

## ■ ■ ■ ■ ■ ■ ■ ■ Palm (Passion) Sunday and Holy Week

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*From the Pastor*

During Holy Week we are entering more deeply into the Mystery of Christ's Passion. Only on Passion Sunday and Good Friday do we proclaim the Passion Gospels. We enter into the Three Days (Triduum) beginning with the Mass of the Lord's Supper on Holy Thursday. We continue our prayer on Good Friday with the proclamation of the Passion and Veneration of the Cross. We culminate our Prayer at the Easter Vigil where we remember God reaching out to humanity throughout history until alienation of death is conquered in the Resurrection. We initiate those who have prepared over the last year for this moment when they profess their faith and join us as brothers and sisters in Christ receiving Baptism, Confirmation, and Eucharist. This is the Night! **Join us on Easter Morning** to celebrate the Resurrection with the disciples as they come to the empty tomb and hear He has Risen. Invite your friends and family to come encounter our Risen Lord with the community of the faithful founded by Christ through St. Peter and the Apostles. For 2000 years the Catholic Church has invited people to come join us, to hear the message of Jesus Christ, enter into the mystery of His Passion, Death, and Resurrection where we are saved, so we may come to Communion with God who loves us.

### **Fasting and Abstinence are obligatory on Good Friday.**

Who has to fast? People who are 18-59 are required to fast on Ash Wednesday and Good Friday. A proper fast means only one full meal is eaten that day. Snacks can be consumed in the morning, afternoon or evening. The snacks are dependent on when the full meal is eaten. It can be had at any time. Who cannot eat meat? Catholics age 14 and older should abstain from meat on Ash Wednesdays and all the Fridays during Lent, especially **Good Friday**, which is the last one before Easter.

### **Paschal Fast**

A spiritual practice preparing for Easter is partaking in the Paschal Fast. I have practiced this for many years and have found it to be a way of entering more deeply into the Mystery of our Salvation. I have offered this sacrifice for those who are being initiated into the faith and to be in solidarity with those being persecuted for their faith. This fast begins after the mass of Holy Thursday until after the Easter vigil on Saturday night.

### **Divine Mercy Novena**

Divine Mercy Novena begins On Good Friday. Prayer pamphlets are in the middle of the Church. In her Diary, Jesus told Sr. Faustina, **"I desire that during these nine days you bring souls to the fountain of My mercy, that from there they may draw strength and refreshment and whatever grace they need in the hardships of life, and especially at the hour of death"** (Diary, 1209). While the Chaplet can be said anytime, the Lord specifically asked that it be recited as a novena, promising that **"By this Novena (of Chaplets), I will grant every possible grace to souls"** (Diary 796).

### **Gospel for Easter Sunday (March 27th)**

John 20:1-9

On the first day of the week, Mary of Magdala came to the tomb early in the morning, while it was still dark, and saw the stone removed from the tomb. So she ran and went to Simon Peter and to the other disciple whom Jesus loved, and told them, "They have taken the Lord from the tomb, and we don't know where they put him." So Peter and the other disciple went out and came to the tomb. They both ran, but the other disciple ran faster than Peter and arrived at the tomb first; he bent down and saw the burial cloths there, but did not go in. When Simon Peter arrived after him, he went into the tomb and saw the burial cloths there, and the cloth that had covered his head, not with the burial cloths but rolled up in a separate place. Then the other disciple also went in, the one who had arrived at the tomb first, and he saw and believed. For they did not yet understand the Scripture that he had to rise from the dead.

*Liturgical Schedule :*

Last opportunities for confessions at O.L.G.  
 Monday, **March 21st,** 7:00-8:00am  
 Wednesday, **March 23rd** 6:00-7:00pm

*Mass Schedule: Holy Week*

Monday, **March 21st,** 8:30am  
 Tuesday, **March 22nd,** 7:00am  
 Wednesday, **March 23rd,** 7:00am  
*No morning Masses Thursday-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, March 24th, 7:30pm:**  
**Mass of the Lord's Supper**

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

Good Friday, **March 25th :**

**Celebration of the Lord's Passion**  
**Good Friday Services**

1:30pm, 6:00pm (Spanish) and 7:30pm  
 Stations of the Cross: 12:00pm and 5:00pm, (Spanish)

**Holy Saturday, March 26th, 7:30pm**

*The Great Easter Vigil:*

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

**Easter Sunday Masses, March 27th**

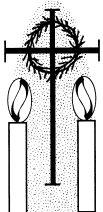
7:30 am, 9:00 am, 11:00 am 2:00pm (Spanish)

**WEDNESDAY, MARCH 23rd**  
**SACRAMENT OF CONFESSION**

There is no evening mass Wednesday, March 23rd there will however be Confession from 6:00-7:00pm . There will be a Spanish priest available.

**HELP US DECORATE FOR EASTER**

We will be readying the church for our Easter Services beginning at 9:00am on Saturday, **March 26th.** If you are available to help place flowers, dust and spruce up the church we would be most appreciative of your help. No need to RSVP just looking forward to seeing you then!



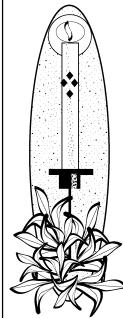
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**GOOD FRIDAY COLLECTION**

On Good Friday, our parish will take up the annual Good Friday Collection for the Holy Land. Your financial contribution helps to support the struggling Christian community and to protect Christianity's holiest places. Please be generous.

**PARISH OFFICE HOURS**

The Parish Office will close at 12 Noon on Good Friday, **March 25th.**



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*CELEBRATE NEW LIFE*  
*IN CHRIST*

*YOU ARE INVITED TO:*

Celebrate the Baptism, First Eucharist, and Confirmation of James Fitzgerald, Adrian Florido, Tyler Kingsley, Kaliya Kirkwood, Vincent (Rocco) Mondello, and Valerie So. Rejoice!

*The Solemn Easter Vigil*

*Saturday, March 26th, 2016 at 7:30 pm*

*Our Lady of Grace Catholic Church*



**EASTER MEMORIAL FLOWERS**  
**A BEAUTIFUL OUR LADY OF GRACE TRADITION**

Once 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 in the pews or by submitting the names of your loved ones to the Parish office. A list of names of all who are remembered will be available after Easter.

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

Following is the status of our Annual Bishops

Our Goal for 2016:	\$25,139.54
# of Registered Families	980
# of Acknowledged Donors to date:	21

Please complete and return your pledge/donations as soon as possible.

**PRAYER SHAWL MINISTRY**

The Prayer Shawl Ministry at OLG began in January of 2016 for the purpose of creating shawls of prayer and love for those needing the warm arms of love and concern wrapped around them. Since that time, 18 shawls have been distributed to those in need. Our dedicated group of women, Lee, Darlene, Ronda, Lou, Bettylu, Roberta, Maria, Stella, Marie, Kathy, Joan, and Cheryl continue to knit and crochet faithfully with prayer, often not knowing the recipient of their work. Attached to each shawl, blessed by our clergy, is a prayer of comfort and a labeled tag from our community.

The need for shawls never ends. If you know of anyone dealing with loss, loneliness, anxiety or pain and would like to present them with a shawl, please call Ruth Picha at 538-9063 or email, pichar@sbcglobal.net

If you would like to help with this ministry, donations are welcome. We are grateful for donations that have been received, we hold you in prayer as we do the recipients of our shawls.

**AN UPDATE FROM ST. VINCENT de PAUL**

SVdP is grateful to the OLG community for their prayers & financial support. Who are we helping?

H. is homeless and living in his truck. He works part-time. The DMV is holding his registration tags since he hasn’t had a smog check. He can’t afford it and is worried that his truck will be towed. One of our members met him at the smog check and paid for the service.

J. and her young son have been living with her sister and her family for the last several years. This has given her the time to find a job (she works 2 half time jobs) and save a bit of money. She has found an apartment in Hayward and put down a deposit. She will be OK month to month but needed some help with her first month’s rent. We paid a portion of that and she and her son are now in their own place.

**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 13th:**

Sunday Plate:	\$ 8,050.00
Last Year this week	\$ 8,837.00
<b>Weekly Budgeted Goal:</b>	<b>\$ 8,920.00</b>
Year-to-date this year:	\$ 93,299.00
Year-to-date last year:	\$ 91,800.00

*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  | Mike Roth      |
| Julie Dillon      | Florence Sharp |
| Estela Enriquez   | Iwan Tunggal   |
| Juanita Estrellas | James Van Wert |
| Mary Franks       | 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.*

**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

**GRAPHIC ARTIST NEEDED**

Are you a professional graphic artist or a creative amateur with desk top publishing software who is looking to use your gifts for the glory of God? The Maximillian Kolbe Communications Committee has just the place for you! On occasion , we will need help with outreach materials. If you can give a little of your time and talent to the parish, please contact Colleen Lindberg at the parish office 537-0806.

**SOUTH HAYWARD PARISH  
WINTER SHELTER NEEDS**

As you know OLG representatives have been actively involved in South Hayward Parish's programs to assist the homeless. The winter shelter opens nightly during the cold and rain. Currently they are in need of donations of the following items: travel toothbrushes, travel-size tooth paste, razors, woman's hairbrushes (a few), plain white socks, and men's white T-shirts. Thank you for considering.



**LIGHT IN THIS YEAR OF MERCY**

*"Neither do men light a candle, and put it under a bushel, but on a candlestick; and it giveth light unto all that are in the house."*

Come find a candle to light.  
Share your Gifts.

**OLG  
One Community  
Ministry Fair**

**April 10th** after the 9:00 and 11:00am Masses

**THIS WEEK**

**Sunday, March 20th:**

**PALM SUNDAY**

*Coffee & Donuts After All Masses*

Children's Liturgy

9:00am--Mass

Religious Education Classes

10:30am--Stack Center

Youth Ministry

In the Gym after 9:00am Mass

**Tuesday, March 22nd:**

Bible Study

9:30am--Parish Office

Religious Education Classes

3:45pm--Stack Center

Men's Bible Study

7:00pm--Parish Office

**Wednesday, March 23rd:**

Confession in English and Español

6:00pm--Church

**Thursday, March 24th:**

**HOLY THURSDAY**

Serenity Group

7:30pm--Augustine Center

**Friday, March 25th:**

**GOOD FRIDAY**

Stations of the Cross in English

12 Noon--Church

Stations of the Cross in Español

5:00pm--Church

**Saturday, March 26th:**

**HOLY SATURDAY**

Help decorate the church

9:00am--Church

**Sunday, March 27th:**

**EASTER SUNDAY**

*Mass Intentions for the Week*

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

**MONDAY, March 21st**

8:30am Debbie Telles (D)

**TUESDAY, MARCH 22nd**

7:00am Joe & Marie Silveria (D)

**WEDNESDAY, MARCH 23rd**

7:00am Joe & Isabel Furtado (D)

**THURSDAY, MARCH 24th**

**HOLY THURSDAY**

No Morning Mass

7:30pm Liturgy of the Lord's Passion

**FRIDAY, MARCH 25th**

**GOOD FRIDAY**

12:00pm Stations of the Cross

1:30pm Celebration of the Lord's Passion

5:00pm Stations of the Cross (Español)

6:00pm Celebration of the Lord's Passion (Español)

7:30pm Celebration of the Lord's Passion

**SATURDAY, MARCH 26th**

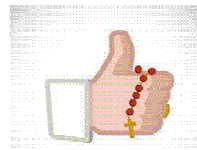
**HOLY SATURDAY**

7:30pm THE GREAT EASTER VIGIL

**READINGS FOR THE WEEK:**

**March 21st through March 27th**

Monday: Isaiah 42:1-7; John 12:1-11  
 Tuesday: Isaiah 49:1-6; John 13:21-33, 36-38  
 Wednesday: Isaiah 50:4-9a; Matthew 26:14-25  
 Thursday: Exodus 12:1-8, 11-14;  
 1 Corinthians 11:23-26; John 13:1-15  
 Friday: Isaiah 52:13-53:12;  
 Hebrews 4:14-16, 5:7-9  
 John 18:1-19:42  
 Saturday: Genesis 1:1-2:2; Genesis 22:1-18;  
 Exodus 14:15-15:1; Isaiah 54:5-14;  
 Isaiah 55:1-11; Baruch 3:9-15, 32-4:4  
 Ezekiel 36:16-17a, 18-28;  
 Luke 24:1-12  
 Sunday: Acts 10:34a, 37-43; Colossians 3:1-4;  
 John 20:1-9



**LIKE US ON FACEBOOK!**

***Faithbook: God has sent you a friend request***

Are you on Facebook? Have you joined our Facebook page yet? If not please look us up by going to [www.facebook.com/olgcv/](http://www.facebook.com/olgcv/) When you come to mass at OLG be sure to check in then turn your phone off.

**LATE NIGHT CATECHISM**

Remember all that Sister taught you in Catechism class? No! Well maybe a visit to "Late Night Catechism" will refresh your memory. Late Night Catechism will be presented @ Holy Names University Regents Theatre, 3500 Mountain Blvd., Oakland, CA. Performance is **Saturday, April 16th** at 7:00 P.M., wine and cheese reception beginning at 5:30 P.M.

Tickets are \$40.00, Mezzanine and \$50.00 for Orchestra and Box seats. Discounts are available for groups of 10 or more by calling brown paper tickets at 800-838-3006 or on-line at <http://ICFLNC.brownpapertickets.com>. Hope many of you can join us.

**EXECUTION ALERTS**

The following executions are scheduled to take place in **March** :

March 22nd Adam Ward TX

March 30th John Battaglia TX

We ask your prayers for these persons, for the victims of their crimes, and for their families.

**SAINTS OF MERCY  
 PILGRIMAGE TO POLAND  
 September 30 to October 8, 2016**

**\$3,499.00 per person**

**Spiritual Director:**

**Fr. Thomas Czeck, OFM Conv.**

Information Nights--Sunday, **March 20th** at 1:00pm and Saturday, **April 16th** at 6:30pm in Stack Center.

**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:

**MUSIC DEPOT**