



Dear Parishioners:

We want to share with everyone the Financial results of the past two years and our projected budget for 2017.

Just as at home with your family budget, we also have to deal with rising costs and increasing demand on our resources. It always seems as if the money goes out the door faster that it comes in.

We have certain fixed expenses, which we have no control over, and because we had a drop off in donations (bequests) we ended the year with an almost \$21,000 deficit.

Overall, you will see that our expenses are generally flat, but we do have a revenue problem. In 2015, we had a significant bequest, which was very helpful, but we can not count on that each year. We are most grateful to those parishioners who remember Our Lady of Grace in their wills.

You can see from the weekly bulletin that we struggle with our plate collections meeting our weekly budget. We want to have a vibrant parish life for us and future generations but can only do that with your continued support. Even a small increase in your weekly envelope donation will help.

We are most grateful and blessed to have you and your continued support for the spiritual life and ministries that we provide to our Parish family.

Your Parish Finance Council

| | 2015 Year End | 2016 Year End | 2017 Budget |
|--------------------------------|------------------|------------------|------------------|
| Income: | | | |
| Collections | \$474,624 | \$490,956 | \$498,096 |
| Donations/Fund Raising | \$257,517 | \$110,540 | \$140,890 |
| Faith Formation & Ministries | \$82,562 | \$97,405 | \$84,200 |
| Other Income | \$53,982 | \$58,069 | \$80,031 |
| Total | \$868,685 | \$756,970 | \$803,217 |
| Expenses: | | | |
| Parish Operations | \$79,097 | \$80,296 | \$75,764 |
| Diocesan Assessments | \$67,857 | \$67,140 | \$69,332 |
| Insurance: liability, property | \$47,492 | \$43,561 | \$48,843 |
| Faith Formation & Ministries | \$61,208 | \$70,322 | \$115,772 |
| Parish Life | \$426,304 | \$426,594 | \$402,784 |
| Fund Raising & Charity | \$41,754 | \$46,799 | \$41,580 |
| Depreciation | \$39,923 | \$42,935 | \$43,702 |
| Total | \$763,635 | \$777,647 | \$797,777 |
| Net Income | \$105,050 | -\$20,677 | \$5,440 |



INSTRUCT ME IN YOUR WAYS, O LORD

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Gospel for The Fifth Sunday of Lent (April 2nd)

John 11:1-45

Due to the length of the gospel it could not be provided this week.

COMMUNAL PENANCE SERVICE

During the Lenten season confession will be available Thursday's during adoration beginning at 7:00pm; Saturday's during adoration following the 8:30am Mass; and Saturday afternoons at 3:30pm.

Our Communal Penance Service is scheduled for this Thursday, **March 30th** at 7:00pm.



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 29th**) Soup Meal is sponsored by **our ICF community**. Financial donations at the Soup Meal will be accepted for Operation Rice Bowl.

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. Our final presentation is this Wednesday from 7:15 - 8:30 p.m. in Stack Center immediately following the 6:00 p.m. Mass and soup meal.

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.



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.

2017 BISHOPS APPEAL

"All God's People - United in Faith"

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.

Here at Our Lady of Grace we have over 1000 registered households. Last year 157 households participated in the Bishops Appeal. We are grateful to those who have already made their donation this year. If you have not yet completed a Bishop's Appeal envelope or made a donation please consider doing so today.

Fr. Tom

BEST LENT EVER RESISTING HAPPINES

Did you pick up your Lenten book *Resisting Happiness* by Matthew Kelly? We distributed the books to help you have the best lent ever. Do something memorable this year. Go to our webpage, www.olgcv.org and click on the yellow smiley face to sign up with Dynamic Catholic to receive daily emails with a video along with an Act, Focus and Prayer to go along with the book or follow along on our Facebook page--Be Bold !



NEWS FROM OUR RCIA TEAM

This Sunday, we continue the celebration of the Scrutinies. On the Third, Fourth and Fifth Sundays of Lent at the 9:30 am Mass we will experience the Scrutinies, part of the Rites of Christian Initiation of Adults (RCIA). In the Scrutinies, we as a parish community intercede for the Elect (those seeking baptism) and offer them support with our unceasing prayer and Christian witness as they approach their Baptism and full initiation to the Catholic Church at Easter Vigil.

Our Elect for 2017 are *Kevin Parra, Daniel Salas, Julia Leong and Bret Sanford*. Let us pray that any attachment to evil might be removed, and that they be truly converted to Christ.

**REPORT ON PROPERTY IMPROVEMENTS
IN 2016**

Our parish has one revenue stream and that is your contributions. During the last year the money you entrusted to us in the monthly Maintenance envelope for property improvements was spent in 2016 for the following projects: new carpet and flooring at the entrance to the parish office \$8,450; replaced the two furnaces in the parish office \$7,239.; outdoor lighting replaced for improved lighting and efficiency \$6,100.; Stack Center partition doors repaired \$2,500.; trees trimmed at the entrance on San Miguel \$2,400; front of Church was cleaned and painted \$2,100.; Parish office interior painted in the reception area \$1,580. Total property improvements and repairs came to \$30,369. The amount received thru the Maintenance envelopes last year was \$20,677. We encourage you to contribute using the monthly Maintenance envelopes for the upkeep of our Parish property.

A more complete reporting of the financial results of 2016 are on page one of this bulletin. Our expenses exceeded our revenue for the year.

REFUGEE FAMILY UPDATE

Our refugee family, Esperance Zibera and her 4 children, are gradually becoming adjusted to their new life in the United States. The 2 older children are doing well in kindergarten and preschool. Esperance attends a mom/toddler class at the elementary school as well as an ESL class four times a week. However the family continues to face challenges, both social and economic. Our Lady of Grace parish has been subsidizing the family's rent thanks to your generous donations. However after over 6 months of assistance, we have to come up with a plan for how we can help them become more self-sufficient. If you are interested in being part of this discussion, please join us for a meeting on Tuesday, **March 28**, at 7:00 pm in A-2 in the Augustine Center.

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 19th:

| | |
|------------------------------|--------------------|
| Sunday Plate: | \$ 8,151.00 |
| Last Year this week | \$ 10,308.00 |
| Weekly Budgeted Goal: | \$ 8,920.00 |
| Year-to-date this year: | \$ 99,848.00 |
| Year-to-date last year: | \$104,898.00 |

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 | Sheila Janes |
| Kathleen Andrews | Elaine Jordan |
| Susanna Axe | Alice McLaughlin |
| James Barthman | Rosy Pereira |
| Peggy Burton | Stephanie Rosevear |
| Leonardo Cabardo | Florence Sharp |
| Julie Dillon | Pat Silva |
| Claudia Dobbs | Susan Star |
| Bridgett Foscalina | Mercedes Tellez |
| Mary Franks | Iwan Tunggal |

**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.

TERESA LAVIN

WE WALK THE ROAD TO EASTER

**“UNITY SHINES BRIGHT”
DINNER AUCTION**

Saturday, May 6, 2017

Join us for an amazing night!

Silent & Live Auctions, Dinner by Miraglia

Dessert Dash , Dancing , No-Host Bar
& much more!

Sponsor a 10-person table \$250 or \$30 per person
open seating (Adults only)

Purchase tickets online at www.olgcv.org/
auction or tickets can be purchased in the school
or parish offices

Limited tickets available until Tuesday, **May 2nd.**

Tickets will Not be sold at the event.

Proceeds benefit OLG Parish and School
& selected charities.

Don't miss out on this fun annual event!!

ST. VINCENT de PAUL

St. Vincent de Paul is completely dependent on your monthly donations. We are grateful for all your support and want you to know where your donations are going.

Who are we helping? (names have been changed to respect privacy)

Betty came to us a little over 2 years ago after her water had been shut off. She had been on and off work for the previous 2 years with an undiagnosed illness. She had just been diagnosed with leukemia and had run out of money. She had 2 daughters still in school and one that was working and helping out. We helped pay part of her water bill. Recently she contacted us again. She has gone through chemotherapy and still has her good and bad days. However, her mother who has dementia has moved in and Betty is only able to work part-time. Her daughters are helping out as best they can. We again helped pay for part of a water bill and supplied some food for Christmas. Life for this family is not easy.

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.



THIS WEEK

Monday, March 27th:

Women's Evening Bible Study
7:00pm--Stack Center

Tuesday, March 28th:

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 29th:

Lenten Soup Meal
Following the 6:00pm Mass in Stack Center

Lenten Lecture Series
7:15pm--Stack Center

Thursday, March 30th:

Adult Alpha Series
6:00pm--Stack Center

Communal Penance Service & Adoration
7:00pm--Church

Serenity Group
8:00pm--Stack Center

Friday, March 31st:

Stations of the Cross
2:00pm--Church

Hispanic Bible Study
6:00pm--Stack Center

Saturday, April 1st:

Adoration
Following the 8:30am Mass--Church

Sunday, April 2nd:

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 27th

7:00am Teresa Ramos de Ibarra (D)

TUESDAY, March 28th

7:00am Dennis Felice (D)

WEDNESDAY, March 29th

8:15am Connie V. Camacho (D)

6:00pm Virgilio Salao (D)

THURSDAY, March 30th

7:00am Rodolfo Vasquez (D)

7:00pm *Communal Penance Service*

FRIDAY, March 31st

7:00am Charles Bohn & Family (L)

2:00pm Stations of the Cross

SATURDAY, April 1st

8:30am Danae Zytkowski (D)

SUNDAY, April 2nd

9:30am Nell Lilly (D)

11:30am Rafael Valenzuela Medina (D)

1:30am Ana Luisa Loza (D)

READINGS FOR THE WEEK:

March 27th through April 2nd

Monday: Isaiah 65:17-21; John 4:43-54

Tuesday: Ezekiel 47:1-9,12; John 5:1-16

Wednesday: Isaiah 49:8-15; John 5:17-30

Thursday: Exodus 32:7-14; John 5:31-47

Friday: Wisdom 2:1,12-22;

John 7:1-2,10,25-30

Saturday: Jeremiah 11:18-20; John 7:40-53

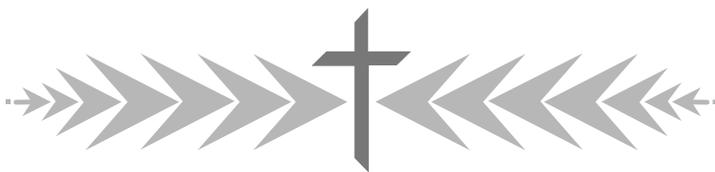
Sunday: Ezekiel 37:12-14; Romans 8:8-11;

John 11:1-45

FESCO

REGISTER FOR FESCO'S 20th ANNUAL SHUFFLE WALKATHON

As coalition members of FESCO Our Lady of Grace is grateful to support FESCO in their 19th Annual Shuffle Walkathon. FESCO continues to provide homeless families with shelter, nutritious meals and a hand up in becoming self-sufficient. With your help and support, FESCO can continue to help homeless families. Register now for the annual walk-a-thon to be held Saturday, **May 6th**, this is a family, pet friendly event. OLG Team Captain's, Chris Ippolito and Colleen Lindberg are asking for your help in support of FESCO, you can walk, be a benchwarmer cheerleader or make a donation to Team OLG. Please send a message to our community that you are committed to ending family homelessness in Alameda County by pledging your support as a donor to FESCO's 20th Annual Shuffle Walkathon. Registration materials are available in the parish office or contact Colleen at clindberg@olgcv.org. You can also sign up or donate by going to www.firstgiving.com/21524/20th-annual-fesco-shuffle. For more information or a pledge sheet, go to www.fescofamilyshester.org or call Stephanie Miller at the FESCO office at 510-886-5473, ext. 101.



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.

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:

BRAD LA VERNE PLUMBING