
 I invite you to create a Holy Door at your Home for the Year of Mercy. Our Pilgrims will be praying for our Parish with Pope Francis at the Epiphany Mass at St. Peters.
 From the Pastor Fr. Tom

AN EPIPHANY HOME BLESSING

The Gospel tells us that the magi found Christ "on entering the house." The door to your home is a holy threshold. It is appropriate to bless your door in January – "janua" means "door," and the first month is the door to the new year.

You can bless those who come in and go out by inscribing above the door in chalk: 20+C+M+B+16. Tradition tells us that the letters stand for the names of the magi: Caspar, Melchior, and Balthasar. Scholar Adolph Adam points out that it may also mean "Christus mansionem benedicat" or "May Christ bless this dwelling."

BLESSING CEREMONY

Light a candle. Inscribe door as above in Chalk

A member of the family prays: *May all who come to our home this year rejoice to find Christ living among us; and may we seek and serve Christ in everyone we meet.*

All: Amen.

Together: *Lord God of Heaven and Earth, You revealed Your only-begotten Son to every nation by the guidance of a star. Bless this house and all who inhabit it. May we be blessed with health, goodness of heart, gentleness, and the keeping of Your law. Fill us with the light of Christ, that our concern for others may reflect Your love. We ask this through Christ our Lord. Amen.*

YEAR OF MERCY

Join us for Saint Luke's Production of **Faustina: Messenger of Divine Mercy** on **January 31** at the Castro Valley Art Center. See page 2 of this bulletin for details. To learn more about St. Faustina go to www.thedivinemercy.org/message/stfaustina/

On February 22, 1931, Our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ appeared to this simple nun, bringing with Him a wonderful message of Mercy for all mankind. Saint Faustina tells us in her diary under this date:

"In the evening, when I was in my cell, I became aware of the Lord Jesus clothed in a white garment. One hand was raised in blessing, the other was touching the garment at the breast. From the opening of the garment at the breast there came forth two large rays, one red and the other pale. In silence I gazed intently at the Lord; my soul was overwhelmed with fear, but also with great joy. After a while Jesus said to me, 'paint an image according to the pattern you see, with the inscription: Jesus, I trust in You.'"

Gospel for THE BAPTISM OF THE LORD (January 10th)

Luke 3:15-16, 21-22

The people were filled with expectation, and all were asking in their hearts whether John might be the Christ. John answered them all, saying, "I am baptizing you with water, but one mightier than I is coming. I am not worthy to loosen the thongs of his sandals. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire." After all the people had been baptized and Jesus also had been baptized and was praying, heaven was opened and the Holy Spirit descended upon him in bodily form like a dove. And a voice came from heaven, "You are my beloved Son; with you I am well pleased."



**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.

Experience firsthand the life and message of Saint Faustina whose personal encounters with Jesus have inspired a world-wide devotion to Christ's Divine Mercy. This drama also brings audiences a riveting modern story that makes Divine Mercy remarkably relevant and urgent for our world today. The program is filled with all the elements of professional theater, runs 90 minutes, and is suitable for ages 13 and up.

For tickets and additional information, contact Our Lady of Grace Church Office at 510-537-0806, email newsletter@olgcv.org, or visit our website www.olgcv.org.

Watch the trailer & learn more about St. Faustina at www.DivineMercyDrama.com

SPONSORS NEEDED

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.



**GIRLS CYO BASKETBALL
SIGN UPS**

Girls Basketball (grades 2nd–8th) sign-ups this January. The dates will be Tuesdays, **January 5th, and 12th**, in Stack Center from 6:00–8:30pm, and Sunday, **January 10th** from 9:30am–12:30pm in Stack Center. All non-OLG school students must bring a copy of their birth certificate and a currently dated copy of a utility bill (water, PG&E, garbage or cable) that list the property address. These will be the only sign up dates, practices begin the week of January 25th.

If you are interested in coaching or helping with CYO in another position please contact Elizabeth Antonio at olgcyo.registrar@gmail.com



SACRAMENT PREPARATION

Thank you to the OLG community for your support of the 4 students who celebrated the Rite of Acceptance after the 9:00 Mass on **December 13th**. They will continue preparation to receive the Sacraments of Initiation at the Easter Vigil. Please keep them and all our First Eucharist & Confirmation students in your prayers as they journey together in faith.

HIGH SCHOOL CONFIRMATION

This year, we have 12 students preparing to receive the Sacrament of Confirmation. The annual Confirmation weekend retreat will take place **January 8th-10th, 2016**. Please keep them in your prayers as they grow in faith.

Looking for a gift-giving opportunity? We have students in need of scholarships for the retreat. The cost for one student for the weekend is \$240. Donations of any amount are welcome. If you are able to help, please mark donations "Confirmation retreat" and send them to the Faith Formation Center. For more information, please contact Robyn Lang at 510-582-9266, ffc@olgcv.org. Thank you!

PLEASE NOTE

Due to the holiday schedule of our bulletin publisher we are not able to report the weekly offerings for most of December. The Sunday offerings will be updated after the first of the year along with the Christmas Offering

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

The 2014/2015 catechetical year is almost at the halfway point! Our Catechists are amazing, sharing their faith with enthusiasm and joy. Want to join them in this adventure in evangelization? All our classes need extra eyes and hands. If you are interested in helping, please contact the Faith Formation Center for more information. Classes meet Tuesday afternoons (3:45-5) and Sunday morning (10:30-11:45). Let us help you with your New Year's resolution to get more involved! Contact the Faith Formation Center at 510-582-9266, ffc@olgc.org

**CATHOLIC YOUTH ORGANIZATION (CYO)
MASS--JANUARY 16th**

At the 5:00pm Mass on Saturday, **January 16th**, our CYO athletes will be recognized in thanksgiving for talents and gifts given by God. The players will be blessed as they come closer to the end of their 2015-2016 season. The coaches and volunteers will receive a blessing as well for all they do to lead the young people in this ministry. Please join with us as we wish them well in their final games of the season.

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.

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:	\$ 8,910.00
Last Year this week	\$ 8,475.00
Weekly Budgeted Goal:	\$ 8,815.00
Year-to-date this year:	\$408,337.00
Year-to-date last year:	\$401,981.00
December Budgeted Expenses	\$56,532.00

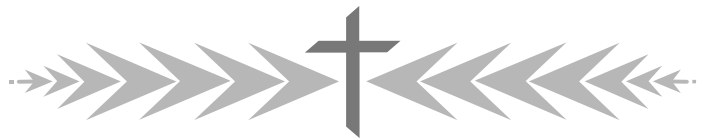
May God bless your continuing generosity.



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 | Elaine Jordan |
| Kathleen Denning | Richard Martin |
| Julie Dillon | Doree Rivera |
| Estela Enriquez | Florence Sharp |
| Juanita Estrellas | Iwan Tunggal |
| Mary Franks | James Van Wert |
| Theresa Fuller | Yvonne Wheeler |
| Byron Griffith | |



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



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! Instead 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).

PRAYER SHAWL MINISTRY
KNITTERS/CROCHETERS NEEDED

Prayer shawls have been made for years, they are universal and embracing, they comfort and enfold, wrap and warm, shelter and embrace. Those who knit or crochet and receive a shawl are blessed.

Prayer shawls bring a community together in prayer. Prayers are said for the person as shawls are worked on. These shawls will be made in the privacy of your home and will be given to the ill in our parish or as needed. Each recipient will receive a prayer with the shawl labeled "Made Just for You, Our Lady of Grace Prayer Shawl Ministry." Our pastor will bless the shawls at a community Mass before they are given to their new owner.

If you like to knit or crochet, please contact Ruth Picha at (510) 538-9063 or email picha4@sbcglobal.net for more information. Donations of yarn are welcome! Your help is needed!

THIS WEEK

Sunday, January 3rd:

Coffee & Donuts After All Masses

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

PPC Information Table
 10:00--Stack Center

Tuesday, January 5th:

Bible Study
 9:30am--Parish Office

Religious Education Classes
 3:45pm--Stack Center

CYO Girls Basketball Registration
 6:00pm--Stack Center

Baptismal Class
 7:00pm--Parish Office

Thursday, January 7th:

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

Serenity Group
 7:30pm--Stack Center

Friday, January 8th:

Hispanic Music Rehearsal
 7:00pm-- Augustine Center

Sunday, January 10th:

Coffee & Donuts After All Masses

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

CYO Girls Basketball Registration
 9:30am--Stack Center

Youth Ministry
 After 9:00am Mass--Gym

Religious Education Classes
 10:30am--Stack Center

Parish Registration
 10:00am--Stack Center

Spanish Mass
 2:00pm--Church

Mass Intentions for the Week

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

MONDAY, JANUARY 4th (CHURCH)

St. Elizabeth Ann Seton, Religious

8:30am Edward Moser (D)

TUESDAY, JANUARY 5th (CHURCH)

St. John Neumann, Bishop

7:00am Manuel Gonsalves (D)

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 6th (CHURCH)

St. Andre Bessette, Religious

7:00am Patricia Hayes (D)

THURSDAY, JANUARY 7th (CHURCH)

St. Raymond of Penafort, Priest

7:00am Jack Sullivan (L)

FRIDAY, JANUARY 8th (CHURCH)

7:00am Jean Morris (D)

SATURDAY, JANUARY 9th (CHURCH)

8:30am Duane Deen (D)

SUNDAY, JANUARY 10th (CHURCH)

THE BAPTISM OF THE LORD

9:00am Elisa Rita Venturini (D)



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.



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.

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 M. JUPINA, D.D.S.

READINGS FOR THE WEEK:

January 4th through January 10th

- Monday: 1John 3:22-4:6; Matthew 4:12-17, 23-25
- Tuesday: 1John 4:7-10; Mark 6:34-44
- Wednesday: 1John 4:11-18; Mark 6:45-52
- Thursday: 1John 4:19-5:4; Luke 4:14-22a
- Friday: 1John 5:5-13; Luke 5:12-16
- Saturday: 1John 5:14-21; John 3:22-30
- Sunday: Isaiah 42:1-4, 6-7; Acts 10:34-38; Luke 3:15-16, 21-22

ADORATION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT SATURDAY, JANUARY 16th



Our next Holy Hour with the Blessed Sacrament:
Saturday, January 16th
 Following the 8:30am Mass
 Private Devotions
 In the Church
 All are welcome

OPPORTUNITIES TO GET INVOLVED

Still pondering your resolutions for 2016 why not consider our Parish Mission Statement: *A community that endeavors to live our faith grounded in Jesus Christ. We celebrate Christ's presence in Word, Sacrament, and the shared experiences of our faith – community.*

1. St. Mary's Center (outreach to poor elderly)
2. Servicing meals to the elderly at Strobridge
3. Helping Hands (helping prepare receptions after funerals at OLG.)
4. Parish Maintenance & Gardening
5. St. Vincent DePaul Outreach (outreach to the poor)
6. CYO Athletic Programs
7. The Parish Festival
8. Working in the Religious Education Program
9. Working on the Confirmation team
10. Working with the RCIA team
11. Visit the Sick/Eucharistic Minister to the Sick and Homebound
12. Eucharistic Minister at Mass
13. Lector at Mass
14. Altar Society