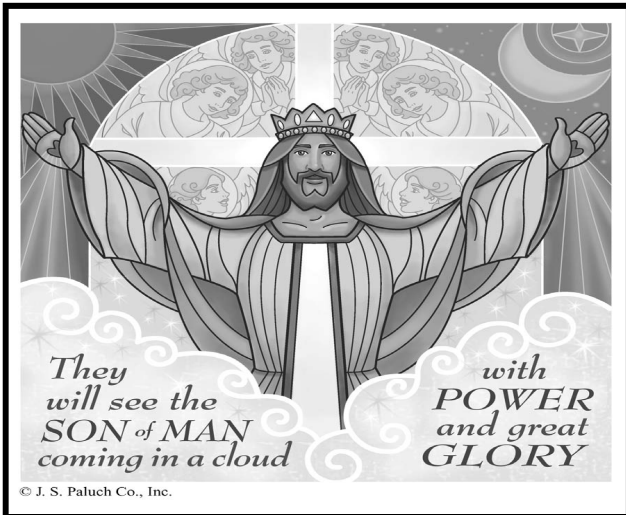


# CHURCH OF SAINT MARK

1st Sunday of Advent      November 29, 2015

Fr. Paul Spellman, Pastor      Fr. Michael Tang, In Residence  
Deacon Joseph Girard

940 Coeur d'Alene Ave., Venice, CA 90291      Phone: (310) 821-5058  
E-mail: info@st-mark.net · website: www.st-mark.net



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

## Parish Staff

Maintenance	Antonio Rodriguez .....821-5058
Rectory Care	Sandra Perez .....821-5058
Church Care	Catalina Blasi .....821-5058
Secretary	Gabriela Bravo .....821-5058
Secretary	Blanca Meza .....821-5058
Bookkeeper	Joe Stockemer.....821-5058

## Liturgy

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

## Eucharistic Ministry:

In Church	MaryAnn Long.....717-2645
To the Sick (Eng)	Fr. Paul Spellman .....821-5058
In Church	Romeo Santos.....720-0084
To the Sick (Sp)	Ofelia Gonzalez .....306-8768

## Ministry of the Word

English	Brittany Git .....821-5058
Spanish	Erick Yela .....463-9080
Wedding Coord.	Gabriela Bravo .....821-5058
Quinceañera Coord.	Gabriela Bravo .....821-5058

## Music

Music Director	Maeve Cummings .....902-0109
Adult Choir	Valerie Vinnard ... 323-804-7720
Spanish Choir	Alex Venegas..... 213-675-0564
Organist/Pianist	Mark Balling.....478-8836
	Steve Gunning (Eng) ..306-9035

## Ushers

## Parish School

Principal	Mary Ann McQueen ....821-6612
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	Steve Gunning .....306-9035
Power House of Prayer	Barbara Kennedy .....823-9387
Prayer Group (Esp)	Javier Hernandez .....702-7929
Legion of Mary	Lorene Ross.....306-2796
Pastoral Council	Tom Suchy .....821-5058
Young Adult	SaintMarkYAM@gmail.com

## Youth Ministry

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

<b>FROM OUR PASTOR</b>
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**Pastor's Corner**

Today is the first Sunday of Advent, the beginning of our time of watching, waiting, and preparing to celebrate the birth of our Savior! Yes, there will be all of the distractions of "Holiday Sales" and "Black Friday" specials. And, don't forget "Cyber Monday" for the online shoppers. Perhaps, in spite of all of the commercialism surrounding Christmas, we can find time during this Advent to spend with our families and loved ones reflecting on the True Reason for the Season!

I would like to say a special thank you to all of our parishioners who worked together on our two weekend ministry fairs. This generated a lot of interest among our parishioners who stopped by to visit at the tables, to learn more about our ministries, and to sign up for the ones in which they felt called. If you did not sign up for a ministry, it is not too late! Please feel free to call the parish office, or check out the cover of our weekly bulletin for the ministries that might be calling you!

I also want to say a special thank you to the Knights of Columbus who donated the new stove in the parish hall. The pancake breakfast was wonderful, thanks to your fine work and this new stove! Also, the Knights are coordinating our petition drive to overturn the new law that now permits doctors to assist their patients in committing suicide. This drive is taking place all over the state of California and it is our response to those who do not recognize the sanctity of all human life. Our faith teaches us that every human life is sacred, from conception until natural death. With proper palliative care, we can journey with our loved ones until they die a natural death. The potential for abuse arises when insurance companies pressure the patient to end their life for financial reasons, or families feel that their loved ones are "hanging on too long." These decisions are up to God alone, not to human beings.

So, please stop by the Knights of Columbus table after Mass and sign this petition to help preserve the dignity of all human life!

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

*Father Paul*

**La Esquina del Párroco**

Hoy es el primer Domingo de Adviento, el principio de nuestro tiempo de espera y preparación para celebrar el nacimiento de nuestro Salvador. Sí, habrá todas las distracciones de los especiales del "Viernes Negro" y las "Ventas de las Fiestas de Navidad". Y no olviden el "lunes Cyber" para los que compran en línea. Tal vez, a pesar de la comercialización que rodea la Navidad, podemos encontrar, durante este Adviento, tiempo para pasar con nuestras familias y seres queridos y reflexionar sobre la verdadera razón de esta temporada.

Me gustaría dar unas gracias especiales a todos nuestros feligreses que trabajaron juntos en nuestros dos fines de semana de las ferias de Ministerio. Esto ha generado mucho interés entre nuestros feligreses que visitaron las mesas, para aprender más sobre nuestros ministerios y firmaron en los que se sentían llamados. Si usted no firmó para un Ministerio, no es tarde. Por favor no dude en llamar a la oficina parroquial, o leer el frente de nuestro boletín semanal para ver los ministerios que podrían estar llamándolos.

También quiero dar gracias especiales a los Caballeros de Colón, que donaron la nueva cocina en el salón parroquial. El desayuno de panqueques fue maravilloso, gracias a su buen trabajo y esta nueva cocina. También, los caballeros están coordinando nuestra petición para anular la nueva ley que ahora permite a los médicos ayudar a sus pacientes a cometer suicidio. Esta petición se lleva a cabo en todo el estado de California y es nuestra respuesta a aquellos que no reconocen la santidad de toda vida humana. Nuestra fe nos enseña que toda vida humana es sagrada desde la concepción hasta la muerte natural. Con el cuidado paliativo apropiado, podemos vivir con nuestros seres queridos hasta morir de muerte natural. El potencial de abuso se presenta cuando las compañías de seguros presionan al paciente a acabar con su vida por razones financieras, o las familias sienten que sus seres queridos están "sufriendo por mucho tiempo." Estas decisiones son de Dios solamente, no de los seres humanos.

Así, por favor pasen por la mesa de los Caballeros de Colón después de la Misa y firmen esta petición para ayudar a preservar la dignidad de toda vida humana.

Que el Señor nos siga bendiciendo siempre y en todo,

*Padre Paul*

**SPIRITUAL LIFE**

**PROCESSION OF OUR LADY OF GUADALUPE**

The Guadalupe Society of Saint Mark will have a bus for the Annual Archdiocesan Procession in honor of Our Lady of Guadalupe. This beautiful celebration will be on Sunday, December 6th at the East Los Angeles College Stadium. The bus will leave at 9am in front of the school and will return at approximately 4:30pm. The cost is \$5 per adult and \$3 for children over five years old. Families with more than three children will get a special discount. Payment must be made at the time of reservation. Please arrive early and bring your lunch, rosaries, flags and native or regional attire from your country. For information and reservations please call:

Josefina Ramirez 310-578-6499  
Belen Castro 310-821-2446  
Ofelia Gonzalez 310-306-8768

**PROCESION DE NUESTRA SENORA DE GUADALUPE**

La Sociedad Guadalupana de San Marcos tendrá un autobús para ir a la Procesión anual de la Arquidiócesis en honor de la celebración de Nuestra Señora de Guadalupe el domingo 6 de diciembre en el Estadio del Colegio del Este de Los Ángeles. El autobús saldrá a las 9am de enfrente de la escuela y regresará aproximadamente a las 4:30pm. El precio por adulto es \$5 y \$3 por niños mayores de 5 años. Familias con más de tres niños se les dará descuento. Se les suplica que paguen por adelantado para garantizar su reservación y se les sugiere que lleven su lonche, rosarios, banderas, y trajes típicos de sus regiones o países. Para más información y reservaciones por favor llame:

Josefina Ramirez 310-578-6499  
Belen Castro 310-821-2446  
Ofelia Gonzalez 310-306-8768

## Immaculate Conception



**HOLY DAY OF OBLIGATION**

Tuesday, December 8th is the Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary. This is a Holy Day of Obligation. Mass times are as follows: 8:00am, 12:15pm and 7:00pm.

**SPIRITUAL LIFE**



**GUADALUPE SOCIETY CELEBRATION**

The Guadalupe Society invites you to a celebration in honor of Our Lady of Guadalupe beginning December 9th - 12th. The schedule is as follows:

Wednesday, December 9th at 7:00pm in the church  
Discussion on Nican Mophua

Thursday, December 10th at 7:00pm in the church  
Discussion the name of Our Lady

Friday, December 11th at 7:00pm in the church  
Discussion on the Apparitions of Our Lady

Saturday, December 12th  
Mariachi Serenade in front of the school at 6:45pm  
Eucharistic Celebration 7:00pm in the church

Reception to follow with delicious hot chocolate and Mexican bread in the Parish Hall. There will also be the traditional raffle with great prizes.

**CELEBRACION GUADALUPANA**

La Sociedad Guadalupana de San Marcos los invita a la celebración en honor de la Virgen de Guadalupe el 9-12 de diciembre. El horario:

Miércoles, 9 de diciembre a las 7:00pm en la iglesia  
Platica sobre el Nican Mophua

Jueves, 10 de diciembre a las 7:00pm en la iglesia  
Platica sobre el nombre de la Virgen

Viernes, 11 de diciembre a las 7:00pm en la iglesia  
Platica sobre las apariciones de la Virgen

Sábado, 12 de diciembre  
Tardécitas con Mariachi en frente de la escuela a las 6:45pm  
Celebración Eucarística a las 7:00pm en la iglesia

Después de la misa se les invita a todos al salón parroquial para saborear un rico chocolate caliente y pan dulce. También habrá una rifa con buenos regalos.

**RELIGIOUS EDUCATION**

**Adult Confirmation**

Registration is now open for any adult who has been baptized Catholic, has received First Communion, but is not yet confirmed. Sessions will be held in January and February. Confirmation will be celebrated at St. Mark in the spring.

Please call the Religious Education Office for information and registration at 310-822-1201.

**RCIA**

Please continue to pray for our RCIA catechumen and candidates as they prepare for the Easter sacraments. If you, or someone you know, is considering membership in the Catholic Church and the sacraments of initiation an Inquiry group meets each Wednesday at 6:30pm in the school.

Please call the Religious Education Office for information or to let us know you are coming.

**Concern America Handcrafts**

On Sunday December 13 you will have the opportunity to view the special arts and crafts from Concern America on the patio after the morning masses. These items, designed and handmade by refugees and very poor people around the world, make beautiful Christmas gifts. Concern America is an international development and refugee aid organization. Teens from the St Mark Confirmation group and adults from RCIA will help you with your purchase.

**This Week at St. Mark's Nov 30 - Dec 6, 2015**

- Mon. 8:00am Mass - Church  
Bible Study 7:00pm - School  
Spanish Leaders 7:00pm - School
- Tues. 8:00am Mass - Church  
RE Grades 7-8 6:30pm - School
- Wed. 8:00am Mass - Church  
RCIA Inquiry 6:30pm - School  
Legion of Mary 7:00pm - School
- Thurs. 8:00am Mass - Church  
Spanish Prayer Group 7:00pm - Church
- Fri. 8:00am School Mass - Church
- Sat. 8:00am Mass - Church  
Confessions 4:30pm /5:30pm Mass - Church
- Sun. 2nd Sunday of Advent  
Mass Times: 7:30am, 9:00am, 10:30am,  
12:00pm (Spanish), 5:30pm - Church  
RE Grades 1-6 9:00am - School  
Children's Liturgy 9:00am - Church & School  
Early Childhood 9:00am - School



**Mass Schedule**

Sat. Dec 5	5:30pm Fr. Luis Proenca
Sun. Dec 6	7:30am Fr. Michael Tang
	9:00am Fr. Paul Spellman
	10:30am Fr. Tom King
	12:00pm Fr. Paul Spellman
	5:30pm Fr. Paul Spellman



**Mass Intentions**

Sat. Nov 28	5:30pm Cesario Rodriguez †
Sun. Nov 29	7:30am All Souls
	9:00am Clemente & Renato Neflas†
	10:30am Renato Neflas Sr. †
	12:00pm Andrea Herrera †
	5:30pm Power House of Prayer
Mon. Nov 30	8:00am All Souls
Tues. Dec 1	8:00am Q.J. Jacobs & Family †
Wed. Dec 2	8:00am Inez Watson †
Thurs. Dec 3	8:00am Jose Franco †
Fri. Dec 4	8:00am Cesario Rodriguez †
Sat. Dec 5	8:00am Tony Cardenas †

**TODAY'S READINGS**

**First Reading** — The days are coming when the LORD will fulfill the promise made to Israel and Judah (Jeremiah 33:14-16).

**Psalm** — To you, O Lord, I lift my soul (Psalm 25).

**Second Reading** — May the Lord make you increase and abound in love that you may be blameless in holiness; conduct yourselves so as to please God (1 Thessalonians 3:12 — 4:2).

**Gospel** — There will be signs and you will see the Son of Man coming with power and great glory. Be vigilant (Luke 21:25-28, 34-36).

**LECTURAS DE HOY**

**Primera lectura** — Se acercan los días cuando el Señor cumplirá su promesa que hizo a Israel y a Judá (Jeremías 33:14-16).

**Salmo** — Descúbrenos, Señor, tus caminos (Salmo 25 [24]).

**Segunda lectura** — Que el Señor los llene y los haga rebosar de amor para que sean irreprochables en santidad; pórtense de tal manera que complazcan a Dios (1 Tesalonicenses 3:12 — 4:2).

**Evangelio** — Habrá señales y verán al Hijo del hombre venir con gran poder y majestad. Estén alerta (Lucas 21:25-28, 34-36).

## SAFE GUARD THE CHILDREN

### When secrets become dangerous

There is no better time of year to review the important family rules that help to keep all children safe. It takes just a few moments to review with your children what to do in an emergency, who the special and safe adults in their life are, and the importance of not keeping secrets. Some secrets, like a gift for a special occasion, can be fun and safe to keep. Secrets that hurt others, involve any kind of unsafe or inappropriate touching or anything that bothers a child – are secrets that are NOT safe to keep. Help your child understand the difference. For a copy of the VIRTUS® article “Back to School: Secrets,” email: [jvienna@la-archdiocese.org](mailto:jvienna@la-archdiocese.org).

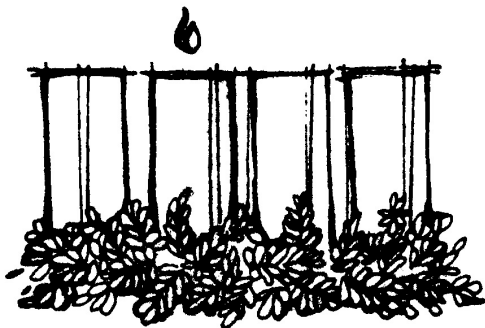
For particular help you may call Suzanne Healy, director of Assistance Ministry at (213) 637-7650 or Helene Hickey at 310-821-6612.

## PROTEGIENDO A LOS NIÑOS

### Cuando los secretos se vuelven peligrosos

No hay ningún mejor momento durante el año para repasar las reglas familiares sobre la seguridad de los niños. Tome sólo unos minutos para repasar con sus hijos qué hacer durante una emergencia, quiénes son los adultos especiales en su vida con quienes están seguros, y la importancia de no mantener secretos. Algunos secretos, como un regalo para una ocasión especial, pueden ser divertidos y seguros de mantener. Secretos que hacen daño a otros, que implica contacto físico inapropiado, o cualquier cosa que molesta a un niño, son secretos que NO son seguros de mantener. Ayuda a su hijo a entender la diferencia. Para una copia del artículo de VIRTUS® “Back to School: Secrets” (Regreso a la escuela: Secretos) envíe un correo electrónico a: [jvienna@la-archdiocese.org](mailto:jvienna@la-archdiocese.org).

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

### TREASURES FROM OUR TRADITIONS

Advent is a time rich in family traditions. Many of them have been so effectively absorbed into our culture that their religious origins are hidden. Some of us will set candles in our windows tonight. The custom began in Ireland during the so-called “penal” days, extending from 1691 to the “Catholic Emancipation” in 1829 and beyond. There were harsh penalties and fines for not attending the government church. Priests were forced into hiding, but people were resourceful and determined in guarding their faith. At Christmas, Irish families, particularly in the countryside, placed a lighted candle in the cottage window and left the door unlatched, hoping that a priest might come by and celebrate the Christmas Mass for them.

The possibility of the Mass coming into the family home gave rise to other Irish customs at the beginning of Advent. The cottage received a fresh coat of whitewash, the threshold was swept especially clean, and fresh curtains were hung in the windows. The house was scrubbed until it gleamed, including all the pots and pans, and all garments and table linens were laundered. The custom of the Irish window candle was so admired in Catholic Europe that it was widely copied there, and now finds a welcome in households that may not exactly expect a priest to wander in!

### THE COMING KINGDOM

Jeremiah could see it coming—the kingship of Jesus and the restoration of Jerusalem. But was anybody listening? Is anybody listening now? It must have been tough being a prophet, but Jeremiah was persistent in his message because he knew that it needed to be heard.

Also persistent in his message is Paul as he encourages the Thessalonians—and all of us—to live in accordance with the kingship that Jeremiah foretold. He encourages us to conduct ourselves in ways of holiness so that we may be well prepared for the king’s coming. Finally, Jesus himself tells us to be ever diligent so that we may gain favor before our God and King.

Jeremiah could see the kingship of Jesus coming. As we begin the season of Advent, Paul and Jesus tell us not only how to prepare for the Kingdom, but how to live it day to day.