


**Lenten Events focusing on Families**
**Friday, March 4 - 24 Hours of Mercy (We need your help!)**

*From the Pastor* The School Children will begin our day of prayer with the Stations of the Cross at 2:30pm. Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament begins at 3pm and will continue for 24 hours. Bring your family for an hour or two of prayer in the presence of the Lord. Confession will be offered from 3pm until 4pm and from 7pm until 9pm on Friday and 9:30 am until 10:30am in Spanish and English on Saturday. Songs of Mercy will be provided by our Choirs from 7pm until 9pm. The Rosary will be prayed on Friday evening at 4,5,9,and 10pm. On Saturday the Rosary will be at 9am in Spanish and at 10, 11, and Noon in English. The Divine Mercy Chaplet will be prayed at 3pm on both days. There will be a Bilingual Mass on Saturday at 8:30am. Keep Vigil with the Lord at Adoration with the Men of Faith from 10pm until 7am. Please sign up for an hour through the night this Weekend or call the office.

**Sunday, March 6 Family Unity Breakfast (free)**

A free breakfast will be offered to our families from 10am until 1pm. Please let the School or the Parish office know by Thursday March 3 if you are coming so we can purchase the food. There will be prizes for our school contest winners. Volunteers are needed to help the Men of Faith with set up, serving, and cleanup, please contact the Office if you can help.

**Wednesday, March 9 Mass, Soup, and Reflection**

Join us for Mass at 6pm, a soup meal, and a presentation for the whole family on how to encounter the love of God and respond. In the Unitive Way we give ourselves over to the mystery of the Triune God of love. Now that we are at peace with God through penance and have sought the wisdom of God in Christ Jesus we are ready to open ourselves to encounter our God in love. We come to experience a deep connection to who we are and come to an affective understanding of God as our hearts are transformed by His love.

**Divine Mercy Chaplet**

Join us in the Church on Fridays at 3pm and Sundays at Noon for prayer. Sunday at 3pm in Spanish.

“We have forgotten to concentrate on what should be our true preoccupation: the life of people, of families.” Pope Francis in Mexico

“Lent is a good time to recoup happiness and hope that makes us feel like the loved children of the father.” Pope Francis in Mexico

**PILGRIMAGE**

Join me to explore the Saints of Mercy as we go on Pilgrimage to Poland. We will go to the Shrine for the Divine Mercy and the tomb of St. Faustina. I will explore The City of the Immaculate founded by Maximilian Kolbe and grew to be the largest religious monastery in History on the eve of World War II. We will see the bunker where St. Maximilian was starved and executed at Auschwitz. We will see places of significance in the Life of John Paul II. We will visit the Black Madonna of Czestochowa. May we give Thanks for the message of Mercy we have received through these Saints.

**Gospel for the Fourth Sunday in Lent (March 6th)**
**John 9:1, 6-9, 13-17, 34-38**

As Jesus passed by he saw a man blind from birth. He spat on the ground and made clay with the saliva, and smeared the clay on his eyes, and said to him, “Go wash in the Pool of Siloam” — which means Sent —. So he went and washed, and came back able to see. His neighbors and those who had seen him earlier as a beggar said, “Isn’t this the one who used to sit and beg?” Some said, “It is,” but others said, “No, he just looks like him.” He said, “I am.” They brought the one who was once blind to the Pharisees. Now Jesus had made clay and opened his eyes on a sabbath. So then the Pharisees also asked him how he was able to see. He said to them, “He put clay on my eyes, and I washed, and now I can see.” So some of the Pharisees said, “This man is not from God, because he does not keep the sabbath.” But others said, “How can a sinful man do such signs?” And there was a division among them. So they said to the blind man again, “What do you have to say about him, since he opened your eyes?” He said, “He is a prophet.” They answered and said to him, “You were born totally in sin, and are you trying to teach us?” Then they threw him out. When Jesus heard that they had thrown him out, he found him and said, “Do you believe in the Son of Man?” He answered and said, “Who is he, sir, that I may believe in him?” Jesus said to him, “You have seen him, and the one speaking with you is he.” He said, “I do believe, Lord,” and he worshiped him.



**LENTEN WEDNESDAY SOUP MEAL**

Please plan on joining us for a simple meal of soup and bread Wednesday's during Lent. It will be a time for fellowship and families coming together. Our Soup Meal follows the 6:00pm Mass. This Wednesday (**March 2nd**) Soup Meal is sponsored by the Hispanic Community. We thank them for their ministry of hospitality for this meal. Donations will be accepted to benefit Operation Rice Bowl.

**LEARN ABOUT THE HOUSING CRISIS FROM A CATHOLIC PERSPECTIVE**

Tim Iglesias, a professor of law from the University of San Francisco, will speak on the housing crisis from a Catholic perspective in Stack Center on Wednesday, **March 2nd**. He will explore both the causes of the housing crisis and possible solutions. He will also address the various roles that people of faith in this Year of Mercy can play in advocating for housing in our area. This event will be from 7:15 - 8:30pm following Mass at 6:00 and the soup dinner. Sponsored by the Pax Christi/Social Justice Group at Our Lady of Grace Church. For more information, call Denise at (510) 303-9767

**DO NOT BE AFRAID OF CONFESSION**

During the Lenten season confession will be available every Monday from 7:30am until 8:00am, Friday's from 3:00pm-4:00pm and Saturday's from 3:30pm until 4:30pm. Our Communal Penance service is scheduled for Tuesday, **March 15th** at 7:00pm.



**A HOUR OF MERCY EVERY FRIDAY DURING LENT**

There will be an hour of Mercy every Friday during Lent from 2:30pm until 3:30pm. We will begin with the Stations of the Cross with the school children. The Divine Mercy Chaplet will be recited beginning at 3:00pm

**Servicio's En Espanol**

Durante la Cuaresma  
Via Crucis--Jueves --7pm



**COMMUNITY BREAKFAST**

Fr. Tom invites the OLG community to a free *Unity of Community Breakfast* 10:00am-1:00 pm on **March 6th**, in Stack Center. Bring you family for breakfast and meet others in our OLG Community. Please Contact jay@olgcv.org or 510 537-0806 with names of attendees so we can prepare name tags to help us get to know each other better and know how much food to prepare.

Our *Men of Faith*, are providing the breakfast, and are in need of Men to help set up, serve and clean-up the breakfast. If you can help, please contact Jerome Blaha at jab@bhp-law.com or by phone at 510 816-9110."

**24 HOURS OF MERCY**

We need your help for 24 hours of Adoration on Friday **March 4th** from 3:00PM until 3:00PM on **March 5th**. We have the Men of Faith who will be in to help in the night but we need others to spend time in Adoration especially through the night. If you can spend an hour or two please call the office at 537-0806 so we can schedule you. *Keep night watch with the Lord for an hour from 9:00PM until 7:00AM.*

*Please see Fr. Tom's column on page one for a complete list of times of prayer with the Rosary, Divine Chaplet, and songs of mercy during the 24 Hours of Mercy as well as the opportunity for private devotions before the blessed sacrament.*

**TRIPLE WAY TO GOD FR. TOM'S LENTEN LECTURE SERIES**

Fr. Tom will conclude his Lenten lecture series on *The Triple Way to God*, with *Part 3, March 9th* in Stack Center at 7:15pm. In the Unitive Way we give ourselves over to the mystery of the Triune God of Love. Now that we are at peace with God through penance and have sought the wisdom of God in Christ Jesus we are ready to open ourselves to encounter our God in love. We come to experience a deep connection to who we are and come to an affective understanding of God as our hearts are transformed by His love.

**“Sharing God’s Mercy” –  
The Bishop’s Annual Appeal**

Throughout the Diocese last weekend was Bishop’s Appeal Commitment Weekend.

It is important that we as a parish support the work and ministry of the Office of the Bishop. For many years Our Lady of Grace parishioners have supported the Bishop’s Appeal as it provides the means to continue the mission Christ has entrusted to us: to serve, to educate, to care for the poor, and to be a beacon of hope. The ministries, services and programs that are funded from this effort allow us to fulfill the mission given to us all. More specifics about the areas supported by your generosity can be found in the brochures on the table in the vestibule.

Here at Our Lady of Grace we have over 1000 registered households. Last year 112 households participated in the Diocesan Capital Campaign: Reclaiming Christ. We are grateful to those individuals and families who made that commitment and who continue to honor their pledges to that four year campaign.

As a parish we have consistently achieved our Bishops Appeal goals largely due to the efforts of less than 200 individuals and households. We are confident that once again we will achieve our goal. We have been asked by the Diocese to form a committee and make presentations on the appeal and to hold a commitment weekend. However, given our past record I am confident we will once again make our goal without all of those steps. The challenge this year is to encourage all those families and individuals who did not participate in the previous campaign to make the commitment to this year’s Bishops Appeal. If those roughly 880 households participated in the Bishops Appeal we would have our goal achieved in no time.

If you have not yet completed a Bishop’s Appeal pledge envelope, they can be found in the pews. I ask you to please complete an envelope and drop it in any collection. Our parish goal is \$25,139.54. This is the same goal as we had in 2014, and in 2014 we reached 107% of that goal. I am confident we can do so again. As always, I thank you for your usual generosity. Please make the commitment to be part of this solution.

*Fr. Tom*



**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 21st:**

Sunday Plate:	\$ 9,404.00
Last Year this week	\$ 7,861.00
<b>Weekly Budgeted Goal:</b>	<b>\$ 8,920.00</b>
Year-to-date this year:	\$ 67,923.00
Year-to-date last year:	\$ 65,237.00
January Budgeted Expenses	\$ 69,310.00

*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:

- |                   |                |
|-------------------|----------------|
| Larry Bronzini    | Byron Griffith |
| Virginia Cabardo  | Elaine Jordan  |
| Dennis Cande      | Richard Martin |
| Kathleen Denning  | Doree Rivera   |
| Julie Dillon      | Mike Roth      |
| Estela Enriquez   | Florence Sharp |
| Juanita Estrellas | Iwan Tunggal   |
| Mary Franks       | James Van Wert |

*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.*

**MAURA VANDERPOORTEN**

**SAVE THE DATE  
WE HOPE TO  
"MEET YOU IN PARIS"**

**Saturday, May 21st  
At the**

**OLG Spring Auction !**

Enjoy a Silent and Live Auction, catered dinner, Dessert Dash & Dancing ! 6pm--10:30pm--More information and ticket sales to come. You don't want to miss this fun adult evening out. Childcare for a nominal donation is provided by "Team Dawson". Come hang out with old friends and make some new ones !

Have a Donation? Contact: Liz Huizar--[lizhuizar79@gmail.com](mailto:lizhuizar79@gmail.com)

**FALL FESTIVAL 2016  
PLANNING MEETING  
FEBRUARY 29th  
STACK CENTER~ 7:00PM**

Preliminary planning for Fall Festival 2016 is now underway. We will have a re-cap and planning meeting on Monday, February 29th in Stack Center. We would love to hear your ideas and thoughts on this great community building event. Want to get involved—there are many ways to be apart of the Fall Festival beginning with the planning and on through to the weekend of **September 24th -25th**. Come and get involved to make Festival 2016 the best ever!

**INITIATIVE TO END THE DEATH PENALTY**

Your signature on an anti-death penalty initiative will help place the measure on the November ballot to replace California's unworkable death penalty with life imprisonment without the possibility of parole. California has the nation's largest death row, and this initiative would not only eliminate the possibility of executing an innocent person, but could also save the state and local governments approximately \$150,000,000 per year. The death penalty has been discontinued by all other Western countries and is strongly condemned by Pope Francis and many other church leaders.



**RCIA INQUIRY**

RCIA Inquiry Group meets Tuesdays at 7:00pm in Our Lady of Grace Room in Stack Center. You may join at anytime.

This group is offered for those exploring membership in the Catholic Church. This weeks topic: *How do Catholics Interpret the Bible?*

**THIS WEEK**

**Sunday, February 28th:**

*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

Parish Registration  
10:00am--Stack Center

**Tuesday, March 1st:**

Bible Study  
9:30am--Parish Office

Religious Education Classes  
3:45pm--Stack Center

RCIA - Inquiry  
7:00pm--Stack Center

Baptismal Class  
7:00pm--Parish Office

**Wednesday, March 2nd:**

Lenten Soup Meal  
After 6:00pm Mass

Lenten Lecture Series  
7:15pm--Stack Center

**Thursday, March 3rd:**

Stations of the Cross in Español  
7:00pm--Church

St. Vincent de Paul Meeting  
7:00pm--Stack Center

Serenity Group  
7:30pm--Stack Center

**Friday, March 4th:**

Stations of the Cross  
2:30pm--Church

*24 Hours of Mercy Begins*  
3:00pm--Church

**Sunday, March 6th:**

*Coffee & Donuts After All Masses*

Unity of the Community Breakfast  
10:00am--Stack Center

*Mass Intentions for the Week*

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

**MONDAY, FEBRUARY 29th**

8:30am Manuel & Dorothy Callier (D)

**TUESDAY, MARCH 1st**

7:00am Becky Frank (D)

**WEDNESDAY, MARCH 2nd**

7:00am Ray & Ann Burdette (D)

6:00pm Aida Bernardino (D)

**THURSDAY, MARCH 3rd**

*St. Katharine Drexel, Virgin*

7:00am Rudy & Augie Enriquez (D)

7:00pm Stations of the Cross (Spanish)

**FRIDAY, MARCH 4th**

*St. Casimir*

7:00am Jerry Fain (D)

2:30pm Stations of the Cross

3:00pm Divine Mercy Chaplet

**SATURDAY, MARCH 5th**

8:30am Ed Winkenbach (D)

**SUNDAY, MARCH 6th**

9:00am Felicity Hill (L)

**READINGS FOR THE WEEK:**

**February 29th through March 6th**

Monday: 2 Kings 5:1-15b; Luke 4:24-30

Tuesday: Daniel 3:25, 34-43; Matthew 18:21-35

Wednesday: Deuteronomy 4:1, 5-9;  
Matthew 5:17-19

Thursday: Jeremiah 7:23-28; Luke 11:14-23

Friday: Hosea 14:2-10; Mark 12:28-34

Saturday: Hosea 6:1-6; Luke 18:9-14

Sunday: Joshua 5:9a, 10-12;  
2 Corinthians 5:17-21  
Luke 15:1-3, 11-32

**RECYCLING COMES TO STACK CENTER**

You may have noticed the green, blue, and gray bins that have replaced the old garbage cans in Stack Center. OLG parish is initiating recycling in Stack Center in the spirit of being good stewards of our Earth. As Pope Francis tells us, "You are called to care for creation not only as responsible citizens, but also as followers of Christ!" (1/18/15) Having a successful recycling program in a place like Stack Center, which is used by many groups, can be a challenge, but it should help that most people are probably now used to separating their trash at home. To make it even easier, there are clear labels to let you know what goes in each bin. Most of our bowls, plates, and cups are now compostable and can go in the green bins. If we all work together and help each other, we can make this work!

**ITALIAN CATHOLIC FEDERATION**

Come join the ICF as we celebrate St. Patrick's Day with our Corned Beef and Cabbage dinner on **March 10th**. We will also celebrate St. Joseph's Day with a St. Joseph's table. Don't know what a St. Joseph's table is? Come learn about an old Italian tradition and help support St. Vincent de Paul's society @ Transfiguration Parish. Doors open at 6:00pm, dinner served at 6:30pm. Reservations are required, please call Stella Taddei @ 538-581-5863 or Juanita Madrid @ 510-582-7242. Deadline is Monday, March 7th.

**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:

**MAGNOLIA CONDOS**



**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

Next Meeting: March 3rd,

9:15 to 11:15 am

Speaker: Margaret Turek

Topic: To heal the eyes of our heart:

"Seeing Jesus as the face of mercy"