

St Bernadette Catholic Church
3825 Don Felipe Drive
Los Angeles , CA 90008
(323) 293-4877
stbernadettela.org



September 02/03, 2023
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“Take Up Your Cross and Follow Me”

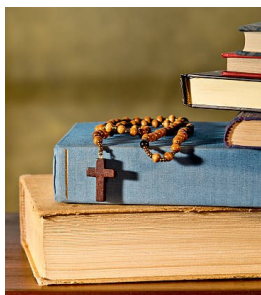
(Mark 8:34)

We hear, "Take up your cross and follow me," over and over again in Christianity. "Take up your cross," the Savior said. What does it actually mean to "take up your cross?" Are we supposed to follow Jesus so literally we give up our lives, willingly, to the religious and political authorities of our day, who will then put us to death by execution? Are we supposed to carry an instrument of torture on our backs to the place of our suffering? The cross was not a piece of nice jewelry back in those days; it had the same cultural connotation as an electric chair does in our own time. It was a form of degrading execution. "The Cross" is a sign of weakness. When Jesus took up his cross, he was acknowledging vulnerability. He was admitting weakness, submitting to the power which would take his life. The cross represented his exposure to pain and suffering...his vulnerability. "Taking up our cross" means picking up and acknowledging our vulnerability. Most of us spend our lives doing just the opposite. We prepare for the world by building up our strengths. We do good and great things in the world with the strengths we have developed. To "take up our cross," however, means to lay our strengths (and our ego) aside and instead, picking up those weaknesses we so often deny. Taking up our cross means going to those places where we are vulnerable, places where we may be exposed to embarrassment and shame. These are not comfortable places, and yet, they are a part of us. Our weaknesses and losses are just as much a part of us as our strengths. Jesus said it like this: "those who want to save their life will lose it, and those who lose their life for my sake, and for the sake of the gospel, will save it."



“Catholic” is More Than a Social Identity We are blessed to have a Church which has a rich tradition, culture, and history. Examples: The communion of saints, the body of teachings and tradition, the ability of our Church to witness to how great a gift Christ has given us in inviting us to share in His Church and her culture. Catholicism defines so much more than our “cultural identity.” Catholicism defines our “mystical identity.”

Through our baptism, we are transformed from merely beloved creatures of God into members of His very family. Moreover, our entry into the



Church through the Sacraments of Initiation (Baptism, Eucharist, and Confirmation) leaves a permanent mark on our souls which demons fear and angels revere. Baptism cleanses us of the original sin of our first parents; Confirmation opens our hearts in new ways to the movements, gifts, and charisms of the Holy Spirit; and the Eucharist, each and every time we receive it, transforms our hearts to be even more like our heavenly Father's.



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God Isn't Asking You to Figure it Out?

He's Asking you to Trust He Already Has.

September 08: Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary

The Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary refers to the birthday of the Blessed Virgin Mary by her parents St. Anne and St. Joachim. The Catholic Church celebrates Mary's birthday on September 8th, nine months after the solemnity of the Immaculate Conception, celebrated on December 8th. The Feast, like the Assumption of Mary, originated in Jerusalem. It began in the fifth century as the Feast of the "Basilica Sanctae Mariae ubi nata est", now called the Basilica of St. Anne. In the seventh century, the feast was celebrated at Rome as the Feast of the Birth of the Blessed Virgin Mary. The scene was frequently depicted in art, as part of cycles of the Life of the Virgin Mary. These late medieval depictions are often valuable records of domestic interiors from their period, and were often in a wealthy household. Apostolic tradition places Mary's birthplace either in the Church of Saint Anne in Jerusalem, or in Tzippori, Israel where St. Anne once lived. We as Catholics, celebrate the birth of Mary, as this is truly the "Birth of Salvation". We know that Mary went on to give birth to Jesus, our Savior. Many faithful throughout the world hold a birthday party for Mary, and celebrate to commemorate that beautiful event.

Prayer: Impart to your servants, we pray, O Lord, the gift of heavenly grace which the feast of the Nativity of the Blessed Virgin may bring deeper peace to those for whom the birth of her Son was the dawning of salvation. Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, forever and ever.



Your Guide to What's Happening September 03, Following 10:00 Mass - *Easy as 1,2,3*

1. Presentation in the Church Immediately Following Mass.

2. Wine and Cheese in the Rectory Grotto

3. Coffee and Donuts in the Parish Hall

Join us for Bible Study

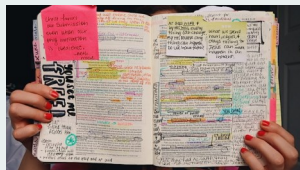
**1st and 3rd Thursday
1:00 & 7:00 PM
Via ZOOM**

**1:00 pm Meeting
ID: 87233018319
Passcode: 689472**

**Contact:
Carolyn James
(323) 394-5441**

**7:00 pm Meeting
ID 811 5705 8134
Passcode: 6FuFf7**

**Contact:
Elsie Dixon
(310) 410-2962**



Who was St Phoebe?

Phoebe was a first-century Christian woman mentioned by the Apostle Paul in his Epistle to the Romans, verses 16:1–2. A notable woman in the church of Cenchreae, she was trusted by Paul to deliver his letter to the Romans. Paul refers to her both as a "servant" or "deacon" (Greek diakonos) and as a helper or patron of many (Greek prostatis). This is the only place in the New Testament where a woman is specifically referred to with these two distinctions. Paul introduces Phoebe as his emissary to the church in Rome and, because they are not acquainted with her, Paul provides them with her credentials. I commend to you our sister Phoebe, a deacon of the church in Cenchreae. I ask you to receive her in the Lord in a way worthy of his people and to give her any help she may need from you, for she has been the benefactor of many people, including me.

Apostle Paul used the Greek diakonos (δῆκονος) to designate Phoebe as a deacon. "Deacon" is a transliteration of the Greek, and in Paul's writings sometimes refers to a Christian designated to serve as a specially-appointed "assistant" to the over-



seers of a church, and at others refers to "servants" in a general sense. In the letter to the Romans, apart from the debated case of Phoebe, it always refers to "servants" in the generic sense, as opposed to a church office. However, at this inaugural stage in the Church's formation it is no doubt premature to think of offices as being consistent or clearly defined, and Rosalba Manes argues that Paul's use of the term "deacon" suggests that, like Stephen and Philip, Phoebe's ministry may have extended beyond charitable works to include preaching and evangelization.

Sacraments are more than mere signs. The sacraments impart grace. The sacraments help to make people holy and build-up the body of Christ. They are a way to relate to God throughout life's transitions and help us to give praise and worship to God. They help us nourish, strengthen, and express our faith.



BE A COFFEE AND DONUTS HERO!
We need "Coffee and Donut Sponsors"
No Set Up, or Pick Up, Just Pay Up.
We will take care of the rest.
Whether you are a Couple, a Family, a Parish
Ministry, a Local Business Owner,
a Service Organization.

ALL YOU NEED DO IS
DONATE ALL OR PART
OF THE (ONE TIME) WEEKLY COST TO THE
CHURCH, AND WE TAKE CARE OF THE REST.
FOR DETAILS CALL THE OFFICE
(323)293-4877



LITURGY SCHEDULE
SEPTEMBER 04, 2023
MONDAY
TO SUNDAY,
SEPTEMBER 10, 2023

Monday, September 04, 2023

LABOR DAY No Masses
OFFICE CLOSED

Tuesday, September 05 2023

8:00 Communion Service
Live-Streamed and In-Person

Wednesday, September 06,
2023

8:00 am Mass
Live-Streamed and In-Person

***Thurs, September 07, 2023**

8:00 am Mass
Live-Streamed and In-Person

***Friday, September 08, 2023**

8:00 am Mass
Live-Streamed and In-Person

***Saturday, Sept. 09, 2023**

3:00 pm Reconciliation
4:00 pm Vigil Mass

Sunday, September 10, 2023

10:00 am Mass
Coffee & Donuts
Parish Hall
Following Mass

Other Sacraments
(as Scheduled)

Mass Intentions
(323) 293-4877
j.carper.sbccc@gmail.com

***LOTW: Liturgy of the Word**



Volunteers Needed
"Liturgical Ministries" assist with
Mass or other Sacraments
(Baptism for instance). We some-
times forget, while the priest
(assisted by the Deacon) is the

presider and main guide for the movement of the liturgy, it is a community
effort to complete the Mass. Here are some ways you can use **your gifts**
and talents to bring more beauty to the Mass: Sacristans; Lectors; Extraordi-
 nary Ministers of Communion; Cantors/Choir Members/Musicians, Altar Serv-
 ers, Ushers, Greeters, Hospitality Ministers, Altar Environment.



Join us
September 3, 2023
to learn about
women in the
Church following
the 10am mass.

Dr. Yolanda Brown, D.Min.,
 will detail the exciting
 happenings of the global
 Synod taking place this
 October. Please remain in the
 pews following the final
 blessing.

Enjoy a wine and cheese
 reception immediately after
 the speech.

See you there!

Please submit your Bulletin Articles and Pulpit Announcements
AT LEAST TWO WEEKS IN ADVANCE.
If you have questions, pls contact the office at (323) 293-4877

PARISH STAFF

DCN JIM CARPER, PLD
MSGR LORETO GONZALES
FR MARCELLINUS MBATA
DCN EMILE ADAMS, RIP
DAVID CHRISTENSEN
EMANUEL HOLDER
CLARENCE DIXON
MARGARITA HURST
MARINA AYALA

(OFFICE VOLUNTEERS)
TERESA CARPER

1 Corinthians 15:58

*Oh Lord, help every worker to
work wholeheartedly for the
church. Help them to remember
the work they do in the church is
not in vain as Your Word
declares Your work is never
wasted.*



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stbernadettela.org

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Twitter
https://twitter.com/stbernadettecc_



*Mass Intentions

Saturday September 02, 2023:

Deacon Emile Adams (RIP) & Anona Adams (RIP)

Sunday, September 03, 2023:

Marie LaBrie (Health)

Suggested Donation? \$10.00 each

Did you know? September 02-03

How can we combat human trafficking? Human trafficking is the forced exploitation of people – it is estimated that 27 million people are enslaved across the world. This can include sweatshop labor, sex work, forced marriage, and more. Every state in the US. has documented instances of human trafficking. Spreading awareness about the immensity and pervasiveness of this problem is the first step in fighting back. Learn about the resources available, such as the National Human Trafficking Hotline (1-888-373-7888) and the National Center for Missing and Exploited Children. For more information, read the VIRTUS® article “Human Trafficking Awareness” at lacatholics.org/did-you-know/.

Read the VIRTUS® article “Human Trafficking Awareness” [here.lacatholics.org/did-you-know/](http://lacatholics.org/did-you-know/). Read the VIRTUS® article “Barriers Minors Face to Dis-closing Child Sexual Abuse” [here](http://lacatholics.org/did-you-know/).



Coming to St Bernadette in October



The beautiful image of Our Lady of Fatima was designed by famous sculptor José Thedim in 1947. Sister Lucia herself instructed him, and later remarked that she had never seen any image which so resembled the actual apparition of Our Lady. The Bishop of Fatima entrusted the image to John Haffert, co-founder of the Blue Army, and prayed that Mary herself accompany the statue wherever it goes. It has traveled around the globe many times for nearly 70 years. In 2014, the statue was placed under the auspice of the World Apostolate of Fatima, USA and continues its pilgrim journeys today. An uninterrupted flow of graces and favors have been reported wherever the statue has traveled, including physical cures

(which can only be officially pronounced by Church authorities), and numerous conversions. The purpose of the Pilgrim Virgin Statue tours was and still is to bring the graces of Fatima and Our Lady's message of hope, peace and salvation to those many millions of people who may never have an opportunity to make a pilgrimage to Fatima itself. “In 1946, I crowned Our Lady of Fatima as Queen of the World and the following year, through the Pilgrim Virgin, She set forth as though to claim Her dominion, and the favors She performs along the way are such that we can hardly believe what we are seeing with our eyes.” –Pope Pius XII