
 Having entered into our 40 days of Lent, there are many liturgical events that will take place during these next six weeks. Our liturgies during this season highlight the journey of faith we all travel – but in a particular way we journey with those Candidates and Catechumens who enter into this final period of preparation for their full reception into the faith-life of our church. At our 9:00 am liturgy today (February 21st) we celebrate the **Rite of Sending** for our adult Catechumen, Mark John Exberger, and three children from our parish community: Jenna McCole, Joseph Schaaphok, and Gerardo Vargas.

With other Catechumens from throughout the diocese, they will celebrate the **Rite of Election** and be received by Bishop Salvatore Cordileone this afternoon at the Cathedral of Christ the Light (4:00 pm). It is a wonderful gathering of those who are to be fully **initiated** into our church on Holy Saturday night – and of the many sponsors and catechists who have played such an important role in their continuing formation.

Those **Catechumens**, who are preparing to be fully initiated into our Catholic-Christian faith at the Easter Vigil, will then be known as “**The Elect**” of the church, and enter into the final weeks of prayerful preparation for the sacraments of Baptism, Eucharist, and Confirmation. The **Candidates**, those who are already validly baptized into our Christian tradition, are also preparing for the sacraments of Eucharist and Confirmation. It is, of course, a unique period of time in the life of our Elect and we invite the full participation of our parish community in supporting him through our prayer and witness. All of us are called and invited to journey through this Lenten season on the way to the joy of Easter resurrection and new life. Let us travel together, lifting one another up in our prayer, on this pilgrim journey of faith, hope, and love.

Just a Reminder: We continue our practice of offering an evening mass on Wednesdays at 6:00 pm during lent, followed by our communal Soup Meal in Stack Center. Stations of the cross are celebrated on Friday afternoons at 2:15 pm. On Tuesday evenings, March 9th, 16th, 23rd, and 30th, Ruth Picha will lead Taize reflections on the Stations of the Cross (in the Casa Villanova Chapel). We also continue to participate in the annual Lenten Rice Bowl program and, for the 6th year, we will participate in the Alameda County Lenten Food Drive. Please refer to the specific information that follows in this bulletin for each of these activities.

I pray this Lenten season may be a most blessed one for all of us as we continue our journey of faith – seeking to build up and live in the kingdom of God as faithful witnesses to God’s love for us. Let us joyfully celebrate this sacred season – giving thanks to God for the gift of renewed life in Christ Jesus, our Lord and Savior.

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I want to express a word of gratitude to all of you who have supported the many extraordinary collections of late. The Haitian relief efforts have been tremendous, you’ve given to other special needs, and we Augustinians are most grateful for your contributions to the Augustinian Guild Appeal. May your great generosity bring you continued blessings in abundance !

Wishing you a most blessed Lenten season, Fr. Kevin, O.S.A.

Gospel for The Second Sunday of Lent (February 28th):

Gospel of Luke 9:28-36

Jesus took Peter, John, and James and went up the mountain to pray. While he was praying his face changed in appearance and his clothing became dazzling white. And behold, two men were conversing with him, Moses and Elijah, who appeared in glory and spoke of his exodus that he was going to accomplish in Jerusalem. Peter and his companions had been overcome by sleep, but becoming fully awake, they saw his glory and the two men standing with him. As they were about to part from him, Peter said to Jesus, "Master, it is good that we are here; let us make three tents, one for you, one for Moses, and one for Elijah." But he did not know what he was saying. While he was still speaking, a cloud came and cast a shadow over them, and they became frightened when they entered the cloud. Then from the cloud came a voice that said, "This is my chosen Son; listen to him." After the voice had spoken, Jesus was found alone. They fell silent and did not at that time tell anyone what they had seen.



LENTEN SOUP MEAL

Please join us for a simple meal of soup and bread each Wednesday during Lent. It will be a time for fellowship and families coming together. Our Soup Meal follows the 6:00pm Mass. This Wednesday's Soup Meal (**February 24th**) is sponsored by the Parish Staff and volunteers. We thank the volunteers for their ministry of hospitality for this meal. Donations will be accepted to benefit those most in need in our local and global community.

WORLD DAY OF THE SICK MASS
February 27th, 11:00 am
Cathedral of Christ the Light

The Order of Malta Health Clinic at the Cathedral is coordinating the second annual Diocesan World Day of the Sick Mass on Saturday, **February 27th** at 11:00am. The principal celebrant will be Bishop Cordileone. The Sacrament of the Sick will be administered to all who suffer from a serious acute or chronic illness.

Special seating and an area for wheelchairs will be set aside for those who will receive the Sacrament. Please arrive by 10:30am to assure access to these areas.

Parking, including handicapped spaces, will be available in the Cathedral garage free of charge to the first 200 cars. Attendants will be available to those who require assistance.

Mini tours of the Cathedral will be available from 10:00 -10:45am before the service and 30-minutes after the Mass.

LENTEN FASTING AND ABSTINENCE

Fasting: Everyone eighteen years of age and older, but under the age of sixty, is bound to fast on Ash Wednesday and Good Friday. On these days, the law allows only one full meal a day, but does not prohibit taking some food during the day, so long as this intake does not constitute another full meal. Taking liquids during the day is permitted. When health or ability to work would be seriously affected, the law does not oblige.

Abstinence: Everyone fourteen years of age and older is bound to abstain from meat on Ash Wednesday and Fridays of Lent. In the spirit of penance, the faithful should not lightly excuse themselves from the obligation.



ALAMEDA COUNTY FOOD BANK
LENTEN FOOD DRIVE

Lent is traditionally marked by prayer, almsgiving and fasting. For some of our neighbors, however, fasting is not a choice. Since 2001, the Alameda County Food Bank Lenten Food Drive has helped our neighbors who are impacted by hunger.

We will once again have red barrels at the entrances to the church to support this Lenten Food Drive. The following is a list of the most needed food drive items: Canned Fruit and Vegetables, Canned Meats and Fish, Peanut Butter, Pasta, Beans, Rice, Canned Soup, Low-sugar Cereal and Oatmeal, Tomato Sauce, Powdered Milk. Thank you for your support.



STATIONS OF THE CROSS

Stations of the Cross are offered at Our Lady of Grace, Friday's at 2:30pm and Transfiguration Church, Friday's at 7:30pm during Lent.

**VOICES OF PEACE
PAX CHRISTI/SOCIAL JUSTICE
LENTEN REFLECTION SERIES**

During this season of Lent we contemplate Jesus' message of reconciliation and peace. This message pervades the teachings of all of the major religions. For our Lenten reflection series this year, we will hear four inspiring speakers from several different religious traditions—Catholic, Muslim, Presbyterian, and Jewish—speak about how their faith addresses this message.

Come listen to our speakers, and as you hear how the "voices of Peace" are a common thread among various religions, your own faith in Jesus, your understanding of other religious faith, and your commitment to Gospel peacemaking will be deepened.

All speakers will present on Wednesday evenings at 7:30pm after the 6:00pm Mass and Soup Meal in Stack Center on **March 3rd, 10th, 17th and 24th**. Invite your friends!

This series is sponsored by the OLG Pax Christi/Social Justice group.

**COME AWAY AND REST AWHILE
Retreat for Catechists and Parish Ministers**

This retreat will provide an opportunity to explore lament in the context of Holy Week. Come out of the desert into the mystery! Morning hospitality and lunch included. Suggested donation: \$30.00. Facilitator, Robyn Lang. Location: Shrine of St. Joseph, Guardian of the Redeemer, 544 West Cliff Dr. Santa Cruz. RSVP or for more information, contact Robyn Lang (510) 582-9266 or olgrec@sbcglobal.net

ANNUAL BISHOPS APPEAL

"To Make Christ Better Known: The Campaign for Catholic Parishes and Education." The Appeal helps inner-city Catholic schools and other Catholic educational programs, economically struggling parishes, vocations, seminary education, priest retirement, and family ministries, including CYO, Youth and Family Ministry, and Respect Life. Your gift to the Appeal is a way to share with our Catholic neighbors, for us to know Christ better and to help others know him.

STEWARDSHIP REFLECTION

Stewardship of treasure involves trust in God. You have to really believe in God's Providence and trust that if you give ten percent of your income to the Church and charity, for example, God will help you live on the rest.

In gratitude for God's gifts of "Treasure" to us, we gratefully returned to God's church in the **Offerings of February 14th :**

Envelopes/Loose Checks (238)	\$ 6,121.00
Loose cash:	624.00
Total Offering:	\$ 6,745.00
Year-to-date (7weeks)	\$ 59,628.00

(Weekly average: \$8,518.00)

May God bless your continuing generosity.



Your Prayers Are Requested

Please lift up in your prayer those many among us who are ill and those who have asked for our prayerful remembrance:

- | | |
|-----------------|---------------|
| Don Anderson | Cindy Kathain |
| Lloyd Bauerly | Janis Lococo |
| Shirley Blake | Pat Lopez |
| Lucy Bruni | Maria Ortega |
| Carol De Cruz | Sylvia Pettit |
| Doug Foxworthy | Mary Schenone |
| Paul Freres | Tula Rough |
| Rita Freres | Clara Walters |
| D'Riece Gundred | |

As we pray for an end to war and violence in our world, let us remember in prayer those family members of our parish community serving on active duty, including:

- | | |
|---------------|----------------|
| DAVID BANTA | KEVIN DIAS |
| DAVID SANCHEZ | LINDA SAUNDERS |

Please remember in your prayers the recently deceased in our parish families and all who mourn the loss of a loved one.

Victims of Starvation

EVENTS IN THE COMMUNITY

CHURCH OF THE TRANSFIGURATION PARISH MISSION

Transfiguring Our Community Through Faith: Monday, **March 8th** to Thursday, **March 11th**, evening sessions Monday through Wednesday at 7:00pm, Thursday, Reconciliation Service at 7:00pm; morning sessions Tuesday through Thursday – Mass at 8:00am followed by coffee and pastries, sessions beginning at 9:00am. Come, meet Father Tom Bonacci, CP – Let's grow together as a community of faith.

SOCIETY OF ST. VINCENT DE PAUL GUEST CHEF DINNER

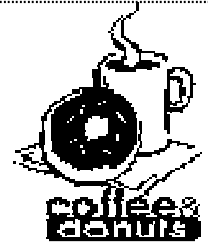
Wednesday, **February 24th** is the date for this year's fundraiser. The Guest Chef Dinner this year features Chef Dean Dupuis of PICAN. Chef Dupuis will prepare this special dinner with the SVdP Kitchen on Champions Culinary Program students. This special evening includes a four-course dinner with wine (6:30-8:30pm). Location is the St. Vincent de Paul Free Dining Room, 675 23rd Street, Oakland. Event price is \$72.00 per person, two people for \$125.00, and a table of 8 for \$475.00. For additional information or to purchase tickets, please call (510) 636-4261 call

VOCATION DISCERNMENT RETREAT

The Augustinian community invites men between the age of 18 and 40 to take part in a Vocation Discernment Retreat at St. Augustine Monastery, San Diego, **March 19th-21st**. Participants will pray, recreate, and eat with the Augustinian community during the weekend and observe their ministries in the San Diego area. See one of our Augustinians after Mass for more details about registration.

COME JOIN US

All are invited after the
7:30, 9:00 and 11:00 AM
Sunday Masses to
Gather in Stack Center for
coffee and donuts.



This is a great opportunity to
visit and to meet **new** friends!
Plan to stop in - we look forward
to seeing you there!

New Parishioner Registration takes place the
second and fourth Sunday of the month during
Coffee & Donuts in Stack Center.

ST. VINCENT DE PAUL EXCITING CHANGES

We are pleased to announce the addition of a once a month Saturday meeting for our Society of St. Vincent de Paul in order to accommodate those members of the parish community who cannot join with us at our Tuesday afternoon meeting. Our first Saturday meeting will be this Saturday, **February 27th** at 10:00am in the Parish Office. The March schedule is Tuesday, **March 9th** at 3:30pm and Saturday, **March 27th** at 10:00am in the Parish Office. The meetings last usually one and a half hours. For further information please contact Walt Moresi, President, at (510)247-8886. Please join us in our efforts to help the poor and homeless in our community.

COLLECTION FOR THE CHURCH IN CENTRAL AND EASTERN EUROPE

This collection supports essential pastoral work as well as scholarships for Catholic students, innovative Catholic communications, and Catholic social and humanitarian programs. The Church of this region remains in great need, and your assistance will give faith to the future. Thank you for your generous support.

Mass Intentions for the Week



Please note: During the school year, our 8:30am Monday mass will be celebrated in the church. Unless otherwise noted all other weekday masses will be held in the Chapel.

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 22nd (Church)
THE CHAIR OF PETER, APOSTLE

8:30am David Castro (D)

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 23rd
Polycarp, bishop, martyr

7:00am Jose Daniel Tellez (D)

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 24th

7:00am Mary Lotz (D)
6:00pm Eve Brito (D)

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 25th

7:00am Lee, Yaka & Frank Music (D)

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 26th

7:00am Rose Nicasio (D)

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 27th

8:30am Gaitano Fillari (D)

EXECUTION ALERTS

The following executions are scheduled to take place in **February**:

February 24th Hank Skinner TX

We ask your prayers for these persons, for the victims of their crimes, and for their families.

THANK THEM WITH YOUR SUPPORT

Please support our advertisers who make our weekly bulletin possible and so generously support our parish. We are grateful to them!

This week we extend our gratitude to:

**AL'S MARKET
JERRY & NANCY**

READINGS FOR THE WEEK:

February 22nd through February 28th

- Monday: 1 Peter 5:1-4; Matthew 16:13-19
- Tuesday: Isaiah 55:10-11; Matthew 6:7-15
- Wednesday: Jonah 3:1-10; Luke 11:29-32
- Thursday: Esther C:12,14-16,23-25;
Matthew 7:7-12
- Friday: Ezekiel 18:21-28; Matthew 5:20-26
- Saturday: Deuteronomy 26:16-19;
Matthew 5:43-48
- Sunday: Genesis 15:5-12;
Philippians; 3:17-4:1; Luke 9:28-36



THIS WEEK

Sunday, February 22nd:
Outreach Sunday

- Confirmation and Youth Group
10:15—Gym
- REC Classes
10:30am—Stack Center

Tuesday, February 23rd:

- Bible Study
9:15am—Parish Office
- REC Classes
3:45pm—Stack Center

Wednesday, February 24th:

- Lenten Soup Meal
After 6:00pm Mass

Thursday, February 25th:

- Serenity Group
8:15pm—Stack Center

Saturday, February 27th:

- Society of St. Vincent de Paul Meeting
10:00am—Stack Center