrase to see if a safe adult will respond appropriately. Be on the lookout for sudden disclosures like, "I don't want to go to So-and-so's house anymore," and try responding in a way designed to let the child continue to open up: "Do you want to tell me why?" or "Let's talk about that," for example. For more information, read the VIRTUS® article "Test Balloons or Trial Balloons" at lacatholics.org/did-you-know/.

EXPOSITION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT

We invite you to come and spend time in the presence of our Lord. Please note there are new hours on Fridays, beginning January.

Tuesdays in the Chapel - 7:30am - 7:00pm
Fridays in the Chapel - 7:30am - 4:30pm
Fridays in the Church 5:30pm - 6:30pm

Ministries and Fellowship Groups

Altar Servers	Al & Pilar Caceres	562 326-9768
Bereavement	Nancy Himes	562 928-2474
Book Club	Katy Ellis	562 607-1100
Caring Hands	Rachel Landesfeind	562 421-8966
Cub Scouts	Matt Siebert	562 756-7873
Choirs	Joe Patolo	562 421-8966
Cursillo (Los Angeles)	Jackie Ramirez	562 316-8303
Cursillo (Orange)	Dn Joe Hamamoto	562 572-3425
Eucharistic Ministers/Lectors	Michele Bradley	562 964-4140
Hospital Ministry	Frank Schmidt	562 225-7571
Knights of Columbus	Victor Magana	562 420-3214
Lazarus Project	Rose Letson	562 755-0862
People for Others	Jenny Davidoff	562 234-7043
PFO Transportation	Sean Gunning	562 209-3051
Prayer Warriors	Hilda Ramirez	562 421-8966
RCIA	Loraine Moreno	562 421-8966
Religious Education	Cristy Hull	562 362-6561
Respect Life	Jean Campos Judith Martinez	562 421-8966
St. Vincent de Paul	Claudia Meza	562 421-8011
Safeguard the Children	Parish Office	562 421-8966
Ushers	Michael Moretine	562 420-4565
Weddings	Maria Carbonara	562 421-8966
Quinceaneras	Maria Eugenia Cortez	562 421-8966
Youth Ministry & Confirmation	Luis Lopez	562 420-7613
Y.L.I.	Colleen Smith or Stacy McCombs	562 427-5745 562 547-5450

Clergy and Parish Office

Parish Office, Mon-Fri 9:30 to 5:30	**562 421-8966**
Weekends 9:00am to 2:00pm	
Father Jay Cunnane - Pastor	**Pastor@stcorneliuslb.org**
Father Hieu Nguyen - Associate Pastor	**FrHieu@stcorneliuslb.org**
Deacon Rich Boucher	**Contact the Rectory**
Deacon Joe Hamamoto	**DeaconJoe@stcorneliuslb.org**
Linda Ramirez - Receptionist	**receptionist@stcorneliuslb.org**
Maria Carbonara - Secretary & Projects	**projects@stcorneliuslb.org**
Erik Landesfeind - Business Manager	**businessmanager@stcorneliuslb.org**
Nancy Hayes - School Principal	**562 425-7813**

Save the Date
St. Cornelius School Open House

Please save the date! Sunday, January 28, 2024. Pancake breakfast, open house, school tour, and book fair. Invite a friend! For any questions call the school office at (562) 425-7813.

Advent Donation Drive

Blankets, Toiletries & Socks

Please drop at receptacles at the entrance of the Church

Gift Cards

(St. Vincent DePaul & FosterAll)

Please drop your gift card donations at the Rectory Office.

These items will help the needy through our missions and ministries

Faith Formation Schedule

EARLY CHILDHOOD

Sunday School -- 3 - 5 year olds -- during 10:00 am Mass

FIRST COMMUNION

Yr. 2 - Sunday Jan. 7th, 2:00 pm in the large hall.
Yr. 1 - Tuesday Jan. 9th, 6:00 pm in the large hall.

MIDDLE SCHOOL/EDGE

EDGE night , Jan. 8th - 6:30 - 8:00 pm in the Large Hall
6th-8th grades - Jan. 16th - 7:00-8:00 pm MS classrooms

PARABLE SERIES

Jan. 16 6 - 7:30

For questions
Call Cristy Hull in the
Faith Formation Office
562 362-6561