

# HURCH OF THE



EST. 1943

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

#### ADMINISTRATOR:

Fr. Francis Kim

#### IN RESIDENCE:

Fr. Jim Anguiano (Vicar General)

Fr. Timothy McGowan

#### RETIRED:

Msgr. Charles E. Hill

Msgr. James Forsen (Pastor Emeritus)

#### 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)

#### DAILY ROSARY

Monday thru Friday following the 8 a.m. mass

HOLY HOUR (INSIDE THE CHURCH)

First Friday of each month:

8:30am-9:30am

#### CONFESSIONS

Saturday: 3:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m.

and by appointment

PRIVATE WORSHIP (INSIDE THE

CHURCH)

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

#### PARISH OFFICE HOURS:

Monday - Friday 8:00 am - 4:00 pm Closed for lunch 12:00 pm - 1:00pm



DECEMBER 1, 2024

#### **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.

6561 WEST 88TH STREET LOS ANGELES, CA 90045

#### PARISH REGISTRATION



Are you looking for a faith community to call home? Welcome to the Viz family!

You may register as a parishioner on our website or Scan the QR code now.



As a parish, we strive to be good stewards of our resources. Many families have moved away from envelopes and are now using Faith Direct to fulfill their generous stewardship commitments to our parish and the wider church through electronic

donations. Help us to reduce our envelope and postage expense and at the same time support us in a secure and convenient way by enrolling with Faith Direct.

#### It's easy to get started. Here are the ways to give:

- Visit faith.direct/CA772 or Scan QR code
- Call Faith Direct Customer Service at 866-507-8757
- Text \$ amount to GIVE Now! Or "ENROLL" for recurring donations 310-361-1262



#### SCRAMENTAL PREPARATION



Please scan the QR code to get more information regarding Baptism, First Reconciliation, Holy Communion, Confirmation, Adult Baptism, Confirmation and Eucharist (OCIA), Marriage, Anointing of the Sick and Holy Orders.

#### **WE SHARE YOUR GRIEF**

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

- ◆ Eileen Crowley who went home to the Lord on October 31, 2024. She was 88 years old. Funeral Mass will take place Thursday, December 5th at 11:30AM at Visitation.
- ◆Betty Spindler who went home to the Lord on October 29, 2024. She was 94 years old. Funeral Mass will take place Tuesday, December 10th at 12:00PM at Visitation.

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



SAINTS AND SPECIAL OBSERVANCES

#### SUNDAY - DECEMBER 1ST

1st Sunday of Advent

8:00am - Eduardo Laureola †

9:30am - For the people of

Visitation Parish

11:00am - Liz Cleary

#### MONDAY - DECEMBER 2ND

8:00am - Efrain Villalobos †

#### TUESDAY - DECEMBER 3RD

St. Francis Xavier, Priest

8:00am - Peter Putnam

#### WEDNESDAY - DECEMBER 4TH

St. John Damascene, Priest and Doctor of the Church

8:00am - Carmelita Guimera †

#### THURSDAY - DECEMBER 5TH

8:00am - Richard & Marie Laner †

#### FRIDAY - DECEMBER 6TH

St. Nicholas, Bishop

8:00am - Thomas Brands †

#### SATURDAY - DECEMBER 7TH

St. Ambrose, Bishop and Doctor of the Church

5:00pm - Anne Gervais Dorn †

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

#### PRAYER REQUESTS (SICK OR DECEASED):

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.



### MESSAGE FROM FR. FRANCIS

Dear Parish Family,

As we enter this holy season of Advent, the words of the prophet Jeremiah come to us as a beacon of hope:

"The days are coming, says the Lord, when I will fulfill the promise I made to the house of Israel and Judah... In those days, Judah will be saved, and Jerusalem will dwell securely."

Jeremiah delivered these words to a people living in uncertainty and fear, reminding them that God's promises endure, even when life feels dark and unsettled. We, too, often experience moments of doubt or despair, wondering how things will work out or if peace will ever come to our hearts and in our world.

Jeremiah's message reminds us that God is always faithful. The promises He has made—to guide us, save us, and be with us—are as true now as they were centuries ago. Advent is a time to lean into that hope, to prepare our hearts for the coming of Christ, and to trust that God is working, even in ways we cannot see.

This week, let us reflect on the areas of our lives where we need hope. Where do we long for healing, peace, or direction? As we light the candles of our Advent wreaths, may we remember that Christ, the "righteous branch," is our source of renewal and salvation.

May this Advent season fill you with the confidence that God is faithful and that His promises will be fulfilled in your life and in the world.

In Christ's peace,

#### Fr. Francis

P.S. Would you like to volunteer as a Eucharistic Minister, Lector, Altar Server, Eucharistic Minister to the homebound? Please contact our wonderful Liturgy Coordinator, Donna Miller: djmiller24@sbcglobal.net. (Registered parishioners only). Thank you for the generosity of your time and talent.



#### DAILY BRIEF FOR ADVENT

The Daily Brief for Advent is a series of short Advent meditations on the readings of the day by all of our very own priests at Visitation. Each 4-5 minute reflection is accompanied by piano underscore and beautiful nature photographs. Consider making The Daily Brief your 5 minutes a day for Advent.



https:// www.visitationchurchla.com/dailybrief

#### CHRISTIAN MEDITATION

"In the overall course of our life's pilgrimage we do not reject thought, we do not reject emotion, but we recognize that if the pilgrimage is to bring us to the fulfilment of God's pure Being, we must transcend them by a discipline that becomes, like the burden, sweet and light. Our meditation is that discipline. We do not think about God; we do not analyze our feelings about him when we are meditating. We say our mantra with absolute confidence, with absolute faith because we are in the presence of absolute Love. As a result, in our meditation thought is clarified because it is founded on the rock who is Christ and not on our egos. Our emotion, too, is purified and pacified by His gentleness, by His forgiveness, by His love. I think the importance of all this is that this clarity and purity free us for the greatest act of neighborly love of our life which is to lead others to this purity of consciousness, to this clarity of vision. Nothing that any of us could do for our neighbor could be greater than this service of leading them to realize their enormous potential, if only they can clarify their consciousness in Christ's. If only they can purify their emotion in the warmth of His love." Fr. John Main. OSB.

To learn more about Christian meditation, please join Fr. Francis and other meditators on Wednesdays 8-8:30 pm via Zoom. Email fkim@la-archdiocese.org for the link.

#### PRAYER BEFORE MASS

Dear Father in heaven, I come before your sacred altar to assist the divine sacrifice of your Son Jesus. Fix my mind on you and by his precious blood wash away all my sins as I repent of having offended you. Grant that we may celebrate this holy mystery with strong faith and devotion. Send us the Holy Spirit of love to ignite our hearts to receive devoutly the Holy Eucharist. Bless our family, our parish, and our community. We ask this through Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you forever and ever. / Amen.

# LIVE THE LITURGY Inspiration of the Week

Jesus tells us to "be vigilant at all times." Advent is a time of watchfulness. Things are moving and shifting and changing — in our souls, in heaven, on earth. It's a time of great consequence. Great trial. Great hope. So, look to Jesus. He is coming.



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 8, 2024** at **1pm.** Please register to attend by calling the parish office. If you are not a current registered parishioner of Visitation Parish and not receiving envelopes in the mail please visit out website to register as a Visitation Parishioner.

## Eucharistic Miracle of Dijon, France

Contributed by: Katie Canty

In 1430, a woman in Monaco purchased a stolen Monstrance which contained a large Host. The woman was not familiar with the Real Presence of Christ in the Eucharist, and used a knife to remove the Host from the Monstrance. As she started to cut out the Host, blood began to flow from it. As the blood dried, it made an imprint on the Host. It was an image of Jesus seated on a throne, with instruments from the Passion at his side.

Confused and scared, the woman took the Host to the Church authorities and it was brought to the city of Dijon France where it remained intact for 350 years at the Basilica of St. Michael, the Archangel.

Sometime after February 9, 1794, it was burned by rebels of the French Revolution. Many documents and pieces of art describing this miracle survived and the image of the Host can still be seen in one of the stained-glass windows in the Cathedral in Dijon, France.







# Why do we do that? Catholic Life Explained

#### **ADVENT WREATH**

#### **QUESTION:**

What's the story behind the Advent wreath?

#### **ANSWER:**

Each season in the liturgical calendar comes with its own local and regional rituals. During the Advent season, wreathes adorn church sanctuaries and family dining room tables. You may have said Advent wreath prayers in childhood or taken a turn lighting the candles. The Advent wreath is full of symbolism about Christ and his coming at Christmas. The wreath is made of evergreen boughs, reminding us that the life of grace doesn't falter with the changing seasons. It always remains fresh and new. Similarly, a circular wreath reminds us of the eternal, neverending nature of God's love.

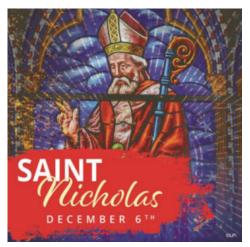
Candles remind us that Christ is the light of the world, the One who "shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it." We

use four candles to represent each week of Advent. Traditionally they come in the liturgical colors of the season. Purple has historically represented penance and sacrifice. We see the same color for the season of Lent. On the third Sunday of Advent, however, we light a rose color. The priest will wear rose vestments at Mass. This is Gaudete Sunday. Gaudete means "rejoice" in Latin. On the third Sunday of Advent, we're roughly halfway through the season. The Church chooses the midpoint to remind us to celebrate in the midst of our anticipation! Whatever the color and whatever the day, the Advent wreath is a beautiful practice to focus our attention on Christ's coming at Christmas.



# Our next Coffee & Donuts will be hosted by the Knights of Columbus on Dec 8. Due to the cooler weather please be sure to join them in the O'Grady Center.

al Pi



St. Nicholas of Bari (March 15, 270 – December 6, 343), the bishop of Myra in the fourth century, is the saint that Santa Claus is modeled after. Known for his kindness and generosity to the poor, the story has it that St. Nicholas once tossed bags of gold through the open window of a poor man's house to help his daughters avoid a life of prostitution.

According to legend, the gold landed in stockings dangling on the corners of the beds, which is why many of us celebrate St. Nicholas Day by hanging stockings and filling them with candy, fruit, and small toys.

Not much else is known about this beloved saint, but regardless, his reputation as a generous man continues today. ©LPi

#### Our WOMEN's CORNERSTONE

ministry is happy to announce that plans are underway for our retreat weekend next year:

Feb. 28-Mar. 1, 2025.

If you have previously attended and have not heard from us, please let us know. If you are interested in attending, please email:

vizcornerstoneforwomen@gmail.com



We need your help to collect toys for 1,000 children from St. Margaret's Center's most disadvantaged families living at or below the poverty level in our local community. 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 (\$20-30 range preferred) through December 15th. Event taking place December 21, 2024.

#### Purchase Toys Online



Scan Here

#### Volunteer Opportunities

There is a great need for adult volunteers on event day December 21st, and the two days preceding the event Dec 19th, and 20th. To volunteer or to donate, or for more information, visit us at <a href="https://www.smcxmas.org">www.smcxmas.org</a> Thank youl



Be

#### **Financial Donations**

Checks: Make payable to St. Margaret's Center and mail to 10217 Inglewood Ave., Lennox CA 90304



Scan To Donate Online or TEXT SMCXMAS TO 41444

Please bring your unwrapped toys from the Giving Tree to the parish by December 15th . We thank you for your support in advance!

#### SAFEGUARD THE CHILDREN AND VULNERABLE ADULTS

#### DID YOU KNOW? Child pornography and artificial intelligence, part 2

Artificial intelligence, or AI, has opened the door to generating incredibly realistic images. Often called "deepfakes," we have seen these images crop up on social media. In January 2024, explicit images of Taylor Swift, created by AI, were posted online, and viewed over 45 million times before they were removed. In the same way, AI technology can be used by child abusers to create and share explicit imagery For more information, read the VIRTUS® article "Artificial Intelligence – Deepfakes and Child Abusers" on lacatholics.org/did-you-know/.



Your continued support and generosity to Church of the Visitation is greatly appreciated!



#### 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

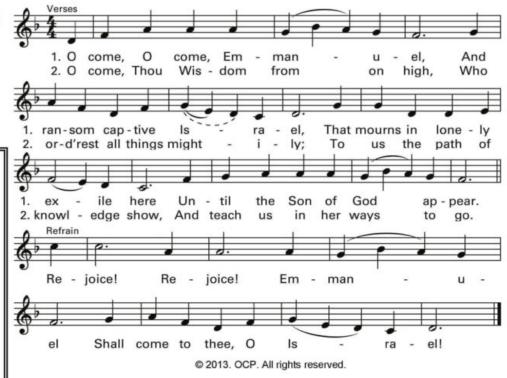
#### MASS PARTS MASS OF HOPE

## 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



PENITENTIAL RITE

Lord Have Mercy (Stephan)

PSALM To you, O Lord, I lift my soul.

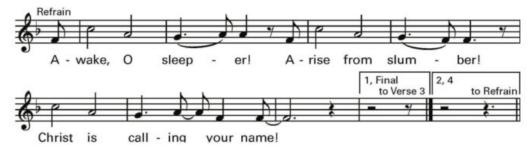
GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Alleluia (Hart)

#### PREPARATION OF THE TABLE AND GIFTS

Awake O Sleeper the dark - est times of life, when our lights re -2. When our hearts be-come like stone, when we live midst of life's de - cay, the when our lives In befuse to shine: you are there, you are there. with - out hope: you are there, you are there.\_ come like graves: res - cue us, res-cue us.\_ Don't let your hearts be trou-bled;

2, 3. don't let your hearts be trou-bled.



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#### COMMUNION SATURDAY

#### Only In God



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#### SUNDAY

#### Ready the Way

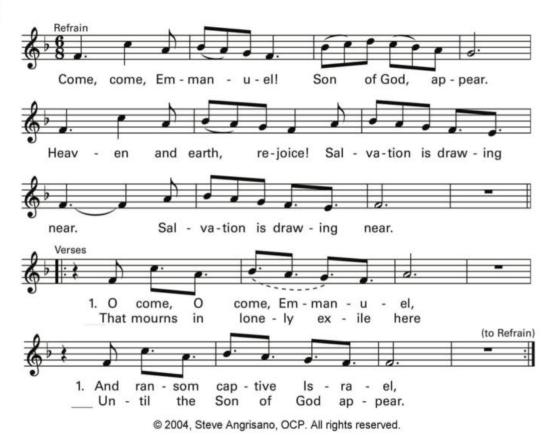


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#### **SENDING** Emmanuel



#### CHURCH OF THE VISITATION

#### **CONTACTS**

#### **CLERGY AND STAFF**

#### PARISH ADMINISTRATOR

Fr. Francis Kim fkim@la-archdiocese.org

#### PRIEST IN RESIDENCE/ WELCOME WAGON/ ENVIRONMENT

Fr. Tim McGowan tmcgowan033@gmail.com

#### **BUSINESS MANAGER**

Yolanda Garcia 310-428-8030 visitationchurch497@gmail.com

#### PARISH SECRETARY/ SAFEGUARD THE CHILDREN

Jessica Fernandez 310-216-1145 secretary497vc@gmail.com

#### ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT / BULLETIN

Yanet Velazquez 310-216-1145 receptionistvc@gmail.com

#### DIRECTOR OF RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

Debra Evans 703-582-9888 religiouseducationvc@gmail.com

#### CONFIRMATION COORDINATOR

Christina Ruffalo 310-804-6112 confirmationvc@gmail.com

#### PRINCIPAL

CHRISTOPHER WATSON 310-645-6620 cwatson@visitationschool.org

#### DIRECTOR OF MUSIC

Kathy McGrath Kathyvisitationchurch@gmail.com

#### **DIRECTOR OF COMMUNICATIONS & MARKETING**

Amy Servidea aservidea@visitationschool.org

#### DIRECTOR OF MISSION AND ADVANCEMENT

Courtney O'Donoghue development497vc@gmail.com

#### **MINISTRIES**

#### PASTORAL COUNCIL

Guylaine Brosmer mgbrosmer@sbcglobal.net

#### FINANCE COUNCIL

Marge Roberts pwest1@yahoo.com

#### LITURGY COMMITTEE

Donna Miller djmiller24@sbcglobal.net

#### **EUCHARISTIC MINISTRY & LECTOR TRAINING**

Donna Miller djmiller24@sbcglobal.net

#### **EUCHARISTIC MINISTRY TO HOMEBOUND**

Mary Golad 310-968-6747

#### LECTOR SCHEDULING

Tanya Salvini lectors.cotv@gmail.com

#### OCIA COORDINATORS

Mark Estrella & Debra Evans ocia.visitation@gmail.com

#### BEREAVEMENT

Candy Blankenship blank8840@gmail.com

#### FUNERAL COORDINATOR

Toni Kerker tmkerker@gmail.com

#### SACRISTAN/ SUNDAY USHERS

Paul Condran 310-505-4616

#### SERVERS OF THE ALTAR

Maryann Nguyen, training ma.nguyen5@gmail.com

Kristen Herber, scheduling Mrs.herber@gmail.com

#### CHRISTIAN MEDITATION (WCCM)

Fr. Francis Kim fkim@la-archdiocese.org

#### VIZ SENIORS

Marlene Kaufman 310-365-8211

#### **MINISTRIES Cont.**

#### MARY & MARTHA (SENIORS GROUP)

Toni Kerker 310-502-7843

Mary Lou Ward 310-645-5839

#### KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS

Paul Condran 310-505-4616

#### YOUNG ADULTS

Aiden Foucher afoucher@lion.lmu.edu

#### ST. MARGARET CENTER / SANDWICH MAKING

Mary Agnes Erlandson 310-672-2208



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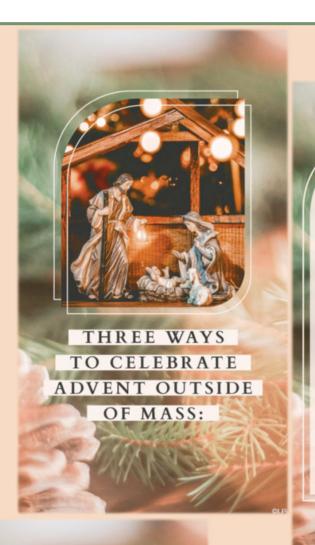
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#### CELEBRATE ADVENT IDEA 1:

If you need to wait in a line, don't immediately pull out your phone. Experience the feeling of waiting and offer up a prayer for someone you know in need!

#### CELEBRATE ADVENT IDEA 2:

Set up a nativity
scene in your home
but don't set it up all
at once. Put a
different piece out
every day or every
week until the whole
thing is finished by
Christmas!

#### CELEBRATE ADVENT IDEA 3:

Bake cookies to secretly drop off to your neighbors.
Include a Christmas card with an Advent prayer or an invitation to Christmas Mass at your parish!