St. Lawrence Martyr Catholic Community

SEP 21, 2025 | 25th Sunday in Ordinary Time





Rev. Msgr. Paul Dotson, Pastor
Rev. Charles Balamaze, Associate Pastor | Rev. Msgr. Peter O'Reilly, In Residence
Deacon Don Burt | Deacon Jim Egnatuk | Deacon Dale Sheckler

WEEKEND MASSES

Saturday 4:00 PM (Sunday Liturgy) Sunday 7:00 AM, 9:00 AM, 11:30 AM, 5:00 PM

DAILY MASSES

Monday - Saturday 8:10 AM
Tuesday & Thursday 12:00 PM

ADORATION CHAPEL

 Sunday
 7:00 AM - 6:00 PM

 Monday & Friday
 7:00 AM - 3:30 PM

 Saturday
 8:00 AM - 5:00 PM

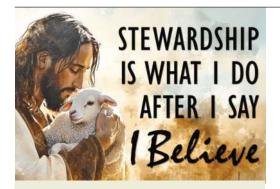
SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION

Saturday 11:00 AM - 12:00 PM

TELEPHONE NUMBERS

Pastoral Center 310-540-0329
Office for Worship 310-316-0090
Office of Religious Education 310-316-4460
O.C.I.A. for Adults 310-316-0961
St. Lawrence Martyr School 310-316-3049
Youth Ministry/Confirmation 310-540-0329 x251
Funerals 310-540-0329 x274
St. Lawrence Martyr Gift Shop 310-540-0329 x249

To become a member of our community of faith, please stop by or call the Pastoral Center at 310-540-0329 or register online: https://www.stlm.org/im-new



GIVING TO ST. LAWRENCE MARTYR IS EASY WITH ELEXIO

Forgot your envelope? Are you visiting us today and want to make a ONE TIME GIFT? Want to give to a special collection? Follow these easy and secure steps to Text-to-Give:

- Text GIVE to 424-414-STLM.
- Follow the text instructions to complete your donation.
- Save the number as a contact in your phone to make future giving faster and easier.

You may also give by scanning this QR Code with the camera app on your cellphone or visit STLM.ORG/GIVING



We thank you for your generosity and support of our St. Lawrence Martyr Catholic Community.

PASTORAL CENTER HOURS

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SLFI	LIVIDLI	ZI SEFICIVIDEN 23
Sun	9/21	08:00 am - 1:00 pm
Mon	9/22	08:30 am - 12:30 pm
		01:30 pm - 04:00 pm
Tue	9/23	08:30 am - 12:30 pm
		01:30 pm - 04:00 pm
Wed	9/24	08:30 am - 12:30 pm
		01:30 pm - 04:00 pm
Thu	9/25	08:30 am - 12:30 pm
		01:30 pm - 04:00 pm
Fri	9/26	08:30 am - 12:30 pm
		01:30 pm - 04:00 pm
Sat	9/27	Closed
Sun	9/28	08:00 am - 1:00 pm
Mon	9/29	08:30 am - 12:30 pm
		01:30 pm - 04:00 pm

PRAYER FOR EVERYDAY

Jesus, With your gentle mercy, build my trust. Help me to believe you when you say you want good for me. In every season, give me grace. In every need, be my answer. Amen. ©LPI

Daily Mass Schedule Changes During Construction

During hillside construction, our Tuesday and Thursday 12:00 pm Masses will be temporarily canceled. We invite you to join us for daily Mass at 8:10 am, and we thank you for keeping our parish in prayer during this time.

Pancake Breakfast

Sunday, September 21, 9-11 am | Parish Hall

You're all invited to join us right after Mass for a delicious Pancake Breakfast hosted by Eat at Joe's—fluffy pancakes, sizzling sausage, and great company, all for just a \$6 donation per person to support our school!

And while you're here, swing by the Scholastic Book Fair in the school library. Find a great book or two and help support our students' love for reading. We'd love to see you there! Come hungry and leave happy!

CFM Kickoff: Eyes on the End Zone

Sunday, September 21, 4-7 pm | Parish Hall

CFM, a family ministry that and has been active at St. Lawrence for over 60 years, is hosting its football themed kick-off event, Eyes On The End Zone. All are welcome to come to the hall for food, games and friendship. Please see the bulletin for further details.

Adult Confirmation sessions are underway

If you missed the first one, don't worry—it's not too late to join us this year. This is a beautiful opportunity to strengthen your faith and complete your initiation into the Church. We meet at 7:00 pm in the Chapel on the 2nd Thursday of each month. Our next session is on October 9. It's not too late—register today!



Columbaria & Memorial Garden Update

Yvonne Fisher | yvonne.fisher@stlm.org | 310-540-0329 x289

A Place to Belong...A Place to Remain The Columbaria at SLM provide registered parishioners and their immediate families a special place for the inurnment of our loved ones. Below is a brief update on niche purchases and brick sales.

Category	Total	Sold	Remaining
Indoor Columbarium	178	176	2
Outdoor Columbarium	70	5	65
Memorial Garden Bricks	1,112	528	584



Patricio Lira

PRAYER REQUESTS

We pray for all those suffering illness and in need of healing and comfort.

Eduardo Cervantes Cathy Doyle Rogelio Vázquez
Chris Wolf James Duffy Rafael Ramirez
Dan Olsen Monica Rangel-Santos Ginger Barclay
Riley White Diane Cole Norma Saba

Gary Gibson Ann LaFranchi



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SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 21

7:00 am | Peggy Anderson † 9:00 am | Pedro Duran † 11:30 am | Cynthia Trenshaw †

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 22

8:10 am | Anne Gross †

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 23

8:10 am | Joseph Borg †

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 24

8:10 am | Alvaro & Gisela Fernandez †

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 25

8:10 am | Keith Campbell †

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 26

8:10 am | Raffaele Chiaravalloti

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 27

8:10 am | Pauline Dotson † 4:00 pm | Lane & Savannah Krai

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 28

7:00 am | Mario & Marta Torres†
9:00 am | Dolores Kaemerle †
11:30 am | Juan & Sofia Garcia †
5:00 pm | Susan Orfila †

(† Deceased)

Parishioners are invited to offer Mass intentions for loved ones, living or deceased. A donation of \$20 is suggested. You may also add your loved one to the Book of Intentions in the church by Mary. Your offering supports our parish and the spiritual work of the Church. Thank you for your generosity.

THE FAITHFUL DEPARTED

May all the souls of the recently departed, through the mercy of Christ, rest in peace.

Frances Thompson Charlie Kirk
Aida Sarag James Joseph Clark

Eternal Rest Grant Unto Them, O Lord.

SUNDAY READINGS

First Reading: The LORD has sworn by the pride of Jacob: Never will I forget a thing they have done! (Amos 8:7)

Psalm: Praise the Lord who lifts up the poor. (Psalm 113)

Second Reading: There is also one mediator between God and men, the man Christ Jesus, who gave himself as ransom for all. (1 Timothy 2:5-6)

Gospel: "No servant can serve two masters. He will either hate one and love the other, or be devoted to one and despise the other. You cannot serve both God and mammon." (Luke 16:13))

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

Sunday: Amos 8:4-7, 1 Timothy 2:1-8, Luke 16:1-13

Monday: Ezra 1:1-6, Luke 8:16-18

Tuesday: Ezra 6:7-8, 12b, 14-20, Luke 8:19-21

Wednesday: Ezra 9:5-9, Luke 9:1-6
Thursday: Haggai 1:1-8, Luke 9:7-9
Friday: Haggai 2:1-9, Luke 9:18-22

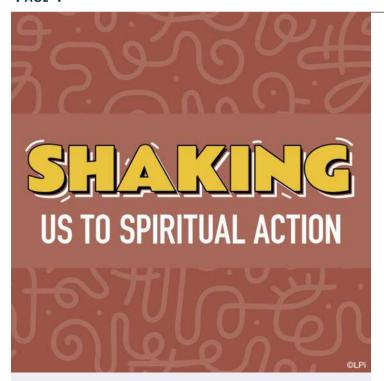
Saturday: Zechariah 2:5-9, 14-15a, Luke 9:43b-45

Next Sunday: Amos 6:1a, 4-7, 1 Timothy 6:11-16, Luke 16:19-31



INFORMATION NIGHT

O.C.I.A. in Pastoral Center Wednesday, October 1, 7:00 pm ALL ARE WELCOME!



GOSPEL MEDITATION by FR. JOHN MUIR

Before I was a priest, I was a lazy worker for a retail Apple store. Hearing a rumor that my boss was going to fire me, I secretly sold iPhones for half-price, gave away dozens of free iPads, and donated several brand-new laptops to managers in other stores in the mall. After a week, my boss called me into his office. He knew what I was up to. He said I had cost the store thousands of dollars. "Really great work, John," he said. "I am going to recommend you to be my assistant manager and double your pay." I was amazed.

And so are you. Which is understandable because it never happened. How could it? My tall tale is a retelling of Jesus' brow-furrowing parable we hear this week. A lazy, dishonest steward defrauds his boss and then the "master commended the dishonest servant for acting prudently" (Luke 16:8). What is the Lord saying to us?

Most of us treat our spiritual lives like a lazy teenager at an Apple store. We really don't care. We go through the motions. Then, if we are lucky, something happens that shakes us to spiritual action; to employ whatever time, money, and resources we have to build around us a strong network of love. Every saint did that. Our Lord is so good he wants us to use his stuff to forgive debts and to bless others. He wants us to ensure our future. So do it! ©LPI

(PRACTICING) CATHOLIC RECOGNIZE GOD IN YOUR ORDINARY MOMENTS

Mini Reflection: Jesus' parable of the untrustworthy steward sums up all our anxieties surrounding material wealth and the delicate balance we have to strike of caring for our physical needs while prioritizing our spiritual ones.

God and Mammon

Dealing with money is unpleasant.

You might be good at dealing with money (I am not). You might even do it for a living (I do not). You might be careful to use as much of your money as you can for good purposes (I try to, but man, these skyrocketing grocery prices are killing me).

But ultimately, money does not bring out the best in us. We waste it. We manipulate it. We hoard it. We become obsessed by it. We let pursuit of it define our decisions. Money is something akin to — it corrupts by touch, it seems. But unlike witchcraft, you can't avoid money altogether. It's necessary. These dollars and cents keep us alive in this world, for a time. We need them for food, for warmth, for health.

Jesus' parable of the untrustworthy steward sums up all our anxieties surrounding material wealth and the delicate balance we have to strike of caring for our physical needs while prioritizing our spiritual ones. But the parable reminds us that we can't escape money, just like we can't escape the world and all the barriers forged by this world between man and the happiness his Creator intends for him. We could retreat to the highest, remotest mountaintop, but the human condition would follow us there.

We would still feel doubt. We would still feel pain. We would still feel fear. We would still sin.

And we would still be hungry and cold. We would still need money.

Money will never be something that is easy to handle virtuously. But guess what? Nothing in this world is. And it's probably best that we remember that.

- Colleen Jurkiewicz Dorman . @LPi

ON THE DEATH OF A LOVED-ONE

Starting July 1, 2025, families experiencing the loss of a loved one may call 310-540-0329 x274 at any time to begin funeral arrangements at St. Lawrence Martyr. This dedicated line is monitored three times a day, and a minister will return your call within 24 hours.

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QUESTIONS OF THE WEEK REFLECT AND RESPOND TO SCRIPTURE

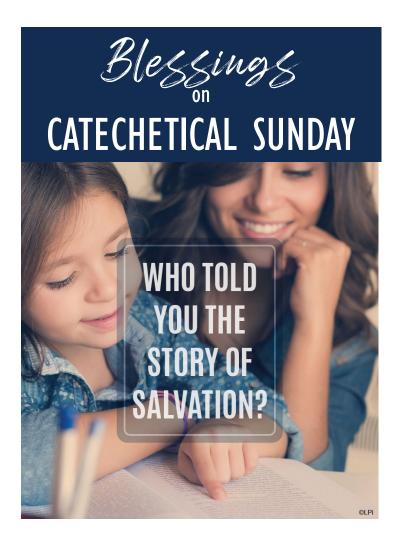
1st Reading: Amos forewarns those who exploit the poor and disadvantaged that God will remember their greed and corruption. How might you lend a helping hand this week to others in need?

2nd Reading: Paul instructs Timothy on the necessity of openness and generosity in prayer. What do you think makes for a strong prayer life?

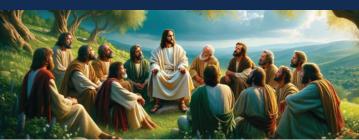
Gospel: In the parable of the dishonest steward, the disciples learn the importance of honesty and prudence in daily living. What other virtues would you add for the life of a Christian today? ©LPi

LIVE THE LITURGY

No servant can serve two masters, and in his goodness, God gives us the ability to choose. Will we serve mammon, the riches of this world? Or will we seek true wealth, the kind that cannot be hoarded or wasted, but only given freely away? ©LPi



See You in the *Eucharist*



ARE CATHOLICS CHRISTIANS?

I taught my sons once they were old enough to go to school to respond with great conviction: "Of course I am! I am a Catholic! I am an original Christian of the Church established by our Lord Jesus Christ himself!

You see, there was no other church than the Catholic Church for the first 1000 years after the death and resurrection of Christ. The was no other. And so the first Christians had no doubt about how to determine which was the true Church. You know why? There was only one Church. For the first 1000 years after Christ there was no wondering which was the one true Church. There was only one: and that was our Catholic Church. Then in 1054AD the orthodox church split away and later the Reformation Protestants and so they had no doubt how to determine what was the true Church and which doctrines were the true teachings of Christ. The test was simple: just trace back the apostolic succession of the bishops and popes. And so apostolic succession is this line that all over the world, all Catholic bishops are part of a line that goes back to each of the twelve apostles, something that is impossible for protestant denominations. Protestant churches only go back to 1517AD, one thousand five hundred years after Christ. Some even just go as far back as 100, 50, 25, 10, 5, even only two years ago! This is why there are more than 40,000 protestant denominations (and growing) these days and still only one holy, catholic, and apostolic church.

My boys are young men now. One is married and is establishing his faithful Catholic family. The other is still single. He stands firm in his Catholic identity as a young man of God.

Some freeze when asked the question: "Are Catholics Christians?" Learn from my boys and answer with conviction. And, by the way, since we're on this topic ... Catholics are indeed saved and are born again (when we were baptized!).

Les Rangel-Santos
Director of Worship: Liturgy & Music
les.rangelsantos@stlm.org

SLM GIFT SHOP

Sun | 8:30 AM - 1:00 PM Tue, Thu, Fri | 10:00 AM - 4:00 PM Mon, Wed, Sat | Closed

310-540-0329 x249 giftshop@stlm.org

VOTIVE CANDLES

Candles are available at the Pastoral Center or in the Gift Shop. Candles are \$5.00 ea. and stay lit for five days.

NO DONUTS THIS WEEK

Join us for the School Beginning of Year Kick Off - Pancake Breakfast

Freewill offerings always greatly appreciated and support our Donut Ministry.

SOBER, NOT SOMBER

Meeting of Alcoholics Anonymous Sundays | 10:15 AM Pastoral Center (Office)

The meetings are mixed, closed, with handicapped access.

More Info | 310-540-0329 x 545

LA Central Office | 323-936-4343

DON'T DRINK - CALL FIRST

BAPTISM MINISTRY

Each baby baptized at SLM receives a free handmade quilt crafted by a lovely parishioner, or a blanket crocheted by our Knitting Ministry.

If you want to support this ministry, you may drop off a monetary donation at the Pastoral Center. Please indicate **Baptism Ministry**.

Interested in volunteering? Looking for support?



WOMEN IN TRANSITION

Sun, Sep 21, 10:30 am | Pastoral Center A group of women supporting each other through life's many transitions. 310-540-0329 x 540

CHRISTIAN FAMILY MOVEMENT

Sun, Sep 21, 4:00 pm | Parish Hall Small groups discuss topics through the lens of faith and provide support for each other. 310-722-0176

MICHELANGELO MINISTRY

Mon, Sep 22, 10:00 am | Parish Hall Explore the artist within you & be part of a community who love the creative process. 310-540-0329 x 540

RESPECT LIFE ROSARY

Mon, Sep 22, 7:00 pm | In the Church Dedicated to bringing the message of life to the parish & the world.

310-678-2583 | DaleSheckler@gmail.com

NAMI FAMILY SUPPORT

Wed, Sept 24, 7:00 pm | Parish Hall Family Support Group for those with loved ones suffering from mental illness. 310-792-0244

PADDLE N PRAISE

Sat, Sep 27 | Lower Courts All adults 18 and over invited to fun, faith and fellowship through Pickleball. 424-408-9738

CAREGIVERS SUPPORT

Sun, Sep 28, 10:30 am | Pastoral Center Gathering of people who are directly or indirectly affected by care giving of others. 310-540-0329 x 540

SPIRITUAL BOOK CLUB

Wed, Oct 1, 10:00 am | Pastoral Center Small Community of Faith who love reading & discussing books. 310-415-0876

CATECHISM & COFFEE

Thu, Oct 2, 9:00 am | Parish Hall Discussion of the Catechism of the Catholic Church guided by Fr. Charles. 310-540-0329

YOUNG ADULT BIBLE STUDY

Thu, Oct 2, 6:00 pm | Pastoral Center Young Adult fellowship and formation guided by Fr. Charles. 310-540-0329

GRIEF SUPPORT GROUP

Sun, Oct 12, 10:30 am | Pastoral Center Group meeting for those mourning the loss of a loved one. 310-540-0329 x 540

LGBT+ (ONE HEART) MINISTRY

Tue, Oct 14, 7:00 pm | Pastoral Center Ministry open to members of the LGBT+ Community, family, friends & allies. Don.Burt@stlm.org

ONE IN CHRIST MINISTRY

Thu, Oct 16, 7:00 pm | Pastoral Center A ministry for racial healing and cultural celebration. Come pray with us. 310-540-0329 x 276

ST. KATERI CIRCLE

Fri, Oct 17, 6:00 pm | Call for location A Native American prayer group devoted to St. Kateri Tekakwitha. 310-901-2432

SINGALONG JAM NIGHTS

Mon, Oct 19, 7:00 pm | Parish Hall Bring instruments and/or the desire to sing along to well-loved songs in a group setting. RauLisaV@gmail.com

F.A.I.T.H. MINISTRY

Thu, Nov 20, 7:00 pm | Parish Hall Supports the victims of human trafficking in the South Bay and Los Angeles County. 310-540-0329 x 380

ADDITIONAL CONTACTS

Stephen Ministry Message Line

Christian friend to listen, pray and support you in difficult times. (Confidential) 310-540-0329 x540

Saturday Street Ministry

Provide food & clothing to homeless in LA. 310-540-0329 x276

Open Arms Ministry

Friendly visits to home bound parishioners. 310-540-0329 x 540



Women in Transition

Maybe you've wondered about our group and thought, "I'm not in transition. Nothing is changing in my life." Our lives are changing from day to day, from moment to moment, feeling full one day and empty the next, happy one day and sad the next. Sometimes we feel as though we are in the midst of chaos; our lives are spinning out of control, and we are the only ones who experience these emotions. We can find comfort in learning that we are not alone; that others are likely spinning in similar orbits. Together, in this group, let's share our lives.



Christian Family Movement

Strengthening Families, Building Communities

The Christian Family Movement (CFM) are small groups that meet monthly to discuss topics through the lens of faith, provide support for each other, and practice putting our faith in action. CFM members share life, faith, and best practices. They build friendships that are welcoming and that inspire an active faith. CFM creates a family of families within our parish. We have three CFM groups at SLM, each meets once a month.

For meeting times and locations, call 310-722-0176.

MICHELANGELO MINISTRY

"Art enables us to find ourselves and lose ourselves at the same time" - Thomas Merton We invite you to explore the artist within you, to learn to hear the Holy Spirit guiding you towards your creativity. Don't be shy! This is a ministry where the slogan "No experience necessary" holds true and is a socially supportive and safe space to explore, create, and grow. We will learn and laugh and be joyful together through art. And if you just want to show up and paint rocks, this is the place for you! Rocks and paint will always be on hand.

2nd & 4th Monday each month | 10:00 a.m. - 12:00 noon | Parish Hall - upstairs

RESPECT LIFE MINISTRY invites you to participate in a

Rosary for Life 4th Monday of each month, 7 pm in the church

> 310-678-2583 dalesheckler@gmail.com





Family Support Group

You are NOT alone

Mental illness affects everyone directly or indirectly through family, friends or coworkers. Join us in a safe, confidential environment to share your experiences and learn from others. We are a FAMILY Support Group for those with loved ones suffering from mental illness. (Please note that this group is for loved ones, not for those with Mental Illness). Fourth Wednesday of the month @ 7:00 PM.

Kim Sheckler or Tracy Ayotte | familytofamilystlm@gmail.com | 310-792-0244



Pickleball is in full swing at SLM, and everyone 18 and older is invited to join the fun! No matter your skill level, you're welcome to pick up a paddle and be part of the excitement in the nation's fastest-growing sport. Come enjoy an uplifting time of Fun, Faith, and Fellowship as we paddle and praise

Fellowship as we paddle and praise together. We can't wait to see you on the court!

2nd & 4th Saturday | 9 AM | LOWER FIELD



SLM SCHOOL SCRIP

Tue & Thu | 8:00 AM - 2:45 PM 310-316-3049

Available from the Parish Office outside of regular Scrip office hours.

PRAYER SHAWLS

Shawls and blankets available to give to anyone who needs an uplift. The shawls and blankets are free of charge and available in the Pastoral Center.

F.A.I.T.H. MINISTRY

The F.A.I.T.H. (Freedom & Intervention for the Trafficking of Humans) Ministry supports the victims of human trafficking in the South Bay and in Los Angeles County.

We are collecting toiletry items for victims of human trafficking. The items can be dropped off at the Pastoral Center during normal business hours.

faith.ministry@stlm.org 310-540-0329 x 380

FOOD PANTRY

Saturday | 8 AM - 10 AM 1st Sunday | 8 AM - 11 AM

We prepare bags of groceries for individual families and sack lunches given to the homeless. For a list of preferred donations please visit www.stlm.org/giving-back.

Monetary donations may be given online through Elexio Giving, mailed or dropped in the Pastoral Center mail slot. Please indicate **Food Pantry**.

Thank you for your ongoing generosity as we continue to serve those in need. 310-540-0329 x 276



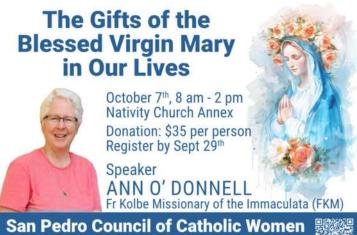
SAFEGUARD THE CHILDREN: HOW TO TALK ABOUT SEXTING WITH TEENS

As children get older, they begin to form more peer relationships, and today this growth also coincides with having more opportunities for private communication through technology, especially with mobile phones. Young people are often uncomfortable talking to adults about their relationships, particularly when it involves technology, because they fear raising concerns will lead to caregivers restricting access to their devices. However, positive relationships with adults help and empower youth to make safe and healthy choices, both on and offline. Netsmartz (https://www.missingkids.org/netsmartz) offers resources for keeping children and teens safe online, please visit https://www.missingkids.org/theissues/sextortion.











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Children's Faith Formation

Sessions begin October 7th

Accepting Registrations for:

First Communion Preparation for Grades 1-5 includes monthly Family Sunday Sessions

Continuing Faith Formation for Grades 3-5

(for children who have received First Communion)

For info & to register go to:

https://stlm.org/faith-formation-1st-5th

QUESTIONS? PLEASE CONTACT SUSAN MILLS SUSAN.MILLS@STLM.ORG | 310-316-4460



JUNIOR HIGH

Madison.Norquist@stlm.org

HIGH SCHOOL CONFIRMATION

Registration Now Open!



This is a 2-year process for high school teens to learn about our faith & prepare to receive the sacrament of confirmation.

Sessions are twice a month:

Tuesdays @ 6:30-8pm & Sundays @ 3:30-6pm.

GRADES 1-5 Susan.Mills@stlm.org

BRIDGE

Now Open!

Middle School meets one Monday & one Wednesday a month!

SERVICE INCLUDED

HIGH SCHOOL
Madison.Norquist@stlm.org

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(310) 540-2520

ication Management at The Canterbury thecanterbury.org (310) 984-1154 canterbury LIC. 0M61169

> SAL CORREA ADVANCE PLANNING ADVISOR

Hablo Español Cell (310) 987-1104

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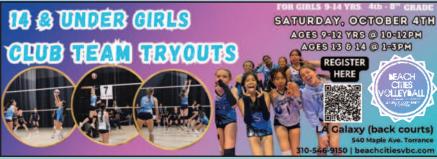
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