



SCRUTINIES

Every time we celebrate the sacrament of baptism, we ask the questions, “Do you renounce Satan? and all his works? and all his empty promises?” These are serious questions. We should consider them carefully before answering. And that is what the elect, those preparing to be baptized at the Easter Vigil, spend much of Lent doing.

For those who are making their final preparation for baptism, Lent is a time of purification and enlightenment. They examine their lives in the light of God’s word and ask the entire Christian community to pray that whatever is weak and sinful within them may be eliminated and that whatever is good and holy may be affirmed. And we do. After the homily, in a litany of intercession, we proclaim the power of Jesus over all sin. Then we pray over the elect for their deliverance and strengthening. The presider, catechists, sponsors and other members of the community also may lay their hands on the heads of the elect in an ancient sign of forgiveness, healing and empowerment.

And because the entire community will renew its baptismal promises at Easter, we too examine our lives in light of God’s word. Of course, this is something we should be doing throughout the year, but we focus on this self-examination in a special way during Lent. In every community that will baptize adults or older children at the Easter Vigil, special rites known as the “scrutinies” are celebrated at liturgy on the third, fourth and fifth Sundays of Lent.

On these Sundays, the gospel readings are from the Gospel of John; they are the stories of the Samaritan woman whom Jesus meets at Jacob’s well, the healing and coming to faith of the man born blind and the raising of Lazarus from the dead. These readings have been used for centuries to prepare the elect and the church for baptism. The readings focus on sin and redemption using the images of thirst and water, darkness and light, death and life. By examining ourselves through these readings, we come to know how we have become parched, how we have been blinded, how we have become deadened through sin. When we and the elect are asked at Easter to renounce Satan, evil works and empty promises, our answer can be a thoughtful, strong and heartfelt “I do.”

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Gospel for the Fifth Sunday of Lent (April 6th)

John 11:3-7, 20-27, 33b-45

The sisters of Lazarus sent word to Jesus, saying, “Master, the one you love is ill. When Jesus heard this he said, “This illness is not to end in death, but is for the glory of God, that the Son of God may be glorified through it.” Now Jesus loved Martha and her sister and Lazarus. So when he heard that he was ill, he remained for two days in the place where he was. Then after this he said to his disciples, “Let us go back to Judea.” When Jesus arrived, he found that Lazarus had already been in the tomb for four days. When Martha heard that Jesus was coming, she went to meet him; but Mary sat at home. Martha said to Jesus, “Lord, if you had been here, my brother would not have died. But even now I know that whatever you ask of God, God will give you.” Jesus said to her, “Your brother will rise.” Martha said, “I know he will rise, in the resurrection on the last day.” Jesus told her, “I am the resurrection and the life; whoever believes in me, even if he dies, will live, and everyone who lives and believes in me will never die. Do you believe this?” She said to him, “Yes, Lord. I have come to believe that you are the Christ, the Son of God, the one who is coming into the world.” He became perturbed and deeply troubled, and said, “Where have you laid him?” They said to him, “Sir, come and see.” And Jesus wept. So the Jews said, “See how he loved him.” But some of them said, “Could not the one who opened the eyes of the blind man have done something so that this man would not have died?” So Jesus, perturbed again, came to the tomb. It was a cave, and a stone lay across it. Jesus said, “Take away the stone.” Martha, the dead man’s sister, said to him, “Lord, by now there will be a stench; he has been dead for four days.” Jesus said to her, “Did I not tell you that if you believe you will see the glory of God?” So they took away the stone. And Jesus raised his eyes and said, “Father, I thank you for hearing me. I know that you always hear me; but because of the crowd here I have said this, that they may believe that you sent me.” And when he had said this, He cried out in a loud voice, “Lazarus, come out!” The dead man came out, tied hand and foot with burial bands, and his face was wrapped in a cloth. So Jesus said to them, “Untie him and let him go.” Now many of the Jews who had come to Mary and seen what he had done began to believe in him

LENTE WEEKDAY EVENING MASS

There will be one evening weekday mass during Lent on Wednesday's at 5:30pm in the Church.



LENTE 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 5:30pm Mass. This Wednesday, **April 2nd** Soup Meal is sponsored by our School Community. We thank them for their ministry of hospitality for this meal. Donations will be accepted to benefit Operation Rice Bowl.

LENTE LECTURE SERIES

All are invited to Fr. Greg's Lenten lecture series, *The Family of God as Covenant*. The series covers the six covenants God made with his people as found in Sacred Scripture. Join Fr. Greg as he shares scriptural insights as well as Catholic tradition in opening the history of salvation: God's plan of salvation for his people.

The goal of this lecture series is to have a better understanding of God's love letter found in Sacred Scripture, and our Catholic faith. We Catholics can then enter more fully into liturgical worship, discipline of the family of God, and the mind of the Church. Weekly schedule:

- **Wednesday, April 2nd**– Mosaic (Sinaitic) Covenant
- **Wednesday, April 9th** – Davidic Covenant
- **Wednesday, April 16th** – Eternal Covenant of Jesus Christ, Lord and Savior

All lectures will be in Stack Center at 6:30pm with the Wednesday Lenten Soup Meal.



STATIONS OF THE CROSS

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

Stations of the Cross will be offered in Spanish on Friday's during Lent at 7:00pm at Our Lady of Grace.

COMMUNAL LENTE PENANCE SERVICE DEANERY SCHEDULE

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

- Church of the Assumption: Saturdays in Lent at 3:30pm
- Church of the Transfiguration: Thursday, **April 3rd** at 7:30pm
- Our Lady of Good Counsel: Friday, **April 11th** at 7:00pm
- Our Lady of Grace: Tuesday, **April 8th** at 7:00pm
- St. Leander: Saturday, **April 12th** at 2:00pm
- St. Felicitas: Tuesday, **April 8th** at 7:30pm



**SAVE THE DATE
MAY 17th, 2013
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.

**FAITHFUL STEWARDS
BISHOP'S APPEAL 2014**

Following is the status of our Annual Bishops Appeal through **March 20th**:

\$ 11,919.00 – Actual Donations Received

Our Goal for 2014:	\$25,139.00
# of Registered Families	1,555
# of Acknowledged Donors to date:	95
Funds Raised (includes pledges)	\$15,631.00

We are currently at 62% of our goal for this years Bishop's Appeal. We are most grateful to all those who have contributed and look forward to completing this appeal. If you have not yet made your contribution consider doing so today.

OUR LADY OF GRACE VBS 2014

Hero Headquarters: VBS 2014 will be **July 28th – August 1st, 2014** We need you! Help us to plan now for a fabulous summer! Planning meeting to be held on: Sunday, **March 30th** at 12:00, Stack Center

Registration begins mid-May. Special sign-up Sundays planned. Be part of the team! Want to help? Join us at one of the meetings above or contact the Faith Formation Center at 510-582-9266 ffc@olgcv.org Together, we can do it!

ICF HAPPENINGS IN APRIL...

Come join ICF for our Chicken Marsala dinner on **April 10th** in Stack Center. Doors open at 6:00pm dinner is at 6:30pm, for reservations, which are necessary, please call Stella Taddei at 510-581-5863 or Juanita Madrid at 510-582-7242. Deadline is Monday, **April 7th**.

And, time to get out your dancing shoes, the ICF will celebrate their 35th anniversary with a dinner dance and auction on Saturday April 26th, in Stack Center. The fun begins with cocktails at 6:00pm, followed by dinner at 7:00pm with dancing beginning at 8:00pm and the auction. Tickets are \$35.00 each, for reservations please mail checks payable to ICF Br. #343, to Rosalind Crudo, 5228 Tyler Ct., Castro Valley, CA 94546. Deadline for reservations is Sunday April 20th. Hope to see lots of you there!

WINGS

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 meet at Transfiguration Church
Marion Room

Next Meeting: Thursday, **April 10th**,
9:15 to 11:15 a.m.

Speaker: - Fr. Tony Herrera

CHRIST
our light

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.

In gratitude for God’s gifts of “Treasure” to us, we gratefully returned to God’s church in the,

Offerings of March 23rd:

Sunday Plate:	\$ 7,641.00
Last Year this week	\$ 9,011.00
Year-to-date this year:	\$ 94,573.00
Year-to-date last year:	\$ 88,416.00

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:

- | | |
|------------------|------------------|
| Connie Deitrick | Vernon Rodrigues |
| Kathleen Denning | Joan Scarlett |
| Estela Enriquez | Florence Sharp |
| Jane Flannigan | Pat Silva |
| Mary Franks | Carolynne Steen |
| Byron Griffith | Nancy Swinyer |
| Grace Letteer | James Van Wert |
| Raymond Lowe | |

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:

- | | |
|------------------------|----------------------|
| KEVIN DIAS | 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

A NOTE FROM OLG PASTORAL PLANNING COUNCIL

We would like to hear your comments, suggestions and questions. The OLG PPC will host a table in Stack Center following the 9:00am Mass the first Sunday of each month (next week, **April 6th**) Please come visit with us with questions, concerns or any observations that you might have. We look forward to hearing from you on **April 6th**.

*Thank you,
Your OLG PPC*

BABY BOTTLE DRIVE

The volunteers of Birthright of San Lorenzo will be giving out baby bottles to fill with a donation after all Masses on the weekend of **March 29th-30th**. We hope you will fill the bottle with change and return it to the Parish Office or the San Lorenzo Birthright Office in the near future. Your donations will help Birthright continue its work with mothers and babies. For more information contact, Theresa Fuller at 582-6358 or Birthright at 481-9677,

FESCO'S ANNUAL SHELTER SHUFFLE IS COMING SOON!

FESCO is asking you to join us in striding toward home at our Annual Shelter Shuffle on May 3rd. FESCO continues to provide homeless families with shelter, nutritious meals and a hand up in becoming self sufficient. With your help and support, FESCO can continue to help homeless families. Colleen Lindberg and Chris Ippolito are asking you to join with them to support FESCO. We will have an informational table after masses on **April 6th and April 27th** please help us help our neighbors in need.

ADORATION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT SATURDAY, APRIL 5th

Our next Holy Hour with the Blessed Sacrament:
Saturday, **April 5th**
From 3:30pm--4:30pm
Followed by Benediction
All are welcome.



THIS WEEK

Sunday, March 30th

Coffee & Donuts After All Masses

Children's Liturgy
9:00am--Mass

Religious Education Classes
10:30am--Stack Center

Youth Ministry
After 9:00am Mass in the Gym

Tuesday, April 1st:

Bible Scripture Study
9:30am--Parish Office

Religious Education Classes
3:45pm--Stack Center

Men's Fellowship
6:00pm--Stack Center

Wednesday, April 2nd:

Nursing Home Mass
11:00am--Eden Villa

Lenten Soup Meal
Following 5:30pm Mass

Thursday, April 3rd:

St. Vincent de Paul Meeting
7:00pm--Parish Office

Serenity Group
8:15pm— Stack Center

Friday, April 4th:

Stations of the Cross
2:30pm--Church

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

Saturday, April 5th:

Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament
3:30pm--Church

Sunday, April 6th:

Coffee & Donuts After All Masses

Children's Liturgy
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 31st Church)
8:30am Connie Rosas (D)

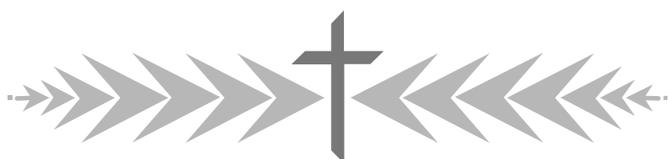
TUESDAY, APRIL 1st
7:00am Dolores Gordova (D)

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 2nd
St. Francis of Paola, hermit
7:00am Joe & Marie Silveria (D)
5:30pm Mary Borges (D)

THURSDAY, APRIL 3rd
7:00am Jocelyne Gonsalves (D)

FRIDAY, APRIL 4th
St. Isidore, bishop, doctor of the Church
7:00am Mericia & William Goncalves (D)
2:30pm Stations of the Cross
7:00pm Spanish Stations of the Cross

SATURDAY, APRIL 5th
St. Vincent Ferrer, priest
8:30am Maria & Domingos Soares (D)



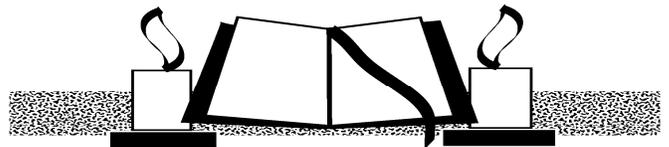
40 DAYS FOR LIFE

Beginning with Ash Wednesday lasting thru **April 13th**, you're invited to join other Christians for 40 Days for Life--40 days of prayer and fasting for an end to abortion. You're also invited to stand and peacefully pray during a 40 day vigil in the public right of way outside Planned Parenthood at 1866 B Street in Hayward and to help spread the word about this important community outreach. If you'd like more information please contact: Anne Van Tatenhove 510-582-4959.

READINGS FOR THE WEEK:

March 31st through April 6th

- Monday: Isaiah 65:17-21; John 4:43-54
- Tuesday: Ezekiel 47:1-9,12; John 5:1-16
- Wednesday: Isaiah 49:8-15; John 5:17-30
- Thursday: Exodus 32:7-14; John 5:31-47
- Friday: Wisdom 2:1,12-22; John 7:1-2,10,25-30
- Saturday: Jeremiah 11:18-20; John 7:40-53
- Sunday: Ezekiel 37:12-14; Romans 8:8-11; John 11:1-45



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OLG MEN'S BIBLE STUDY

The Men's Bible Study facilitated by Fr. Greg continues, **April 1st** at 7:00pm now meeting in the Parish Office. The Study will continue every other Tuesday for an hour at each session and is open to all men of the parish 18 years and older. You may join in the study at anytime.

Misa en Español
3er domingo del mes
En 14:00
SPANISH MASS

Fr. Greg will be offering a mass in Spanish one Sunday of every month at 2:00pm in the Church. The next Spanish Mass will be Sunday, **April 20th** at 2:00pm.



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.

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:

WAYNE BLACKARD
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