

# HURCH OF THE



EST. 1943

Our Mission: A Roman Catholic Community celebrating Christ's presence among us.

# SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT

**DECEMBER 10, 2023** 



## WELCOME TO VISITATION CHURCH!

A special welcome to those who may be visiting us today, we are blessed that you are here to worship with us. If you are traveling, we hope you find this Catholic community welcoming. If you are new to this area, we hope to see you again and that you may consider joining this community.

## MASS TIMES

Daily Mass

Monday - Friday: 8:00a.m.

(This mass is also live-streamed)

Sunday Mass

Saturday (Sunday Vigil): 5:00 p.m.

Sunday: 8:00 am., 9:30 a.m., and II:00 a.m.

(The Sunday Mass at 8:00 a.m. is also

live-streamed on our website)

6561 WEST 88TH STREET LOS ANGELES, CA 90045

#### ADMINISTRATOR:

Fr. Matthew Wheeler

#### IN RESIDENCE:

Fr. Timothy McGowan

# RETIRED:

Msgr. Charles E. Hill

Msgr. James Forsen

#### HOLY HOUR (INSIDE THE CHURCH)

First Friday of each month: 8:30am-9:30am

#### CONFESSIONS

(Inside the church, in the Sanctuary) Saturday: 3:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m. and by

appointment

## PRIVATE WORSHIP (INSIDE THE CHURCH)

Open for private devotion:

Monday-Friday: 7:30 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.

Saturday: 8:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.

## PARISH OFFICE HOURS:

Monday - Friday 8:00 am - 4:00 pm

# SUNDAY'S READINGS

**FIRST READING** — A voice cries out: In the desert prepare the way of the LORD! Make straight in the wasteland a highway for our God! (**Is 40:3**)

**PSALM** — Lord, let us see your kindness, and grant us your salvation. **(Ps 85) SECOND READING** — We await new heavens and a new earth in which

righteousness dwells. (1 Pt 1:13)

**GOSPEL** — John the Baptist appeared in the desert proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins. (**Mk 16:4**)

## READINGS FOR THE WEEK

SUNDAY: Is 40:1-5, 9-11/Ps 85:9-10, 11-12, 13-14 (8)/2 Pt 3:8-14/Mk 1:1-8

MONDAY: Is 35:1-10/Ps 85:9ab and 10, 11-12, 13-14/Lk 5:17-26

TUESDAY: Zec 2:14-17 or Rv 11:19a; 12:1-6a, 10ab/Jdt 13:18bcde, 19/ Lk 1:26-38 or

Lk 1:39-47

**WEDNESDAY:** Is 40:25-31/Ps 103:1-2, 3-4, 8 and 10/Mt 11:28-30 **THURSDAY:** Is 41:13-20/Ps 145:1 and 9, 10-11, 12-13ab/Mt 11:11-15

FRIDAY: Is 48:17-19/Ps 1:1-2, 3, 4 and 6/Mt 11:16-19

**SATURDAY:** Sir 48:1-4, 9-11/Ps 80:2ac and 3b, 15-16, 18-19/Mt 17:9a, 10-13

# QUESTIONS OF THE WEEK: REFLECT AND RESPOND TO THE SCRIPTURE

**FIRST READING:** The prophet Isaiah offers comfort and hope to the Israelites who were captive in Babylon in proclaiming that the glory of the Lord is returning to Israel. Do you have family or friends who could use words of encouragement from you?

**SECOND READING:** Peter speaks of being at peace while we wait for the promise of new heavens and a new earth when Christ returns. What gives you peace of mind these days?

**GOSPEL:** Fulfilling the prophecies of Isaiah, John the Baptist proclaimed the arrival of Jesus, "one mightier than I...(who) will baptize you with the Holy Spirit." Where do you sense the Holy Spirt present in your life?

# QUOTE OF THE WEEK

"If you haven't got any charity in your heart, you have the worst kind of heart trouble." - Bob Hope

# PARENT LEADERSHIP

"Explain, but don't argue."
-Jim Stenson, *Compass* 

2ND SUNDAY OF ADVENT









LPi

#### PARISH REGISTRATION:

Are you looking for a faith community to call home? Visit our website to register as a parishioner.



SAINTS AND SPECIAL OBSERVANCES

#### SUNDAY - DECEMBER 10TH

2nd Sunday of Advent

8:00am - Camille & Ed Mucha †

9:30am - For the people of

Visitation Parish

11:00am - Sally Zimmerman †

#### MONDAY - DECEMBER 11TH

St. Damasus I, Pope

8:00am - Christy Hughes †

#### TUESDAY - DECEMBER 12TH

Our Lady of Guadalupe

8:00am - Gigi Topete

#### WEDNESDAY- DECEMBER 13TH

St. Lucy, Virgin and Martyr

8:00am - Manuel Banal Flores †

## THURSDAY - DECEMBER 14TH

St. John of the Cross, Priest and Doctor of the Church

8:00am - Boysie Laureola †

#### FRIDAY - DECEMBER 15TH

8:00am - Ann Muldoon †

# SATURDAY - DECEMBER 16TH

5:00pm - Elizabeth Jibilian

To request a **Mass intention** please call the Rectory 310-216-1145

PRAYER REQUESTS: email them to the following vizprayerrequests@gmail.com If you would like to join in praying for the requests received, please send an email to the prayer request email address.



#### ONLINE GIVING:

Thank you for your Donations!

PARISH POST December 10, 2023

Dear sisters and brothers,

Living in the world today, we are inundated by bad news: natural disasters, tragic accidents, horrible displays of moral evil, etc. It is overwhelming and we can wonder, "Is anything going right in the world? Is there any good news?"

My answer is: "Yes - there is good news and there are many good things happening in our world!" For example, last weekend at the 8am Mass we formally welcomed our candidates for full initiation into the Catholic Church (see photo). Since September they have been attending our weekly classes for adults who are in need of Baptism, Confirmation, and/or Eucharist. In these classes, they connect with each other, pray, learn about the Catholic Faith, and are inspired to see life with eyes of faith in Jesus. Each one of them is on a journey, and I find it quite inspiring to hear their stories and learn how God has been working in their lives.

As I said, this is good news! This is something gone right! I invite all of you to pray for them as they continue their period of preparation for the sacraments. I am also grateful to the RCIA formation team led by Gilbert and Laura Trujillo - may the Lord's blessings be upon them!

Friends, I wish you all a blessed week, and may the witness of these candidates inspire all of us to greater faith and personal

holiness.

In Christ.

Fr. Matt



## Don't Forget:

Vis for St. Margaret's Center: The Metropolis String Quintet will be returning with all your favorite Christmas music in our beautiful candlelit Church on Dec. 16th from 7-8pm. Come and enjoy a beautiful evening!

Advent Reconciliation Service: On Dec. 18th at 7pm we'll be having our parish reconciliation service. God is merciful and making a good confession is a great way to prepare our hearts for the coming of Jesus at Christmas. We'll have visiting priests helping us, as well. See you there!

Christmas Masses: Please see our schedule of Masses for Christmas elsewhere in the bulletin. We look forward to seeing you and your loved ones!

## **DAILY BRIEF FOR ADVENT**

The Daily Brief is a series of daily meditations during Advent based on the day's readings and read by our very own Visitation priest.

Throughout all of Advent, we invite you to take 5-6 minutes of your day to listen and reflect.

Watch in full screen, or even close your eyes.

The meditations will be available under the Resources tab on the church website.

#### WE SHARE YOUR GRIEF DURING THIS HOLIDAY SEASON

"Please check the Visitation website under Resources/Bereavement for a list of Grieving, Cancer, Hospice and Palliative Care note titles. These are very helpful and powerful small articles. Please contact **Candy Blankenship at 310-338-9043 or blank8840@gmail.com** and she will mail them to you at no charge." Such titles include Getting Through the Holidays When You've Lost a Loved One, Ten Ways to Honor a Deceased One at Christmas, Overcoming the Blues at Christmastime, Your First Christmas After a Loved One Dies, Giving New Life to Your Christmas Celebration, Rediscovering the Many Gifts of Christmas, and many, many more.

### **FUNERAL ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Visitation Parish Community extends its sympathy and prayers to the family and friends of

- ◆ Anna Zavala who went home to the Lord on November 16, 2023. She was 71 years old. Memorial Mass will take place Monday, December 18th at 10:00AM at Visitation.
- ◆ Andrew Jusko who went home to the Lord on November 19, 2023. He was 91 years old. Memorial Mass will take place Saturday, December 23rd at 10:30AM at Visitation.

Please pray for their souls and the souls of all the faithful departed.

#### **BAPTISM**

The Sacrament of Baptism is celebrated on a separate day for each family after attendance by the parents and godparents at a Baptism zoom class. Parishioners are invited to call the office to get an appointment for these classes. The next ZOOM class scheduled is on Sunday, December 17, 2023 at 1pm. Please register to attend by calling the parish office at **310-216-**1145. If you are not a current registered parishioner of Visitation Parish and not receiving envelopes in the mail, please call the office for an appointment with the pastor or associate pastor.

# SECOND ADVENT CANDLE/ SUNDAY: PEACE

"May we be in this world a ray of that light which shone forth from Bethlehem, bringing joy and peace to the hearts of all men and women."

- Pope Francis



The second candle on the Advent wreath represents Peace. Like the first candle, it is also purple. Often

called the "Bethlehem Candle," the second Advent candle reminds us of Mary and Joseph's journey from Nazareth to Bethlehem before Mary gave birth to Jesus. Building on the meaning of the Prophecy Candle, this second candle recalls that after all of the division, destruction, and dispersion of the kingdom in the Old Testament, there might finally be peace on Earth – Jesus is coming, and so is his Kingdom of Peace. As we read in the quote from Pope Francis, this light of peace shone forth from Bethlehem for all the world.

# DID YOU KNOW? RECOGNIZING THE SIGNS OF PHYSICAL ABUSE

SAFEGUARD THE CHILDREN AND VULNERABLE ADULTS

Safe adults should be on the lookout for signs of physical abuse in children in their care. Some signs include frequent bruises or cuts, frequent and unexplained absences or injuries. Physical abuse can include hitting, kicking, shaking, or other forceful actions, resulting in harm or even death. Children who are suffering from physical abuse may be distrustful or reluctant to receive physical contact, and may dress inappropriately for the season, wearing long pants or long-sleeved shirts to hide injuries. For more information, read the VIRTUS® article "Recognizing Child Maltreatment" at lacatholics.org/did-you-know/.



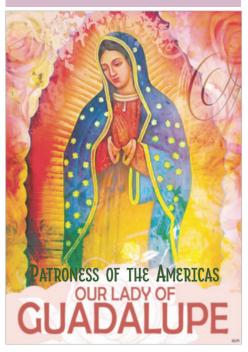
Visitation Church Goal: \$57,470.00

Amount Pledge: \$48,517.25 84.4% Amount Paid: \$47,676.10 83.0%

Difference Over/(Under) Goal vs. Amount Paid: (\$9,793.90) -17.0%

The Together in Mission 2023 "Shine His Light" Annual Appeal is closing on Friday, January 12, 2024. Don't delay your contribution to this campaign, Together in Mission 2023 donation must be in the mail and postmarked by Saturday, December 30, 2023. Thank you for your efforts and commitment to our 30th Anniversary of the Annual Appeal 2023.







# **SCAN HERE**

TO VOLUNTEER TO HELP AT THE ST. MARGARET'S CHRISTMAS PROGRAM



VOLUNTEERS NEEDED DECEMBER 14, 15, AND 16









VIS for St. Margaret's Center Candlelit Concert Series

Concert #2
Celebrating the Holidays
with the Metropolis String Quintet

Saturday, December 16, 2023 7:00 to 8:00 p.m. Visitation Church

6561 W. 88th St. | Los Angeles, CA



Tickets \$15 can be purchased at https://VisConcert2023.givesmart.com

All proceeds to benefit St. Margaret's Center.

Preconcert Cash Bar Reception 6:15 p.m.

Children over 7 years of age welcome.





In Faithful Service to the Westchester Community



Help us fill our stockings!

We need your help to collect toys for 1,000 children from St. Margaret's Center's most needy families living at or below the poverty level from the greater L.A.X. area. At St. Margaret's annual Christmas Program the children are entertained while the parents select toys for their children. Volunteers wrap the toys so the parents can proudly give their children gifts on Christmas Day.

# Imagine the difference your donation will make to a child's Christmas.

Accepting toys (\$15-30 range preferred) through December 12th.

# PURCHASE TOYS ONLINE

at amazon.com

IT'S FAST! IT'S EASY!



You will be directed to **our wish list on Amazon** and your purchase will be shipped directly to **St.**Margaret's Center.



Scan to Shop Online Now!



# **Financial Donations**

Please make checks payable to: St. Margaret's Center and mail to 10217 S. Inglewood Ave., Lennox CA 90304

# **Collect Toys**

Sponsor a company toy drive or host a holiday gathering and ask friends to donate.

# Join us on Facebook

# Spread the Cheer

Post our link on your facebook.
Tell ALL your friends about us!



Heavenly Father, we thank you for the gift of your Son, our Lord Jesus Christ, who promised to stay with us always, until the end of the age. Reawaken our wonder at His presence in the Most Holy Eucharist. May our hearts burn within us as He opens the Scriptures and breaks the bread. Give us the eyes of faith to recognize His presence in our brothers and sisters, especially in the face of the poor and the suffering. Nourished by the Eucharist, send us forth to walk faithfully as missionary disciples, proclaiming the Gospel to every heart and extending Your kingdom to every land. We ask this through Christ our Lord. /Amen.

# CHURCH OF THE VISITATION EUCHARISTIC REVIVAL CALENDAR 2023-2024

The National Eucharistic Revival invites all of us to celebrate and recognize the Real Presence of Jesus in the Eucharist. Join Visitation Parish as we come to the table of the Lord, with open hands and open hearts to receive Jesus himself, the source and summit of our lives and to nourish those around us.

"We pray that Catholics may place the celebration of the Eucharist at the heart of their lives, transforming human relationships in a very deep way and opening to the encounter with God and all their brothers and sisters."

Pope Francis

### **FRIDAY JANUARY 5**

First Fridays 8:30 - 9:30am

Adoration and Benediction in Visitation Church

Start the new year off right. Come spend an hour with Jesus as we rest and pray in the presence of the Blessed Sacrament

#### FRIDAY JANUARY 12

Friday Encounter #2 6 – 8 pm Adoration, Talk, crafts and activities in Visitation Church and the O'Grady Center

Spend more time with Jesus this year. Gather with us as we encounter our Lord Jesus Christ anew in prayer, adoration, preaching and reflection, and reconciliation. There is something for the whole family. All are welcome.

### **FRIDAY FEBRUARY 2**

First Fridays 8:30 – 9:30am

#### Adoration and Benediction in Visitation Church

Spend an hour in the Real Presence of Jesus in the Eucharist and He will transform your life.

"Our sharing in the Body and Blood of Christ has no other purpose than to transform us into that which we receive." - Pope St Leo the Great

# Christmas Mass Schedule

Monday, Dec. 18th 7;00pm

Advent Penance Service
(No Confessions on Sat. Dec. 23rd)

Sunday, Dec. 24th

Fourth Sunday of Advent

8:00am\*, 9:30am, and 11:00am Mass

Sunday, Dec. 24th

Christmas Eve Masses

4:00pm\*, 6:00pm, and 10:00pm

Monday, Dec. 25th

Christmas Day Masses 9:00am\* and 11:00am

\*These Masses will be live-streamed as well

O Come, let us adore Him.





for a job where you can use your gifts and talent to serve others?

St. Margaret's Center is seeking employees who are passionate about serving unhoused and low-income households within the LAX communities. Responsibilities: Answering high call volume, making referrals and appointments, general office duties, coordinating delivery of services, and more. Minimum Requirements: Bilingual (Spanish), Microsoft Office skills, ability to multi-task, sensitivity to participants' cultural and socioeconomic characteristics.

Email resume or for more info: mescandon@ccharities.org



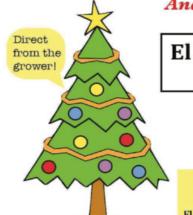
The mission of OneLife LA is to unite communities and inspire positive action through an annual event that promotes the beauty and dignity of every human life from conception to natural death. *This year we celebrate: "10 Years Together as One."* 

OneLife LA begins with a walk through downtown Los Angeles and ends with a festival in the park where you will be inspired by courageous speakers; supported as you defend, protect and proclaim life; and encouraged to serve those in need with our incredible Community Partners.

# Join us on Saturday, January 20, 2024!

We can't wait to see you there! Please register by visiting <a href="https://onelifela.org/register-2">https://onelifela.org/register-2</a>.

# **Get Your Christmas Trees & Wreaths**



And Support Visitation Church!

# El Segundo Scout House 325 E. Grand Avenue

3PM - 9PM weekdays 10AM - 9PM weekends\*

\*Starting 10AM Friday after Thanksgiving

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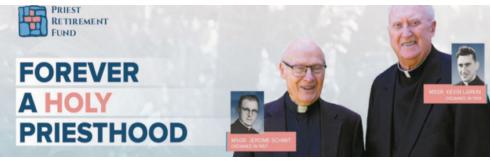
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# **DELIVERING QUALITY TREES FOR OVER 70 YEARS!**



This weekend we have the Priest Retirement Fund Collection.

The Priest Retirement Fund offers a way for us to give back to our Catholic priests who have served us so faithfully. Your contribution will help archdiocesan priests live modestly and peacefully in retirement. Help us offer thanks for their years of devotion to God and our communities.

Your gift to the Priest Retirement Fund helps provide a monthly stipend to retired priests of the Archdiocese of Los Angeles. For most priests, this assistance is their only means of support. This helps many senior priests stay well and active in our communities. *Give us a call if you have any questions or wish to make your gift over the phone at (213) 637-7672.* 

# Prayer

Jesus, help me to learn from my mistakes. Thank you for forgiving me.

# Mission for the Week

Ask your family if you have hurt their feelings. Ask them to forgive you.

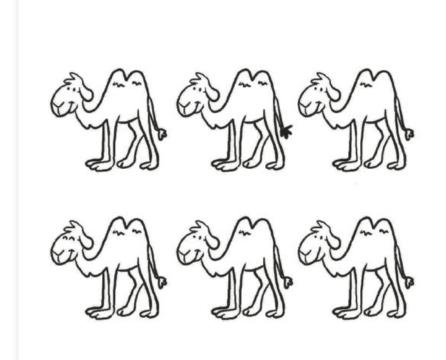
# **Sharing the Gospel**

John the Baptist had an important message. When you make sinful mistakes, and when you turn away from God, stop. Learn from your mistakes, and do things God's way. Were you bossy or rude? Be thoughtful and kind. Did you tell a lie? Be honest instead. God wants you to share his love with other people.

# Now color the picture!



# Find the 2 identical camels.







# APOSTLES CREED

I believe in God. the Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth. and in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord. who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate. was crucified. died and was buried: He descended into hell: on the third day He rose again from the dead: He ascended into heaven. and is seated at the right hand of God the Father Almighty: from there He will come to judge the living and the dead. I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Holy Catholic Church, the communion of Saints. the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and life everlasting. Amen

# MASS PARTS MASS OF HOPE

# MEMORIAL ACCLAMATION

Save Us, Savior of the world, for by your cross and resurrection you have set us free.

# **GATHERING**

Ready the Way



PENITENTIAL RITE

Lord Have Mercy (Stephan)

PSALM Lord, let us see Your kindness, and grant us Your salvation.

**GOSPEL ACCLAMATION** 

Alleluia (Hart)

# PREPARATION OF THE TABLE AND GIFTS

Down to the River to Pray





@ American folk song. Robert Batastini. 1942. All rights reserved.

# COMMUNION

# A Place at Your Table



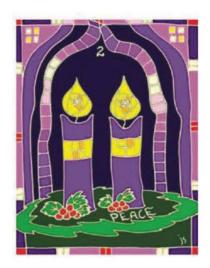
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# SENDING

# Soon and Very Soon



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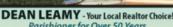
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