

15941 Virginia Ave.
Paramount, CA

EMMANUEL

C H U R C H

Dec 10, 2023
(562) 531-6820

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

Per tradition at Emmanuel, with Christmas comes a beautiful display of **Poinsettias in the Worship Center**, sponsored in honor or memory of loved ones. Order your poinsettia on the **ERC App**, at erc.la, or by scanning the **ERC Hub QR code** below!



Alpha

A place to ask questions about God, the Bible, and the Church

MONDAYS 6-8PM

JANUARY 8 - MARCH 18
IN THE FELLOWSHIP HALL

Dinner Included | Free Childcare Available
For more info contact christie.palmer@erc.la

FINANCIAL *Peace* UNIVERSITY

Mondays, January 22 - March 18
6PM | In the Chapel

Free childcare is available with pre-registration at www.erc.la/childcare.
Contact: [Jill Gutierrez 4gutz@msn.com](mailto:Jill.Gutierrez4gutz@msn.com)

SCAN THE QR CODE FOR REGISTRATION



EMMANUEL CHURCH
15941 Virginia Ave. Paramount 90723, CA

Our Christian sympathy to Emma Martinez, Ivan & Roxy Velazquez, and family, on the passing of Emma's brother, Roxy's uncle, Benedicto Martinez Mendez, on Friday, November 24th. Services took place at 5:30pm on December 8, 2023, at Bellflower Brethren Church.

Our Christian sympathy to Albert and Sylvia Morales and family on the passing of Sylvia's mother, Esther Morgan, on Sunday, December 3rd.

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

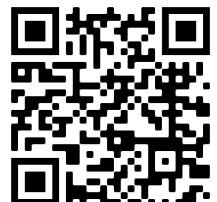
Vision Fund offering December 17

Weekly Offering

YTD Offering: \$3,028,244.18
YTD Budget: \$2,978,024.00

Last Week's Offering: \$38,057.65
2023 Weekly Budget: \$60,766.00

Scan to
GIVE



IG: @erclosangeles | FB: @ERCPARAMOUNT | YT: @ERCVideOLA

GREAT JOY OVERCOMES GREAT PAIN



Main takeaway- Jesus, the source of our greatest joy, has overcome sin, the source of our greatest pain.

Zechariah and Elizabeth experienced great pain. (Luke 1:6-7)

- They experienced the great pain of realizing they couldn't have children.
- In the midst of this pain, they sought the Lord.
- They were righteous in the sight of God, not because of their good deeds, but because they continued to seek God in the midst of hardship.

Zechariah doubted, Elizabeth believed. (Luke 1:18, 25)

- Zechariah questioned Gabriel. "How can I be sure of this?"
- Elizabeth received the news with faith. "The Lord has done this for me."
- God revealed his perfect plan to Zechariah and Elizabeth in his perfect timing.

Mary and Elizabeth's encounter (Luke 1:30-47)

- Mary receives the news from Gabriel with faith. "May your word to me be fulfilled."
- When Elizabeth and Mary draw near to each other, Elizabeth's baby leaps for joy.
- The presence of Jesus in Mary's womb was causing those nearby to experience joy.
- Elizabeth joyfully blesses Mary (verses 42-45)
- Mary joyfully praises God (verses 46-47)

Zechariah's response (Luke 1:67-79)

- Zechariah responds with a song of joyful praise
- John the Baptist is born, but Zechariah praises God for the news of Jesus first. (verses 68-69)
- John the Baptist would prepare the way for Jesus (verses 76-77)

The Joy of the Lord is our strength (Nehemiah 8)

- People of Israel heard God's Word and began to weep because they felt the weight of their sin.
- Nehemiah tells them not to be sad, for the joy of the Lord is their strength.
- The joy of the Lord is found in reading and studying God's Word.
- The joy of the Lord is not based on our emotions. It's based on the truth of who God is.
- The joy of the Lord is our strength for life.
- The joy of the Lord overcomes all of our pain and suffering.

Time of Reflection

- The Joy of the Lord is your strength. How will you seek the joy of the Lord this week?
 - We are called to receive and share the joy of the Lord. Who will you share this joyful news with this Christmas season?
-