

**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](mailto: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

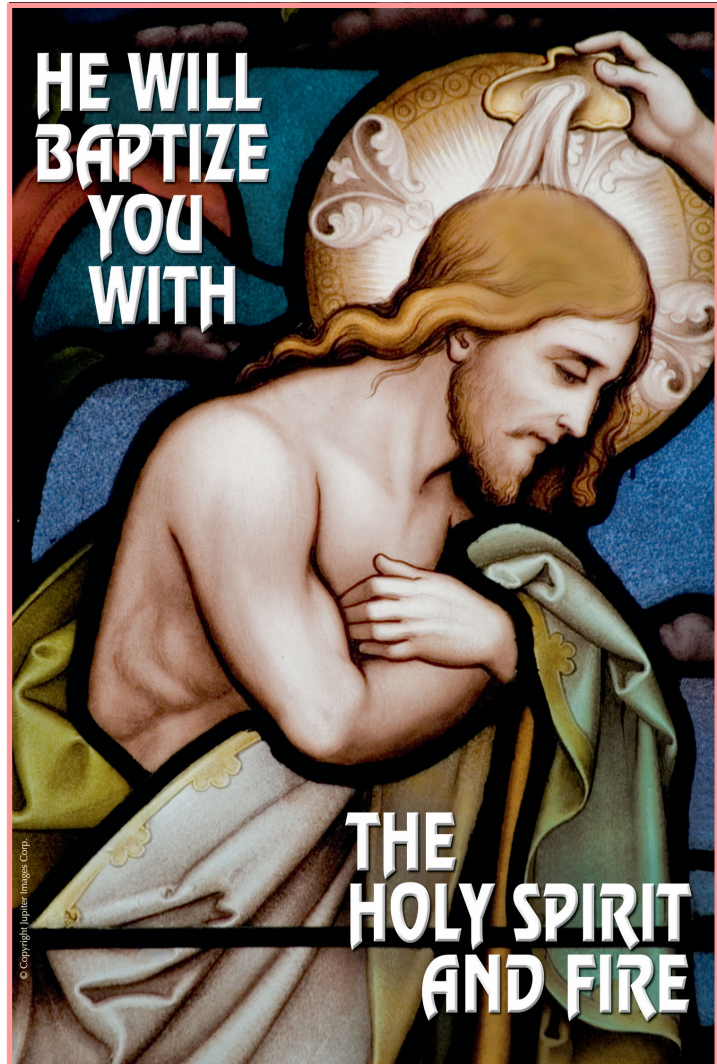
**Note:** The live-streamed Masses can be viewed  
 on our website:  
[www.visitationchurch-la.com](http://www.visitationchurch-la.com)

**Private Worship (Inside the church)** Open for  
 private devotion between the hours of 7:30am-  
 4:00pm (Monday-Friday) and 8:00am-4:00pm  
 (Saturday).

**Holy Hour (Inside the church)**

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

# Church of the Visitation



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**PARISH REGISTRATION**

Are you looking for a faith community to  
 call home?  
 Click on the link below to register as a  
 parishioner.

[www.visitationchurch-la.com/register](http://www.visitationchurch-la.com/register)



**RELIGIOUS QUOTE OF THE DAY**

"Worship is a way of seeing the world in the light of God."

-Abraham Joshua Heschel

**MISSION STATEMENT**

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

### 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 began 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](mailto: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](http://visitationchurch-la.com) to download an application. If you have any questions, please reach out to **Jeremy Brosmer** at [confirmationvc@gmail.com](mailto: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** began on **September 13th from 6:30pm-9:00pm**. If you are interested, please **email Toni Kerker** at



**In honor of the Sanctity of Human Life Month, the Pregnancy Help Center Baby Bottle Fundraiser is this weekend!** The Pregnancy Help Center in Torrance provides many free services, including ultrasound exams, to women facing the challenge of an unplanned pregnancy. Please support them by picking up a baby bottle after all masses. You can put in coins, bills or a check and return your bottle before all masses the weekend of February 5th & 6th. You can also donate online at [supportphctorrance.org/contribute](http://supportphctorrance.org/contribute). Your support saves lives!

### Prayer Requests:

Please email them to [vizprayerrequests@gmail.com](mailto:vizprayerrequests@gmail.com).

### WE SHARE THEIR GRIEF

Visitation Parish Community extends its sympathy and prayers to the family and friends of **Ana Dotson**. Please pray for their souls and the souls of all the faithful departed. May they rest in peace.

### 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, January 23, 2022 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.

### Did You Know? January 8-9 || Check your child's

**backpack** As you and your children prepare for their return to school after Christmas break, make sure they are not carrying too much around in their backpacks. Backpacks that are too heavy can cause problems like neck or back pain, or poor posture. The American Chiropractic Association (ACA) recommends that a child's backpack weigh no more than 5-10% of the child's body weight. Help your children by ensuring that they wear their backpacks correctly, with both straps over the shoulders, and that they are only carrying what they need. If you have concerns about the load your child is carrying, reach out to a teacher or school staff to discuss what should and should not be coming home every day. For more information, visit [nsc.org/community-safety/safety-topics/child-safety/backpack-safety-for-kids](http://nsc.org/community-safety/safety-topics/child-safety/backpack-safety-for-kids).

### Mass Intentions Jan. 10-16, 2022



- 1/10 8am Mass-Lowell Hobrock (Dec'd)
- 1/11 8am Mass-Francis Hetz (Dec'd)
- 1/12 8am Mass-Patricia Ruiz (Dec'd) and **For the sick in the Parish**
- 1/13 8am Mass-Anne Ryan (Special Intentions)
- 1/14 8am Mass-Diane Murray Soto (Dec'd)
- 1/15 5pm Mass-Mary Delehant (Special Intentions)
- 1/16 8am Mass-Sally Zimmerman (Dec'd) and 11am Mass-Richard Polatewicz (Dec'd)

To request a **mass intention** please call the rectory at **310-216-1145**.



## CELEBRATING THE BEAUTY AND DIGNITY OF EVERY HUMAN LIFE

SATURDAY, JANUARY 22, 2022

11 AM Youth and Young Adult Kick-Off Event - Olvera Street

12 PM Walk for Life

1-4 PM OneLife LA - LA Historic Park

5 PM Requiem Mass for the Unborn



OneLife LA

### ONELIFE LA 2022

At 12:00 Noon on Jan. 22nd, the walk starts from La Placita/Olvera Street through Downtown Los Angeles to LA State Historic Park for a family friendly day of inspiring speakers, live music, food trucks, and works of mercy. The event will conclude with the Requiem Mass for the Unborn at the Cathedral of Our Lady of the Angeles. For more information, please visit [www.onelifela.org](http://www.onelifela.org).

### God our Father,

*You create everyone in Your image and likeness, to share Your love as Your sons and daughters. Help us to see Your face in the faces of the poor and the vulnerable, the forgotten and the voiceless. Bless us as we seek to build a culture of life, through our OneLife LA celebration. Keep us close to our Blessed Mother Mary, as we strive to promote the dignity of all human life from conception to natural death.*

Most Reverend José H. Gomez  
Archbishop of Los Angeles

### Dios Padre nuestro,

*Tú que creaste a todos a tu imagen y semejanza, para compartir tu amor como hijos e hijas, ayúdanos a ver tu rostro en los rostros de los pobres y vulnerables, de los olvidados y de aquellos que no tienen voz. Bendícenos en nuestros esfuerzos por construir una cultura de vida, a través de nuestra celebración UnaVida L.A. Manténos cerca de nuestra Santísima Madre María, mientras trabajamos por promover la dignidad de toda vida humana desde la concepción hasta la muerte natural.*

Monseñor José H. Gomez  
Arzobispo de Los Angeles

[onelifela.org](http://onelifela.org)

**PASTOR'S POST**

Full disclosure! This post is a repeat from a few years ago (2017). But I hope you will find it refreshing and informative as our Christmas season comes to an end. Happy New Year!

As we celebrate this last Sunday feast of Christmas, the Epiphany (the baptism of Jesus, which is celebrated tomorrow, is the official conclusion of the Christmas season), it might be helpful to look deeper into this story from Matthew's gospel to better understand what is really going on. So, some "trivia" questions.

\*Sometimes we say "The three wise men." Sometimes, "The Magi." Sometimes, "Three kings." Sometimes "Three astrologers." Which is it?

Matthew uses the word "Magi" indicating a Persian priestly caste of the religious cult named Zoroastrianism. As part of their religion, these priests paid particular attention to the stars and gained an international reputation for astrology, hence the Magi are sometimes referred to as astrologers. Little surprise that they were following a star. Why "wise men?" Because their study of the stars indicated they came from a well educated strata of society. And why "kings?" Early Christian tradition remembered the writings of Isaiah 60:3, Psalm 68:29, and Psalm 72:10, describing how the kings of the world would worship the coming messiah. "All the kings shall fall down before him: all nations serve him."

\*Why Gold, Frankincense, and Myrrh? And what is Myrrh anyway?

These valuable items were standard gifts to honor a king or deity in the ancient world: gold as a precious metal, frankincense as perfume or incense, and myrrh as anointing oil. It is the Magi's way of acknowledging the divinity and kingship of Jesus, gold representing his kingship, frankincense a symbol of his priestly role, and myrrh, a costly anointing oil, a prefiguring of Jesus' death and embalming—an interpretation made popular in the well-known Christmas carol "We Three Kings."

\*Matthew 2:1 - "...behold, magi from the east arrived in Jerusalem..." Why did Matthew mention "the east?"

This indicates that these men were not Jews. In Jewish eyes, they were pagans. So what is remarkable is that pagans could recognize the divinity of Christ before the true believers ever did.

\*Why do we say that there were three Magi?

Early Christian tradition assumed there were three Magi simply because there were three gifts. In Eastern Christianity, especially in the Syriac church, the tradition is that there were as many as twelve Magi.

\*Matthew 2: 10-11 - They (the Magi) were overjoyed at seeing the star, and on entering the house, they saw the child with Mary his mother." House? I thought Jesus was born in a manger.

The manger is present only in Luke's gospel; in Matthew's gospel, the Holy Family is in a house. Through artistic interpretation as seen in every crèche, these two traditions are combined into one scene, with the Magi (Matthew, not Luke) visiting the manger (Luke, not Matthew).



January 9, 2022

# *The Baptism*

## OF THE LORD

[John said,]  
*"I am baptizing you with water,  
 but one mightier than I is coming.  
 I am not worthy to loosen  
 the thongs of his sandals."*

Luke 3:16

## *The Baptism of the Lord*

### GATHERING

When Jesus Comes to Be Baptized



1. When Je - sus comes to be bap - tized, He
2. The Spir - it of the Lord comes down, A -
3. He will not quench the dy - ing flame, And
4. O Spir - it help us be like Christ: To
5. We praise you, God, source of all life, We



1. leaves the hid - den years be - hind, The years of safe - ty
2. noints the Christ to suf - fer - ing, To preach the word, to
3. what is bruised he will not break, But heal the wound in -
4. live in love and char - i - ty, To walk in truth and
5. praise you, Christ, e - ter - nal Word, We praise you, Spir - it,



1. and of peace, To bear the sins of hu - man - kind.
2. free the bound, And to the mourn - er, com - fort bring.
3. jus - tice dealt, And out of death his tri - umph make.
4. jus - tice now, And grow in Chris - tian dig - ni - ty.
5. gra - cious gift; Your tri - une pres - ence fills our world.

Text: LM. Verses 1-3, alt., © 1974, Stanbrook Abbey. All rights reserved. Used with permission.

Verses 4-5, © 1989, Concacan Inc. All rights reserved. Used with permission.

Music: Georg Wittwe's *Musikalisches Hand-Buch*, Hamburg, 1690; adapt. by William H. Havergal, 1793-1870.

### PSALM

#### 1st Reading

Isaiah

42:1-4, 6-7

#### Psalm 29

#### 2nd Reading

Acts 10:34-38

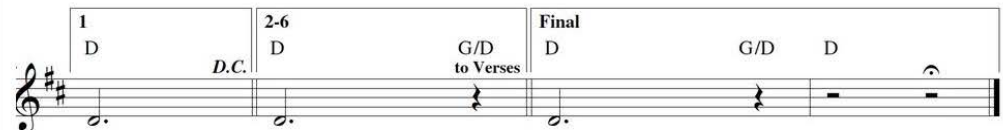
#### Gospel

Luke

3:15-16, 21-22



O \_\_\_ bless the Lord, my soul. O \_\_\_ bless the Lord, my



soul. soul. soul.

© Rick Modlin

### GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Alleluia (HART)



**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 Creation

**PREPARATION OF THE TABLE AND GIFTS****Down to the River to Pray**

As I went down to the riv - er to pray,  
 stud - y - ing a - bout that good old way. And who shall wear the  
 star - ry crown, good Lord, show me the way.  
 Oh \*broth - er let's go down, come on down, don't you  
 want to go down? Oh broth - er, let's go down,  
 down to the riv - er to pray.

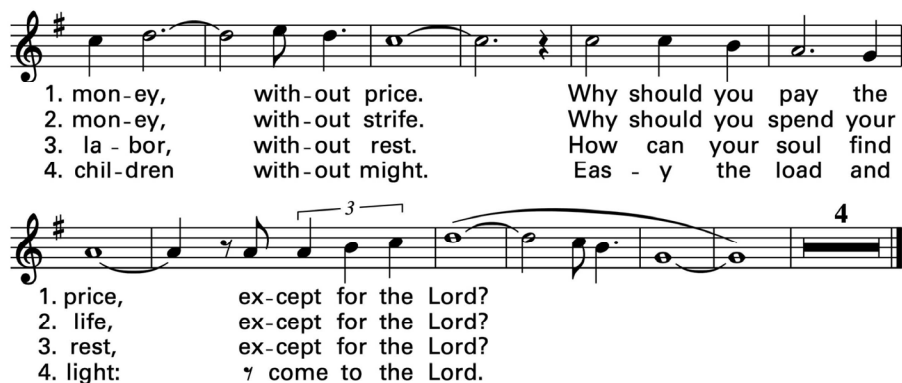
\*Sister, father, mother.

Text: American folk song  
Tune: American folk song; arr. by Robert J. Batastini, b.1942**COMMUNION****Come to the Water**

1. O let all who thirst, let them come to the  
 2. And let all who seek, let them come to the  
 3. And let all who toil, let them come to the  
 4. And let all the poor, let them come to the

1. wa - ter. And let all who have noth - ing,  
 2. wa - ter. And let all who have noth - ing,  
 3. wa - ter. And let all who are wea - ry,  
 4. wa - ter. Bring the ones who are lad - en,

1. let them come to the Lord: with - out  
 2. let them come to the Lord: with - out  
 3. let them come to the Lord: all who  
 4. bring them all to the Lord: bring the



1. mon-ey,      with-out price.      Why should you pay the  
 2. mon-ey,      with-out strife.      Why should you spend your  
 3. la - bor,      with-out rest.      How can your soul find  
 4. chil-dren      with-out might.      Eas - y the load and

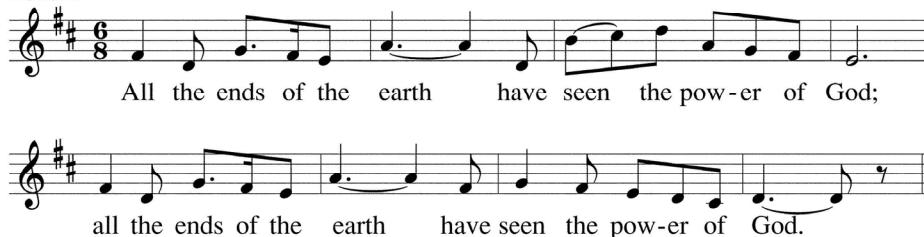
1. price,      ex-cept for the Lord?  
 2. life,      ex-cept for the Lord?  
 3. rest,      ex-cept for the Lord?  
 4. light:      7 come to the Lord.

Text: Based on Isaiah 55:1-2; Matthew 11:28-30. Text and music © 1978, John B. Foley, S.J., and OCP.  
 All rights reserved.

## SENDING FORTH

### All the Ends of the Earth


#### Refrain



All the ends of the earth have seen the pow-er of God;  
 all the ends of the earth have seen the pow-er of God.

#### Verses

1. Sing to the Lord a new song, for God has done wondrous deeds;  
 whose right hand has won the vict'ry for us, God's holy arm.
2. The Lord has made salvation known, and justice revealed to all,  
 remembering kindness and faithfulness to Israel.
3. All of the ends of earth have seen salvation by our God.  
 Joyfully sing out all you lands, break forth in song.
4. Sing to the Lord with harp and song, with trumpet and with horn.  
 Sing in your joy before the king, the king, our Lord.



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**WHY IS IT**

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**WHY IS IT?**



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