

**Msgr. James Forsen,
Pastor**
Father Timothy McGowan,
In Residence
Father James Anguiano,
In Residence
Msgr. Charles E. Hill,
Retired

Visitation Church
6561 West 88th Street
Los Angeles, CA 90045
310-216-1145
FAX 310-846-5421

Church Email:
visitationchurch497@gmail.com

Daily Mass (Inside the church)
Monday-Friday: 8:00am
(This mass is also live-streamed)

Sunday Mass (Inside the church)
Saturday: 5pm
Sunday: 8:00am, 9:30am, and 11:00am
(The Sunday Mass at 8am is also live-streamed)

Confessions (Outside in Mary's courtyard)
Saturday: 3:00-4:00pm and by appointment

Note: The live-streamed Masses can be viewed on our website:
www.visitationchurch-la.com

Private Worship (Inside the church) Open for private devotion between the hours of 7:30am-4:00pm. (Monday-Friday)

Holy Hour (Inside the church)
First Friday of each month from 8:30am-9:30am.

Church of the Visitation



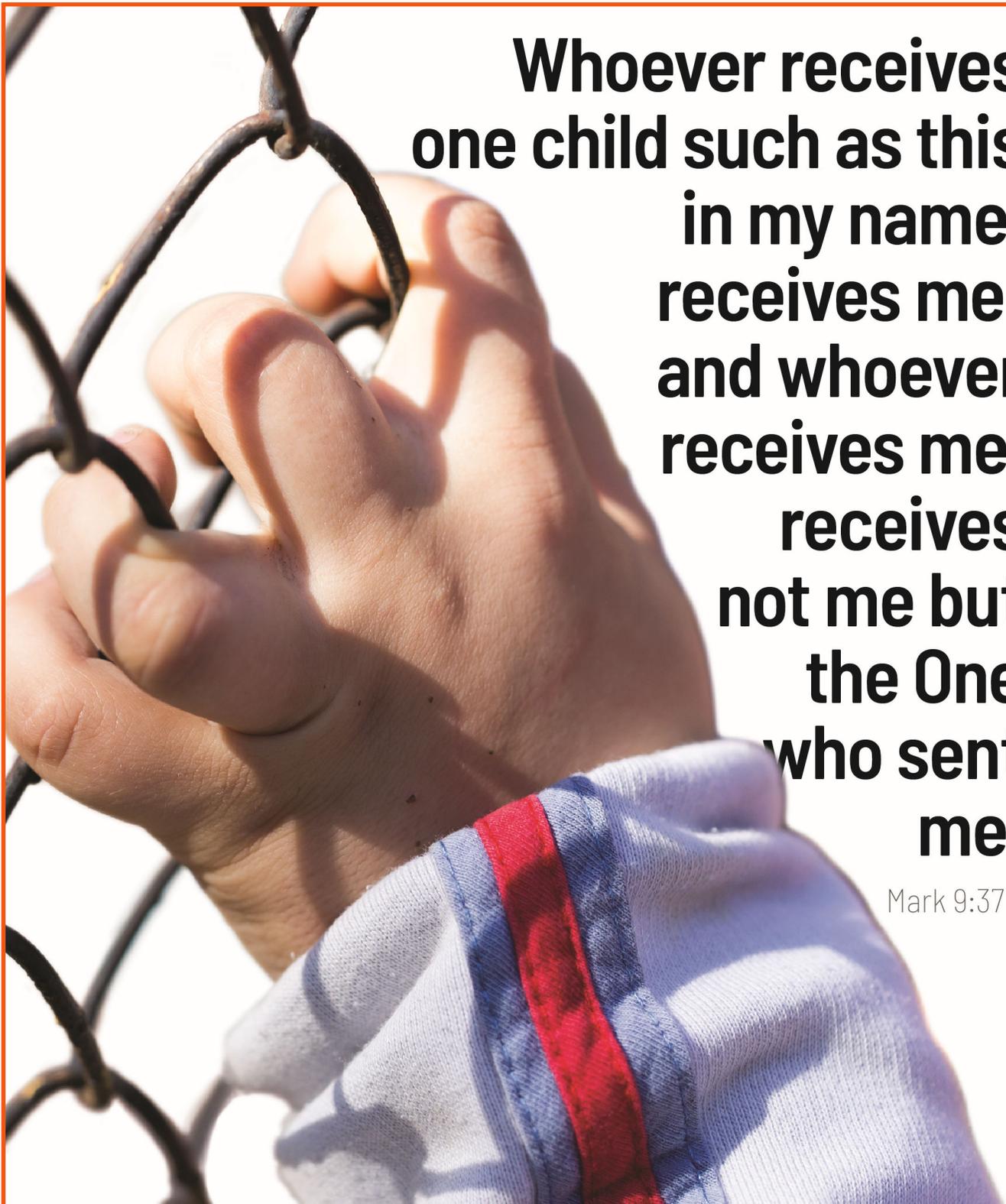
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MISSION STATEMENT
A Roman Catholic Community celebrating Christ's presence among us.

QUOTE OF THE DAY
I'm not afraid of tomorrow because I know GOD is already there.



**Whoever receives
one child such as this
in my name,
receives me;
and whoever
receives me,
receives
not me but
the One
who sent
me.**

Mark 9:37

Twenty-fifth
Sunday in Ordinary Time

September 19, 2021

Pastor's Post

THE NOONDAY DEMON

I read just recently a commentary by Tish Harrison Warren on what I think is a brilliant insight by the Christian author C.S. Lewis in his book "The Screwtape Letters," which speaks so strongly to our present pandemic crisis. The book is about a devil named Screwtape who writes letters to his demonic nephew on how to lead a man - a "patient" - he is tempting into hell. Screwtape counsels him, "To produce the best results from the patient's fatigue, you must feed him with false hopes." Let him believe that his suffering will soon come to an end. "Exaggerate the weariness by making him think it will soon be over....Let his inner resolution be not to bear whatever comes to him, but to bear it 'for a reasonable period' — and let the reasonable period be shorter than the trial is likely to last." Warren writes, "Here is Lewis's point: Fatigue can produce either impatience and anger or gentleness and kindness. But add disappointment to our fatigue — that sense that we cannot go on any longer and we thought we wouldn't have to — and we become the worst versions of ourselves." "It is not fatigue simply as such that produces the anger," Screwtape says, "but unexpected demands on a man already tired."

Who isn't already tired? Who isn't already weary unto their soul? Who hasn't had unexpected demands placed on their shoulders time and time again? Who hasn't thought that all of this should have been over by now?

I don't want to sound like a prophet, but almost two years ago, at the beginning of this pandemic, when we went into lockdown, I warned everyone that what we would be dealing with what would become a spiritual crisis. And so it has. The fifth century monks wrote about an ancient Greek emotion called "Acedia." Sometimes confused as being merely sloth or laziness, it is far more than that. Beyond melancholy or depression or anxiety, it is a listlessness of the spirit, brought on by enforced isolation, constant uncertainty and unending bad news. Sound familiar? One knows that other people have it worse, but that does not stop the "I'm done with this" feeling, knowing full well that it is not done with us. Acedia, that feeling of hopelessness, or better, helplessness, can be laced with anger. Sound familiar? How do we overcome it? Again, the ancient monks had solutions. A few of them are:

Daily meditation. A few minutes alone and quiet, away from all other people and all other duties and distractions. Just to be alone and quiet with God. May I recommend a visit to the church and the Blessed Sacrament during the day. It's quiet and beautiful inside. The church is open Monday through Friday from 7:30AM to 4:00PM. And we are adding Saturday, from 8:00AM to 4:00PM. (Mass is at 5:00PM)

Be attentive to nature. I was sitting in my backyard saying my prayers and noticed a hummingbird making the rounds. I watched that little creature for five minutes or more and after it flew off found myself to be....what? Peaceful? In harmony with myself? Yes. Which is the gateway to be at one with God. Go to your backyard. Go to the beach. Go for a walk around the neighborhood. Notice life.

Daily prayer. If you're not sure how or what to say may I recommend reading a psalm that gives hope in times of trouble. Try a Psalm in the morning when you awake or the evening before sleep. Or in your meditation time. Psalm 71, Psalm 121, Psalm 13, Psalm 63, Psalm 30, Psalm 23 (of course) and my favorite, Psalm 139. (Where it says "wicked men" think "pandemic.")

Don't isolate. Be there for others and ask them to be there for you. This requires humility and trust, but it is a known cure for acedia.

Fr. Jim



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pub

2021

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6PM - Doors Open
6:30PM - Blessing of O'Grady Center
Buffet Dinner to follow (open until 8pm)
Live Music until 10pm

Reserve and purchase tickets at visitationchurch-la.com/ogradypub

DID YOU KNOW? September 18-19 || What to look for in a safe school

Preventing violence in schools takes more than a few rules and requirements. It requires a culture of concern, in which every member works together to prevent violence and abuse. These cultures share certain hallmarks that parents can look for in selecting the safest school for their children. Some of these features include a strong community, clear lines of communication between teachers, staff, and families, and equal respect for students and staff throughout the school. For more information, request a copy of the VIRTUS® article “Characteristics of Safe and Responsive Schools” at lacatholics.org/did-you-know.



September 22 - October 31
40 DAYS FOR LIFE

HELP SAVE LIVES IN LAWNDALE

You can protect mothers, fathers, and children by joining this worldwide mobilization. Through prayer and fasting, peaceful vigils and community outreach, 40 Days for Life has inspired 1,000,000+ volunteers in 63 countries. [Your presence on the sidewalk matters!](#)

With God’s help, here are the proven results:

- 18,855 babies saved from abortion
- 221 abortion workers converted
- 112 abortion centers closed

Here’s how to take part:

- **Vigil location:** Outside Planned Parenthood South Bay
14623 Hawthorne Blvd, Lawndale, CA 90260
- **Vigil hours:** 7 am to 7 pm daily
- **Local contact:** Teresa Syta, 310-592-4213
40Days4LifeLawndale@gmail.com

Learn more and get involved by visiting our campaign at:

40daysforlife.com/Lawndale

Our Refuge in Our Time of Need

*Lord my God,
in you I take refuge;
rescue me.*
—Psalm 7:2

Almighty God and source of life, we cry to you in our distress and beg you to show your kindness to those who are suffering from the destruction of Hurricane Ida.

We pray for those who have died, that they may be at peace with you forever; and for their loved ones who are grieving, that they may be comforted in their loss by your presence in those who care for them.

We pray for those who have suffered injury, whether physical, emotional, or spiritual, and ask you to heal them.

We pray for those who have lost their homes, whose families are separated and scattered, that you may shelter them.

We ask you to strengthen us in our own time of need and to give us the courage to reach out to help others who are also in need.

We ask this in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, who calmed the stormy sea. Amen.

CONCERN AMERICA CRAFT SALE



On Saturday and Sunday, **September 25-26, 2021**, volunteers from Concern America will be here at Church of the Visitation with a Craft Sale featuring unique, quality handcrafts . The gifts you will find will be for special events, holidays or to brighten your home. Concern America, is an international development organization based in Santa Ana, CA. You may view a selection of their crafts on their website: www.concernamerica.org.

BLESSING OF THE ANIMALS
Sunday, October 3rd @1pm in the Visitation Parking Lot

Each October, we celebrate the Feast of St. Francis of Assisi, the patron saint of animals with our own Blessing of the Animals. Our community is invited to bring their furry friends for a special blessing.



SESSIONS OF FAITH (PREP)

We are excited to announce that our Parish Religious Education Program (PREP), for students in Grades **K-8**, including sacrament preparation, we are now accepting applications for 2021-2022 school year which will begin in September. For more information, please contact our Coordinator, **Debra Evans** via phone or text at **703-582-9888**, or by email at religionseducationvc@gmail.com.

Is God calling you to share your faith with others, especially young people? If so, please consider volunteering for our Parish Religious Education Program (PREP). This ministry is for people who are interested in sharing God's love and bringing others closer to Christ. Please consider joining us. We especially welcome those who may have served in other ministries, who are not able to continue to serve in person at this time. Thank you and God Bless You! See the above email and phone number for more information and questions about our programs.

CONFIRMATION AND YOUTH MINISTRY

If you are interested in the program for the next two years, please go online to visitationchurch-la.com to download an application. If you have any questions, please reach out to Jeremy Brosmer at confirmationvc@gmail.com.



R.C.I.A.

GOT LIFE QUESTIONS? RCIA (Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults) may be just for you. RCIA is for someone who:

- Is interested in becoming Catholic.
- Was never baptized.
- Was baptized in another Christian denomination.
- Was baptized Catholic, but never celebrated the Sacraments of Eucharist or Confirmation.
- Is interested in catching up on or renewing their faith.



We welcome you to join us in our RCIA group most Mondays from **7-8:30pm** when we have Zoom meetings. In person meetings will begin on **September 13th from 6:30pm-9:00pm**. Please call the church office to inquire @ **310/216-1145** or email **Toni Kerker** at tmkerker@gmail.com.

BAPTISMS



The Sacrament of Baptism is celebrated, according to the CDC recommendations, 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, October 17, 2021 at 1 pm**. 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.

WE SHARE THEIR GRIEF

Visitation Parish Community extends its sympathy and prayers to the family and friends of **Terry Grady**. Please pray for his soul and the souls of all the faithful departed. May they rest in peace. A memorial mass will be held at Visitation on **October 8th @2pm for Terry Grady**.

Prayer Requests:

Please email them to vizprayerrequest@gmail.com.



PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL

The Parish Pastoral Council (PPC) is by definition the primary Advisory group for the Pastor. Fr. Jim sees the PPC as more than just advisory and classifies the group as an integral part of our Parish Leadership. Thus he sees us having a more active role in helping the Parish continuing to thrive and run smoothly. Members are usually also active in other parish ministries and/or at the school. We just had our first post-summer meeting and are looking forward to the coming year and serving our Parish community in the best way possible. See you at the O'Grady Pub! For questions, please contact Guylaine Brosmer at mgbrosmer@sbcglobal.net

WELCOME WAGON

Our Welcome Wagon (WW) committee was spun off from the PPC about 5 years ago. This committee, as the name suggests, is focused on welcoming new parishioners, but it is really more than that. Fr. Tim is at the helm and here is what we are currently focused on:

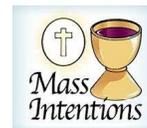
The WW is working on additional ways to welcome any and all newly registered parishioners whether it be a new school family, someone who has moved into the area or who was previously registered at another parish. We assign a committee member/volunteer to call each newly registered parishioner to personally welcome them and make sure they are informed on what is currently going on in the parish.

WW is also accepting volunteers to be official Mass greeters...arriving at the Mass of their choice about 10 minutes early and GREETING people, introducing themselves, and even asking them if they are new to the area or visiting. Specific guidance will be given.

Last but not least, we are on a mission to re-imagine and re-establish Hospitality after the Sunday Masses. This is our Coffee & Donuts, but we see hospitality as being as much about greeting and welcoming people after Masses. As of right now the plan is to start by having Hospitality one Sunday a month....starting soon!

All of the areas mentioned above need volunteers in order to be successful, thus if you are interested in finding out more information, joining the committee as a whole OR just interested in one specific area as a volunteer, please contact Guylaine Brosmer at mgbrosmer@sbcglobal.net or Fr. Tim McGowan at tmcgowan033@gmail.com.

**Mass Intentions
Sept. 20-Sept. 26, 2021**



- 9/20 8am Mass-**Jacob Uribe** (Dec'd)
- 9/21 8am Mass-**Bertha Sosa** (Dec'd)
- 9/22 8am Mass-**Jean Rennell and Merlin Sorbito** (Dec'd)
- 9/23 8am Mass-**Anne Lonigan** (Dec'd)
- 9/24 8am Mass-**Robert Chaplin** (Dec'd)
- 9/25 5pm Mass-**Josefina Domingo** (Dec'd)
- 9/26 8am Mass-**Anita Jones** (Dec'd) and 11am Mass-**Donna Miller** (Special Intention)

To request a **Mass Intention** please call the Rectory at **310-216-1145**.

Contents of a Mercy Bag

St. James in his apostle wrote "If you see a brother or a sister in need that are hungry or naked and you say to them good bye and good luck, keep warm and well fed what good is there in that. Such faith is dead."

One of the acts of mercy that Visitation had done for years but got sidetracked during the lockdown was making available mercy bags for those in need. We once again encourage people to have a mercy bag in their car to assist street people who may be asking for help. The contents of a mercy bag would be:

- Toothbrush, toothpaste, deodorant, power bar, water, razor, shaving cream, sunscreen, wipes, lotion, socks, comb, and hand-sanitizer.

VISITATION CHURCH STAFF

PASTOR— Msgr. James Forsen

310-216-1145 X 12

Fax 310-846-5421

BUSINESS MANAGER —Yolanda Garcia

310-428-8030

PARISH SECRETARY—Jessica Fernandez

310-216-1145 x 10

SACRISTAN, SAFEGUARD THE CHILDREN - Dick Van Dusen

310-216-1145 x 22

CONFIRMATION COORDINATOR— Geremy Brosmer

310-216-1145 x 21

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION COORDINATOR-Debra Eileen Evans

ReligiousEducationVC@gmail.com

RCIA COORDINATOR—Toni Kerker

tmkerker@gmail.com

DIRECTOR OF COMMUNICATION & MARKETING— Amy Servidea

amyservidea@gmail.com

DIRECTOR OF MUSIC-Kathy McGrath

kathmcgrath@me.com

DIRECTOR OF DEVELOPMENT-Courtney O'Donoghue

development497vc@gmail.com

VISITATION SCHOOL CONTACTS

PRINCIPAL—Christopher Watson

Principal@visitationschool.org

PTO PRESIDENT— Mike Mininsky

MMininsky@hotmail.com

VISITATION SCHOOL OFFICE / SCHOOL DAY CARE

310-645-6620/310-670-8072

CHURCH COMMITTEES AND CHAIRPERSONS

PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL— Guylaine Brosmer

mgbrosmer@sbcglobal.net

PARISH FINANCE COUNCIL—Marge Roberts

npwest1@yahoo.com

PARISH ENVIRONMENT—Father Tim McGowan

Tmcgowan033@gmail.com

PARISH LITURGY COMMITTEE— Donna Miller

djmiller24@sbcglobal.net

PARISH EM TO HOMEBOUND COORDINATOR— Mary Anne Villeneuve

fvilleneuve@sbcglobal.net

PARISH BEREAVEMENT—Candy Blankenship

blank8840@gmail.com

PARISH FUNERAL COORDINATOR—Toni Kerker

tmkerker@gmail.com

PARISH SUNDAY HOSPITALITY—various groups

PARISH ALTAR SERVER PROGRAM— Sue Mapes

altarserversvc@gmail.com

PARISH LECTOR COORDINATOR—Tanya Salvini

lectors.cotv@gmail.com

PARISH EUCHARISTIC MINISTER TRAINING— Donna Miller

djmiller24@sbcglobal.net

PARISH SCHEDULING OF SUNDAY LECTORS-Tanya Salvini

lectors.cotv@gmail.com

PARISH SCHEDULING OF SUNDAY EUCHARISTIC MINISTERS-Donna Miller

djmiller24@sbcglobal.net

PARISH DAILY MASS EM SCHEDULER—Tanya Gutierrez

tanya.gutierrez0@icloud.com

PARISH SUNDAY USHERS—Dick Van Dusen

dick@myvandusen.com

PARISH WELCOME WAGON—Father Tim McGowan

Tmcgowan033@gmail.com

PARISH BAPTISM SHEPHERDS— Father Tim McGowan

Tmcgowan033@gmail.com

PARISH GROUPS & OUTREACH

MARY AND MARTHA— Toni Kerker & Mary Lou Ward

310-502-7843 & 310-645-5839

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS—Paul Condran

310-505-4616

SENIORS BINGO — Lenore Rotolo

310-670-6936

WEDNESDAY LUNCHEES FOR ST. MARGARET'S —Dick Van Dusen

310-216-1145X 22

MERCY BAGS—Dan Smith

dsmithwestchester@gmail.com

MONTHLY ST. MARGARET FOOD DRIVE—Knights of Columbus

various

CORNERSTONE MEN'S GROUP— Jerry Feldman

323-706-6788

CORNERSTONE WOMEN'S GROUP—Mary Rotolo

310-322-5045

RESPECT LIFE COMMITTEE—NEED A VOLUNTEER

SPIRITUAL GROUPS

SPIRIT OF MARY PRAYER GROUP—Beverly Razzeto

310-670-6886

FOOD, FAITH AND FELLOWSHIP COORDINATOR—Barbara Berg

babsjberg@gmail.com

TUESDAY NIGHT BIBLE STUDY—Barbara Berg

LENT UNPLUGGED—Kathy McGrath & Michael Kramer

kathmcgrath@me.com

CHINESE BIBLE STUDY—SATURDAY NIGHTS IN PCU—Nancy Chen

pnchen@sbcglobal.net

DAYTIME BIBLE STUDY— Mary Lou Ward

310-645-5839

YOUNG ADULT AND TEEN GROUP MINISTRY

YOUNG ADULT MINISTRY— Joseph Berg

YAM@visitationchurch-la.com

TEEN GROUP MINISTRY—Geremy Brosmer

ConfirmationVC@gmail.com

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