

We have finalized our year-end closing of the financial reports for Our Lady of Grace for fiscal year 2014. My policy as a licensed accountant and pastor is to be transparent thereby sharing with our faith community the results of last year (2014) compared to the previous year (2013) and our approved budget for 2015. I'm thankful to our loving Lord and generous parishioners that we were able to not only realize our budget last year but to have a little "cushion." This meant we were able to do necessary repairs and maintenance that were not included in our conservative 2014 budget.

Our budget for 2015 has a modest increase of 2.6 % in Income and an equivalent increase in expenses, 2.7%. Our parish, like family budgets, must anticipate "unknown" expenses that may arise.

Overall, we have been good stewards of the monies entrusted to us by the faithful of Our Lady of Grace Parish. Our employees are paid a modest but fair living wage, our plant (buildings and grounds) is in good repair and we are able to further the Kingdom of God in our local community.

OUR LADY OF GRACE FINANCIAL UPDATE 2014 Profit/Loss vs. 2013 ACTUAL/2015 BUDGET

Total Year 2014	2014 Actual	2013 Actual	2015 Budget
Sunday Plate	\$ 409,040	\$ 421,847	\$ 425,000
Holy Days	\$ 9,904	\$ 10,374	\$ 10,400
Easter	\$ 19,446	\$ 17,177	\$ 20,500
Christmas	\$ 21,805	\$ 28,590	\$ 28,000
Faith Formation & Ministries	\$ 38,616	\$ 33,426	\$ 35,900
Other Income	\$ 222,736	\$ 212,908	\$ 220,515
Total Income	\$ 721,547	\$ 724,322	\$ 740,315
Expenses (with Depr.)	\$ 720,722	\$ 712,795	\$ 739,842
Net Income/(Loss)	\$ 856	\$ 11,527	\$ 473

As your pastor, I want to thank you for your generosity over the years. Together, we will continue the "good work" God has entrusted to us, both clergy and lay faithful, over the years. It is important for us to remember that our loving Lord and Savior will not be outdone in generosity to those who are generous to the furthering of the kingdom.

Again, for those parishioners who were unable to attend the first and second lectures of our Lenten Lecture Series, **Reclaiming Our First Love: God's Call to Holiness of Life, Conference #3 – Where It All Begins: Following Jesus and Asceticism**, I have provided a brief overview of my lecture.

Jesus' Life Activity and Asceticism

Do we have to link Jesus' life with asceticism? For the notion is often advanced that Jesus was no proponent of strict asceticism of the type that was practiced all around him in his day. In the gospels, in point of fact, a certain note of protest is sounded against rigorous fasting and physical penance, such as the practices that were encountered in the circles surrounding John the Baptist or the Essenes. This is correct. Yet in our earlier conference we saw Jesus' life was full of ascetic elements, in the service of his prophetic-religious task entailed for Jesus' refusal to amass possessions, abandonment of his own family and a home of his own. He gave no thought to a career of his own within society, and he accepted the risks of being despised, persecuted, and rejected by the established order. What is this, if not asceticism? But there is a difference here: Jesus did not preach asceticism as a "system" or as a meritorious mode of "human behavior." His asceticism was harmoniously incorporated into his life. When Jesus presented the prospect of the kingdom of God to the poor, to children, to the insignificant, to sinners, to tax collectors in the service of the Romans, and to the weak, he was showing that there is no directly proportional relationship between human merits and the kingdom of God. God's love is always greater. The Significance in Following Jesus

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.

Liturgical Schedule :

Holy Week and Easter 2015

Mass Schedule:

Holy Week

Mon., March 30th 8:30 am (Church)
 Tues., March 31st 7:00 am
 Wed., April 1st 7:00 am, 6:00 pm
 (soup meal follows evening mass)

Note: No morning mass on Thursday, Friday, Saturday

The Sacred Triduum

The Sacred Triduum, spanning three days, is **one commemoration** celebrating the great event of the glorious triumph of Jesus over sin and death. We invite you to share in all the liturgies as we ascend to the joy of Easter resurrection and new life won for us.

Schedule for the Sacred Triduum:

Holy Thursday, April 2nd , 7:30pm

Mass of the Lord's Supper

Transfer of the Eucharist to the repository in Stack Center follows the liturgy.

Good Friday, April 3rd

Celebration of the Lord's Passion

Stations of the Cross: 12:00 noon and 5:00pm (Spanish). Veneration of the cross, and communion 1:30pm and 7:30pm.

Holy Saturday, April 4th, 8:00 pm

The Great Easter Vigil

Service of Light, Liturgy of the Word, Rites of Initiation for the Elect, Liturgy of the Eucharist

Easter Sunday Masses: April 5th,

7:30 am, 9:00 am, 11:00 am



LENTEN WEDNESDAY SOUP MEAL

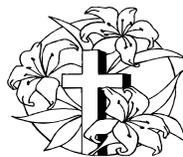
Please plan on joining us for a simple meal of soup and bread each Wednesday during Lent. It will be a time for fellowship and families coming together. Our Soup Meal follows the 6:00pm Mass. This Wednesday, **March 25th** Soup Meal is sponsored by our Italian Catholic Federation. We thank them for their ministry of hospitality for this meal. *Donations will be accepted to benefit Operation Rice Bowl.*

A NOTE FROM ST. VINCENT de PAUL

St. Vincent de Paul would like to encourage you to give generously to Catholic Relief Service's Operation Rice Bowl. Last year the Our Lady of Grace Conference received a grant for \$500 to be used to help the needy in our community. We are grateful to them and to you for your support of this outreach effort.

**CALLING ALL OLG CHILDREN
 PALM SUNDAY PROCESSIONAL**

All children of the OLG family are invited to participate in the Palm Sunday Processional with palms at the beginning of the 9:00am Mass Sunday, **March 29th**. Please gather in the area outside the garden at the side entrance of the church off the back parking lot at 8:45am.



EASTER MEMORIALS

Again this year we are inviting you to remember family members and friends through a Flower Offering which will help us to purchase the plants and other decorations we need to beautify our sanctuary. You may list the names of loved ones you wish to remember or memorialize by using the special Easter Flower Offering envelopes – or submitting the names to the parish office. A list of names of all who are remembered will be available after Easter. Thank you for considering this thoughtful and helpful way to remember those you love.

LENTEN LECTURE SERIES

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

Fr. Greg's final Lenten Lecture will continue on Wednesday, **March 25th**. The topic is *Socio-political dimension of the radical following of Jesus*. The lecture will begin at the end of our soup meal; around 7:15 p.m. and last until 8:30 p.m.

UPDATE: OLG TRANSITION TO DIOCESE

The following is the first of occasional updates on the transition of OLG to the Diocese provided by the leader of the Transition Team, Patrick Devine.

The Transition team (named below) whom Fr. Greg appointed to help in the transition of OLG to the Dioceses met with Rev. Paul Schmidt, the Vicar of Priests for the Diocese on Thursday evening (**March 12th**). We shared with him many of the ministries and activities the parishioners are involved in so that he could make the Diocese aware of our history, culture, diversity and charism.

Fr. Schmidt, Vicar of Priests explained that the process of appointing a new pastor is as follows: The Personnel board will meet in about one month and make recommendations on pastor staffing. These recommendations are forwarded to the Bishop for his review and to ultimately assign a Pastor. It is anticipated that the appointment to OLG will be made effective **July 1st**. When we get more information we will update the bulletin.

As we help OLG through the transition process, now would be a good time to reach out to a team member (listed below) and share with them your suggestions and questions about the transition. We would ask that you also keep them in prayer as they help guide the Parish and the Diocese.

- | | |
|-----------------------------|-------------------------|
| Susan Anderson | Linda Koceniak |
| Patrick Devine 650-787-8378 | Robyn Lang |
| Claudia Dobbs | Colleen Lindberg |
| Martha Duarte | Anne Martinez |
| Marie Exberger | Sean Nalty 415-500-5432 |
| Lee Fiorina | Lou Richards |
| Jennifer Fischer | Mike Samboy |
| Mike Gonzalez | Rick Snow |
| Deacon Nels Gonsalves | Neil Toda |

**COMMUNAL LENTEN PENANCE SERVICE
DEANERY SCHEDULE**

Following is the schedule for Communal Lenten Penance services for the churches in our Deanery.

- Church of the Transfiguration: Wednesday, March 25th at 7:30pm
- St. Felicitas: Monday, March 30th at 7:00pm in English, Vietnamese, and Spanish

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 March 8th:

Sunday Plate:	\$ 8,012.00
Last Year this week	\$ 8,533.00
Weekly Budgeted Goal:	\$ 8,815.00
Year-to-date this year:	\$ 83,993.00
Year-to-date last year:	\$ 79,521.00

February Budgeted Expenses \$68,000.00

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

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.

ALL VICTIMS OF VIOLENCE

THIS WEEK

Sunday, March 22nd:

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 24th:

Bible Scripture Study
9:30am--Parish Office

Religious Education Classes
3:45pm--Stack Center

Wednesday, March 25th:

Lenten soup Meal
Following 6:00pm Mass

Fr. Greg Lenten Lecture Series
Following Soup Meal

Thursday, March 26th:

Serenity Group
8:15pm— Stack Center

Friday, March 27th:

Stations of the Cross
2:30pm--Church

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

Sunday, March 29th:

PALM SUNDAY

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

**Gospel for the Processional on
Palm Sunday of the Lord's Passion (March 29th)
Gospel of John 12:12-16**

When the great crowd that had come to the feast heard that Jesus was coming to Jerusalem, they took palm branches and went out to meet him, and cried out: "Hosanna! "Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord, the king of Israel." Jesus found an ass and sat upon it, as is written: Fear no more, O daughter Zion; see, your king comes, seated upon an ass's colt. His disciples did not understand this at first, but when Jesus had been glorified they remembered that these things were written about him and that they had done this for him.



**SAVE THE DATE
MAY 16th, 2015
Live & Silent Auction
Dinner & Dancing**

Our Lady of Grace Spring Auction is coming soon. Help raise funds for our parish and school –and enjoy an adults only sophisticated evening of sumptuous food, and entertaining music. Share the excitement and fun of a fast paced auction with friends and family. Ticket reservations can be made by contacting the Parish Office, 537-0806.

To inquire about making an auction donation or to volunteer for one of the committees please contact Colleen Lindberg in the Parish Office.

A NOTE FROM THE ICF

ICF would like to thank all who attended our corned beef and cabbage dinner and who supported the St. Joseph's table. Your kind generosity enabled us to give \$125.00 to the St. Vincent de Paul Society at Transfiguration parish. Hopefully we will be able to duplicate this in November when we collect non-perishable items for our St. Vincent de Paul Society. Thank you again.



ROSARY FOR WORLD PEACE

The rosary will be recited for World Peace after the 8:30 am Mass each Monday in the Church. Please join us.



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 23rd (CHURCH)

St. Turibius of Mogrovejo, Bishop
8:30am Betty Wright (D)

TUESDAY, MARCH 24th

7:00am Bruno Talmadge (D)

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 25th

THE ANNUNCIATION OF THE LORD

7:00am Tom O'Boyle (D)
6:00pm Dulcidia O. Chocha (D)

THURSDAY, MARCH 26th

7:00am Deceased Members & Benefactors
of the Augustinian Order

FRIDAY, MARCH 27th

7:00am Maria Moro, Family

SATURDAY, MARCH 28th

8:30am Pio Faustino (D)



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.



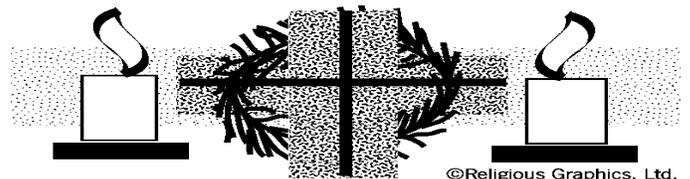
**DEVOTIONAL CANDLES
OUR LADY OF GRACE**

Candles for our candle stand are available for purchase in the Parish Office or in the Sacristy after mass on Sundays. The candles will burn for 5 days. The cost per candle is \$3.00. *The glass globes in the candle stand must be left in the church. Simply insert the plastic candle purchased from the Parish in to the globe in the candle stand.*

READINGS FOR THE WEEK:

March 23rd through March 29th

- Monday: Daniel 13:1-9, 15-17, 19-30, 33-62
John 8:1-11
- Tuesday: Numbers 21:4-9; John 8:21-30
- Wednesday: Isaiah 7:10-14; Luke 1:26-38
- Thursday: Genesis 17:3-9; John 8:51-59
- Friday: Jeremiah 20:10-13; John 10:31-42
- Saturday: Ezekiel 37:21-28; John 11:45-56
- Sunday: Isaiah 50:4-7; Philippians 2:6-11;
Mark 14:1--15:47



©Religious Graphics, Ltd.

**FESCO'S ANNUAL SHELTER SHUFFLE
IS COMING SOON!**

It's time for the 18th Annual FESCO Shuffle Walkathon. The event will take place on **May 2nd**, at the San Leandro Marina.

The FESCO Shuffle Walkathon is FESCO's primary fundraising event of the year and our success depends on the participation of event Sponsors, community groups and churches, and individuals, including those who walk, run, and shuffle – many with their dogs – around the paths at San Leandro's Marina Park. The beautiful view of the Bay, the camaraderie of the participants, and the after-party BBQ in the park's newly renovated picnic areas are just a few of the reasons why FESCO's Shuffle Walkathon has the reputation for being a terrifically fun event.

Please send a message to our community that you are committed to ending family homelessness in Alameda County by pledging your support as a donor to FESCO's 18th Annual Shuffle Walkathon.

For information or to be a walker, sponsor or donor contact Colleen Lindberg in the Parish office.

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:

**HOLY ANGELS FUNERAL
& CREMATION SERVICES**