
 This past week we experienced an important rite-of-passage (**Rite of Sending**), for those sisters and brothers discerning their call from Christ to join our community as fellow Catholic Christians. The parish community of **Our Lady of Grace**, sent our Catechumens: Emmitt Hancock, Abigail McKinzie, Sarah McKinzie, Alexander Maestas, Alysia Maestas, Sabrina Maestas, Diego Anguiano, Adiana "Addy" Eash, Benjamin Jacinto and Jeremy Dugan to our Shepherd, Bishop Michael Barber. Please keep our Candidates and Catechumens in your prayers as they journey with us this Lenten Season, through our desert and Calvary to the Hope of Christians, Jesus Christ and His Resurrection.

Ash Wednesday reminded us that the Church invited us to embark on a journey, the journey of Lent, which culminates with the liturgical celebration of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ rising from the dead. We are a baptized people but haven't yet lived fully the life of a Christian. Lent calls us to a conversion, a change of heart, and a fuller living of the Gospel. In today's Gospel we see Jesus struggling against temptation. He will help us in our struggles against temptation and sin and to encourage us to help others.

In Sermon 798, St. Augustine shares his thoughts with us on the Gospel for the Second Sunday of Lent - [Mark 9:2-10, Jesus was transfigured before their eyes](#):

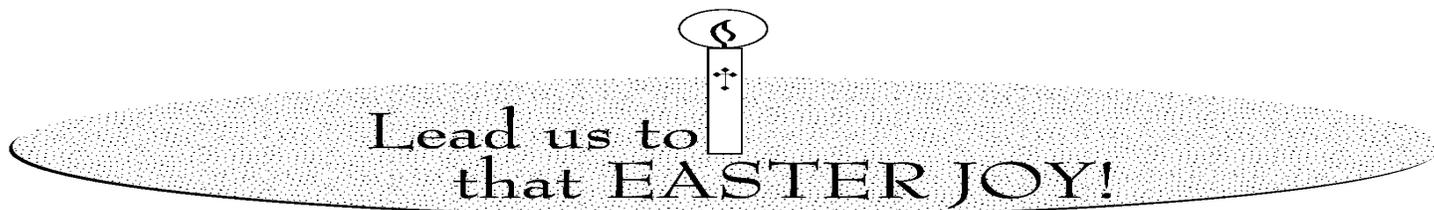
*"When the holy gospel was read, we heard about the great vision on the mountain, where the Lord Jesus showed himself to the three disciples, Peter, James, and John. His countenance shone brilliantly like the sun; that symbolizes the glory of the gospel. His garments became as white as snow; that symbolizes the purification of the Church, which is told through the prophet, 'Even if your sins are like scarlet, I will make them as white as snow.' Elijah and Moses were talking to him, because the grace of the gospel is attested by the law and the prophets: the law represented by Moses, the prophets by Elijah, to put it very briefly. There are, you see, some favors of God received through the holy martyr, which have still to be recounted. So let's listen.*

Peter thought it would be a good idea to make three tabernacles, one for Moses, one for Elijah, and one for Christ. He was delighted with the solitude of the mountain; he was tired of the rough-and-tumble of human affairs. But why was he proposing three tabernacles? It can only have been because he was still unaware of the unity of law, prophets, and gospel. Anyway, a cloud soon put him right. While he was talking, it says, behold, a bright cloud overshadowed them. There you are, the cloud formed one tabernacle; why were you looking for three?

*And a voice from the cloud: 'This is my beloved Son, with whom I am well pleased; this one you must hear.' Elijah speaks, but this one you must hear. Moses speaks, but this one you must hear. The prophets speak, the law speaks, but this one you must hear, he being the voice of the law and the tongue of the prophets. He was to be heard in them; he appeared, when he judged the time to be ripe, in himself. This one you must hear. This one let us hear. When the gospel was speaking, imagine it was the cloud; from it a voice boomed out to us. This one let us hear; let us do what he says, let us hope for what he has promised."*

Let us pray for one another during this Holy Season, especially for the poor.

In Christ Jesus and St. Augustine,  
Fr. Gregory Heidenblut, O.S.A.



**LENTEN LECTURE SERIES**

*Reclaiming Our First Love:  
God's Call to Holiness of Life*

All are invited to Fr. Greg's Lenten Lecture series during Lent following our soup meals.

This lecture series is intended to provide proven methods and examples, based on the teachings found in Sacred Scripture and the Church, on how to reclaim our first love - Jesus Christ - and how to live a life founded on God's word and the Tradition of the Catholic Church.

The lecture will begin at the end of our soup meal; around 7:00 p.m. and last until 8:30 p.m. The remaining evenings for this lecture series are as follows:

- Wednesday, **March 4th** - Jesus, Our Model for Life as Catholic Christians
- Wednesday, **March 11th** - Where It All Begins: Following Jesus and Asceticism
- Wednesday, **March 25th** - Socio-political dimension of the radical following of Jesus

The lecture series is intended to provide a deeper understanding and more intimate relationship with our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ.



**LENTEN WEDNESDAY SOUP MEAL**

Please plan on joining 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, **March 4th** Soup Meal is sponsored by school community. We thank them for their ministry of hospitality for this meal.

*Donations will be accepted to benefit Operation Rice Bowl.*

**STATIONS OF THE CROSS**



Stations of the Cross are offered at Our Lady of Grace, Fridays at 2:30pm by our school community and 7:00pm in Spanish by our Hispanic Small Christian Community. Transfiguration Church offers Stations of the Cross at 7:30pm on Fridays.

**BUNDLE SUNDAY IS COMING !**

It's time for Spring Cleaning! The St. Vincent de Paul trailer will be at Our Lady of Grace the weekend of **March 14th & 15th** to accept your donations. Conference Members will be available to help you carry the items from your car after all the Masses on that weekend. Please note: Furniture, mattresses, appliances, and other bulky items cannot be accepted. However e-waste items will be accepted. Please do not drop off prior to March 14th or after 1:00pm on March 15th..

Thank you for helping us to help others.

**OLG FOLK GROUP CD**

*Our Lord's Grace*

During this Holy Season of Lent allow the Folk Group's music to accompany you through this time of prayer and Reconciliation with God and lead you into the joy of Easter and Pentecost. You will find on this 16-track CD songs like "Day of Peace," "I Hunger and Thirst," "My God, My God" and "O Sacred Head," and many more. The CD is available for purchase in the parish office. Share this prayerful gift with your family and friends and don't forget yourself! The CDs are \$15.00. Proceeds from the sales benefit upgrading the OLG sound system.

Thanks for your support and may God's mercy and peace embrace you during this most holy Lenten Season.

*Our Lady of Grace Folk Group*

**FROM THE ITALIAN CATHOLIC FEDERATION**

Calling all Irish and those who wish to be Irish, come join the ICF as we celebrate St. Patrick's Day. Our Corned Beef and Cabbage dinner will be Thursday **March 12th** at 6:30pm. For dessert we have our St. Joseph's table from which you can purchase homemade goodies. The proceeds from this sale are donated to St. Vincent de Paul at Transfiguration parish. Please call either Stella Taddei at 510-581-5863 or Juanita Madrid at 510-582-7242 for reservations. Deadline is Sunday, **March 8th**. Happy St. Paddy's Day!

**REGULATIONS FOR LENT**

**Abstinence and Fasting:**

Abstinence from eating meat is to be observed on Ash Wednesday, Good Friday, and all Fridays during Lent. This applies to all persons 14 and older. The law of fasting on Ash Wednesday and Good Friday applies to all persons 18 or older and younger than 59.

Fasting means that one full meatless meal per day may be eaten. Two other meatless meals may be taken sufficient to maintain strength, but together they should not equal a full meal. Liquids, including milk and fruit juice, may be taken between meals. If health or ability to work is affected, fasting does not oblige.

Private, self-imposed observance of fasting on Lenten weekdays is strongly recommended. Parents should ensure that children who are not bound by the laws of fast and abstinence are taught an authentic sense of penance, conversion and reconciliation.

**Lenten Observance:**

Catholics are encouraged to participate in Holy Mass and in the Sacrament of Penance during Lent, and parishes are encouraged to provide regular and frequent opportunities for such participation. Likewise encouraged are devotions such as Stations of the Cross, vigils and prayer services (with Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament, if opportune). Traditional practices - including increased prayer, Scripture and spiritual reading, alms, personal self-denial in food and drink, increased care and service to the sick and needy - are also suggested.

**Easter Duty:**

All initiated Catholics are bound by the obligations of receiving Communion at least once a year and to confess sacramentally all serious sins not previously acknowledged in individual Confession. This precept must be fulfilled during the Easter duty season, which is from the first Sunday of Lent until Trinity Sunday.

**PRE-BAPTISM CLASS FOR PARENTS AND GODPARENTS**

If you are wishing to have your child, ages infant to six years baptized, parents and godparents need to attend a pre-baptism class. You also need to be registered members of the parish for at least three months. Email Jay or call her 537-0806 for information. The next Pre-Baptism Class will be held **March 3rd** at 7:00pm in the Parish Office.

**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 February 22nd**

Sunday Plate:	\$ 7,841.00
Last Year this week	\$ 7,425.00
<b>Weekly Budgeted Goal:</b>	<b>\$ 8,815.00</b>
Year-to-date this year:	\$ 66,267.00
Year-to-date last year:	\$ 63,208.00

February Budgeted Expenses \$60,000.00

*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:

- |                  |                  |
|------------------|------------------|
| Jose Cisneros    | Raymond Lowe     |
| Kathleen Denning | Richard Martin   |
| Estela Enriquez  | Florence Sharp   |
| Mary Franks      | Josephine Sisler |
| Byron Griffith   | James Van Wert   |
| Liz Griffith     | Yvonne Wheeler   |
| Nicholas Guinea  |                  |

*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 SANCHEZ | MICHAEL SANCHEZ |
|---------------|-----------------|

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

**21 COPTIC CHRISTIANS IN LIBYA**  
**PETER GRGUREVIC**

**Gospel for The Third Sunday of Lent  
(March 8th) John 2:13-25**

Since the Passover of the Jews was near, Jesus went up to Jerusalem. He found in the temple area those who sold oxen, sheep, and doves, as well as the money changers seated there. He made a whip out of cords and drove them all out of the temple area, with the sheep and oxen, and spilled the coins of the money changers and overturned their tables, and to those who sold doves he said, "Take these out of here, and stop making my Father's house a marketplace." His disciples recalled the words of Scripture, Zeal for your house will consume me. At this the Jews answered and said to him, "What sign can you show us for doing this?" Jesus answered and said to them, "Destroy this temple and in three days I will raise it up." The Jews said, "This temple has been under construction for forty-six years, and you will raise it up in three days?" But he was speaking about the temple of his body. Therefore, when he was raised from the dead, his disciples remembered that he had said this, and they came to believe the Scripture and the word Jesus had spoken.

While he was in Jerusalem for the feast of Passover, many began to believe in his name when they saw the signs he was doing. But Jesus would not trust himself to them because he knew them all, and did not need anyone to testify about human nature. He himself understood it well.

**HOMELESSNESS IN OUR MIDST**

Are you concerned about the growing problems of poverty and homelessness in our community? Do you wonder about the primary causes of homelessness today? Do you know how agencies in our area help the homeless and those at risk for becoming homeless? Are you interested in being part of the solution?

If so, then come to a Forum on Homelessness at OLG Church. Listen to first hand accounts of people who have struggled with poverty and homelessness as well as to representatives of 3 agencies who serve the poor in our community - FESCO, St. Vincent de Paul, and South Hayward Parish.

There will be time for discussion and questions. Wednesday, **March 18th**, 7:15 - 8:30 p.m. immediately following the 6:00 Mass and 6:45 soup meal to which all are welcome in Stack Center. Sponsored by the Pax Christi/Social Justice Group of OLG. For more information, call Dennise at (510) 538-6071.

**THIS WEEK**

**Sunday, March 1st:**

*Coffee & Donuts After All Masses*

Children's Liturgy of the Word  
9:00am--Mass

Religious Education Classes  
10:30am--Stack Center

Youth Ministry  
After 9:00am Mass in the Gym

**Tuesday, March 3rd:**

Bible Scripture Study  
9:30am--Parish Office

Religious Education Classes  
3:45pm--Stack Center

**Wednesday, March 4th:**

Lenten soup Meal  
Following 6:00pm Mass

Lenten Lecture Series  
Following Soup Meal

**Thursday, March 5th:**

Serenity Group  
8:15pm— Stack Center

**Friday, March 6th:**

Stations of the Cross  
2:30pm--Church

Spanish Stations of the Cross  
7:00pm--Church

**Saturday, March 7th:**

Eucharistic Adoration  
3:30pm--Church

**Sunday, March 8th:**

*Coffee & Donuts After All Masses*

Children's Liturgy of the Word  
9:00am--Mass

Religious Education Classes  
10:30am--Stack Center

Youth Ministry  
After 9:00am Mass in the Gym

*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, MARCH 2nd (CHURCH)**  
8:30am Dorothy & Manuel Callier (D)

**TUESDAY, MARCH 3rd**  
*St. Katharine Drexel, Virgin*  
7:00am Ann & Al Ortiz (D)

**WEDNESDAY, MARCH 4th**  
*St. Casimir*  
7:00am Deceased Members & Benefactors  
Of the Augustinian Order  
6:00pm Carolina F. Perucho (L)

**THURSDAY, MARCH 5th**  
7:00am Helen Maes (D)

**FRIDAY, MARCH 6th**  
7:00am Joni & Kathleen Linney (D)

**SATURDAY, MARCH 7th**  
*St.'s Perpetua and Felicity, Martyrs*  
8:30am Lou Maravella (D)

**MEMORIAL SERVICE ANNOUNCEMENT  
MILLIE CUTTS**

The Memorial service for Millie Cutts will be Friday, **March 6th** at 10:00am at Our Lady of Grace Church with a reception following in the church hall.

**EXECUTION ALERTS**

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

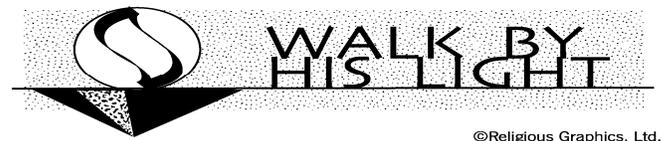
March 5th	Rodney Reed	TX
March 11th	Manuel Vasquez	TX
March 17th	Cecil Clayton	MO
March 18th	Randall Mays	TX
March 19th	Bill Kuenzel	AL

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

**READINGS FOR THE WEEK:**

**March 2nd through March 8th**

- Monday: Daniel 9:4b-10; Luke 6:36-38
- Tuesday: Isaiah 1:10, 16-20; Matthew 23:1-12
- Wednesday: Jeremiah 18:18-20; Matthew 20:17-28
- Thursday: Jeremiah 17:5-10; Luke 16:19-31
- Friday: Genesis 37:3-4, 12-13a, 17b-28a; Matthew 21:33-43, 45-46
- Saturday: Micha 7:14-15, 18-20; Luke 15:1-3, 11-32;
- Sunday: Exodus 17:3-7; Romans 5:1-2, 5-8; John 4:5-42



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**WINGS  
(Women in God's Spirit)**

We invite all women to join us for **WINGS**. **WINGS** is a faith enhancement group that encourages Spiritual growth through prayer, scripture study, catechesis, life sharing and community. We meet at Transfiguration Church Marion Room

Next Meeting: Thursday, **March 5th**  
9:15 to 11:15 a.m.

Speaker: Dr. Doreen Jones

Topic: Lent: Spirituality's Sacred Response:  
Witnessing Faith, Hope and Love

**ADORATION OF THE  
BLESSED SACRAMENT  
SATURDAY, MARCH 7th**



Our next Holy Hour with the Blessed Sacrament:

Saturday, **March 7th**

From 3:30pm--4:30pm

Followed by Benediction

*All are welcome.*

**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:

**DR. JOAN JUPINA, D.D.S**