



Epiphany Blessing

Many thanks to all of you who were so generous over Christmas with service, gifts, and cards. We continue our Celebration today with Epiphany when the Magi came to Jesus and he is made manifest for the world. We Franciscans have a tradition on Epiphany of picking saints, Scripture and a deceased brother to pray for during the New Year. We gathered to give thanks with all our volunteers on Saturday to celebrate the greatest gift of all, Jesus. I will never forget Epiphany in 2016 when I and our pilgrims had Mass with Pope Francis at St. Peter's Basilica in Rome. Choirs from around the world sang as we sat so close to the Altar for the liturgy. There was a wonderful procession celebrating the spread of Christianity with groups from all over Italy dressed in period clothing. I really understood the significance of Epiphany as that celebration where Jesus is revealed to the World as the star beacons the new king to the world. A King who would change the world and the gifts of Gold, Frankincense, and Myrrh signify his royal throne, divinity, and saving death.

Pilgrimage to the Holy Land in October 2018

Join Fr. Tom for a unforgettable Pilgrimage to the Holy Land. We will visit Petra, Nazareth, Jerusalem, and Bethlehem. We will visit Cana where Jesus performed his first miracle, Mount Tabor, the place of the Transfiguration, Caesarea Philippi where Peter was named as the rock on which the church would be built, at Capernaum we see where Jesus centered his ministry and we will take a boat ride on the Sea of Galilee. We will go to the Mount of Olives entering Jerusalem to walk the Via Delarosa to the Basilica of the Holy Sepulcher. We will visit the oldest church in the Holy Land as we enter the Church of the Nativity in Bethlehem to visit where Christ was born. There is much more we will see and experience.

When: October 16-28, 2018

Accommodations: 4 Star Hotels

Price: \$3499 includes Air, Hotel, Breakfast and Dinner, Transportation and Guides.

Hopes in the New Year

My prayer is that Our Lady of Grace will continue to grow in our devotion to Our Lady fostering grace and peace as we worship her Son Jesus. I pray our community be a place of healing for broken hearts and bodies as love drives out all fear. When I offered the Immaculate Conception Novena I prayed that devotion to Our Blessed Mother may fill this sanctuary of prayer with faithful to adore Our Lord Jesus uniting in love through Him, with Him, and in Him.

With the help of so many faithful volunteers we continue to form families with Whole Family Catechesis Gatherings where we build community, pray and share our faith. We are building up Disciples through Worship, Bible Studies, Service, Devotions, Adoration, and Praise.

We will continue to evaluate and improve our facility. I hope to hire an Architect to evaluate our buildings and develop a comprehensive plan for our facilities. We will work on curb appeal for the grounds in front of the church which was compromised by the drought destroying our sprinkling system.

Peace,

Fr. Tom

Gospel for the Second Sunday in Ordinary Time (January 14th)

John 1:35-42

John was standing with two of his disciples, and as he watched Jesus walk by, he said, "Behold, the Lamb of God." The two disciples heard what he said and followed Jesus. Jesus turned and saw them following him and said to them, "What are you looking for?" They said to him, "Rabbi" — which translated means Teacher —, "where are you staying?" He said to them, "Come, and you will see." So they went and saw where Jesus was staying, and they stayed with him that day. It was about four in the afternoon. Andrew, the brother of Simon Peter, was one of the two who heard John and followed Jesus. He first found his own brother Simon and told him, "We have found the Messiah" — which is translated Christ —. Then he brought him to Jesus. Jesus looked at him and said, "You are Simon the son of John; you will be called Cephas" — which is translated Peter.

2018 CALENDARS AVAILABLE

Catholic Extension 2018 Family Appointment Calendars are available. We are grateful and we extend our sincere appreciation to the Holy Angels Catholic Funeral, Cremation & Cemetery Services of the Diocese of Oakland for again sponsoring the 2018 calendars. If you have not picked up a copy in the church you may find one in the parish office. *Please only one per household.*

ICF DINNER

Start the New Year off with a Pizza/Salad dinner with the ICF on **January 11th**. Doors open at 6:00pm, dinner is at 6:30. Make reservations with Stella Taddei at 510-581-5863 or Juanita Madrid at 510-582-7242 by Sunday, January 7th. Buon Appetito!

EVANGELIZATION CORNER

Youth Ministry



Alpha Retreat: February 2-3, at OLG
Next Meetings: January 7th, 21st & 28th

1st Holy Communion

Next Meetings: January 14th *We Gather*
 January 28th *We Listen*

Whole Family Catechesis

Next Meetings: January 7th *Epiphany Celebration*
 January 21st *Building the Reign of God*

For more information, contact the Evangelization Office at 510-582-9266.



RCIA CORNER
Knowing Your Faith Series

We offer a warm, accepting setting in small group discussions to find ways to deepen our faith and to nurture those seeking membership into the Catholic Church. Our next meeting will be on **January 9th** at 6:00pm. For more information, please contact Marie at rcia@olgcv.org



YEARLY CONTRIBUTION STATEMENTS

For your convenience in preparing your tax return, a contribution statement for 2017 will be prepared at your request. Please phone the Parish Office at 537-0806, with your name and envelope number. Your statement will be available for you to pick up once it has been signed.

THANK YOU FROM CASTRO VALLEY CHRISTMAS OUTREACH

Through your generosity & your compassion, we helped 21 people & 5 families from the CV School District enjoy their holidays. We provided over 18 apple boxes of food which had been sorted and boxed by students in our community. We delivered 15 Christmas trees. We purchased, donated, wrapped and delivered 165 gifts. And, we donated \$275 gift cards per family. We also were able to provide St. Vincent de Paul with over \$300 in gift cards. Thank you!

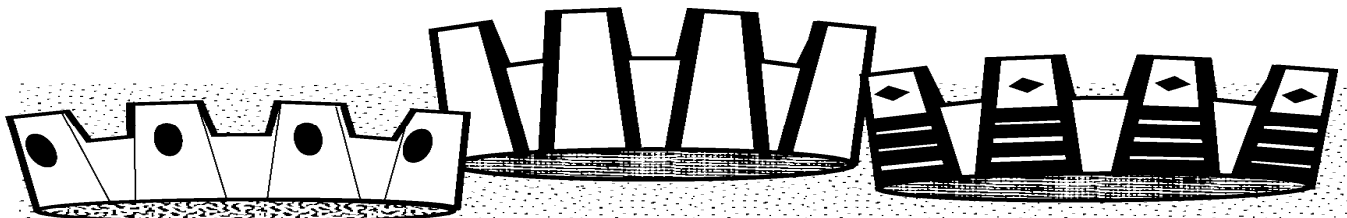


CYO GIRLS BASKETBALL REGISTRATION

Registration is available online for *CYO Girls Basketball* at www.olgcvcyo.siplay.com & click "Login". All players who did not play in our fall program will need to create a new account prior to completing their first registration within the system. Girl's Basketball is open for grades 2nd-8th. Fees for the 2018 year will be \$190.00 with a \$50.00 uniform fee. **\$15 discount if registered before January 16th.** For more info, email olgcycv@gmail.com

The Lord IS CALLING You!!?? MEN'S FAITH SHARE

All men of the parish are invited to join Our Men's Faith Share and Bible Study every Tuesday evening from 7 – 8:15pm in Stack Center-Room 7. Each week Fr. Paul leads a discussion on the meaning and application to our lives for the upcoming Sunday Mass readings. **COME & YOU WILL SEE!** (Jn 1:39). Next meeting is **January 9th**.



CHRISTMAS OFFERING RESULTS

Thank you to everyone who contributed to our Christmas Collection.. Our Christmas Offering for 2017 totaled \$30,012 compared to \$29,297 in 2016 against a Budget of \$29,000. As always we thank you for the generosity of your gift and ask God to bless your continuing generosity.

2016 PLATE COLLECTION RESULTS

Total Sunday Plate Offering 2017: \$454,820
 Total Sunday Plate Budget 2017: \$438,000
 Total Sunday Plate Offering 2016: \$432,766

We are most grateful to those who have consistently supported our Parish and have maintained their level of giving. For those in the Parish not using the offering envelope we ask you to prayerfully consider committing your support to our ministries, liturgies, outreach and all that a Parish is expected to provide its members and the members of the larger community in which we reside. May we continue to be good stewards of so great a gift and remember that God will not be outdone in generosity.

MAINTENANCE FUND 2017 RESULTS

Total 2017 Collection	\$25,168
Total 2016 Collection	\$19,976
Budget 2017	\$25,000

We are grateful to all those who regularly contribute to the Maintenance Fund through the monthly envelope offering. As you are aware in your own homes utilities, property taxes, maintenance expenses have continued to rise. If you are not regularly contributing to this funds please consider a monthly contribution.

**HIGH SCHOOL TEENS: GOT QUESTIONS?
 ALPHA - JANUARY 7th**

Join us **tonight** from 6-8pm in Stack Center to share a **Meal**, watch an exciting **Video** & discuss in small groups the video and **our Faith in God** as we have **Fun** & make new **Friends!** Our hope for those teens who attend ALPHA is to have a deep experience with God as we explore our faith and answer questions in a comfortable setting.

SUNDAY COLLECTION

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.

Offerings of December 31st:

Sunday Plate:	\$ 923900
Last Year this week	\$ 3,820.00
Weekly Budgeted Goal:	\$ 8,920.00
Year-to-date this year:	\$454,820.00
Year-to-date last year:	\$432,766.00

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:

- | | |
|----------------------|--------------------|
| Glen Alcorn | Dieter Hahn |
| Kathleen Andrews | Don Jordan |
| Susanna Ax | Elaine Jordan |
| James Barthman | Kathi Leal |
| Jackson Tyler Bishop | Laura Martell |
| Leonardo Cabardo | Alice McLaughlin |
| Antonio O. Chocha | Rosy Pereira |
| Jose Cisneros | Stephanie Rosevear |
| Claudia Dobbs | David Rountree |
| Lynn Franks | Florence Sharp |
| Bill Fuller | Mercedes Tellez |
| Byron Griffith | Iwan Tunggal |

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

- VIRGINIA CHILDRESS**
FR. PAUL QUANTE, OSA
RALPH VELASCO
BRIAN CRUDO
CARL ESPOSITO
VICTIMS OF VIOLENCE
VICTIMS OF CALIFORNIA FIRES



FLOWER REMEMBRANCE FUND

The outdoor flower pots have been filled and maintained during the Christmas season in loving memory of Paul, Joan and Michael Frumkin. We are grateful to Cec Penland for the donation and continued commitment to this environment ministry.

Do you have some spare blossoms that you can share? Our Environment Committee needs your help to decorate the altar area each week, either by bringing in flowers from your yard or through a monetary donation towards the purchase of flowers. Flower donation envelopes can be found at the entrances of the church to make a donation in memory of a loved one. If you have any questions feel free to contact Jay at 537-0806. Your donation in honor of your loved one will be mentioned in the bulletin.

ANNUAL SEMINARY COLLECTION

Next weekend (**January 13th-14th**) our diocese asks us to help with the work of education for tomorrow's priests through our contributions to the Seminary Collection. Your prayers and support for our seminarians are a tremendous encouragement to the candidates. Your generous contributions assist these seminarians on their way to the priesthood. Our seminarians are dedicated, enthusiastic and most willing to be of service. Your kindness, generosity, and prayers are deeply appreciated. Envelopes are in the pews for your use.

NEW PARISHIONER REGISTRATION

We extend a warm welcome to new parishioners and guests. Please stop by Stack Center **January 14th**, from 10:00am-11:00am. to register or update your information. A Hospitality volunteer will greet you at the New Parishioner Registration Table.

WINGS

WOMEN IN GOD'S SPIRIT

We invite all women to join us for WINGS (Women in God's Spirit).

WINGS is a faith enhancement group that encourages spiritual growth through prayer, scripture study, Catechesis, life sharing and community.

We will meet at Transfiguration Church
Marian Room (Hall)

Next Meeting: **January 18th, 2018**
9:00am to 11:15am

Speaker: Krista Lucchesi

Topic: Spirituality through Bible Stories

THIS WEEK

Sunday, January 7th:

The Epiphany of the Lord

- Coffee & Donuts
After 9:30am Mass--Stack Center
- Liturgy of the Word
9:30am--Augustine Center
- Whole Family Catechesis
10:50am--Stack Center
- ALPHA/Youth Ministry
6:00pm--Stack Center

Monday, January 8th:

- Women's Evening Bible Study
7:00pm--Stack Center, OLG Room

Tuesday, January 9th:

- Tuesday Morning Bible Study
9:30am--Parish Office
- RCIA Inquiry
6:00pm--Stack Center
- Men's Faith Share
7:00pm--Stack Center, Room 7

Thursday, January 11th:

- ICF Meeting & Dinner
6:00pm--Stack Center
- Adoration
7:00pm--Church
- AA Serenity Group
7:30pm--Augustine Center, Room A2

Saturday, January 13th:

- Adoration
8:45am--Church

Sunday, January 14th:

- Liturgy of the Word
9:30am--Augustine Center
- Coffee & Donuts
After 9:30am Mass--Stack Center
- New Parishioner Registration
10:00am--Stack Center
- First Holy Communion Class
10:50am--Stack Center
- ALPHA/Youth Ministry
6:00pm--Stack Center

Mass for the Intentions  *for the Week*

All Masses are celebrated in the Church.

MONDAY, January 8th

THE BAPTISM OF THE LORD

8:15am Al McCarthy (D)

TUESDAY, January 9th

8:15am Doris Petersen (L)

WEDNESDAY, January 10th

8:15am Tony Filipich (D)

THURSDAY, January 11th

8:15am Rudy & Augie Enriquez (D)

FRIDAY, January 12th

8:15am Richard Benson (D)

SATURDAY, January 13th

St. Hilary, Bishop, Doctor of the Church

8:15am Fr. Anthony Herrera (D)

SUNDAY, January 14th

7:30am Donna Buckingham (D)

9:30am Margaret Speranza (L)

1:30pm Lucy Covarrubias (L)

2018 WALK FOR LIFE WEST COAST

Join us for the 14th Annual Walk for Life West Coast in San Francisco on **January 27th** at 11:00am. Rally starts at Civic Center Plaza, walking down Market Street (2 miles). Ends at Justin Herman Plaza/Ferry Building. BART stations at both locations. Ample parking. For more information visit WalkForLifeWC.com

HOMEWORK HELPERS NEEDED!

Our 2 oldest refugee children, Harriet (1st grade) and Reponse (kindergarten) are in need of someone to help them with their homework. There is no adult at home who is able to assist them, and as a result, they are not turning in their homework packets. They could be making better progress in school if they had someone to help them with their assignments & read with them after school 1x or 2x/week. Let me know if you would be willing to work with them for a weekly 45 min. session in a room at their school, Allendale, in Oakland (near 35th Ave.) You could choose one of these times: 2:50–3:35pm on Mon, Tues, or Thur, or from 1:25–2:10pm on Wed. Contact Dennise Burgess at dcburgess1@juno.com or 510-538-6071.

READINGS FOR THE WEEK:

January 8th through January 14th

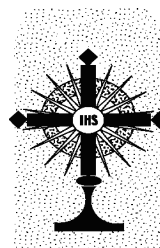
Monday: Isaiah 42:1-4, 6-7; Mark 1:7-11
 Tuesday: 1 Samuel 1:9-20; Mark 1:21-28
 Wednesday: 1 Samuel 3:1-10, 19-20; Mark 1:29-39
 Thursday: 1 Samuel 4:1-11; Mark 1:40-45
 Friday: 1 Samuel 8:4-7, 10-22a; Mark 2:1-12
 Saturday: 1 Samuel 9:1-4, 17-19; 10:1a; Mark 2:13-17
 Sunday: 1 Samuel 3:3b-10, 19; 1 Corinthians 6:13c-15a, 17-20; John 1:35-42

Accept our gifts also, Lord



©Religious Graphics, Ltd.

ADORATION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT



Join us every Saturday for Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament following the 8:15am Mass, and every Thursday at 7:00pm in the Church. Also, there will be Adoration every 1st Friday of the month at 7:00pm.

ROSARY BEFORE MASS



Come join in prayer of the Rosary 30 minutes before each of the weekend liturgies. Pray for our Parish and our youth as they journey with the Alpha Youth program. All are welcome!

RELEVANT HEART RADIO (Formally Immaculate Heart Radio)

Immaculate Heart Radio has been changed to Relevant Heart Radio. It still brings you the best in Catholic Radio 24/7! Playing on 1260AM and dedicated to sharing the heart of the Catholic Faith and changing lives.

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:

PETE'S HARDWARE