

CHURCH OF SAINT MARK

4th Sunday of Advent

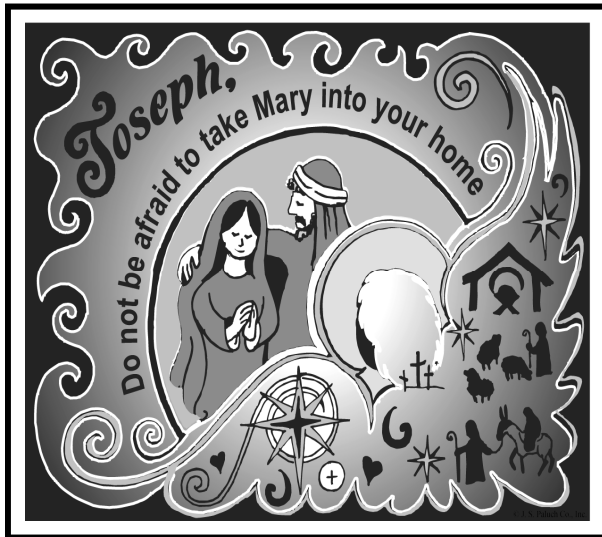
December 22, 2019

Fr. Albert van der Woerd, Administrator

Deacon Joseph Girard

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

E-mail: info@stmarkvenice.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 4:30pm - 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 Eucharist for the Sick:	Communion is given upon request. Please contact the rectory office.

Parish Staff

Secretary	Gabriela Bravo	821-5058
Bookkeeper	Kathy Olson.....	821-5058
Youth Minister	Jaime Perez.....	213-842-6064

Liturgy

Altar Servers	Joan Horne.....	463-9017
Altar Servers (Sp)	Ofelia Gonzalez.....	821-5058
Altar Society	Chris Putziger.....	396-3265

Eucharistic Ministry

In Church	MaryAnn Long.....	821-5058
To the Sick	Fr. Albert van der Woerd	821-5058
In Church (Sp)	Juan Hernandez.....	424-309-3994
To the Sick (Sp)	Ofelia Gonzalez.....	306-8768

Ministry of the Word

English	Michael Shindle.....	821-5058
Spanish	Erick Yela	463-9080
Wedding	Gabriela Bravo	821-5058
Quinceañeras	Gabriela Bravo	821-5058

Music

Music Director	Maeve Becker	902-0109
Adult Choir	Valerie Vinnard.....	323-804-7720
Spanish Choir	Alex Venegas	213-675-0564
Organist/Pianist	Mark Balling.....	390-3646
Ushers	Scott Haberkorn (Eng)...	821-5058
	Ausencio Rosales (Sp)...	821-5058

Parish School

Principal	Mary Hurley	821-6612
Admissions	Jennifer Dao	821-6612
Office Manager	Maria Donaldson.....	821-6612
School Receptionist	MaryAnn Welchance....	821-6612

Religious Education

Director	Judy Girard.....	822-1201 ext 249
Office Secretary	Maria Acosta.....	822-1201 ext 250
Confirmation	Jaime Perez	213-842-6064
R.C.I.A.	Susan Lewis.....	822-1201 ext 247

Parish Organization

Bereavement Ministry	Fritz Hirt.....	827-1585
Guadalupanos	Rosa Gonzalez.....	752-3891
Ministerio Bendición	Luis Vazquez.....	424-216-2261
Knights of Columbus	George Arias.....	760-888-7321
Legion of Mary	Horst Blasi.....	306-1326
Mary Widows	Helen Liberto.....	391-2997
Pastoral Council	Tom Suchy	821-5058
Power House of Prayer	Barbara Kennedy	823-9387
	Estela Reynoso.....	822-1201
St. Vincent de Paul	424-272-1629
Young Adult	YAM@stmarkvenice.com
Safeguard the Children	Trina Wilson.....	821-5058

FROM OUR PASTOR

Administrator's Corner

This weekend we have the fullness of Advent. All four candles of the wreath are lit. Part of our Catholic teaching is, that Jesus came at the right time. At the fullness of time. With salvation it is somehow like an avocado. You have to pick the right time to eat it. You buy one when it is still firm. Then you squeeze it every day a little bit to feel whether it has started to soften up, and be ready to eat. But if you wait too long the fruit may already be rotten inside. Then it is too late. I imagine that God has been gently squeezing our world, every day, to feel if we would be ready for his Son. By and large, we weren't, because it did not end very well with his beloved Son. But the Word made flesh was able to touch just enough people, in the right way, as to make them start a whole new movement in the history of humankind. We are part of that movement.

God must have even envisioned Joseph who had betrothed Mary, the Virgin Mother of Jesus. It was exactly this couple that could create the conditions under which the Savior came on earth. Joseph doesn't say a word in the whole Bible. But what mattered, was his way of listening to what the angel whispered in his ear. He was silent enough to hear the message from God: "Don't be afraid Joseph, to take Mary as your wife."

As we now approach the celebrations of Christmas, may we at Saint Mark realize that God has made us ready, ripe to be transformed more deeply into a Eucharistic community. We are ready to receive the greatest gift that humankind has ever received, to become the one thing that makes our creation worth living: a Church made up by living stones.

The time is right. We are made ready to engage as never before in the movement that started by the "yes" of Saint Joseph and the Virgin Mary. That is why the Church sings at the Vespers of Christmas: *Hodie Christus Natus Est*, today Christ is born. He is born at the right time; when we are ready to receive him. Today. Not until tomorrow, we didn't miss it yesterday.

As Christians we are not afraid to live today.

Father Albert van der Woerd

Email: administrator@stmarkvenice.com

La Esquina del Administrador

Este fin de semana tenemos la plenitud del Adviento. Las cuatro velas de la corona están encendidas. Parte de nuestra enseñanza católica es que Jesús vino en el momento adecuado. En la plenitud del tiempo. Con la salvación es de alguna manera como un aguacate. Tienes que elegir el momento adecuado para comerlo. Compras uno cuando todavía está firme. Luego lo aprietas un poco para sentir si ha empezado a ablandarse y estar listo para comer. Pero si esperas demasiado, la fruta ya puede estar podrida por dentro. Entonces es demasiado tarde. Me imagino que Dios ha estado apretando suavemente nuestro mundo, todos los días, para sentir si estaríamos listos para su Hijo. En general, no lo estábamos, porque no terminó muy bien con su amado Hijo. Pero el Verbo hecho carne fue capaz de tocar a suficiente gente, de la manera correcta, como para hacer que iniciaran un movimiento completamente nuevo en la historia de la humanidad. Somos parte de ese movimiento.

Dios debe haber imaginado incluso a José que había prometido a María, la Virgen Madre de Jesús. Fue precisamente esta pareja la que pudo crear las condiciones bajo las cuales el Salvador vino a la tierra. José no dice ni una palabra en toda la Biblia. Pero lo que importaba era su manera de escuchar lo que el ángel le susurraba al oído. Se quedó lo suficientemente silencioso como para escuchar el mensaje de Dios: "No tengas miedo José, para tomar a María como tu esposa."

Al acercarnos ahora a las celebraciones de la Navidad, en San Marcos nos damos cuenta de que Dios nos ha preparado para ser transformados más profundamente en una comunidad eucarística. Estamos dispuestos a recibir el don más grande que la humanidad haya recibido, a convertirnos en lo único que hace que nuestra creación valga la pena vivir: una Iglesia formada por piedras vivas.

Es el momento adecuado. Estamos preparados para participar como nunca antes en el movimiento iniciado por el "sí" de San José y la Virgen María. Por eso la Iglesia canta en las Vísperas de la Navidad: *Hodie Christus Natus Est*, hoy nace Cristo. Nace en el momento adecuado; cuando estemos listos para recibirlo. Hoy. No hasta mañana, no lo perdimos ayer.

Como cristianos no tenemos miedo de vivir hoy.

Padre Albert Van der Woerd

Correo electrónico: administrator@stmarkvenice.com

SPIRITUAL LIFE

VIDA ESPIRITUAL



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Christmas Eve, Tuesday, December 24th

3:30pm
Family Mass

5:30pm
St. Mark Youth & Young Adults

11:30pm
Pre-Midnight Mass Concert

12:00am
Midnight Mass

Christmas Day, Wednesday, December 25th

9:00am
English Mass

12:00pm
Spanish Mass

New Year's Eve, Tuesday, December 31st

5:30pm Mass
with Anointing of the Sick

New Year's Day, Wednesday January 1st

9:00am
English Mass



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Víspera de Navidad, martes, 24 de diciembre

3:30pm
Misa de familia

5:30pm
Misa de Jóvenes

11:30pm
Concierto

12:00am
Misa de medianoche

Día de Navidad, miércoles, 25 de diciembre

9:00am
Misa en Ingles

12:00pm
Misa en Español

Noche del Año Nuevo, martes, 31 de diciembre

5:30pm Misa
con unción de los enfermos

Día de Año Nuevo, miércoles, 1 de enero

9:00am
Misa en Ingles

CHRISTMAS

A young mother, her eyes shining with fatigue, who is arranging her hair; a father who finds himself alone with his pretty wife and baby, straightening the stable to make himself useful in some way; shepherds who bring cheese and perhaps also some curdled milk; sheep who look at their shepherds; a donkey who is eyeing his manger changed into a cradle; an adorable swaddled baby whom one calls Savior, Christ and Lord: This is the manifestation of the goodness and the tenderness of God. This is the most fantastic birth in the history of humanity, the one which changed the face of the world! This is how far God humbled and compromised himself with us! This is Emmanuel!

NAVIDAD

Una madre joven, sus ojos brillando de fatiga, que está arreglando su cabello; un padre que se encuentra a solas con su esposa bonita y su bebé, enderezando el establo para hacerse útil de alguna manera; pastores que traen queso y tal vez también un poco de leche cuajada; ovejas que miran a sus pastores; un burro que está mirando a su pesebre convertido en una cuna; un bebé adorable a quien uno llama Salvador, Cristo y Señor: Esta es la manifestación de la bondad y la ternura de Dios. ¡Este es el nacimiento más fantástico en la historia de la humanidad, el que cambió el rostro del mundo! ¡Así es como Dios se humilló y se comprometió con nosotros! ¡Este es Emmanuel!

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 or email re@stmarkvenice.com

Bible Study

Come join a guided discovery of the Book of Proverbs: Wisdom for Living each Monday evening at 7pm in the school.

RCIA Inquiry

- Do you know someone who has questions about becoming Catholic?
- Do you have a family member or acquaintance who has not celebrated the Sacraments of Holy Communion and Confirmation?
- Is God calling you to invite them to explore their journey of faith through the RCIA process?

The first step for them is to INQUIRE. Sessions meet each Wednesday at 6:30pm in the Religious Education Office in the school. Please ask them to call 310-822-1201 or email rcia@stmarkvenice.com for more information or to let us know they are coming.



This Week at St. Mark's Dec 23 – Dec 29 2019

Mon.	8:00am Mass - Church Spanish Choir 7:00pm - Hall
Tues.	8:00am Mass - Church Christmas Eve Mass times 3:30pm, 5:30pm & Midnight Mass Rectory Office Closed
Wed.	Christmas Day Mass times 9:00am English 12:00pm Spanish Rectory Office Closed
Thurs.	8:00am Mass
Fri.	8:00am Mass - Church
Sat.	8:00am Mass - Church Confessions 4:30pm –5:15pm 5:30pm Mass
Sun.	The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph Mass Times: 7:30am, 9:00am, 10:30am, 12:00pm, 5:30pm - Church

MassSchedule

Sat. Dec 28	5:30pm Fr. Albert van der Woerd
Sun. Dec 29	7:30am Fr. Albert van der Woerd 9:00am Fr. Tom King 10:30am Fr. Jim Barnes 12:00pm Fr. Albert van der Woerd 5:30pm Fr. Jim Barnes



Sat. Dec 21	5:30pm David E. Woods
Sun. Dec 22	7:30am Al Putziger 9:00am Stan Bacon † 10:30am Estelle Donero † 12:00pm Sabina Garcia † 5:30pm Antonio Gonzalez
Mon. Dec 23	8:00am Marco Antonio Avila †
Tues. Dec 24	8:00am Aidan Garcia 3:30pm Avila Family 5:30pm People of the Parish Midnight Miller Putziger Family
Wed. Dec 25	9:00am Jose Sison † 12:00pm David E. Woods
Thurs. Dec 26	8:00am Julie Twitchell McLean †
Fri. Dec 27	8:00am Sandy Perez
Sat. Dec 28	8:00am Sacred Heart

NEXT WEEK'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 LA PROXIMA SEMANA

Primera lectura — Los que honran a sus padres recibirán bendiciones y pagarán sus pecados (Eclesiástico 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).

SPIRITUAL LIFE

MEN’S SILENT RETREAT

The Annual St. Mark Parish Men’s Silent Retreat will be held at Mater Dolorosa Retreat Center in the city of Sierra Madre. The retreat will take place on January 24th - 26th. 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 Fritz Hirt at 310-827-1585 or Rick Winter at 310-699-1098.

WOMEN’S SILENT RETREAT

The Annual Women’s Silent Retreat will be held at the Sacred Heart Retreat House in Alhambra January 24th-26th. This years theme is "Come Holy Spirit: He will lead you to all truth." For more information or to sign up, please contact Shawna Tobalina at shawna90291@hotmail.com. Join your fellow parishioners for this beautiful, contemplative two-night retreat. Space is limited, but all are welcome.

TRUST IN GOD

On this final Sunday of Advent our scriptures focus on the historical birth of Jesus, who is son of David and Son of God, child and king, Jesus and Emmanuel. Isaiah the prophet begs Ahaz to ask for a sign, to allow God to offer him reassurance of the survival of the Davidic dynasty. The king hypocritically refuses to “tempt the Lord” in that way (Isaiah 7:12), but the prophet foretells the birth of a son, an heir to the throne, who will prove the Lord’s enduring protection of God’s chosen lineage on the throne of David. The child will be called Emmanuel. Matthew’s reference to this history in his description of the birth of Jesus highlights the contrast between the faithless refusal of trust shown by Ahaz, and the complete trust in God shown by Mary and Joseph in bringing about the birth of Jesus Christ.

SAFE GUARD THE CHILDREN

Understanding the deception tactics of abusers

Sex abusers are out to deceive everyone around them. And for many people, it’s hard to acknowledge the reality that predators are among us, and, are often the last people we expect. Many abusers utilize trusted positions in the community — coaches, teachers, organization leaders — to find and groom victims, and they count on the esteem of their positions to excuse them from any suspicion. Understanding the layers of deception utilized by an abuser helps us have a better handle on recognizing red flags and signs of potential abuse. For more information on “How Offenders Can Mislead,” read the VIRTUS® article at <http://www.la-archdiocese.org/org/protecting/Pages/VIRTUS-Current-Online-Articles.aspx>.

VIDA SPIRITUAL

RETIRO DE HOMBRES DE SAN MARCOS

El retiro de hombres de la parroquia de San Marcos se llevará a cabo en El Centro de Retiros de Mater Dolorosa. El retiro será el 24 - 26 de enero. Los jardines y la tranquilidad de Mater Dolorosa es un lugar perfecto para un fin de semana de renovación espiritual y de crecimiento. Para reservaciones póngase en contacto con Fritz Hirt 310-827-1585 o Rick Winter 310-699-1098.

RETIRO DE MUJERES

El retiro anual de mujeres se llevara a cabo en “Sacred Heart Retreat House” en Alhambra el 24 - 26 de enero. El tema sera “Ven Espíritu Santo: El te guiara a toda la verdad." Para obtener más información o registrarse, póngase en contacto con Shawna Tobalina en shawna90291@hotmail.com. Acompaña a tus compañeros feligreses para este retiro hermoso y contemplativo de dos noches. El espacio es limitado, pero todos son bienvenidos.


CONFIANZA EN DIOS

En este último domingo de Adviento las lecturas se enfocan en el nacimiento histórico de Jesús: el hijo de David e Hijo de Dios, niño y rey, Jesús y Emmanuel. El profeta Isaías le suplica a Ajaz que pida una señal, para permitir a Dios que le asegure la sobrevivencia de la dinastía de David. El rey hipócrita rehúsa “tentar al Señor” de esa manera (Isaías 7:12), pero el profeta predice el nacimiento de un hijo, un heredero al trono, quien probará la duradera protección divina del linaje elegido del trono de David. El niño será llamado Emmanuel. Mateo se refiere a esta historia en su descripción de los puntos principales del nacimiento de Jesús que contrasta a Ajaz quien rehúsa confiar por falta de fe, y la completa confianza en Dios que María y José demostraron al cooperar con el nacimiento de Jesucristo.

PROTEGIENDO A LOS NINOS

Entendiendo las tácticas de engaño de los abusadores

A los abusadores sexuales les gusta engañar a todos a su alrededor. Y para muchas personas, es duro reconocer la realidad de que existen depredadores entre nosotros, y, que usualmente se trata de las personas que menos esperamos. Muchos abusadores utilizan sus posiciones de confianza en la comunidad, como entrenadores de deportes, profesores, líderes de organizaciones, para encontrar y atraer a sus víctimas, y ellos cuentan con que la importancia de sus posiciones les sirva para que no exista sospecha contra ellos. Entender los distintos tipos de engaño utilizados por un abusador nos ayuda a saber reconocer las alertas y señales de potencial abuso. Para obtener más información sobre cómo los abusadores pueden engañar, lea el artículo de VIRTUS® “How Offenders Can Mislead” (Cómo los ofensores pueden engañar) en <http://www.la-archdiocese.org/org/protecting/Pages/VIRTUS-Current-Online-Articles.aspx>.



*Julie, Sullivan, Antonio Gonzalez,
Vickie Miles, Bob De Pietro,
Raul Avalos, Norma Andres, Tom Suchy*