



Lent begins March 1

From the Pastor

Our Lenten Journey begins **March 1** with Ash Wednesday. Please join us for Mass at 7am, 8:15am and 6pm. There will also be a Noon Ash Service. We will have our Wednesday Soup meals after the 6pm Mass during Lent beginning on Ash Wednesday.

Next Family Movie now on March 25

The movie, *The 13th Day* will be on **Saturday March 25** at 6:30pm. (**Not on March 11**) This movie is the story of Fatima where the children received a message and a Mission that changed our world. This is the feast day of the Annunciation when Mary encountered the angel Gabriel and received the invitation and message that she would be the Mother of God. It was on this feast day that Bernadette received the message from our Lady, "I am the Immaculate Conception"

Call to Conversion

In last weeks Gospel Jesus took us deeper into holiness by letting us know that just following the Commandments to control our actions is not enough. People can play games with laws if their heart is not changed. Jesus asked us to guard our thoughts especially with two vices that can pervert love, anger and lust. We live in a time where everyone is angry about something and a life of lust is seen as the norm for humanity. In a age of limitless information where people have instant access to pornography many are trapped in addiction destroying real relationships and families. Let us seek to purify our thoughts by turning to God's Mercy asking for help.

I invite people to consider Covenant Eyes for their family to filter the internet. There is also the 40day challenge app to help those who want to seek freedom from pornography.

Bishops Appeal

I went to the training for the Appeal and was happy to learn that last year we exceeded our goal and collected 128%. Thank you for your generosity and I ask you to receive the appeal this year with the same zeal. This is an amazing diocese making a difference in people's lives. We were invited by Catholic Charities to adopt a refugee family and thanks to you a family is creating a new life away from the ravages of war and life in the limbo of a refugee camp. Thank you for offering compassion in a world that can be heartless. Please take the Appeal to heart.

Peace,
Fr. Tom

Gospel for The Eighth Sunday in Ordinary Time (February 26th)

Matthew 6:24-34

Jesus said to his disciples: "No one can serve two masters. He will either hate one and love the other, or be devoted to one and despise the other. You cannot serve God and mammon. "Therefore I tell you, do not worry about your life, what you will eat or drink, or about your body, what you will wear. Is not life more than food and the body more than clothing? Look at the birds in the sky; they do not sow or reap, they gather nothing into barns, yet your heavenly Father feeds them. Are not you more important than they? Can any of you by worrying add a single moment to your life-span? Why are you anxious about clothes? Learn from the way the wild flowers grow. They do not work or spin. But I tell you that not even Solomon in all his splendor was clothed like one of them. If God so clothes the grass of the field, which grows today and is thrown into the oven tomorrow, will he not much more provide for you, O you of little faith? So do not worry and say, 'What are we to eat?' or 'What are we to drink?' or 'What are we to wear?' All these things the pagans seek. Your heavenly Father knows that you need them all. But seek first the kingdom of God and his righteousness, and all these things will be given you besides. Do not worry about tomorrow; tomorrow will take care of itself. Sufficient for a day is its own evil."

**PRESIDENT'S DAY
PARISH HOLIDAY**

Monday, February 20th is a federal holiday. The Parish Offices will be closed in honor of Presidents Day and will re-open on Tuesday at 9:00am. Monday's mass is at 8:30am. The entire Parish staff wishes you a safe and relaxing holiday.

CONSIDER ALPHA FOR ADULTS

Alpha is winding down but, you still have time to join the final talks. We will ponder the Questions of Life and Faith. We will Adore, Worship and come into communion with the Lord! We will begin with a meal at 6:00pm--in Stack Center all are welcome.

UPCOMING TALK FOR ALPHA

- **March 2:** *Why should I tell others?*
- **March 9:** *Does God Heal Today?*
- **March 16:** *What about the Church?*
- **March 23:** *Dinner and Prayer*
- **March 30:** *Reconciliation Service*

**LITURGY OF THE WORD FOR CHILDREN
YOUR HELP IS NEEDED**

Our Sunday morning Liturgy of the Word program takes place during the 9:30 Mass. Each week, children age 3-11 are dismissed to the Augustine Center to hear the gospel and discuss the message in an age appropriate setting.

Please consider being part of this great ministry. If your child is currently enjoying this special celebration of Liturgy of the Word, celebrate with them! We are in need of some help on the 1st & 4th Sunday of the month. Material and mentoring available. Contact the Faith Formation Center at 510-582-9266 or ffc@olgcv.org

COME JOIN US

All are invited after the **9:30am** Sunday Mass to Gather in Stack Center For coffee and donuts. This is a great opportunity to visit and meet new friends.



2017 BISHOPS APPEAL

Bishop Michael C. Barber has chosen "All God's People – United in Faith" as the theme for the 2017 Bishop's Appeal.

For most of us, our experience of Church is at our parish. The Church is, however, much more than that. We are all called in mission to serve the Church and its people through our parish, our diocese and universally.

The Annual Bishop's Appeal in the Diocese of Oakland is but one way to serve our fellow parishioners and the broader community as we demonstrate our unity as Catholics of the Diocese of Oakland. We are asked to pray for our fellow parishioners, our clergy and leadership, for those who are served by the many ministries and programs offered by the Church, and for the success of the 2017 Bishop's Appeal.

Every member of the faith community of our local Church is also asked to participate in whatever way possible by making a gift. All gifts to the 2017 Bishop's Appeal are equally important. As responsible stewards of our faith and the many gifts that God has generously bestowed on each of us, we are asked to make a sacrificial, proportionate and thoughtful gift. Those who are blessed with more are challenged to give more, but everyone is asked to respond. Imagine what can be done in the name of our local faith community if every parishioner were inspired by "All God's People – United in Faith" and participated in our annual Bishop's Appeal.

While parishes rely on the financial support of parishioners through weekly offertory collections, the diocese also relies on these same parishioners to make possible the many services it provides to literally thousands of individuals each year. The Bishop's Appeal supplies annual funding to many ministries which provide services throughout the Diocese of Oakland.

By sharing your time, talent and treasure with our sisters and brothers and our Church of the East Bay, you are making a sacrifice and returning to God a small portion of the many gifts he has given to you. By embracing "All God's People – United in Faith" through the 2017 Bishop's Appeal, you are contributing greatly to building up the Kingdom of God here in the Church of the East Bay.

Your Generosity in Action

The Bishop's Appeal provides funds to offset some of the following expenses:

- Parishes and Schools in Need \$913,000
- Pastoral Ministries and Services \$2,031,000
- Clergy Formation and Retirement \$3,511,000
- Religious Education and Formation \$1,014,000



ASH 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 Mass. The Ash Wednesday (**March 1st**) Soup Meal is sponsored by The Faith Formation Center. Volunteers and donations are still needed, call 582-9266 to see how you can help.

NEW PARISHIONER REGISTRATION

We extend a warm welcome to new parishioners and guests. If you would like to register or update information, please stop by Stack Center on either the 2nd or 4th Sunday of the month immediately following the 9:30am Mass. There will be a hospitality volunteer there to greet you at the New Parishioner Registration Table. We are grateful to our volunteers for providing this ministry on our behalf. *Next registration date: February 26th.*



**SAVE THE DATE
SATURDAY, MAY 6th
OLG SPRING AUCTION !**

Enjoy a Silent and Live Auction, catered dinner, Dessert Dash & Dancing ! 5:30pm--10:30pm--More information and ticket sales to come. You don't want to miss this fun adult evening out. Childcare for a nominal fee will be provided. Come hang out with old friends and make some new ones !

Have a Donation? 100% of our auction items are donated. Do you have a vacation cabin? Connections with a local sports team? Frequent Flyer miles to donate? In the past we have received donations for vacation rentals, hosted dinner parties, fine wines, and spir-its, spa days and sports and concert tickets, please, contact: Liz Huizar--lizhuizar79@gmail.com for Colleen Lindberg in the parish office with your donation items.

This year we are also looking for an Auctioneer to lend a hand and help make the event a special evening--could this be something you can do???

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 12th:

Sunday Plate:	\$ 9,157.00
Last Year this week	\$ 8,971.00
Weekly Budgeted Goal:	\$ 8,920.00
Year-to-date this year:	\$ 57,114.00
Year-to-date last year:	\$ 50,200.00

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:

- | | |
|--------------------|--------------------|
| Glen Alcorn | Bridgett Foscalina |
| Kathleen Andrews | Mary Franks |
| Susanna Axe | Byron Griffith |
| James Barthman | Sheila Janes |
| Bette Bennett | Elaine Jordan |
| Peggy Burton | Alice McLaughlin |
| Leonardo Cabardo | Florence Sharp |
| Frances De Villier | Pat Silva |
| Julie Dillon | Susan Star |
| Claudia Dobbs | Mercedes Tellez |
| | Iwan Tunggal |

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.

ADELAIDE VOELLINGER

**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: **March 2nd,**
9:15 to 11:15 am

Speaker: Fr. Jerry Brown
Personal Faith Journeys



RCIA INQUIRY

RCIA Inquiry Group meets **Tuesdays** at 7:00pm in Our Lady of Grace Room in Stack Center. You may join at any-time. This group is offered for those exploring membership in the Catholic Church. The next meeting will be **February 22nd.**



**CASTRO VALLEY
WRESTLING
CRAB FEED
MARCH 18th**

Come join the CV Wrestlers and their families for their Crab Feed fundraiser in Stack Center. Social hour begins at 6:00pm dinner at 7:00pm. Tickets can be purchased in the OLG Parish office, for information contact Denise Ramirez at 510-909-4994

A UNIQUE OPPORTUNITY OF SERVICE

Augustinian Volunteers are Catholic men and women between the ages of 21-29 who wish to serve God's people in partnership with the Augustinian Order and others. The service of the volunteers is with established educational, social, and health programs and varies according to the needs of the sponsoring site and the individual volunteer. Applications are currently being accepted for the 2017-2018 volunteer year for our sites in Chicago, IL, Lawrence, MA, Philadelphia, PA, San Diego, CA, Ventura, CA and Chulucanas, Peru. If interested, please visit www.augustinianvolunteers.org or contact us at osaval@gmail.com

THIS WEEK

Sunday, February 19th:

Coffee & Donuts After 9:30am Mass

Children's Liturgy

9:30am--Mass

Religious Education / Sacrament Preparation

11:00am--Stack Center - English

11:30am--Stack Center - Bilingual

Youth Ministry

6:00pm--Stack Center

Monday, February 20th:

Presidents Day Holiday

Parish Offices Closed

Tuesday, February 21st:

Bible Study:

9:30am--Parish Office

Religious Education Classes:

3:45pm--Stack Center

Men's Bible Study

7:00pm--Parish Office

RCIA Inquiry:

7:00pm--Stack Center Conference Room

Thursday, February 23rd:

Adult Alpha Series

6:00pm--Stack Center

Adoration

7:00pm--Church

Serenity Group

8:00pm--Stack Center

Friday, February 24th:

Hispanic Bible Study

6:00pm--Stack

Saturday, February 25th:

Adoration

8:30am--Church

Sunday, February 26th:

Coffee & Donuts After 9:30am Mass

Children's Liturgy

9:30am--Mass

11:00am--Stack Center - English

11:30am--Stack Center - Bilingual

Youth Ministry

6:00pm--Stack Center

Mass Intentions for the Week

Please note:

All masses will be celebrated in the Church.

MONDAY, February 20th

8:30am Caden Sigmon (D)

TUESDAY, February 21st

St. Peter Damian, Bishop, Doctor of the Church
7:00am Genevieve Atol (D)

WEDNESDAY, February 22nd

THE CHAIR OF ST. PETER THE APOSTLE
8:15am Helen Maes (D)

THURSDAY, February 23rd

St. Polycarp, Bishop, Martyr
7:00am Rudy & Augie Enriquez (D)

FRIDAY, February 24th

7:00am Mariano Realina (D)

SATURDAY, February 25th

8:30am Mariano Realina (D)
5:00pm Josephine Lopez (D)

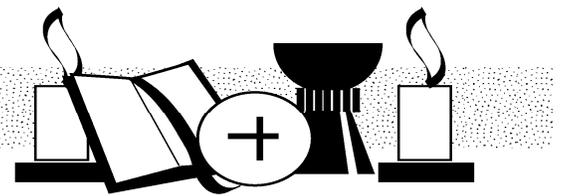
SUNDAY, February 26th

9:30am Lucia Dellosa (D)
11:30am Ron Emory (L)
1:30pm Frances Perez (L)

READINGS FOR THE WEEK:

February 20th through February 26th

- Monday: Sirach 1:1-10; Mark 9:14-29
- Tuesday: Sirach 2:1-11; Mark 9:30-37
- Wednesday: 1 Peter 5:1-4; Matthew 16:13-19
- Thursday: Sirach 5:1-8; Mark 9:41-50
- Friday: Sirach 6:5-17; Mark 10:1-12
- Saturday: Sirach 17:1-15; Mark 10:13-16
- Sunday: Isaiah 49:14-15; 1 Corinthians 4:15; Matthew 6:24-34

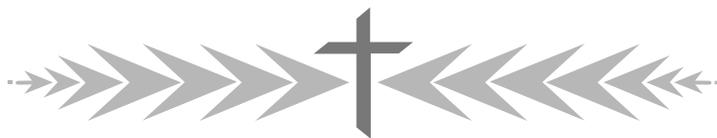


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FLOWER REMEMBRANCE FUND



Do you have some spare blossoms that you can share? Our Environment Committee needs your help to decorate the altar area each week, either by bringing in flowers from your yard or through a monetary donation towards the purchase of flowers. Flower donations envelopes can be found at the entrances of the church to make a donation in memory of a loved one. If you have any questions feel free to contact Jay at 537-0806. Your donation in honor of your loved one will be mentioned in the bulletin.



ADORATION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT NEW SCHEDULE



Join us every Saturday for Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament following the 8:30am Mass, and every Thursday at 7:00pm in the church.

ROSARY BEFORE MASS

Come join in prayer of the rosary 30 minutes before each of the weekend liturgies. Pray for our parish and our youth as they journey with the Alpha Youth program. All are welcome!



ROSARY FOR WORLD PEACE

The rosary will be recited for World Peace after the 8:15 am Mass each Wednesday 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:

WORLEY'S HOME DESIGN CENTER