

CHURCH OF SAINT MARK

Reverend Paul Spellman, Pastor

The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph

Deacon Joseph Girard

December 28, 2014

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



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 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	Yvonne Frontera.....	902-1234
To the Sick (Eng)	Fr. Paul Spellman	821-5058
In Church	Romeo Santos.....	973-4129
To the Sick (Sp)	Romeo Santos	973-4129

Ministry of the Word

English	Terri Ong	560-0979
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) ..	906-9035

Ushers

Parish School

Principal	Mary Ann McQueen ...	821-6612
Secretary	Mary Ann Welchance	821-6612
Secretary	Maria Donaldson.....	821-6612

Religious Education

Director	Judy Girard.....	822-1201 ext 249
Office Secretary	Maria Acosta...822-1201	ext 250
Confirmation	Edwin Ambrosio822-1201	ext 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 Hernandez	735-7013
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

I don't know about you, but many people in our world are breathing a sigh of relief. There are those who are saying to one another, "We made it through another Christmas! We got our gifts wrapped (or mailed) on time, our Christmas cards made it to the post office so that they would arrive before Santa Clause did, and we survived that dinner with that family member who we only see when there is a free meal being offered. Now we can relax and reflect on what this season is all about."

Today we are celebrating the Feast of the Holy Family and, if you have found yourself caught up in the commotion of Christmas, I invite you to take some time to pause, pray, reflect, and reach out to another person. In our Gospel today, Jesus is presented to God the Most High in the temple in Jerusalem. Are we ready to present ourselves to God and to dedicate our lives to Him?

In the temple the Holy Family encounters Simeon, a righteous and devout man who was awaiting the consolation of Israel. And the Holy Spirit was upon him. There was also a prophetess, Anna, who worshiped night and day with fasting a prayer. Are we ready to emulate them in our prayer lives? This is the challenge we face in our complicated world today.

Christmas season is not over. Next Sunday we will celebrate the Feast of the Epiphany, when the magi presented their gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh. The following Sunday we jump ahead to the Baptism of the Lord which took place in the Jordan River when Jesus was beginning His ministry.

So, if the weeks before Christmas got a bit chaotic in your life, I invite you to take the remainder of the Christmas season to pray and reflect on what we have just celebrated. And then ask Jesus to guide you as He guided His disciples 2,000 years ago.

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

Father Paul

La Esquina del Párroco

No sé si ustedes sienten lo mismo, pero muchas personas en nuestro mundo están respirando un suspiro de alivio. Hay quienes dicen los unos a los otros, "¡lo logramos a través de otra Navidad! Tenemos nuestros regalos envueltos (o por correo) a tiempo, nuestras tarjetas de Navidad llegaron a la oficina de correos antes que Santa Claus, y hemos sobrevivido la cena con ese miembro de la familia que sólo vemos cuando le ofrecen una comida gratis. Ahora podemos relajarnos y reflexionar sobre lo que esta temporada se trata."

Hoy celebramos la fiesta de la Sagrada Familia y, si ustedes se han encontrado atrapados en la conmovión de la Navidad, les invito a tomar tiempo para hacer una pausa, orar, reflexionar y alcanzar a otra persona. En el Evangelio de hoy, Jesús se presenta ante Dios el Altísimo en el templo de Jerusalén. ¿Estamos dispuestos a presentarnos a Dios y dedicarle nuestras vidas?

En el templo la Sagrada Familia encontramos a Simeón, un hombre justo y devoto que aguardaba el consuelo de Israel? Y el Espíritu Santo vino sobre él. Había también una profetisa, Ana, que adoraba día y noche ayunando y orando. ¿Estamos listos a imitarlos en nuestra vida de oración? Este es el desafío que hoy enfrentamos en nuestro mundo complicado.

La temporada de Navidad no ha terminado. El próximo domingo celebraremos la fiesta de la Epifanía, cuando los Reyes Magos presentaron sus regalos de oro, incienso y mirra. El siguiente el domingo es el bautismo del Señor que se llevó a cabo en el Río Jordán cuando Jesús comienza su ministerio.

Así que, si las semanas antes de Navidad son un poco caóticas en sus vidas, los invito a tomar el resto de la temporada navideña para orar y reflexionar sobre lo que acabamos de celebrar. Y luego pídanle a Jesús que los guíe como guió a sus discípulos hace 2.000 años.

Que el Señor nos siga bendiciendo siempre y en todo,

Padre Paul

SPIRITUAL LIFE



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WE ARE GOD'S HOLY FAMILY

The scriptures of Israel are filled with many stories of barren couples who were miraculously granted the gift of children by God.

Surely the best known among these is the first reading from today, from which Luke took inspiration when he recounted the miraculous birth of John the Baptist to Zechariah and Elizabeth, and the more miraculous birth of Jesus to Mary and Joseph. In each instance, we are given examples or role models of those who trusted in God.

More than examples of those who trust, they are models of self-surrender. They abandoned their own presuppositions and prejudices about the workings of the world and turned their lives over to belief in a God who can make life grow where none ought to; a God who can turn death around into a new and unimagined life; a God who can, today, take a tiny child of humble parents in an insignificant town and make him into a light for all the world.

This is what we, as God's holy family, are called to do each day: to trust not in ourselves and the way we think things should be, but to open ourselves and surrender ourselves in faith to a God of endless promise.

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS

Happy New Year! We the members of the Knights invite you to consider joining the Knights of Columbus for the new year! For more information please contact :

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 2:3-11; Ps 96:1-3, 5b-6; Lk 2:22-35
 Tuesday: 1 Jn 2:12-17; Ps 96:7-10; Lk 2:36-40
 Wednesday: 1 Jn 2:18-21; Ps 96:1-2, 11-13; Jn 1:1-18
 Thursday: Nm 6:22-27; Ps 67:2-3, 5, 6, 8; Gal 4:4-7; Lk 2:16-21
 Friday: 1 Jn 2:22-28; Ps 98:1-4; Jn 1:19-28
 Saturday: 1 Jn 2:29 — 3:6; Ps 98:1, 3cd-6; Jn 1:29-34
 Sunday: Is 60:1-6; Ps 72:1-2, 7-8, 10-13; Eph 3:2-3a, 5-6; Mt 2:1-12

LECTURAS DE LA SEMANA

Lunes: 1 Jn 2:3-11; Sal 96 (95):1-3, 5b-6; Lc 2:22-35
 Martes: 1 Jn 2:12-17; Sal 96 (95):7-10; Lc 2:36-40
 Miércoles: 1 Jn 2:18-21; Sal 96 (95):1-2, 11-13; Jn 1:1-18
 Jueves: Nm 6:22-27; Sal 67 (66):2-3, 5, 6, 8; Gal 4:4-7; Lc 2:16-21
 Viernes: 1 Jn 2:22-28; Sal 98 (97):1-4; Jn 1:19-28
 Sábado: 1 Jn 2:29 — 3:6; Sal 98 (97):1, 3cd-6; Jn 1:29-34
 Domingo: Is 60:1-6; Sal 72 (71):1-2, 7-8, 10-13; Ef 3:2-3a, 5-6; Mt 2:1-12

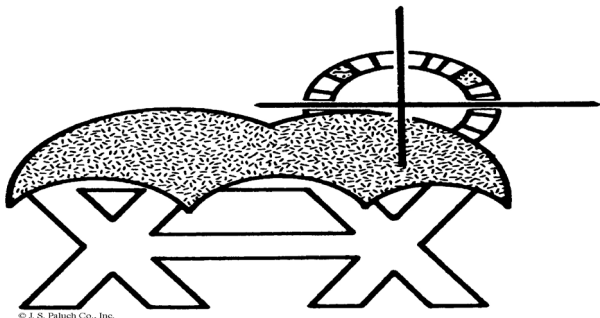
RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

Happy New Year

As we welcome the New Year 2015 perhaps this is the right time to consider a Faith Formation opportunity at St. Mark. Bible Study continues each Monday evening with a current study that focuses on “Women in the New Testament.” If you are baptized Catholic and have not celebrated the sacrament of Confirmation there is a preparation beginning on January 24. Please call 310-822-1201 to register. Other adult groups invite you to join them for prayer each week. Meditation and gentle stretching resumes on Monday January 5 at 6:30pm. The Legion of Mary will meet Tuesday January 6 at 7pm. Call the Religious Education Office to let us know you are coming.

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.



This Week at St. Mark's Dec 29, - Jan 4, 2014

- Mon. 8:00am Mass - Church
- Tues. 8:00am Mass - Church
- Wed. New Year's Eve
8:00am Mass - Church
Rectory Office Closed
- Thurs. New Year's Day
8:00am Mass - Church
Rectory Office Closed
- Fri. 8:00am Mass - Church
- Sat. 8:00am Mass - Church
Confessions 4:30pm - 5:15pm - Church
5:30pm Mass - Church
- Sun. The Epiphany of the Lord
Mass Times: 7:30am, 9:00am, 10:30am,
12:00pm (Spanish), 5:30pm

Mass Schedule

Sat. Jan 3	5:30pm Fr. Paul Spellman
Sun. Jan 4	7:30am Fr. Paul Spellman
	9:00am Fr. Paul Spellman
	10:30am Fr. Tom King
	12:00pm Fr. Paul Spellman
	5:30pm Fr. Paul Spellman

MASS INTENTIONS

Sat. Dec 27	5:30pm Irene Franco †
Sun. Dec 28	7:30am Kassandra Hernandez †
	9:00am Gabriel Bazaldua †
	10:30am People of the Parish
	12:00pm Jose Orozco Luis †
	5:30pm Alberto & Esteban Ramirez
Mon. Dec 29	8:00am Gabriela Bazaldua †
Tues. Dec 30	8:00am Adela Avila †
Wed. Dec 31	8:00am Power House of Prayer
Thurs. Jan 1	8:00am Q.J. Jacobs & Family †
Fri. Jan 2	8:00am Inez Watson †
Sat. Jan 3	8:00am Inez Watson †

TODAY'S READINGS

First Reading — Those who honor their parents will be greatly blessed and will atone for sins (Sirach 3:2-6,12-14) *or Genesis 15:1-6; 21:1-3.*
Psalm — Blessed are those who fear the Lord and walk in his ways (Psalm 128) *or Psalm 105.*
Second Reading — Be thankful; do everything in the name of the Lord Jesus (Colossians 3:12-21 [12-17]) *or Hebrews 11:8, 11-12, 17-19.*
Gospel — The child grew and became strong, filled with wisdom (Luke 2:22-40 [22, 39-40]).

LECTURAS DE HOY

Primera lectura — Los que honran a sus padres recibirán bendiciones y pagarán sus pecados (Siracide 3: 3-7, 14-17) *ó Génesis 15:1-6; 21:1-3.*
Salmo — Dichoso el que teme al Señor, y sigue sus caminos (Salmo 128 [127]) *ó Salmo 105 (104).*
Segunda lectura — Vivan una vida de amor sincero, sean agradecidos, hagan todo en el nombre del Señor Jesús (Colosenses 3:12-21) *ó Hebreos 11:8, 11-12, 17-19.*
Evangelio — María y José llevan a Jesús al templo para consagrarlo al Señor (Lucas 2:22-40 [22, 39-40]).

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 NIÑOS

¿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.

TURNING POINT SHELTER

Calling all students in need of service hours. Turning Point Shelter needs help Monday - Thursday between 3:30pm - 6:30pm preparing and serving dinner for their clients. Please call Donna Miller at 310-264-6646 ext 235.

TREASURES FROM OUR TRADITION

In the last century, a few new feasts were blended into the Church year, including today's. After World War I, the chaos of daily life in Europe made its impact felt on the family structure. Partly to offer Christians an image of hope and holiness in married family life, and also to promote the welfare of children, today's feast was "invented" in 1921. In 1969, it became a feast of Christmas. The prayers today remind us not only of family life, but of life in the community of faith. We ponder the mystery of a God who loves us dearly enough to embrace the struggles, joys, and daily sorrows of family life. The message of Christmas shines through: God-with-us is available to us in the ordinary patterns of our lives and commitments. The lives of people who raise their children in difficult circumstances, and of people who remain faithful to life in the Church in spite of some of their own family struggles, occupy a special place in our hearts today in prayer.