



CHURCH OF THE VISITATION

EST. 1943

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

DECEMBER 24, 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: 8:00 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)

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 – “Your house and your kingdom shall endure forever before me; your throne shall stand firm forever.” (2 Sm 28:16)

PSALM – For ever I will sing the goodness of the Lord. (Ps 89)

SECOND READING – The revelation of the mystery kept secret for long ages but now manifested through the prophetic writings and, according to the command of the eternal God, made known to all nations to bring about the obedience of faith. (Rom 16:25-26)

GOSPEL – “Behold, you will conceive in your womb and bear a son, and you shall name him Jesus.” (Lk 1:31)

READINGS FOR THE WEEK

MONDAY: Vigil: Is 62:1-5/Ps 89:4-5, 16-17, 27, 29/Acts 13:16-17, 22-25/Mt 1:1-25 or

1:18-25 Night: Is 9:1-6/Ps 96: 1-2, 2-3, 11-12, 13/Ti 2:11-14/Lk 2:1-14

Dawn: Is 62:11-12/Ps 97:1, 6, 11-12/Ti 3:4-7/Lk 2:15-20 Day: Is 52:7-10/

Ps 98:1, 2-3, 3-4, 5-6/Heb 1:1-6/Jn 1:1-18 or 1:1-5, 9-14

TUESDAY: ACTS 6:8-10; 7:54-59/Ps 31:3CD-4, 6 AND 8AB, 16BC AND 17/MT 10:17-22

WEDNESDAY: 1 JN 1:1-4/Ps 97:1-2, 5-6, 11-12/JN 20:1A, 2-8

THURSDAY: 1 JN 1:5–2:2/Ps 124:2-3, 4-5, 7CD-8/MT 2:13-18

FRIDAY: 1 JN 2:3-11/Ps 96:1-2A, 2B-3, 5B-6/LK 2:22-35

SATURDAY: 1 JN 2:12-17/Ps 96:7-8A, 8B-9, 10/LK 2:36-40

QUESTIONS OF THE WEEK: REFLECT AND RESPOND TO THE SCRIPTURE

FIRST READING: We hear how God established his covenantal promise with King David to raise up a son after him and ensure that David's house and kingdom will stand firm forever. *What promises have you kept with family or friends?*

SECOND READING: Paul concludes his letter to the Romans with a hymn of praise to God. *As Advent draws to a close, for what can you praise God?*

GOSPEL: Today's Gospel reading is the annunciation to Mary of the upcoming birth of Jesus. Mary's unconditional acceptance offers us a model to follow. *How open are you to God's work in your life?*

LPI

FOURTH ADVENT CANDLE/SUNDAY: LOVE



“And in the end, everything else will turn out to be unimportant and inessential, except for this: Father, Child, and Love.” – St. (Pope) John Paul II

The fourth candle of Advent represents Love, the ultimate love of God that He might send His only Son for us. Called the “Angel's Candle,” the fourth candle of Advent is lit the Sunday before Christmas, and it is the color purple, leading us to eagerly await the new Kingdom of God on earth.



SAINTS AND SPECIAL OBSERVANCES

SUNDAY – DECEMBER 24TH

4th Sunday of Advent; Christmas Eve

8:00am - Karl Brewer †

9:30am - For the people of
Visitation Parish

11:00am - Byron Potts †

4:00pm - For all the benefactors

6:00pm - of Visitation Parish

10:00pm - Past & Present

MONDAY - DECEMBER 25TH

The Nativity of the Lord

9:00am - For all the benefactors

of Visitation Parish

11:00am - Past & Present

TUESDAY - DECEMBER 26TH

St. Stephen, First Martyr

8:00am - Valerie L. Moore †

WEDNESDAY- DECEMBER 27TH

St. John, Apostle and Evangelist

8:00am - Patino Jibilian Family

THURSDAY - DECEMBER 28TH

The Holy Innocents, Martyrs

8:00am - Esther Villalobos †

FRIDAY - DECEMBER 29TH

St. Thomas Becket, Bishop and Martyr

8:00am - For the Intentions of Mary
Lou Ward

SATURDAY - DECEMBER 30TH

5:00pm - Lisa Stephanie Benavidas †

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.

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

Dear sisters and brothers,

In preparation for Christmas, I've been meditating upon the reflections of Pope Francis found in this book. As expected, his words have been very helpful and I'd like to share some of them with you. In his 2021 Christmas Eve homily he said:

"The Gospel... relates the birth of Jesus beginning with Caesar Augustus, who orders the census of the whole world: it presents the first Emperor in all his grandeur. Yet immediately thereafter it brings us to Bethlehem, where there is no grandeur at all: just a poor child wrapped in swaddling clothes, with shepherds standing by. That is where God is, in littleness. This is the message: God does not rise up in grandeur, but lowers himself into littleness. Littleness is the path that he chose to draw near to us, to touch our hearts, to save us and to bring us back to what really matters."

We've heard it said, "The devil is in the details..." This is true - but what Pope Francis reminds us is that God is also in the details! That is to say, God is not only in the big and flashy moments of our lives, but also in the small and seemingly insignificant ones too: sending emails, cooking dinner, or even driving in LA traffic. My friends, God is present in the little moments of ordinary life - waiting for us to discover Him.

In these final hours before Christmas, let us pray for the special grace to be attentive to the humble presence of Jesus in our lives. We can pray, "Lord, help me to see!" Jesus comes at Christmas, yes, but He also comes time and time again each day. Let us receive Him with joy!

In Christ,
Fr. Matt

Don't Forget:

Thank you to our Seniors for hosting a wonderful Christmas Party. It was a blast! See pictures in the next page.

QUOTE OF THE WEEK

"Faith and reason are like two wings on which the human spirit rises to the contemplation of truth; and God has placed in the human heart a desire to know the truth—in a word, to know himself." -Pope St. John Paul II

PARENT LEADERSHIP

"Don't let your children infringe on the rights of others. Remember, the way they treat their siblings is an apprenticeship for the way they'll treat their spouse, children, colleagues, and others in their lives." -Jim Stenson, *Compass*



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.



The parish Office will be closed Monday, Dec. 25th and Tuesday, Dec. 26th so our parish staff may have the opportunity to enjoy the Holiday with their families! We will re-open Wednesday, Dec. 27th 8:00AM - 4:00PM





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.



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 <https://onelifela.org/register-2>.



Merry Christmas and Happy New Year

Thank you to all those that participated in the Viz Senior Fun Day.



Visitation Church Goal: \$57,470.00

Amount Pledge: \$51,404.25 89.4%

Amount Paid: \$50,841.74 88.5%

Difference Over/(Under) Goal vs. Amount Paid: (\$6,628.26) -11.5%

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.

Give today with the QR code



New Year's Eve Masses

Sun. Dec. 31st, 2023
Regular Sunday Mass Schedule
8:00am, 9:30am, and 11:00am Mass
(No Vigil Mass)

New Year's Day Mass

Mon. Jan. 1st, 2024
8:00am Mass
*These Masses will be live-streamed as well



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

O Come, O Come, Emmanuel

Verses

1. O come, O come, Em - man - u - el, And
 2. O come, Thou Wis - dom from on high, Who

1. ran - som cap - tive Is - ra - el, That mourns in lone - ly
 2. or - d' rest all things might - i - ly; To us the path of

1. ex - ile here Un - til the Son of God ap - pear.
 2. knowl - edge show, And teach us in her ways to go.

Refrain

Re - joice! Re - joice! Em - man - u -
 el Shall come to thee, O Is - ra - el!

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PENITENTIAL RITE

Lord Have Mercy (Stephan)

PSALM Forever I will sing the goodness of the Lord.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Alleluia (Hart)

PREPARATION OF THE TABLE AND GIFTS

The King Shall Come

Verses 1, 2

1. The King shall come when morn - ing dawns And
 2. O bright - er than the ris - ing morn When

1. light tri - um - phant breaks, When beau - ty gilds the
 2. he, vic - to - rious, rose And left the lone - some

1. east - ern hills And life to joy a - wakes.
 2. place of death, De - spite the rage of foes.

1. Not, as of old, a lit - tle child, To
 2. O bright - er than that glo - rious morn Shall

1. bear, and fight, and die, But crowned with glo - ry
 2. this fair morn - ing be, When Christ, our King, in

1. like the sun That lights the morn - ing sky.
 2. beau-ty comes, And we his face shall see!

Verse 3

3. The King shall come when morn-ing dawns And light and beau-
 3. - ty brings. Hail, Christ, the Lord! Thy peo-ple pray: Come

3. quick-ly, King of kings. Come quick-ly, King of kings.

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COMMUNION

Holy is His Name

Verses

1. My soul — pro-claims the great-ness of the Lord, —
 2. He has mer-cy — in ev - 'ry gen-er - a - tion. He

1. and my spir-it — ex-ul-ts in God my Sav-ior. For he has
 2. has — re-vealed — his pow-er and his glo - ry. He has cast

1. looked with mer-cy on my low-li - ness, and my name — will be for-
 2. down the might-y in their ar-ro-gance, and has lift-ed up — the

1. ev - er ex - alt - ed. For the might - y God has done great
 2. meek and the low - ly. He has come to help his ser - vant

1. things for me, and his mer-cy — will reach from age to
 2. Is - ra - el; he — re-mem - bers — his prom - ise to our

Refrain

1. age. — And ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly is his name.
 2. fa - thers.

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SENDING

Soon and Very Soon



1. Soon and ver - y soon we are goin' to see the King,
2. No more cry - in' there we are goin' to see the King,
3. No more dy - in' there we are goin' to see the King,



Soon and ver - y soon we are goin' to see the King,
No more cry - in' there we are goin' to see the King,
No more dy - in' there we are goin' to see the King,



Soon and ver - y soon we are goin' to see the King,
No more cry - in' there we are goin' to see the King,
No more dy - in' there we are goin' to see the King, Hal - le -



lu - jah, Hal - le - lu - jah, we're goin' to see the King!



Hal - le - lu - jah, Hal - le - lu -



jah, Hal - le - lu - jah, Hal - le - lu - jah.

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