

May Mary and Joseph accompany you on your journeys this Holy Season.
 May you feel the mercy and love of the baby Jesus as we celebrate His
 birth.

From the Pastor

From the Conventual Franciscans and staff of Our Lady of Grace

Christ our Savior is born to us



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Sponsors Needed for *Faustina: Messenger of Divine Mercy*

In the course of year end tax planning, you may find yourself considering special one time donation. There is a growing trend among donors to make contributions to their favorite organizations during the final weeks of the year. Please consider joining a list of sponsors for our Year of Mercy *Faustina: Messenger of Divine Mercy* play that we are bringing to Castro Valley Center for the Arts on January 31st. We welcome your sponsorship. Please call the Parish office for additional information on Sponsoring this play.

Give the Gift of Mercy This Holy Season

Tickets for *Faustina: Messenger of Divine Mercy* will be available for sale after all masses this weekend. You can find more information on this professional production on page 3 of this bulletin or go to our webpage at www.olgcv.org and order your tickets on line and see the trailer.

Consecration of Families to the Immaculate Mary

I invite families to consecrate themselves to the immaculate Virgin Mary on the Feast of the Holy Family at the 9AM and 11AM Masses on **December 27**. Why Consecrate? In a world full of violence, terrorism and evil to destroy our minds and life, consecration is a way of focusing us on an act of love. By joining Mary in our human response to say yes to bear Jesus Christ and His Merciful love to the world. We also ask her intercession for protection from all evil and know that Our Mother watches us her children, the children of God. St. John Paul II had his motto for his pontificate, Totus Tuus, Totally Yours.

Gospel for THE HOLY FAMILY of JESUS, MARY and JOSEPH (December 27th) Luke 2:41-52

Each year Jesus' parents went to Jerusalem for the feast of Passover, and when he was twelve years old, they went up according to festival custom. After they had completed its days, as they were returning, the boy Jesus remained behind in Jerusalem, but his parents did not know it. Thinking that he was in the caravan, they journeyed for a day and looked for him among their relatives and acquaintances, but not finding him, they returned to Jerusalem to look for him. After three days they found him in the temple, sitting in the midst of the teachers, listening to them and asking them questions, and all who heard him were astounded at his understanding and his answers. When his parents saw him, they were astonished, and his mother said to him, "Son, why have you done this to us? Your father and I have been looking for you with great anxiety." And he said to them, "Why were you looking for me? Did you not know that I must be in my Father's house?" But they did not understand what he said to them. He went down with them and came to Nazareth, and was obedient to them; and his mother kept all these things in her heart. And Jesus advanced in wisdom and age and favor before God and man.

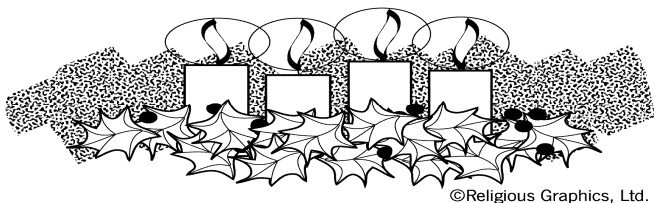
HOLIDAY MASS SCHEDULE

Christmas Eve: Thursday, December 24th
 Masses at 5:00pm, 10:00pm

Christmas Day: Friday, December 25th
 Masses at 7:30, 9:00, 11:00am

New Year's Eve: Thursday, December 31st
 Mass at 5:00pm

New Year's Day: Friday, January 1st
Mary, the Mother of God
 Mass at 9:00am



PARISH OFFICE HOLIDAY HOURS

The Parish Offices will close at 12:00Noon on **Thursday, December 24th** and will not re-open until Monday, **December 28th**. Additionally the offices will close at 12:00Noon on **Thursday, December 31st** and will re-open on Monday, **January 4th**. The entire parish staff wishes all a Blessed Christmas and a safe and Happy New Year !

CHRISTMAS OFFERING

As we come to the end of this calendar year, we want to take this opportunity to express our gratitude for your financial support of our parish this past year. As many of you have probably experienced in your own homes and businesses, our expenses have risen greatly this past year - while our ordinary income has remained flat. And so your support is most important and most appreciated. Please know that your Christmas and Sunday donations will help us to meet our end-of-year expenses and hopefully, allow us to begin the new year on a positive note. Our Christmas Budget goal is \$28,000. We look forward to letting you know our financial outcome at the beginning of 2016.

**CHRISTMAS POSADA
 DECEMBER 20th**

The Hispanic Group is hosting a Christmas Posada and Pot Luck on **December 20th** after the 2:00pm Spanish Mass in Stack Center.

El grupo hispano les invita a la posada navidena Diciembre 20th despues de la misa de las 2:00pm.

CHRISTMAS FLOWERS



Again, this year, we are inviting you to remember family members and friends through a Flower Offering which will help us to purchase 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 flower envelopes --or by submitting the name to the Parish Office. A list of names of all who are remembered will be available after Christmas. Thank you for considering this thoughtful and helpful way to remember those you love.

**SPEAKING OF DECORATIONS
 Environment Thanks and Needs**



The committee is in need of help to get the church ready for Christmas, so please make plans to help ready the church on **Monday, December 21st** beginning at 10:30am. The more hands, the quicker the work will be completed. Thanks in advance for your assistance.

FR. TOM'S PILGRIMAGE OFFER TO YOU

If you wish Fr. Tom and the pilgrims to pray for and leave your personal intentions at the tomb of St. Anthony of Padua or St. Francis of Assisi on his upcoming pilgrimage please write out your intention and put it in one of the envelopes provided by the office marked for tomb of St. Anthony or tomb of St. Francis and leave it in the Parish office.

**JUBILEE YEAR OF MERCY
FAUSTINA: MESSENGER OF DIVINE MERCY
JANUARY 31, 2016**

Our Lady of Grace Church and School invite you to the live theatrical one-woman drama performed by actress Maria Vargo and directed by Leonardo Delfilippis of Saint Luke Productions, to be presented at Castro Valley Center for the Arts on Sunday, **January 31st** at 7:00pm. Tickets: \$15.00 Adult, \$12.00 Senior; \$40.00 Family of Four. \$12.00 Youth 17 and under. Suitable for ages 12 and up.

In this Multit-media Play audiences experience firsthand the spirit and life of Polish mystic Saint Faustina, whose personal encounters with Jesus have inspired a world-wide devotion to Christ's Divine Mercy. A parallel modern story with the drama offers audiences a compelling personal connection to the current moral issues of our times. Audiences are calling the production a "wake-up call."

This is a wonderful opportunity to continue the celebration of the Jubilee Year of Mercy. *Call the Parish office to reserve your tickets now.*

Read more about the play, *Faustina: Messenger of Divine Mercy*, online at the National Catholic Register and on the Faustina website.

**OUR LADY OF GRACE FOLK GROUP
OUR LORD'S GRACE CD**

Looking for the perfect gift for the Christmas season? The Folk Group's latest CD is available for purchase. Our Lord's Grace, the 16 song CD includes, "Day of Peace", "Here In This Place", "O Sacred Head", and more. The CD is available for sale in the parish office. Don't delay! These make wonderful gifts for your family and friends and don't forget one for yourself. The CDs are \$15.00. Proceeds from the sales go towards upgrading the church sound system.

*Thanks for all your support. Happy Holidays,
Our Lady of Grace Folk Group*



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 13th:

Sunday Plate:	\$10,254.00
Last Year this week	\$ 9,491.00
Weekly Budgeted Goal:	\$ 8,815.00
Year-to-date this year:	\$399,012.00
Year-to-date last year:	\$393,492.00
December Budgeted Expenses	\$56,532.00

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:

- | | |
|-------------------|----------------------|
| Dennis Cande | Emy & Rico Maquiling |
| Kathleen Denning | Richard Martin |
| Julie Dillon | Doree Rivera |
| Estela Enriquez | Florence Sharp |
| Juanita Estrellas | Iwan Tunggal |
| Mary Franks | James Van Wert |
| Byron Griffith | Yvonne Wheeler |
| Elaine Jordan | |

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.

MAXIMINO AYALA

**NEWS FROM
OUR ST. VINCENT de PAUL SOCIETY**

Thank you to all who donated coats to our *One Warm Coat Drive*. We recently received this note after making a delivery of coats to the St. Vincent de Paul District Office: "Thank you to everyone at Our Lady of Grace for all the coats!

(Even some new ones with tags!) This was really a wonderful collection and they will be distributed to our clients within the week. We have the warming center at night so those clients are so appreciative."

When someone comes to Our Lady of Grace and requests help from St. Vincent de Paul it can be for a one-time emergency situation or slightly longer term. We often don't know what happens to those we have helped. However, last week the following note came to the office along with \$100 worth of Safeway gift cards:

To St. Vincent de Paul –

Thank you for helping me last year when I lost my job and apartment and ended up homeless. I am doing great now thanks to your prayers and by the Grace of God. Thank you again. D-

Your monthly donations to SVdP allow us to help people like D. Thank you!



**COME JOIN IN THE FEAST!
Reserve your Crab Feed Tickets
Today! Save the Date:
Saturday, January 30, 2016**

Yes! OLG is still planning a Community Crab Feed in spite of the delay to the opening of California's crab season! We will be receiving our crab from Canada or Washington state this year at an increased cost! However, the ticket price will be the same as 2014: \$40.

Price of the ticket includes: crab or chicken, salad, pasta, garlic bread, and another year of great entertainment by OLG's local bands Triple Play and Rust! In- stead of charging more for the event, we are asking groups of friends joining in this great evening of food and fun to bring appetizers and desserts to share at your table. Beer, wine and limited mixed drinks will be available at a cost.

This is a GREAT community event that benefits CYO, the Church, and School. Don't delay, please reserve your tickets today!

To reserve your ticket: Contact Jeanenne Deorsey (deorseyj@gmail.com).

THIS WEEK

Sunday, December 20th:

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--Gym

Spanish Mass

2:00pm--Church

Christmas Posada

3:00pm--Stack Center

Monday, December 21st:

Christmas Decorating

10:30am--Church

WEBS - Women's Bible Study

7:00pm--OLG Room, Stack Center

Tuesday, December 22nd:

Bible Study

9:30am--Parish Office

Thursday, December 24th:

Parish Office

Closed at Noon

Serenity Group

7:30pm--Stack Center

Friday, December 25th:

Parish Offices Closed

Sunday, December 27th:

Coffee & Donuts After All Masses

Consecration of Families

9:00am and 11:00am Masses

New Parishioner Registration

10:00am--Stack Center



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: All weekday masses will be celebrated in the Church until further notice.

MONDAY, DECEMBER 21st (CHURCH)
St. Peter Canisius, Priest, Doctor of the Church
 8:30am Louis Rodrigues (D)

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 22nd (CHURCH)
 7:00am Jose Daniel Tellez (D)

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 23th (CHURCH)
St. John of Kanty, Priest
 7:00am Richard Benson (D)

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 24th (CHURCH)
 7:00am Marvin Picha (D)
 5:00pm *The Vigil of Christmas*
 10:00pm *The Vigil of Christmas*

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 25th (CHURCH)
 7:30am *Solemnity of Christmas*
 9:00am *Solemnity of Christmas*
 11:00am *Solemnity of Christmas*

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 26th (CHURCH)
St. Stephen, The First Martyr
 8:30am Marvin Picha (D)

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 27th (CHURCH)
The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph
 11:00am Mary Barstad (D)

SCRIP NEWS

Beat the “Mall Madness” this holiday season while supporting Our Lady of Grace School at the same time. Buy gift certificates (at face value) for various retailers through the Parish office, helping the school earn from 2%-17% per certificate. A wide variety of merchants are available—Stop by the parish office and look over the list.

Thank you for all your support and we wish you Happy Holidays!

DEVOTIONAL CANDLES



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.

READINGS FOR THE WEEK:

December 21st through December 27th

Monday: Song of Songs 2:8-14; Luke 1:39-45
 Tuesday: 1 Samuel 1:24-28; Luke 1:46-56
 Wednesday: Malachi 3:1-4, 23-24; Luke 1:57-66
 Thursday: Samuel 7:1-5, 8b-12, 14a, 16; Luke 1:67-79
 Friday:
Vigil: Isaiah 62:1-5; Acts 13:16-17, 22-25
 Matthew 1:1-25
Night: Isaiah 9:1-6; Titus 2:11-14; Luke 2:1-14
Dawn: Isaiah 62:11-12; Titus 3:4-7; Luke 2:15-20
Day Isaiah 52:7-10; Hebrew 1:1-6; John 1:1-18
 Saturday: Acts 6:8-10; 7:54-59; Matthew 10:17-22
 Sunday: Sirach 3:2-6, 12-14; Colossians 3:12-21; Luke 2:41-52



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COMMUNION FOR THE HOMEBOUND

Do you have a family member or friend -- maybe someone elderly or ailing -- who cannot attend Mass but might like to receive communion? Our Lady of Grace has a ministry of volunteers who bring the Eucharist on either a regular or occasional basis to homebound parishioners. This is a time for prayer, maybe some conversation and a continuing connection to our parish. Please contact the Parish Office, 537-0806. for information. If you are interested in volunteering to this ministry contact the 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:

DEER CREEK FUNERAL SERVICES