



# CHURCH OF THE VISITATION

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: 8:00 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)

### DAILY ROSARY

Monday thru Friday following the 8 a.m. mass

### HOLY HOUR (INSIDE THE CHURCH)

First Friday of each month:

8:30 am - 9:30 am

### 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 - 1:00 pm



• THE HOLY FAMILY •

## FEAST OF THE HOLY FAMILY

DECEMBER 29, 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

Tel. 310-216-1145

email: [visitationchurch497@gmail.com](mailto:visitationchurch497@gmail.com)

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

## 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.

## 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](http://faith.direct/CA772) or Scan QR code
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## 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](mailto: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.



## Mass Intentions

SAINTS AND SPECIAL OBSERVANCES

### SUNDAY - DECEMBER 29TH

*The Holy Family*

- 8:00am - For the intentions of Mary Lou Ward  
9:30am - For the people of Visitation Parish  
11:00am - Anthony & Joanna Bialy †

### MONDAY - DECEMBER 30TH

- 8:00am - Thomas Brands †

### TUESDAY - DECEMBER 31ST

*St. Sylvester I, Pope; New Year's Eve*

- 8:00am - Josephine Russell †

### WEDNESDAY - JANUARY 1ST

*Mary, The Holy Mother of God, New Year's Day, World Day of Peace*

- 9:00am - Bill Russell †

### THURSDAY - JANUARY 2ND

*Sts. Basil the Great and Gregory Nazianzen, Bishops and Doctors of the Church*

- 8:00am - Margaret Russell †

### FRIDAY - JANUARY 3RD

*The Most Holy Name of Jesus*

- 8:00am - Lynn Gernert †

### SATURDAY - JANUARY 4TH

*St. Elizabeth Ann Seton, Religious*

- 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](mailto: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.

Dear Parish Family,

As we welcome a new year, many of us might reflect on ways to grow and renew ourselves. This year, what if our focus was not just on self-improvement but on drawing closer to Christ? A Christ-centered life is not about striving for perfection but about inviting Jesus into the ordinary moments of our lives and allowing His love to transform us.

Here are four possible ways to make Christ the center of your life in 2025:

### 1. Begin Each Day with Prayer

Start your day by turning your heart to God. A simple prayer like, "Lord, be with me and I with you," can fill your day with purpose and a sense of God's all-embracing presence.

### 2. Embrace the Eucharist

The Eucharist is the heart of our faith and the ultimate encounter with Christ. By attending Mass regularly and receiving the Eucharist with reverence and gratitude, we nourish our souls and grow in unity with Christ.

### 3. Reflect on Scripture and/or Spiritual Reading

Spend time with God's Word and other spiritual writings that inspire and guide you. Whether it's the Gospels, a reflection from a saint, or a trusted spiritual author, these readings can deepen your faith and provide wisdom for daily life. Even a few minutes a day can nourish your soul and bring clarity and strength.

### 4. Foster Community

Faith is not meant to be lived in isolation. Engage with your parish family by participating in ministries, events, or simple fellowship during and after Mass. Together, we strengthen and encourage one another on our journey with Christ.

This New Year, let us resolve not just to change ourselves but to let Christ change us from within. May 2025 be a year of deepened faith, abundant grace, and profound peace in Him.

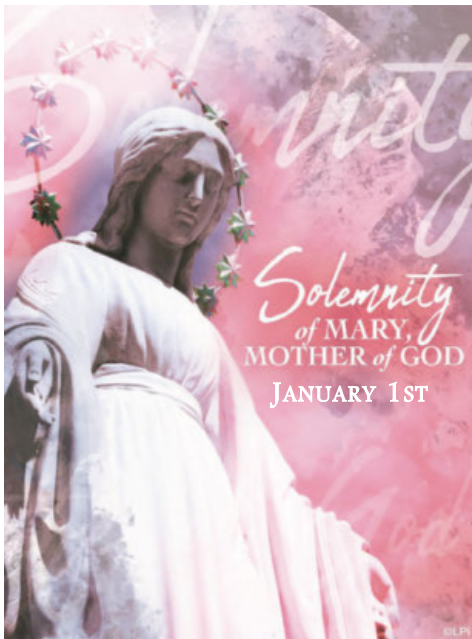
Wishing you and your family a Christ-centered New Year!  
Fr. Francis

**P.S.** Speaking of New Year's Resolutions, this Saturday, January 4, 7:00-8:00 AM, join us for a "Meet, Pray, Run"! (Walkers, kids, and pets are welcome!) We'll meet in the O'Grady Center, then start heading out around 7:05 AM. We hope to make this a weekly event for our Visitation Parish.

Would you like to receive our weekly "Parish Post" via email? It's sent every Sunday with a different spiritual message from Fr. Francis. If so please, email [aservidea@visitationschool.org](mailto:aservidea@visitationschool.org) to be added. God bless.

"How do we enter into the tradition [of meditation]? It is no good just reading the accounts of the great spiritual men and women of the past. We have to do what they did and basically, that challenge to us is to let go of our own ideas and that means letting go of our ideas about meditation, about the spiritual path, about God and letting go of all our concepts, ideas, images in our minds. We have to learn to be still, to be silent. What each of us can learn, if we have the courage to enter into this silence, is that it is in the silence that we really begin to learn. It is in the silence that we really begin to enter the experience of what it means to be. When you begin it is essential to understand that meditation is something utterly ordinary. It is just of the same sort of order as breathing, and meditation is to the spirit what breathing is to the body. Basically, we have to learn to be who we are now and with great simplicity. Do not imagine that anything should happen when you meditate. Do not imagine that your meditation is successful if something happens, or a failure if nothing happens." - Fr. John Main, *The Door to Silence*.

If you're interested in Christian meditation, please join Fr. Francis via Zoom on Wednesdays, 8-8:30 pm. You may email him at [fkim@la-archdiocese.org](mailto:fkim@la-archdiocese.org) for the Zoom link.



As we welcome a new year, may God's peace rest upon you and His love inspire each moment.

New Year's Day Mass: 9:00a.m.  
Hope you may join us.

**HAPPY NEW YEAR!**

The parish Office will be **CLOSED**  
Tuesday, Dec. 31st & Wednesday, January 1st  
so our parish staff may have the opportunity to enjoy the holiday with their families!

The parish office will re-open  
Thursday, January 2nd  
8:00AM - 4:00PM

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

 **K of C Council #3744 Proudly Presents Our**

# **FISH FRY DINNERS!**

**When:** Friday, January 10<sup>th</sup> and 24<sup>th</sup>  
**Time:** 5:30pm – 7:30pm (or until we're out!)  
**Where:** Knights of Columbus Hall  
8049 W. Manchester Ave, Playa Del Rey  
**How:** call 310-821-2324 for a Take-out Order

**Meal:** Main: Fish, Shrimp, or Combination  
Side: Baked Potato, Fries, or Onion Rings (\$3)  
All Meals: Cole Slaw and a Dinner Roll  
Prices (depending on choices): \$15 to \$18

Dinner proceeds benefit our Scholarship Program  
Parking in the Rear      Credit Cards Accepted

*Come and spend some time with the Lord!*



**FIRST FRIDAY HOLY HOUR**  
JANUARY 3, 2025  
8:30 AM - 9:30 AM



Our 2025 calendars have arrived and will be handed out after the New Year's Day mass. Any extra calendars will be available in the parish office.

## JESUS' GRANDPARENTS

### QUESTION:

July 26 is the feast of Joachim and Anna. Who are they and what do we know about them?

### ANSWER:

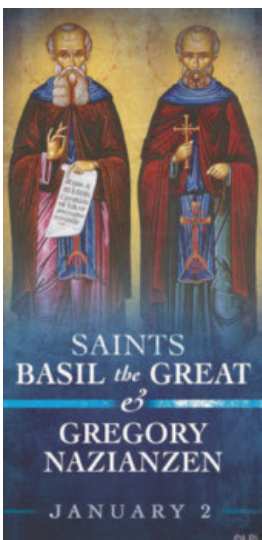
Joachim and Anna are the parents of Mary, the mother of Jesus, yet there is absolutely no biblical reference to them whatsoever. So where do we get their names, and what is their story?

Their names are found in an apocryphal (hidden) gospel known as "The Infancy Gospel of James." Apocryphal, or hidden gospels, consist of accounts of Jesus' life that were ultimately not accepted as inspired works, and thus were not included in the Bible. However, they sometimes captured the Christian imagination, spilling into the devotional dimension of the community.

James' infancy gospel begins with the parents of Mary and their desire for a child. In their prayer and petitions to God, they are heard and given the blessings of a child, whom they named Mary. While we have no idea who Mary's parents really were, the fact that we celebrate the feast of Joachim and Anna indicates that the bond of family love is important in the Christian life.

Long before Grandparents' Day was established, the church had a feast that honored the presumed grandparents of Jesus. While their names are part of non-inspired apocryphal legends, the fact of the Savior's human ancestry is not. Christ, the incarnate Word, dwelt among us in the flesh in a human family. In honoring the grandparents of Jesus we really proclaim our faith in the Incarnation — God becoming human!

©LPi



St. Basil the Great (329 – January 1, 379) shares his feast day with his lifelong friend St. Gregory of Nazianzen. These accomplished men fought against heresies that threatened the foundations of the early Church, shaping doctrines around Christ's divinity and the nature of the Holy Trinity.

St. Basil was born at Caesarea of Cappadocia, to a family already deeply rooted in Christianity, going back to the time of widespread persecution in the 1st and 2nd centuries. Following in the footsteps of his father, Basil studied in Caesarea as well as Constantinople and Athens, training in the law and rhetoric. He became a popular teacher. However, his sister persuaded him to give up academia for monastic life. Before inviting St. Gregory to start an order with him, St. Basil traveled through Egypt, Palestine and Syria visiting monasteries, learning everything he could and formulating his own ideas about monastic rule. His rule is still followed today, and he is known as the Father of Eastern Monasticism.

His time in the monastery was relatively short, it was only five years before he was called to play a greater role in the Church. Ordained as a priest, by around 370 he was made bishop of Caesaria. It was in this role that he fought against the heresy of Arianism which denied the divinity of Christ, even defying an emperor! He also fought against other early Trinitarian heresies. But these important doctrinal stands were not what defined Basil. He was passionate about caring for the poor and sick, pastoral care, and fighting against institutionalized prostitution. He would preach twice a day to large crowds, and opened a complex

with a hospital, orphanage, and shelter for the poor. In addition to influential monastic rules, sermons, and doctrinal treatises, more than 300 of his letters still exist. St. Basil the Great, pray for us!



## LIVE THE LITURGY Inspiration of the Week

For three days, Mary and Joseph search and worry before finding Jesus in the temple. "Didn't you know where I was?" he says to them, in so many words. We, too, look for Jesus. We, too, know where to find him. Let us never forget and never despair.

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## Prayer

Dear God, help me to feel at home in my church like Jesus did.

## Mission for the Week

Help visitors to your church feel welcomed. As a family or as a class, make cards for visitors, asking them to come back.

## Sharing the Gospel

When Jesus traveled to Jerusalem as a 12-year-old young man, he felt completely at home in the Temple. He enjoyed talking to the teachers about his Father in heaven. His questions and his answers showed how much he loved God.

Now color  
the picture! →

Help Mary and Joseph find Jesus:





### 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

### MEMORIAL ACCLAMATION

When we eat this  
 bread, when we drink  
 this cup, we proclaim  
 your death, Lord  
 Jesus, until you come  
 in glory.

## GATHERING

### Hark the Herald Angels Sing

Verses

1. Hark! the her - ald an - gels sing: "Glo - ry to the  
 2. Christ, by high - est heav'n a - dored, Christ, the ev - er -

1. new - born King; Peace on earth, and mer - cy mild,  
 2. last - ing Lord; Late in time, be - hold him come,

1. God and sin - ners rec - on - ciled!" Joy - ful, all ye  
 2. Off - spring of a vir - gin's womb. Veiled in flesh the

1. na - tions, rise, Join the tri - umph of the skies; With an -  
 2. God - head see! Hail th'in - car - nate De - i - ty! Pleased as

1. gel - ic hosts pro - claim: "Christ is born in Beth - le - hem!"  
 2. man with us to dwell; Je - sus, our Em - man - u - el!

Refrain  
 Hark! the her - ald an - gels sing, "Glo - ry to the new - born King."

© 1831-1915, William H. Cummings.

### GLORIA A Christmas Gloria

### PSALM Blessed are those who fear the Lord and walk in his ways.

### GOSPEL ACCLAMATION Alleluia (Hart)

### PREPARATION OF THE TABLE AND GIFTS

#### Away in a Manger

1. A - way in a man - ger, no crib for a bed, The  
 2. The cat - tle are low - ing, the ba - by a - wakes, But  
 3. Be near me, Lord Je - sus, I ask thee to stay Close

1. lit - tle Lord Je - sus laid down his sweet head; The  
 2. lit - tle Lord Je - sus, no cry - ing he makes; I  
 3. by me for - ev - er, and love me, I pray; Bless

1. stars in the sky — looked down where he lay, The  
 2. love thee, Lord Je - sus! Look down from the sky, And  
 3. all the dear chil - dren in thy ten - der care, And

1. lit - tle Lord Je - sus, a - sleep on the hay.  
 2. stay by my cra - dle till morn - ing is nigh.  
 3. fit us for heav - en to live with thee there.

© 1841-1905, James R. Murray.

## COMMUNION

### Child of the Poor

Verses

1. Help-less and hun-gry, low-ly he lies, wrapped in the  
 2. Who is the strang-er here in our midst, look - ing for  
 3. Bring all the thirst-y, all who seek peace; bring those with

1. chill of mid - win - ter; comes now a-mong us, born in - to  
 2. shel-ter a - mong us? Who is the out-cast? Who do we  
 3. noth-ing to of - fer. Strength-en the fee-ble, say to the

1. pov - er - ty's em - brace, new life for the world.  
 2. see a - mid the poor, the chil - dren of God?  
 3. fright-ened heart: "Fear not: † here is your God!"

Refrain

Who is this who lives with the low-ly, shar-ing their sor-rows,  
 know-ing their hun-ger? This is Christ, re-vealed to the  
 world in the eyes of a child, a child of the poor.

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### What Child Is This?

Verses

1. What child is this, who, laid to rest On  
 2. This child is born the Prince of Peace To  
 3. In joy a moth - er lulls her babe, This  
 4. A fath - er guards this ho - ly babe Who's  
 5. So bring him in - cense, gold, and myrrh, Come

1. Ma - ry's lap is sleep - ing? Whom an - gels greet with  
 2. all whose hearts are bro - ken. To love and heal the  
 3. child of hope and prom - ise; An an - gel's call re -  
 4. sleep - ing in a man - ger, Pro - tect - ing him from  
 5. peas - ant, king, to own him; The King of kings sal -





1. an - thems sweet, While shep - herds watch are keep - ing?  
 2. wound - ed soul, God's might - y Word is spo - ken.  
 3. ceived her yes, God's love poured out up - on us.  
 4. earth - ly harm, And keep - ing him from dan - ger.  
 5. va - tion brings, Let lov - ing hearts en - throne him.



This, this is Christ the King, Whom shep - herds



guard and an - gels sing; Haste, haste to

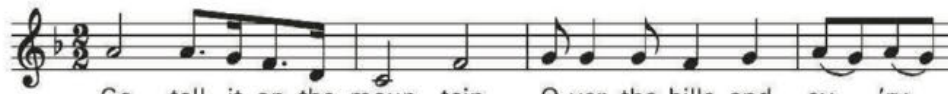


bring him laud, the babe, the son of Ma - ry.

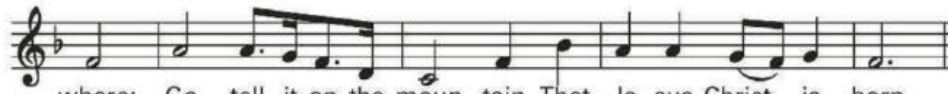
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## SENDING

### Go Tell It on the Mountain



Go, tell it on the moun - tain, O-ver the hills and ev - 'ry -



where; Go, tell it on the moun - tain That Je - sus Christ is born.



Verses  
 1. While shep-herds kept their watch-ing O'er si - lent flocks by night,  
 2. The shep-herds feared and trem-bled When high a - bove the earth  
 3. And lo, when they had heard it, They all bowed down and prayed;  
 4. Down in a low - ly man - ger The hum - ble Christ was born,



to Refrain  
 1. Be - hold, through-out the heav - ens There shone a ho - ly light.  
 2. Rang out the an - gel cho - rus That hailed our Sav - ior's birth.  
 3. They trav - eled on to - geth - er To where the Babe was laid.  
 4. And God sent us sal - va - tion That bless - ed Christ - mas morn.

© American Negro Songs and Spirituals.

# CHURCH OF THE VISITATION

## CONTACTS

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The traditional date of Epiphany is January 6, but in the United States it is celebrated on the Sunday between January 2 and January 8.

It is a long-held Catholic tradition to bless one's home on (or near) the celebration of the Epiphany by using chalk to write a special inscription above the home's entrance.

The inscription written over the door changes every year. For this year, you should write: "20 + C + M + B + 25."

The Letters C, M, and B have two meanings. They are the initials of the traditional names of the three magi: Caspar, Melchior, and Balthazar. They are also the first letters of the Latin words *Christus mansionem benedicat*, "May Christ bless the house." The + signs represent the cross, and 2025 is the year.

Below is a very family-friendly Epiphany home blessing.

## Blessing the Chalk

Priest/Adult: Our help is the name of the Lord:

All: The maker of heaven and earth.

Priest/Adult: The Lord shall watch over your going out and your coming in:

All: From this time forth for evermore.

Priest/Adult: The Lord be with you.

All: And also with you.

Priest/Adult: Let us pray.

All: Loving God, bless this chalk which you have created, that it may be helpful to your people; and grant that through the invocation of your most Holy Name all who use it in faith to write upon the doors of their homes the names of your saints, Caspar, Melchior, and Balthazar, may receive health of body and protection of soul for all who dwell in or visit their home; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

*(You may sprinkle the chalk with holy water.)*

## Instructions for Blessing the Home

Optional Scripture Reading: Luke 19:1-9 .

Also optional, you can sprinkle holy water in each room of your house while singing hymns or praying the rosary. Then gather at the front door to your home.

Using the blessed chalk, mark the lintel of your front door (or front porch step, or a wall within your home) as follows: 20 + C + M + B + 25

saying:

*The three Wise Men, Caspar, Melchior, and Balthazar followed the star of God's Son who became human two thousand and twenty-three years ago. May Christ bless our home and remain with us throughout the new year. Amen.*

Then say the following prayer:

*Visit, O blessed Lord, this home with the gladness of your presence. Bless all who live or visit here with the gift of your love; and grant that we may manifest your love to each other and to all whose lives we touch. May we grow in grace and in the knowledge and love of you; guide, comfort, and strengthen us in peace, O Jesus Christ, now and for ever. Amen.*