

CHURCH OF SAINT MARK

FR. MICHAEL ROCHA (*Pastor*)
FR. FRANCISCO A. GARCIA (*Associate Pastor*)
DEACON JOSEPH GIRARD

940 Coeur d'Alene Ave., Venice, CA 90291 (310) 821-5058 FAX (310) 821-7031
 E-mail: info@st-mark.net · website: www.st-mark.net



Office Hours: Monday - Friday 8:00am - 4:30pm
 Closed 12:00pm - 1:00pm

Sunday Masses: Saturday (Vigil) 5:30 pm
 Sunday: 7:30, 9:00, 10:30 am
 12 noon (Spanish) & 5:30 pm

Daily Masses: Monday - Saturday 8:00 am

Holy Day Masses: 8:00am, 12:15pm &
 and 7:00pm (Bilingual)

Eucharistic Adoration : First Monday of the month
 8:30am to 8:30pm

Confessions: Saturday 4:30 - 5:15 pm

Baptism: 3rd weekend of each month.
 Contact 821-5058

Marriage: 6 months notice is required.
 Contact 821-5058 for an appointment.

Anointing of The Sick: Sacrament for the sick is
 celebrated upon request.
 Contact 821-5058

Holy Eucharistic for the Sick: Communion is given upon request.
 Contact 821-5058

Parish Staff

Maintenance/Mgr.	Antonio Rodriguez 821-5058
Rectory Care	Sandra Perez 821-5058
Rec./Church Care	Catalina Blasi 821-5058
Secretary	Gabriela Bravo 821-5058
Secretary	Blanca Meza 821-5058

Liturgy

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

Eucharistic Ministry:

To the Sick (Eng)	Fr. Francisco Garcia ... 821-5058
To the Sick (Esp)	Romeo Santos 973-4129
In Church	Mary Ann Welchance 821-6612
	Joan Horne.....463-9017

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 310-478-8836
	Cherry Lappin 821-5058
	Steve Gunning (Eng) .. 906-9035

Greeter

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	George Martin.822-1201 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	Lupe Garcia..... 505-3990
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 & Frances Martin.....572-1242

Youth Ministry

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

FROM OUR PASTOR

Pastor's Corner

I begin my column this week with words of gratitude to all those who contributed in anyway with making our Christmas celebrations as special as they were. In particular I mention all of our Liturgical Ministries: all of our Lectors, Eucharistic Ministers, Ushers, Greeters, Altar Servers and of course all of our wonderful choir members and their directors, our pianist/organist as well as our visiting musicians. Once again our Environment Team, and their many volunteers, over the course of many hours, transformed our church into Christmas glory. Thank you!

I once again wish to thank the Knights of Columbus for assembling the outdoor display case for our outdoor nativity set. I am also appreciative of the assistance of the St. Mark School 8th Grade Class for helping with the nativity set itself (as well as the clean-up of all the decorations at the end of the Christmas Season. It has become a tradition that both of these events are the responsibility/privilege of the 8th Grade Class).

I need to express my personal gratitude to you, our entire St. Mark Community, for supporting all of our ministries with your generous financial gifts this Christmas. Because of your care and generosity we are able to continue to meet all of our financial obligations. Thank you all for loving our parish so much.

This coming Wednesday, January 1st New Year's Day, is the Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God. This is a feast day but NOT a Holy Day of Obligation. There will be one Mass at 8:00am as usual. Following the Mass the Church and all gates will be closed for the remainder of the holiday.

In January a special program for adults who have not received the Sacrament of Confirmation will be beginning. It is never too late to receive this wonderful sacrament. The program requires any adult, 21 years of age and older, to attend four consecutive all day Saturday catechetical sessions. In the past many of those who went through this program had expressed a wish that there had been more sessions! All adults who complete these confirmation preparation sessions will be confirmed with our teen candidates on Sunday, May 25, 2014. The celebrant for the Sacrament of Confirmation this next year is Archbishop José Gomez, our Archbishop. It will be Archbishop Gomez's first visit to our parish. It will be a true blessing to have him come to St. Mark's for the very first time to celebrate this most important sacrament for our teens and adults. Adults, please do not miss out on joining this year's adult confirmation candidates. Please call our Religious Education Office to sign-up or to inquire further. Make this next year a special year for yourselves by receiving the Holy Spirit through Confirmation.

Today is the Feast of the Holy Family. In building the kingdom of God on this earth, family is the glue that holds us all together. Without family, we are like a million unassembled pieces.

Last summer, during World Youth Day in Brazil, Pope Francis reminded the world: "How precious is the family as the privileged place for transmitting the faith. How important grandparents are for family life, for passing on the human and religious heritage which is so essential for each and every society. How important it is to have inter-generational exchanges and dialogue, especially within the context of the family."

This Sunday we honor the Holy Family, which models for us the path to God.

May you all have a safe and wonderful New Year's celebration. Happy New Year!

Father Michael Rocha

La Esquina del Párroco

Esta semana voy a comenzar mi columna con palabras de agradecimiento a todos aquellos que de alguna manera contribuyeron para que nuestra celebración de Navidad fuera tan especial. En particular quiero mencionar a todos nuestros ministerios litúrgicos: nuestros lectores, ministros eucarísticos, ujieres, hospitalidad, monaguillos y por supuesto todos nuestros miembros del coro maravilloso y a sus directores, nuestro pianista/organista, así como nuestros músicos visitantes. Una vez más nuestro equipo de medio ambiente y sus muchos voluntarios, en el transcurso de varias horas, transforman nuestra Iglesia en la gloria Navidad. ¡Gracias!

Una vez más me gustaría dar las gracias a los Caballeros de Colon por el montaje de la caja de exhibición para nuestra Natividad al aire libre. Yo también estoy agradecido de la ayuda que nos dio la clase de grado 8th de la escuela San Marcos para ayudar con la si Natividad (como el limpiar todas las decoraciones al final de la temporada navideña. Se ha convertido en una tradición que ambos de estos eventos son el responsabilidad/privilegio de la clase del grado 8 °).

Tengo que expresar mi gratitud a ustedes, toda la comunidad de San Marcos, por apoyar a todos nuestros ministerios con su generoso regalo financiero esta Navidad. Debido a su cuidado y generosidad podemos seguir cumpliendo con todos nuestros compromisos financieros. Gracias por amar tanto a nuestra parroquia.

El miércoles, 1 de enero Día de Año Nuevo, es la solemnidad de María, Madre de Dios. Este es un día de fiesta pero no un día de precepto. Como de costumbre habrá una Misa a las 8:00 am. Después de la Misa las puertas de la iglesia estarán cerradas por el resto de las vacaciones.

En enero va a comenzando un programa especial para adultos que no han recibido el Sacramento de Confirmación. No es tarde para recibir este Sacramento maravilloso. El programa requiere que cualquier adulto, de 21 años de edad y mayores asistan a unas clases 4 sábados consecutivos. En el pasado muchos de los que pasaron por este programa expresaron el deseo de que hubiera habido más sesiones. Todos los adultos que completen estas sesiones de preparación para la Confirmación serán confirmados con nuestros candidatos adolescentes el Domingo, 25 de mayo 2014. El celebrante para el Sacramento de la Confirmación el próximo año será el Arzobispo José Gómez, nuestro Arzobispo. Será la primera visita del Arzobispo Gómez a nuestra parroquia. Será una verdadera bendición que venga a San Marcos por primera vez para celebrar este Sacramento tan importante para nuestros adolescentes y adultos. Los adultos, por favor, no te pierdan en unirse a los candidatos de confirmación de este año. Por favor llame a nuestra oficina de Educación Religiosa para inscribirse o para averiguar más. Hagan de este año un año especial para ustedes recibiendo el Espíritu Santo a través de la Confirmación.

Hoy es la fiesta de la Sagrada Familia. En la construcción del Reino de Dios en esta tierra, la familia es el pegamento que nos mantiene juntos. Sin familia, somos como 1 millón de piezas desmontadas.

El verano pasado, durante la Jornada Mundial de la juventud en Brasil, el Papa Francisco recordó al mundo: "lo valiosa que es la familia como el lugar privilegiado para la transmisión de la fe. Lo importantes que son los abuelos para la vida familiar, para pasar la herencia humana y religiosa patrimonio que es tan esencial para cada sociedad. Lo importante es tener diálogo e intercambios entre las generaciones especialmente en el contexto de la familia".

Este domingo honramos a la Sagrada Familia, que modela para nosotros el camino a Dios.

Que todos tengan una segura y maravillosa celebración de Año Nuevo. ¡Feliz año Nuevo!

Padre Michael Rocha

SPIRITUAL LIFE

ST. MARK PARISH MEN’S RETREAT

The Annual St. Mark Parish Men’s Retreat will be held at Mater Dolorosa Retreat Center in the city of Sierra Madre. The retreat which is preached by the Passionist Retreat Team begins Friday, January 24, 2014 (evening) and concludes Sunday, January 26, 2014 (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)

YOUR INPUT IS WANTED!

The Vatican is offering a unique opportunity for all the members of the church worldwide to offer input for the “Synod on the Family” scheduled by Pope Francis to take place next October in Rome. Archbishop Gomez has developed a simplified on-line survey form corresponding to the preparatory document and questionnaire provided by the Vatican. As a member of the church, you may respond to this survey on-line at <http://surveys.la-archdiocese.org/>

Please make this survey opportunity known to other Catholics, both practicing and non-practicing, known to you - members of your family, relatives, friends, acquaintances, neighbors and co-workers.

LOVE

For generations, various cultures regarded family life merely as a utilitarian necessity. Sirach introduces honor and respect. For Jews and Christians alike, the value of family goes even further. The family is seen as the indispensable school where love is learned. Paul addresses the Colossians and offers a list of virtues that make for a solid and happy church. These values also make for a happy family at ease with itself and its members: mercy, kindness, humility, meekness, patience, forgiveness. As a capstone, Paul urges love, which brings all of these domestic virtues to perfection. Paul seems to be on a roll as he lauds the virtues of the church at Colossae. With such heartfelt virtues, it is no wonder Paul bursts into song. Who wouldn’t? It’s clear that the center of the church is love. It is clear that no matter how far from home the members travel, the heart remains and all the members are connected by the gravitational pull of mutual love, a love first learned in family life.

SPIRITUAL LIFE

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 to schedule at 310-821-5058.

READINGS FOR THE WEEK

- Monday: 1 Jn 2:12-17; Ps 96:7-10; Lk 2:36-40
- Tuesday: 1 Jn 2:18-21; Ps 96:1-2, 11-13; Jn 1:1-18
- Wednesday: Nm 6:22-27; Ps 67:2-3, 5, 6, 8; Gal 4:4-7; Lk 2:16-21
- Thursday: 1 Jn 2:22-28; Ps 98:1-4; Jn 1:19-28
- Friday: 1 Jn 2:29 — 3:6; Ps 98:1, 3cd-6; Jn 1:29-34
- Saturday: 1 Jn 3:7-10; Ps 98:1, 7-9; Jn 1:35-42
- 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 2:12-17; Sal 96 (95):7-10; Lc 2:36-40
- Martes: 1 Jn 2:18-21; Sal 96 (95):1-2, 11-13; Jn 1:1-18
- Miércoles: Nm 6:22-27; Sal 67 (66):2-3, 5, 6, 8; Gál 4:4-7; Lc 2:16-21
- Jueves: 1 Jn 2:22-28; Sal 98 (97):1-4; Jn 1:19-28
- Viernes: 1 Jn 2:29 — 3:6; Sal 98 (97):1, 3cd-6; Jn 1:29-34
- Sábado: 1 Jn 3:7-10; Sal 98 (97):1, 7-9; Jn 1:35-42
- Domingo: Is 60:1-6; Sal 72 (71):1-2, 7-8, 10-13; Ef 3:2-3a, 5-6; Mt 2:1-12



November 2012.....\$37,107.00
November 2013.....\$41,563.40

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

Religious Education

All classes resume as follows: Grades 7 and 8 at 6:30pm on Tues. Jan. 7, Grades 1-6 on Saturday Jan. 11 at 9am. Early Childhood and Children's Liturgy on Sunday Jan. 12 at 9am. Many blessings for the New Year 2014!

Bible Study

Begin the New Year by joining our weekly Bible Study on Monday Jan. 13 at 7pm in the school.

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 9 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 5, 2014

- Mon. 8:00am Mass
No Meetings/Offices & School Closed
- Tues. 8:00am Mass
New Years Eve
No Meetings/Offices & School Closed
- Wed. 8:00am Mass
New Years Day
No Meetings/Offices & School Closed
Rectory Office Closed
- Thurs. 8:00am Mass
No Meetings/Offices & School Closed
- Fri. 8:00am Mass
No Meetings/Offices & School Closed
- Sat. 8:00am Mass
No Meetings/Offices Closed
- Sun. The Epiphany of the Lord
No Early Childhood or Children's Liturgy

Mass Schedule

Sat, Jan 4	5:30pm	Fr. Michael
Sun, Jan 5	7:30am	Fr. Francis
	9:00am	Fr. Michael
	10:30am	Fr. Francis
	12:00pm	Fr. Michael
	5:30pm	Msgr. John Morales

MASS INTENTIONS

Dec 28	5:30pm	Patricia Collins †
Dec 29	7:30am	Manly Family
	9:00am	Jovita Suaza †
	10:30am	People of the Parish
	12:00pm	Maria de Jesus †
	5:30pm	McNamara Family
Dec 30	8:00am	Maria de Jesus †
Dec 31	8:00am	Power House of Prayer
Jan 1	8:00am	Q.J. Jacobs & Family †
Jan 2	8:00am	Deacon M. Compean †
Jan 3	8:00am	Inez Watson †
Jan 4	8:00am	Maria De Jesus †

TODAY'S READINGS

First Reading — Those who honor and comfort their parents shall never be forgotten (Sirach 3:2-6, 12-14).

Psalm — Blessed are those who fear the Lord and walk in his ways (Psalm 128).

Second Reading — You are called into one body. Bear with one another; forgive one another; let Christ's peace control you (Colossians 3:12-21 [12-17]).

Gospel — Joseph rose, took the child and his mother, and fled to Egypt (Matthew 2:13-15, 19-23).

LECTURAS DE HOY

Primera lectura — Los que honran a sus padres recibirán bendiciones y pagarán sus pecados (Siracide 3:2-6, 12-14).

Salmo — Dichoso el que teme al Señor, y sigue sus caminos (Salmo 128 [127]).

Segunda lectura — Vivan una vida de amor sincero, sean agradecidos, hagan todo en el nombre del Señor Jesús; vivan en armonía (Colosenses 3:12-21).

Evangelio — José tomó a María y al niño de noche y se fueron a Egipto para escapar la persecución de Herodes (Mateo 2:13-15, 19-23).

SAFE GUARD THE CHILDREN

Tips for choosing safe toys for kids

Millions of toys are out there, and hundreds of new ones hit the stores each year. Toys are supposed to be fun and are an important part of any child's development. But each year, scores of kids are treated in hospital emergency departments for toy-related injuries. Here are some general guidelines to keep in mind when toy-shopping: Toys made of fabric should be labeled as flame resistant or flame retardant. Stuffed toys should be washable. Painted toys should be covered with lead-free paint. Art materials should say nontoxic. Crayons and paints should say ASTM D-4236 on the package, which means that they've been evaluated by the American Society for Testing and Materials. For more information, please visit: www.kidshealth.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

Consejos para elegir juguetes seguros para los niños

Existen millones de juguetes en nuestra sociedad y cientos de juguetes nuevos llegan a las tiendas cada año. Los juguetes son una parte importante del desarrollo de cualquier niño. Pero cada año decenas de niños son tratados en las salas de emergencia de hospitales por lesiones relacionadas con juguetes. Aquí hay algunos ejemplos generales a tener en cuenta al comprar juguetes: Juguetes de tela deben ser etiquetados como resistentes al fuego o ignífugo. Los juguetes de peluche deben ser lavables. Juguetes que estén pintados deben de ser cubiertos con pintura sin plomo. Materiales de arte no deben ser tóxicos. Los paquetes de lápices de colores y pinturas deben de decir ASTM D-4236, lo que significa que han sido evaluados por la Sociedad Americana para Pruebas y Materiales. Para más información, visite www.kidshealth.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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ST. MARK SCHOOL

Happy New Year!

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Dear Parishioners,

We invite all parishioners to join us on Sunday, January 26, 2014 for Open House!

School tours and an overview of our academic & co-curricular programs will be the focus of this day as well as opportunities to meet our faculty, students and parents.

All are welcome!

This is part of Catholic Schools Week and here at SMS we have a lot to celebrate!

Admission outreach sessions for October, November and December are concluded and we have received many applications for admission already.

Applications for the 2014-1015 school year are due on January 15, 2014 for new families.

We welcome inquiries regarding our program. You can contact us at (310) 821-6612 or by email at principal@stmarkschool.com.

Mary Ann McQueen, Principal

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Saint Mark School

**◆Educating Children in the Way, the Truth, and the Life◆
Transitional Kindergarten through Grade 8**

* * *



Nobles Family
Charles, Laura and Audrey

Gonzalez Family
Debra and Matthew