



CHURCH OF THE VISITATION

EST. 1943

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

THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT

DECEMBER 17, 2023

Shepherd's Candle



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: 8:00 a.m.

(This mass is also live-streamed)

Sunday Mass

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

Sunday: 8:00 a.m., 9:30 a.m., and 11:00 a.m.

(The Sunday Mass at 8:00 a.m. is also live-streamed on our website)

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: 8:30 am - 9:30 am

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

6561 WEST 88TH STREET LOS ANGELES, CA 90045

Tel. 310-216-1145 Fax. 310-846-5421 email: visitationchurch497@gmail.com visitationchurch-la.com

SUNDAY'S READINGS

FIRST READING – I rejoice heartily in the LORD, in my God is the joy of my soul. (Is 61:10)

PSALM – My soul rejoices in my God. (Is 61:10b)

SECOND READING – May the God of peace make you perfectly holy and may you entirely, spirit, soul, and body, be preserved blameless for the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ. (1 Thes 5:23)

GOSPEL – “I baptize with water; but there is one among you whom you do not recognize, the one who is coming after me, whose sandal strap I am not worthy to untie.” (Jn 1:23)

READINGS FOR THE WEEK

MONDAY: Jer 23:5-8/Ps 72:1-2, 12-13, 18-19/Mt 1:18-2

TUESDAY: Jgs 13:2-7, 24-25a/Ps 71:3-4a, 5-6ab, 16-17/Lk 1:5-25

WEDNESDAY: Is 7:10-14/Ps 24:1-2, 3-4ab, 5-6/Lk 1:26-38

THURSDAY: Sg 2:8-14 or Zep 3:14-18a/Ps 33:2-3, 11-12, 20-21/Lk 1:39-4

FRIDAY: 1 Sm 1:24-28/1 Sm 2:1, 4-5, 6-7, 8abcd/Lk 1:46-56

SATURDAY: Mal 3:1-4, 23-24/Ps 25:4-5ab, 8-9, 10 and 14/Lk 1:57-66

QUOTE OF THE WEEK

The time is always right, to do what is right.”-Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.

PARENT LEADERSHIP

“[When parenting] Don't let your ego come ahead of truth or justice; when you've done wrong or gone too far, apologize.” -Jim Stenson, *Compass*

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

Come, let us adore Him.



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 17TH

3rd Sunday of Advent

8:00am - Jaime Ballesteros †

9:30am - For the people of
Visitation Parish

11:00am - Richard Topete †

MONDAY - DECEMBER 18TH

8:00am - Francesco Borgese †

TUESDAY - DECEMBER 19TH

8:00am - Uncle Michael Blasco †

WEDNESDAY - DECEMBER 20TH

8:00am - Tony Sales †

THURSDAY - DECEMBER 21ST

St. Peter Canisius, Priest and Doctor of the Church

8:00am - Sylvia Patino

FRIDAY - DECEMBER 22ND

8:00am - Pat Rotolo †

SATURDAY - DECEMBER 23RD

St. John of Kanty, Priest

5:00pm - Adele Nico †

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!

Dear sisters and brothers,

A few weeks ago, I mentioned in my homily that a group of young adults requested permission to shoot a short video in our parish church for a Eucharistic Revival film festival. Well, the video was completed, submitted, and ended up winning 3rd place in the festival. Congratulations to the writer and director, Mr. Alan Hewitt, and his team for their impressive work (see photo)! Please check out and share their video (<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=dGcVMvifQX8>)

Hosting this project at Visitation (with proper Archdiocesan permissions) was a reminder to me that God calls all of us to be saints and the majority of us he calls to remain in the world so as to sanctify it from within. That's what these young men and women are doing. They are lay Catholics (i.e., non-clergy), serious film professionals, and the majority of their work has no direct Catholic connection. Sure, this film festival was an exception as they used their professional expertise to create a powerful video about faith and the Eucharist. But in general, their faith comes through more subtly as they work to make quality movies in which truth, goodness, and beauty shine through to move the mind and heart to God.

It brings me joy to know that there are good Catholics trying to bring the light of the Gospel to Hollywood by putting into practice the teaching of the Second Vatican Council on the laity:

But the laity, by their very vocation, seek the kingdom of God by engaging in temporal affairs and by ordering them according to the plan of God. They live in the world, that is, in each and in all of the secular professions and occupations. They live in the ordinary circumstances of family and social life, from which the very web of their existence is woven. They are called there by God that by exercising their proper function and led by the spirit of the Gospel they may work for the sanctification of the world from within as a leaven. In this way they may make Christ known to others, especially by the testimony of a life resplendent in faith, hope and charity (Lumen Gentium, par. 31).

May this Advent Season be a time for all of us - especially the lay faithful - to act as "leaven" in the world. Remember, it only takes a little of leaven to make the dough rise. Never forget your personal holiness, whatever your profession might be, does much to lift up a world in need of God's merciful love!

Peace,

Fr. Matt

Don't Forget:

Christmas Masses: Please note that the 4th Sunday of Advent falls on Dec. 23/24. We will have the normal Sunday Mass schedule. Christmas Masses begin the evening of Dec. 24. Since people have been asking, I thought I'd clarify: **Christmas is a Holy Day of Obligation** and going to the Mass on the 4th Sunday of Advent does not fulfill that obligation. Please plan to attend Masses for the **4th Sunday of Advent and Christmas**. Blessings!

Vis for St. Margaret's: Thank you to Kathy McGrath and all who worked together on the Candlelit Concert for St. Margaret's Center. It was a beautiful evening with lots of Christmas cheer!

Looking for a good contemporary Christmas song? Check out one of my new favorites! Josh Turner - "King Size Manger."

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.



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.

WE SHARE YOUR GRIEF DURING THIS HOLIDAY SEASON

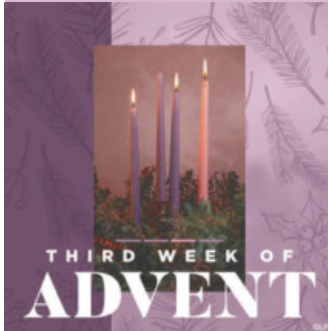
“Please check the Visitation website under Resources/Bereavement for a list of Grieving, Cancer, Hospice and Palliative Care note titles. These are very helpful and powerful small articles. Please contact **Candy Blankenship at 310-338-9043 or blank8840@gmail.com** and she will mail them to you at no 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.



Thank you for your continued Support and Generosity to Visitation Church!

THIRD ADVENT CANDLE/SUNDAY: JOY – “GAUDETE SUNDAY”

“But the angel said to them, ‘Do not be afraid; for see – I am bringing you good news of great joy for all the people: to you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is the Messiah, the Lord. This will be a sign for you: you will find a child wrapped in bands of cloth and lying in a manger.’” (Luke 2:10-12)



The third candle of Advent symbolizes Joy. As we continue to approach Christmas Day, our joy grows more and more. The third candle takes us back to the joyful anticipation of the shepherds who journeyed to see Jesus in Bethlehem, even before the wise men. On this third Sunday of Advent, which the Church calls “Gaudete Sunday,” meaning rejoice or praise, we light the third candle and rejoice like the shepherds. For this reason, the third candle of Advent is called the “Shepherd’s Candle,” and its color is pink, the liturgical color for joy.

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.

SAFEGUARD THE CHILDREN AND VULNERABLE ADULTS

DID YOU KNOW? KEEPING CHILDREN SAFE IN HOLIDAY CROWDS

This Christmas, your family will likely be in a crowd or two – at school functions, visiting Santa at the mall, Christmas Eve Mass. According to the National Center for Missing and Exploited Children, over 400,000 children go missing every year in the US. Crowds are a perfect opportunity for a perpetrator to take advantage of chaos and distraction. Before you head out into the holiday frenzy, talk to your children about some ground rules: Stay together and communicate about where you are headed if you change directions or plans. Consider the “two big steps” rule, which tells your child not to be more than two steps away from you at all times. That way, you can easily keep eyes on each other. For more tips, visit nationwidechildrens.org.



Monthly November 2023 Update
Visitation Church Goal: \$590,000
Pledged: \$901,430.00
Total Paid: \$214,753.32

“It is not how much you give, but how much love you put into giving.” - St. Theresa of Calcutta

To pledge/ donate please go to: <https://calledtorenew.org/parishes/visitation>



GATHERING

Christ in Me Arise

Refrain

Christ in me a - rise and dis - pel all the dark - ness.

Christ in me a - rise with your pow - er and your strength.

Christ in me pour out your bless - ing and heal - ing.

Christ in me a - rise and I shall rise with you.

Verses

1. Be now my vi - sion; o - pen these eyes, show - ing me
 2. Be now my foot - steps, lead - ing the way, tak - ing me

1. all that I must see. } On - ward to the king - dom,
 2. where I must go. }

1, 2. you are the way. A - rise in me and I shall rise with you. to Refrain

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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

PENITENTIAL RITE

Lord Have Mercy (Stephan)

PSALM My soul rejoices in my God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Alleluia (Hart)

MASS PARTS

MASS OF HOPE

MEMORIAL ACCLAMATION

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

PREPARATION OF THE TABLE AND GIFTS

Hope is Dawning

1. O - PEN UP THE SKIES, AND RAIN THE
 2. O - PEN UP OUR EYES TO SEE YOUR
 3. O - PEN UP OUR HEARTS TO SAY,

HEAV - ENS DOWN, THE HEAV - ENS DOWN. FA - THER, O - PEN UP THE
 GLO - RY FOUND, IT'S ALL A - ROUND. JE - SUS, O - PEN UP OUR
 "HAVE YOUR WAY, HAVE YOUR WAY." O - PEN UP OUR

1
 SKIES, AND RAIN THE HEAV - ENS DOWN ON US.
 EYES TO SEE YOUR
 HEARTS TO SAY,

|| 2.3.
 GLO - RY ALL A - ROUND.
 "SPIR - IT, HAVE YOUR WAY."

WE ARE LONG - ING. HOPE IS DAWN - ING.
 HEAV - EN'S FALL - ING; COME, LORD JE -
 - SUS.

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COMMUNION

Bread of Angels

1. Bread of an - gels, we re - ceive you; with us
 2. Cup of Mer - cy o - ver - flow - ing, fill us
 3. Word in - car - nate, dwell with - in us; pierce our
 4. Though un - wor - thy, we re - ceive you, sac - ra -

1. now a - bide. Pre - cious Je - sus, man - na of
 2. with your grace; wine of pas - sion, O Son be -
 3. hard - ened hearts. Ten - der Je - sus, Love so
 4. ment di - vine. Bread of an - gels, ac - cept our



1. a - ges, with us now re - side.
 2. got - ten, we flee to your em - brace.
 3. gen - tle, nev - er let us part.
 4. prais - es, let your glo - ry shine!



1. Pa - nis an - gé - li - cus fit pa - nis hó - mi - num,
 2. O res mi - rá - bi - lis man - dú - cat Dó - mi - num,
 3. Te, tri - na Dé - i - tas ú - na - que, pó - sci - mus,
 4. Per tu - as sé - mi - tas duc nos quo tén - di - mus,



1. Dat pa - nis cáe - li - cus fi - gú - ris tér - mi - num.
 3. Sic nos tu ví - sí - ta, si - cut te có - li - mus.



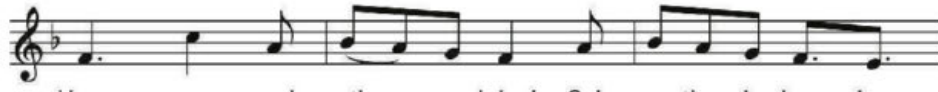
2. Pau - per, Pau - per, ser - vus, et hú - mi - lis.
 4. lu - cem, Ad lu - cem quam in - há - bi - tas.

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SENDING Emmanuel



Refrain
Come, come, Em - man - u - el! Son of God, ap - pear.



Heav - en and earth, re - joi - ce! Sal - va - tion is draw - ing



near. Sal - va - tion is draw - ing near.



Verses
1. O come, O come, Em - man - u - el,
That mourns in lone - ly ex - ile here



1. And ran - som cap - tive Is - ra - el,
Un - til the Son of God ap - pear.

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