

CHURCH OF SAINT MARK

Reverend Paul Spellman, Pastor

The Epiphany of the Lord

Deacon Joseph Girard

January 4, 2015

940 Coeur d'Alene Ave., Venice, CA 90291 Phone: (310) 821-5058

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Office Hours:	Monday - Friday 8:00am - 4:30pm Closed 12:00pm - 1:00pm
Sunday Masses:	Saturday: (Vigil) 5:30pm Sunday: 7:30am, 9:00am, 10:30am 12 noon (Spanish) & 5:30pm
Daily Masses:	Monday - Saturday 8:00am
Holy Day Masses:	8:00am, 12:15pm and 7:00pm (Bilingual)
Eucharistic Adoration :	First Monday of each month 8:30am to 8:30pm
Confessions:	Saturday 4:30 - 5:15pm
Baptism:	3rd weekend of each month. Please contact the rectory office.
Marriage:	6 months notice is required. Please contact the rectory office.
Anointing of The Sick:	Sacrament for the sick is celebrated upon request. Please contact the rectory office.
Holy Eucharistic for the Sick:	Communion is given upon request. Please contact the rectory office.

Parish Staff

Maintenance	Antonio Rodriguez821-5058
Rectory Care	Sandra Perez821-5058
Church Care	Catalina Blasi821-5058
Secretary	Gabriela Bravo821-5058
Secretary	Blanca Meza821-5058
Bookkeeper	Joe Stockemer.....821-5058

Liturgy

Altar Servers	Joan Horne.....463-9017
Altar Society	Chris Putziger.....396-3265

Eucharistic Ministry:

In Church	Yvonne Frontera.....902-1234
To the Sick (Eng)	Fr. Paul Spellman821-5058
In Church	Romeo Santos.....973-4129
To the Sick (Sp)	Romeo Santos973-4129

Ministry of the Word

English	Terri Ong560-0979
Spanish	Erick Yela463-9080
Wedding Coord.	Gabriela Bravo821-5058
Quinceañera Coord.	Gabriela Bravo821-5058

Music

Music Director	Maeve Cummings902-0109
Adult Choir	Valerie Vinnard ... 323-804-7720
Spanish Choir	Alex Venegas..... 213-675-0564
Organist/Pianist	Mark Balling.....478-8836
	Steve Gunning (Eng) ..906-9035

Ushers

Parish School

Principal	Mary Ann McQueen821-6612
Secretary	Mary Ann Welchance821-6612
Secretary	Maria Donaldson.....821-6612

Religious Education

Director	Judy Girard.....822-1201 ext 249
Office Secretary	Maria Acosta...822-1201 ext 250
Confirmation	Edwin Ambrosio822-1201ext 248
R.C.I.A.	Susan Lewis...822-1201 ext 247

Parish Organization

Bereavement Ministry	Fritz Hirt.....827-1585
Guadalupanas	Isaias Flores.....391-5085
Knights of Columbus	Harry Williams..... 323-542-8511
Power House of Prayer	Barbara Kennedy 823-9387
Prayer Group (Esp)	Javier Hernandez735-7013
Legion of Mary	Lorene Ross.....306-2796
Cursillo Group	George Martin.572-1242
Young Adult	SaintMarkYAM@gmail.com

Youth Ministry

Youth Ministry (Eng)822-1201
Youth Ministry (Sp)	Fabiola Andrade.....945-6044

FROM OUR PASTOR

Pastor's Corner

What is an "epiphany" and what does it refer to? Many people describe an "epiphany" as an "a-ha" moment. As in, "A-ha. I finally figured out how this thing works." Or, "A-ha. Now I found my cell phone that has been missing for almost an hour."

For the magi, they had the experience of the ultimate "a-ha" moment. They encountered the baby Jesus, the Son of the Most High God. The Messiah, the Christ, the Savior of the world. They traveled a long way to get to Bethlehem. They got lost and had to ask King Herod for directions. But, once they found the newborn Savior of the world, Scripture tells us that "they prostrated themselves and did Him homage." And that was their "a-ha" moment.

What are the "a-ha" moments in our lives? What is so important to us that we would take time to seek it, and to study it, and to make it part of our lives as the magi did? Is the Bible that important to us? Is it as important to us as our cell phone? There is an email going around that asks, "What if we treated our Bible like we treat our cell phone?" Would we carry it around in our pocket or our purse? Would we flip through it several times each day? Would we turn back to retrieve it if we lost it? Would we use it to receive messages from the text? Would we give it to our children and grandchildren as gifts? Would we take it with us when we travel? And, most importantly, would we use it in times of emergency?

Interesting questions, indeed! Now that we are celebrating the Epiphany, and we are beginning the New Year of 2015, let us set our priorities not based on what we enjoy, but what brings us closer to God. And, then, will we experience the true epiphany in our lives. That true "a-ha" moment!

May the Lord continue to bless us always and in all ways,

Father Paul

La Esquina del Párroco

¿Qué es una "epifanía" y a que se refiere? Muchas personas describen una "epifanía" es como un momento "a ja". Como en un momento "Aja" finalmente descubrí cómo funciona esto." O, "Aja" ahora he encontrado mi teléfono celular que he estado desaparecido durante casi una hora.

"Los Reyes Magos, tuvieron experimentaron un momento "Aja" . Se encontraron con el niño Jesús, el hijo del Dios Altísimo. El Mesías, el Cristo, el Salvador del mundo. Viajaron un largo camino para llegar a Belén. Se perdieron y tuvieron que pedir direcciones al rey Herodes. Pero, una vez que encontraron al Salvador recién nacido, la escritura nos dice que "se postraron y lo adoraron." Y ese fue su momento "Aja".

¿Cuáles son los momentos "Aja" en nuestras vidas? ¿Qué es tan importante para nosotros que tomamos tiempo para buscarlo, para estudiarlo y hacerlo parte de nuestras vidas como lo hicieron los Reyes Magos? ¿La Biblia es tan importante para nosotros? ¿Es tan importante para nosotros como nuestro celular? Hay un correo electrónico alrededor de la pregunta, ¿Qué pasa si tratamos a nuestra Biblia como tratamos a nuestro celular? ¿La llevaríamos alrededor en nuestro bolsillo o en la cartera? ¿La abriríamos varias veces al día? ¿Regresaríamos para recuperarla si la hubiéramos perdido? ¿La usamos para recibir mensajes de texto? ¿Se la damos a nuestros hijos y nietos como regalos? ¿La llevaríamos con nosotros cuando viajamos? Y, lo más importante, la usaríamos en situaciones de emergencia.

En efecto, estas son preguntas interesantes. Ahora que celebramos la Epifanía, y estamos comenzando el nuevo año 2015, permítanos establecer nuestras prioridades que no se basan en lo que disfrutamos, sino en lo que nos acerca a Dios. Y, entonces, experimentaremos la verdadera epifanía en nuestras vidas. Un verdadero momento "Aja".

Que el Señor nos siga bendiciendo siempre y en todo,

Padre Paul

SPIRITUAL LIFE



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PARTNERS IN THE PROMISE

As a society, during these days we can be in something of a “postpartum” depression. Our celebrations of Christmas and the New Year are over, and after today many of us will put away the decorations and the last visible remnants of the celebrations of the past weeks. The apostle Paul today uses the expression “partners in the promise.” This is an uplifting phrase for us to reflect upon, and to think of as our own calling in these days following the birth of the Lord. What is this promise? We can find it in the gifts the magi bring: it is a promise of being a royal priesthood (gold), a holy nation (frankincense), a people set apart for self-giving (myrrh). We find more of the promise in Isaiah—a light shines upon us! In the psalm we know a promise of a world of flowering justice, profound peace, the poor rescued, pity for the lowly and the poor. This is the promise; and one of the best ways for us to lift ourselves out of any possible low spirits we may be suffering is to live out our partnership in this promise each and every day.

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS

The Knights of Columbus wishing you and your family a Happy New Year. We members of the Knights invite you to consider joining the Knights of Columbus this new year. See any member of the Knights and ask for information on joining or just call me. May this year bring you closer to God!

Harry Williams, Grand Knight
323-542-8511

MEN’S ANNUAL RETREAT

The annual St. Mark Parish Men Retreat will be held at Mater Dolorosa Retreat Center in the city of Sierra Madre. The retreat begins Friday January 23, 2015 (evening) and concludes Sunday January 25, 2015 (noon). The lovely grounds and peaceful atmosphere of Mater Dolorosa make this a perfect spot for a weekend of spiritual renewal and growth. For reservations please contact one of the individuals listed below:
Fritz Hirt: (310) 827-1585
Stan Bacon: (310) 823-7227
Richard Stromberg: (310) 386-4907 (Cell)

WOMEN’S SILENT RETREAT

The Women’s retreat will be held on the serene grounds of The Sacred Heart Retreat House located at 920 East Alhambra Road, Alhambra CA 91801. It begins Friday, January 23rd at 5:00pm and ends on Sunday, January 25th at 12:30pm. Reservations are required. For more information, please contact Mary Latini at 310-821-7515.

READINGS FOR THE WEEK

Monday: 1 Jn 3:22 — 4:6; Ps 2:7bc-8, 10-12a;
Mt 4:12-17, 23-25
Tuesday: 1 Jn 4:7-10; Ps 72:1-4, 7-8; Mk 6:34-44
Wednesday: 1 Jn 4:11-18; Ps 72:1-2, 10, 12-13;
Mk 6:45-52
Thursday: 1 Jn 4:19 — 5:4; Ps 72: 1-2, 14, 15bc, 17;
Lk 4:14-22a
Friday: 1 Jn 5:5-13; Ps 147:12-15, 19-20; Lk 5:12-16
Saturday: 1 Jn 5:14-21; Ps 149:1-6a, 9b; Jn 3:22-30
Sunday: Is 42:1-4, 6-7 or Is 55:1-11; Ps 29:1-4, 3, 9-10
or Is 12:2-3, 4bcd-6; Acts 10:34-38 or
1 Jn 5:1-9; Mk 1:7-11

LECTURAS DE LA SEMANA

Lunes: 1 Jn 3:22 — 4:6; Sal 2:7bc-8, 10-12a;
Mt 4:12-17, 23-25
Martes: 1 Jn 4:7-10; Sal 72 (71):1-4, 7-8; Mc 6:34-44
Miércoles: 1 Jn 4:11-18; Sal 72 (71):1-2, 10, 12-13;
Mc 6:45-52
Jueves: 1 Jn 4:19 — 5:4; Sal 72 (71): 1-2, 14, 15bc,
17; Lc 4:14-22a
Viernes: 1 Jn 5:5-13; Sal 147:12-15, 19-20; Lc 5:12-16
Sábado: 1 Jn 5:14-21; Sal 149:1-6a, 9b; Jn 3:22-30
Domingo: Is 42:1-4, 6-7 o Is 55:1-11; Sal 29 (28):1-4, 3,
9-10 o Is 12:2-3, 4bcd-6; Hch 10:34-38 o
1 Jn 5:1-9; Mc 1:7-11

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

Confirmation for Adults

Registration for this year's preparation of adults for Confirmation has been extended. Now is the time to start the New Year right! If you are a baptized Catholic who has received First Communion, but never celebrated Confirmation, consider joining us for sessions that will begin on January 24. Call the Religious Education Office for more information.

Religious Education

All classes resume as follows: Grades 1-6 on Saturday Jan. 10 at 9am. Early Childhood and Children's Liturgy on Sunday Jan. 11 at 9am and Grades 7 and 8 at 6:30pm on Tues. Jan. 13. Many blessings for the New Year 2014!

Bible Study

The current study, "Women in the New Testament," resumes on Monday Jan. 5 at 7pm in the school. All are invited.

RCIA Inquiry

Sessions of Inquiry into membership in the Catholic Church and the Sacraments of Initiation will resume after the Christmas holiday on Wednesday evening January 14 at 6:30pm in the Religious Education Office in the school. If you, or someone you know, has been considering RCIA please call the Religious Education Office for more information.



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This Week at St. Mark's Jan 5, - Jan 11, 2014

Mon.	8:00am Mass - Church Bible Study 7:00pm - School
Tues.	8:00am Mass - Church
Wed.	8:00am Mass - Church RCIA Inquiry 7:00pm - School
Thurs.	8:00am Mass - Church
Fri.	8:00am Mass - Church
Sat.	8:00am Mass - Church RE Grades 1-6 9:00am - School Confessions 4:30pm - 5:15pm - Church 5:30pm Mass - Church
Sun.	The Baptism of the Lord Mass Times: 7:30am, 9:00am, 10:30am, 12:00pm (Spanish), 5:30pm Early Childhood 9:00am Children's Liturgy 9:00am

Mass Schedule

Sat. Jan 10	5:30pm Fr. Paul Spellman
Sun. Jan 11	7:30am Fr. Tom King 9:00am Fr. Roderic Guerrini 10:30am Fr. Paul Spellman 12:00pm Fr. Paul Spellman 5:30pm Fr. Paul Spellman



Sat. Jan 3	5:30pm Roy Da Costa †
Sun. Jan 4	7:30am Cassandra Hernandez † 9:00am Andres Moreta Damiron † 10:30am People of the Parish 12:00pm Luis & Trina Martinez † 5:30pm Power House of Prayer
Mon. Jan 5	8:00am Cornelia Bezner †
Tues. Jan 6	8:00am Tomas Fernandez †
Wed. Jan 7	8:00am Luis & Trina Martinez †
Thurs. Jan 8	8:00am People of the Parish
Fri. Jan 9	8:00am Students of St. Mark
Sat. Jan 10	8:00am Avila Family

TODAY'S READINGS

First Reading — Rise up in splendor, Jerusalem! The Lord shines upon you and the glory of the Lord appears over you (Isaiah 60:1-6).

Psalm — Lord, every nation on earth will adore you (Psalm 72).

Second Reading — The Gentiles are coheirs, copartners in the promise in Christ Jesus through the gospel (Ephesians 3:2-3a, 5-6).

Gospel — Magi from the east arrived, looking for the newborn king of the Jews (Matthew 2:1-12).

LECTURAS DE HOY

Primera lectura — ¡Levántate y brilla, Jerusalén! La gloria del Señor amaneció sobre ti (Isaías 60:1-6).

Salmo — Que te adoren, Señor, todos los pueblos (Salmo 72 [71]).

Segunda lectura — El misterio de que los gentiles son coherederos, socios en la promesa en Jesucristo, se ha dado a conocer a los hombres (Efesios 3:2-3a, 5-6).

Evangelio — Magos del oriente llegaron, diciendo: "¿Dónde está el rey de los judíos que ha nacido?" (Mateo 2:1-12).

SAFE GUARD THE CHILDREN

Who should report child abuse?

Priests, deacons, school faculty and administrators and other staff members in our parishes and schools have been designated as mandated reporters under California law. When one of these persons receives information leading to a "reasonable suspicion" that a child is being abused or neglected, he or she must make a report to the appropriate child protection or law enforcement agency. For Information on Responding to an Allegation of Suspected Child Abuse visit: www.la-archdiocese.org/org/protecting/vam.

For particular help you may call Suzanne Healy, director of Assistance Ministry at (213) 637-7650 or Helene Hickey at 310-821-6612.

PROTEGIENDO A LOS NINOS

¿Quiénes deben reportar abuso infantil?

Bajo la ley del estado de California, todos los sacerdotes, diáconos, profesores, administradores y empleados de nuestras parroquias y escuelas tienen la obligación de reportar abusos. Cuando alguna de estas personas recibe cualquier información que lleve a una "sospecha razonable" de que un menor puede ser una víctima de abuso o negligencia, tiene la obligación de hacer un reporte ya sea a las autoridades civiles o a agencias de protección de niños. Para más información sobre cómo responder a una alegación o sospecha de abuso de niños, visitar www.la-archdiocese.org/org/protecting/vam.

Para obtener ayuda puede llamar a Suzanne Healy, directora del Ministerio de Ayuda al (213) 637-7650 o llame a Helene Hickey 310-821-6612.



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SPIRITUAL LIFE

EUCCHARISTIC MINISTERS

Eucharistic Ministers are lay people who volunteer and are trained by the Church to assist the priest in distributing Holy Communion at Mass. Eucharistic Ministers are desperately needed for the Saturday 5:30pm and Sunday 7:30am Masses. If you are interested in this spiritually rewarding ministry, please contact Yvonne Frontera at 310-902-1234.

MEALS ON WHEELS

The Meals-on-wheels program located in Culver City, serves areas in Venice, Mar Vista, Culver City, Marina del Rey & Westchester. This invaluable program provides home delivered meals for those who need this assistance due to age, disability, illness or convalescence. For only \$7.00 per day, clients receive both a hot and cold meal. For more information please call Pam Monday - Friday between 9:30am & 12:30pm at 310-559-0666.

LEGION OF MARY

Are you striving towards holiness and spiritual growth? Join the Legion of Mary on Tuesdays at 7:00pm in the school. For information call: Lorene Ross at 310-306-2796

VISITS TO THE SICK AND HOMEBOUND

If you or anyone you know is in need of receiving the sacrament of the anointing of the sick or is homebound and would like to receive Holy Communion please call the rectory at 310-821-5058 to arrange a time for a visit.

TREASURES FROM OUR TRADITION

Epiphany celebrates the wakeup calls of life, the showings of God's majesty and power in the person of Jesus. The feast alerts us to look for signs of the Lord's grace and action in our lives today. In this context, the call of the Second Vatican Council to reform the sacramental life of the Church, including our pattern of care for the sick, is indeed a holy awakening. Prior to the 1960s, our care for the sick had collapsed in the popular imagination into something everyone called "last rites." An immensely complicated ritual, with anointing accompanied by quickly muttered Latin prayers, was enacted for a marginally conscious person at "death's door." By the time a priest was called, the sick person might not be able to receive viaticum, or derive much personal benefit from the ritual. The healing effects of the sacrament, investing suffering with the dignity of a link to Christ's cross, and the immense assurance of forgiveness for a person reviewing the life journey, were hidden. Suddenly, an epiphany swept through the Church, and the way we care for the sick was utterly transformed. It took several centuries, however, for the Church to reach that moment of renewal.