

15941 Virginia Ave.
Paramount, CA

EMMANUEL

C H U R C H

April 16, 2023
(562) 531-6820

connecting people to Jesus, people, and God's mission



Elijah - Faith and Fire by Priscila Shirer
Tue 4/18 | 6:15-8pm | Education Building
Wed 4/19 | 9:45-11:30am | Fellowship Hall
All women are invited to join us for a 7 week journey on how the emboldened, fiery faith you desire is being fashioned by God in your life right now. Contact Jody.gras@erc.la. Free childcare provided

Emmanuel Preschool is seeking a preschool teacher who is passionate about working with young children. This is an M-F, year-round position. Responsibilities will be to create and adapt curriculum, to help nurture our students and prepare them for the next steps in their educational journey. For more information please contact Karrie Garcia at Karrie.Garcia@erc.la or 562-531-8762.

Our Christian sympathy to JoAnn Mullins and family on the passing of JoAnn's husband, Tom Mullins, last weeked.

Congratulations to proud parents Jacob & Natalie Jones, big sibling Autumn, proud grandparents Rick and Krista Jones, and family, on the birth of Elijah Jay Jones on Thursday, March 16th.



SUNDAY, <i>May 7th</i>		@10am-2pm
ON THE LAWN IN FRONT OF CHURCH (15941 Virginia Ave. Paramount, CA)		
PREORDER ONLINE <i>or in person in April</i>	FOOD BY <i>Dave Hogan</i>	
All proceeds help send High Schoolers to Church camp where they will encounter the Lord and experience new adventures! You can preorder a half roast (\$20) or a full roast (\$40) or donate now at erc.la/tritip or by scanning the QR code!		

English: 9am 10:30am 12pm 6pm | Spanish: 10:30am 12pm | Nepalese: 9:30am
(sanctuary) (activity center) (brick building)

Scan to access
ERC's Hub!



Additional Giving Opportunities
Vision Fund offering April 16

Weekly Offering
YTD Offering: \$919,225.70
YTD Budget: \$911,640.00
Last Week's Offering: \$60,797.81
2023 Weekly Budget: \$60,766.00

Scan to
GIVE



WATER TO WINE



- Wine was diluted and drank in ancient times as a common drink
- Enjoy alcohol legally and biblically
 - Don't get drunk (Eph. 5:18)
 - Don't cause others to stumble (Rom. 14, 1 Cor. 8)

Scripture Reading: John 2:1-12

Jesus attending a wedding says a lot about him. Without sinning he loved people well and invited them to follow him. This didn't sit well with other religious leaders (Matthew 11:19)

"Woman, why do you involve me?" (John 2:4)

- This is formal speech and is not harsh or condescending. Notice he didn't say "mother". This seems to be because he's telling us that he submits to the authority of his heavenly father not his earthly mother. (see John 5:19, 30; John 8:29-30)

The ceremonial jars (John 2:6-10)

- Some of us have religious habits and rituals that don't bring life and don't involve God. What in your life does God want to transform?
- Vincent Wirch video

- **A word to christians** - make it a priority to spend time with the Lord
- **A word to new christians or those interested in Christianity** - just like habits take time to establish, spiritual disciplines often don't "work" like turning a light on/off. God uses Sunday worship, prayer, bible reading etc. to establish a relationship with you which takes time. If you consistently do this you'll find new life and learn to discern God's voice in your life

John calls these "signs" not "miracles" because a sign points to something greater than the sign or miracle itself (John 2:11)

The wedding guests hardly noticed the Kingdom of God had broken in. Do we notice these moments in our day?

- Joshua Bell violin video

This story is an odd way to kick start public ministry. Why not kick things off with a healing? Demonic exorcism? Note that the Bible begins and ends with a wedding and the overarching story we live in is that God (the groom) is working to be reunited with his bride (the people of God). This is probably why Jesus started this way!

- The Bible starts with a wedding (Genesis 2)
- The Bible ends with a wedding (Revelation 19:6-9)

Time of Reflection

The ceremonial stone water jars represented a part of the law that was rigid and lifeless and Jesus transformed them. What in your life does God want to transform?

The wedding guests completely missed the kingdom of God sign in the water and wine. Pray that God would make you attentive to miracles and sensitive to his movement.
