



### Our Lenten Journey

From the Pastor

I hope you are enjoying the book *Resisting Happiness* by Mathew Kelly and that you are getting your daily reflections. This Sunday we encounter the Transfiguration of Jesus before his disciples. We are all invited into the experience. The path up that mountain proceeds through prayer and encounter. On that Mountain, Jesus revealed before mortal eyes the Transcendent Truth of who He is - and who Peter, James and John - and each one of us - will become in Him. They were invited to exercise their freedom and embrace the path that He had prepared. So are we, right now to Listen to Him. We are afraid like the Apostles but the touch of Jesus urges them and us to move beyond fear to get up and take action.

**Join us for the Rosary before Mass on Sunday.** This year marks the 100th Anniversary of the Apparition of Our Lady at Fatima. May the Fatima prayer help us on our Lenten Journey: O my Jesus, forgive us our sins and save us from the fires of hell lead all souls to heaven especially those in most need of your mercy.

**Join us on Thursday March 23** for Alpha at 6:00pm for dinner and discussion. Our question is: *What about the Church?*

**Join us for Adoration and confession on Thursday at 7pm.**

### March 25 the Annunciation

Join us for Mass and Adoration beginning at 8:30am. **Stations in the Park** in Anthony Chabot regional Park beginning at 11:30 with a bag lunch and then we will take a 2 mile hike while praying the Stations.

**Family Movie Night:** we will watch the 13th Day, the story of Fatima. We have a pot luck dinner at 6:30pm followed by our Movie. We will also have information about our 100th Anniversary pilgrimage to Fatima and Lourdes on **October 3.**

### St. Patrick's Day

On Friday **March 17**, we celebrate St. Patrick. Bishop Barber has released us from the obligation to Abstain from meat. Enjoy your Corned Beef!

### Gospel for The Third Sunday of Lent (March 19th)

John 4:5-42

Jesus came to a town of Samaria called Sychar, near the plot of land that Jacob had given to his son Joseph. Jacob's well was there. Jesus, tired from his journey, sat down there at the well. It was about noon.

A woman of Samaria came to draw water. Jesus said to her, "Give me a drink." His disciples had gone into the town to buy food. The Samaritan woman said to him, "How can you, a Jew, ask me, a Samaritan woman, for a drink?"—For Jews use nothing in common with Samaritans.— Jesus answered and said to her, "If you knew the gift of God and who is saying to you, 'Give me a drink, ' you would have asked him and he would have given you living water." The woman said to him, "Sir, you do not even have a bucket and the cistern is deep; where then can you get this living water? Are you greater than our father Jacob, who gave us this cistern and drank from it himself with his children and his flocks?" Jesus answered and said to her, "Everyone who drinks this water will be thirsty again; but whoever drinks the water I shall give will never thirst; the water I shall give will become in him a spring of water welling up to eternal life." The woman said to him, "Sir, give me this water, so that I may not be thirsty or have to keep coming here to draw water. "I can see that you are a prophet. Our ancestors worshiped on this mountain; but you people say that the place to worship is in Jerusalem." Jesus said to her, "Believe me, woman, the hour is coming when you will worship the Father neither on this mountain nor in Jerusalem. You people worship what you do not understand; we worship what we understand, because salvation is from the Jews. But the hour is coming, and is now here, when true worshipers will worship the Father in Spirit and truth; and indeed the Father seeks such people to worship him. God is Spirit, and those who worship him must worship in Spirit and truth." The woman said to him, "I know that the Messiah is coming, the one called the Christ; when he comes, he will tell us everything." Jesus said to her, "I am he, the one who is speaking with you."

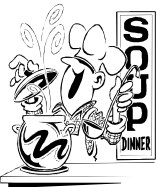
Many of the Samaritans of that town began to believe in him. When the Samaritans came to him, they invited him to stay with them; and he stayed there two days. Many more began to believe in him because of his word, and they said to the woman, "We no longer believe because of your word; for we have heard for ourselves, and we know that this is truly the savior of the world."

**BEST LENT EVER  
RESISTING HAPPINES**

Did you pick up your Lenten book at mass on Ash Wednesday? The book *Resisting Happiness* by Matthew Kelly was distributed to help you have the best lent ever. Don't give up chocolate for Lent this year do something memorable. Go to our webpage, [www.olgcv.org](http://www.olgcv.org) and click on the yellow smiley face to sign up with Dynamic Catholic to receive daily emails on your journey this Lent--Be Bold ! Be Catholic !

**FINAL YEAR OF MERCY PILGRIMAGE  
Saturday, March 25th, 11:30 am-3:00 pm**

Join our Youth Group on our final pilgrimage for this year. We start with lunch then hike (downhill!) to the golf course. We will pray the Stations of Cross while we hike. **All are invited!** Flyers available beginning Ash Wednesday. Contact the Faith Formation Center to RSVP or get more information ([ffc@olgcv.org](mailto:ffc@olgcv.org), 510-582-9266). We hope to see you there!



**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. **(March 15th)** Soup Meal is sponsored by **one of our parish groups**. Financial donations at the Soup Meal will be accepted for Operation Rice Bowl.

**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 16:***What about the Church?*
- **March 23:***Dinner and Prayer*
- **March 30:***Reconciliation Service*

**2017 BISHOPS APPEAL**

*"All God's People - United in Faith"*

I would like to take this opportunity to thank everyone for your participation and support of the 2016 Bishop's Appeal.

As your pastor, I want to let you know that I support this effort and have assured Bishop Barber that our parish will do everything in our power to make this appeal successful. In fact, I have made my own gift as a sign of my support.

The specifics of the appeal have been outlined in the literature you received. However, I would like to emphasize the spiritual effect the appeal has on our parish and diocese. The appeal provides the means to continue the mission that 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.

Our hope is that each family will be generous and make a gift from its substance and not merely one of convenience. This appeal is based on equal sacrifice, not equal giving. We cannot ask everyone to consider the same size gifts, but we ask that everyone let their gift reflect how generous God has been with His gifts. Can you consider a gift of \$15, \$20 or \$30 each month for the rest of this year? That amount will equal a pledge of \$150, \$200 or \$300.

For those of you who have already made a gift or pledge by sending in your pledge card, I thank you for your generosity.

I know with your response, we will have done our part as a parish family here in the Diocese of Oakland and I sincerely thank you.

**Fr. Tom**

**FAMILY MOVIE NIGHT**

All families are welcome to a light dinner and movie with Fr. Tom to see:

**The 13th Day - The Miracle of Fatima**  
Saturday, **March 25th**  
6:30pm - Stack Center



**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 spirits, spa days and sports and concert tickets, please, contact: Liz Huizar--lizhuizar79@gmail.com or Colleen Lindberg in the parish office with your donation items.

**LENTEN LECTURE SERIES**

*Building Bridges for a Peaceful Future:*

We all desire peace – in our hearts, our community, our country, and in the world. But how, as Catholic Christians, can we achieve peace? The Pax Christi/Social Justice group at OLG gives you an opportunity to explore the topic of peace in our Lenten series We will offer 3 presentations on Wednesdays in Lent from 7:15 - 8:30 p.m. in Stack Hall immediately following the 6:00 p.m. Mass and soup dinner.

**Wed., March 15 – Building Bridges to a Sustainable Future.** Sandra Hodges from OLG will speak on time banking as a way to re-energize peaceful, caring communities by giving and accepting gifts of time.

**Wed., March 22 - Developments in Catholic Peace Making: From Just War Theory to Non-Violence –** Deacon Matt Dulka, Regional Director of Maryknoll Fathers & Brothers, will look at the difficulties of applying the principles of the Just War Theory in modern circumstances and how the Gospel challenges us to be "artisans of peace" by adopting the attitude and practice of non-violence.

**Wed., March 29 – Gandhian Non-Violence –** Lorin Peters, a teacher of social justice and non-violence and a St. Leanders parishioner, will present the principles of Gandhian non-violence and how, as Catholic Christians, we can apply them to our world today.

**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 5th:**

Sunday Plate:	\$ 9,627.00
Last Year this week	\$ 8,408.00
<b>Weekly Budgeted Goal:</b>	<b>\$ 8,920.00</b>
Year-to-date this year:	\$ 81,798.00
Year-to-date last year:	\$ 76,983.00

*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 |
| Lehua Alejandro   | Mary Franks        |
| Kathleen Andrews  | Byron Griffith     |
| Susanna Axe       | Sheila Janes       |
| James Barthman    | Elaine Jordan      |
| Bette Bennett     | Alice McLaughlin   |
| Peggy Burton      | Stephanie Rosevear |
| Leonardo Cabardo  | Florence Sharp     |
| Joseph De Villier | Pat Silva          |
| Julie Dillon      | Susan Star         |
| Claudia Dobbs     | Mercedes Tellez    |

**ADORATION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT**



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

*Please remember in your prayers the recently deceased in our parish families and all who mourn the loss of a loved one.*

**CHARLOTTE TEDESCO**

**DECREE FROM BISHOP BARBER  
ST. PATRICKS DAY**

The disciplinary practice of abstaining from meat on Fridays in Lent is an important dimension of the penitential nature of the season. This year, the Feast of St. Patrick, **March 17th**, falls on a Friday in Lent. Given the many celebrations that occur on this day, in accord with the norm of law, I herewith grant to all Catholics of the Diocese as well as all present here that day, a dispensation from abstinence from meat and meat products. I encourage all who make use of this dispensation to engage in another sacrificial or charitable act that day.

*Michael Barger S.J.  
The Most Reverend Michael C. Barber, S.J.*

**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 16th**,  
9:15 to 11:15 am

Speaker: Claudia Paquette & Jean Easterly  
Topic: *Personal Faith Journeys*

**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@olgcgv.org

**THIS WEEK**

**Monday, March 13th:**

Women’s Bible Study:  
7:00pm--Stack Center

**Tuesday, March 14th:**

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

**Wednesday, March 15th:**

Lenten Soup Meal  
Following the 6:00pm Mass in Stack Center  
  
CYO Planning Meeting  
7:15pm--Stack Center  
  
Lenten Lecture Series  
7:15pm--Stack Center

**Thursday, March 16th:**

Adult Alpha Series  
6:00pm--Stack Center  
  
Adoration  
7:00pm--Church  
  
Serenity Group  
8:00pm--Stack Center

**Friday, March 17th:**

Stations of the Cross  
2:00pm--Church  
  
Hispanic Bible Study  
6:00pm--Stack Center

**Saturday, March 18th:**

Adoration  
8:30am--Church  
  
Castro Valley High Wrestling Team Crab Feed  
6:00pm--Stack Center

**Sunday, March 19th:**

**Coffee & Donuts After 9:30am Mass**

Children’s Liturgy  
9:30am--Mass  
  
Religious Education  
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, March 13th**

7:00am Maria Sousa Coelho (D)

**TUESDAY, March 14th**

7:00am Leticia Hardy (L)

**WEDNESDAY, March 15th**

8:15am Rudy & Augie Enriquez (D)

6:00pm John Franco (L)

**THURSDAY, March 16th**

7:00am The Fuller Family (D)

**FRIDAY, March 17th**

7:00am Priest of Conventual Franciscan  
in the CA Province

2:00pm Stations of the Cross

**SATURDAY, March 18th**

8:30am Jose & Julia Sousa (D)

**SUNDAY, March 19th**

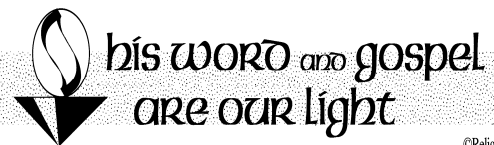
9:30am Detective Sgt. Tommy Smith (D)

1:30pm Jose Duarte (D)

**READINGS FOR THE WEEK:**

**March 13th through March 19th**

- Monday: Daniel 9:4B-10; Luke 6:36-38
- Tuesday: Isaiah 1:10, 16-20; Matthew 23:1-12
- Wednesday: Jeremiah 18:18-20;  
Matthew 20:17-28
- Thursday: Jeremiah 17:5-10; Luke 16:19-31
- Friday: Genesis 37:3-4, 12-13A, 17B-28A  
Matthew 21:33-43, 45-46
- Saturday: Micah 7:14-15, 18-20,  
Luke 15:1-3, 11-32
- Sunday: Exodus 17:3-7;  
Romans 5:1-2, 5-8  
John 4:5-42



©Religious Graphics, Ltd.

**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.

**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.

**DEVOTIONAL CANDLES PLEASE NOTE: NEW PRICE**



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 \$4.00. The glass globes in the candle stand must be left in the church.



**STATIONS OF THE CROSS**



Stations of the Cross lead by our school students are offered at Our Lady of Grace, Friday's at 2:00pm during Lent in the Church.

**EXECUTION ALERTS**

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

- March 7th Rolando Ruiz TX
- March 14th James Bigby TX

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

**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:

**BECK ROOFING COMPANY**