

██████████ Lent Begins on Wednesday February 14

□□□□□□ I ask you to make a plan so your Lent May bare spiritual fruit and Growth. At Our Lady of Grace
From the Pastor we have many opportunities to deepen your Spiritual life and enhance our lives as intentional Disciples of Jesus.

How may we participate to pray during Lent

1. Join us on **Ash Wednesday** at 7AM on Redwood Road, 8:15AM with the School, Noon, and 6PM in the Church. This is a day of Fasting and Abstinence. Coming to Mass on Ash Wednesday is a a Great way to begin Lent. A collection for Catholic Relief Services Operation Rice bowl will be taken at the Mass.
2. Wednesday Masses at 6PM followed by a **soup meal**. Prayer and Community!
3. Join a **Disciples on the Journey** prayer group during Lent to reflect and share on the Scriptures. Sign ups are this weekend.
4. Come to our Wednesday **Lenten Lecture Series** with Fr. Francisco Nahoe OFM Conv. A professor at Zaytuna College. The title of the Series is **Biblical Reflections on Christian Discipleship**.
5. Pray with Our Lenten Daily Reflection Book: **Walking together into Freedom**.
6. Join us for **Adoration** on Thursday at 7PM or Saturday Morning at 8:45AM and on Friday March 2 at 7PM
7. **Stations of the Cross** on Friday at 2PM with children and in Spanish at 7PM
8. Join us for the **Rosary** on Sunday 30 minutes before Mass.
9. Come to **Confession** on Thursday at 7PM during Adoration or on Saturday at 3:30PM.
10. Communal **Reconciliation Service** on Tuesday March 20 at 7PM.
11. Make a Donation of to St. Vincent De Paul
12. Join us at Coffee and Donuts 10:45AM on February 18 and meet our **Refugee family, Esperance and Children** and learn the progress that has been made.

Have a Blessed Lent!

Fr. Tom, Fr. Kevin, Fr. Paul and Staff

Bishops Appeal Pledge Weekend!

“Lighting the Way”

Please pray how each family will participate in the Annual Appeal to reach our goal of \$29,000. Let us do our part to support the mission of the Diocese to fund our diocese to:

Support catholic schools and parishes in need. 15%

Pastoral ministries and services. 27%

Religious education and Faith Formation. 12%

Clergy formation and support. 21%

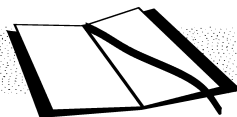
Priest retirement and care. 25%

I ask that each family would give a gift or make a pledge. Only 15% of our families participated last year. Thank you to those who gave generously last year. Last year we raised 121% of our goal. May we meet and exceed our goal this year.

Peace,

Fr. Tom

Hear the Word



of the LORD

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Gospel for the First Sunday of Lent (February 18th)

Mark 1:12-15

The Spirit drove Jesus out into the desert, and he remained in the desert for forty days, tempted by Satan. He was among wild beasts, and the angels ministered to him. After John had been arrested, Jesus came to Galilee proclaiming the gospel of God: "This is the time of fulfillment. The kingdom of God is at hand. Repent, and believe in the gospel."

LENTEN LECTURE SERIES

*Biblical Reflections on Christian Discipleship
Presented by Fr. Francisco Nahoe*

This series, offered by Fr. Francisco Nahoe OFM Conv., examines Christian Discipleship in light of Biblical narratives from the Book of Genesis, the Psalms, the Gospels, the Acts of the Apostles, the Pauline letters & the letters of John. Following a method laid out by Pope Saint John Paul II, we will address human, spiritual, intellectual & social dimensions of Christian Discipleship in order to foster our own ongoing growth as ever more authentic disciples of the Lord Jesus. Bring your Bible & an open heart & ask the Spirit of God to move within you. Join us for Mass in the Church at 6:00pm, followed by a **Soup & Bread Lenten Meal at 6:30pm. February 14th lecture begins at 7:30pm. February 21st thru March 21st lectures begin at 7:15pm.**

- February 14th** *Sin, Grace & Discipleship*
- February 21st** *The Gospel of Failed Discipleship*
- February 28th** *The Role of the Eucharist in Recovering Authentic Discipleship*
- March 7th** *The Journey of Discipleship in the Gospel of Luke and Acts*
- March 14th** *Portraits of Beloved Discipleship in the Gospel of John*
- March 21st** *Pauline Paths of Christian Discipleship*



LENTEN SOUP MEAL

Please plan on joining us for a simple meal of soup and bread on Wednesday's during Lent. It will be a time for fellowship and families coming together. Our Soup Meal follows the 6:00pm Mass. Thank you to our Youth Ministry Group for sponsoring the Soup Meal. Financial donations at the Soup Meal will be accepted for CRS Rice Bowl.

ENCOUNTER LENT-CRS RICE BOWL

Join our faith community-and nearly 14,000 Catholic communities across the U.S.-in a life-changing Lenten journey of encounter with CRS Rice Bowl. Pick up your family's CRS Rice Bowl from Stack Center on **February 14th**. During the 40 days of Lent, as companions on the journey, we will encounter our neighbor.

**ASH WEDNESDAY SERVICES
FEBRUARY 14th**

The schedule for Ash Wednesday is as follows: 7:00am at the Friary on Redwood Road, 8:15am All School Mass with Ashes, 12:00Noon Mass with Ashes, 6:00pm Mass with Ashes followed by a Soup Meal in Stack Center.

**THE 2018 BISHOP'S APPEAL
This is Commitment Weekend!**

Commitment Weekend is here! To successfully achieve both our parish goal & the overall diocesan goal of \$3 million, we need your help! A pledge to Appeal will help us reach out to thousands in the East Bay through diocesan ministries, programs & services.

Participation is the Key Ingredient

If you have not had an opportunity to make a pledge by returning your card through the mail, please complete a pledge envelope found in the pew & place it in the collection basket today. **YOUR GIFT MAKES A DIFFERENCE.** Thank you to all who generously contributed last year. Our Lady of Grace raised 121% of our goal & we were one of the 1st parishes to reach our goal so quickly! Our goal this year is \$29,000. If each family in our parish contributes at least \$30, we will achieve it. God Bless!

What is the Bishop's Appeal?

The total budget for Diocese of Oakland in 2018 is approximately \$17.5 million, and of that, the budget for diocesan-wide ministries & services is roughly \$7.5 million While income is generated to support the budget through parish assessments, rent collection on property, service fees & interest on the diocesan investments, the income does not fully meet the budgetary needs for providing all diocesan level ministries, programs & services. The Bishop's Appeal is an annual Appeal to generate funds needed to cover the costs of these ministries, programs & services.



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.

WINTER COLD & FLU SEASON

As always, you are reminded to use common good sense in the reception of Holy Communion during the annual cold & flu season. If you are feeling ill or think you may have been exposed to a virus, you should refrain from partaking of the Blood of Christ from the communal chalice. In the same way, you should refrain from offering you hand to others at the sign of peace. Likewise, if you are not comfortable sharing the sign of peace or receiving Holy Communion from the communal chalice for fear of infection, you should feel no pressure to do so. We should expect that some will refrain from the sign of peace and the communal chalice out of care for our well-being and not out of unkindness or lack of piety.

EVANGELIZATION CORNER

Youth Ministry

Next Meetings: February 11th & 25th

1st Holy Communion

Next Meetings: February 25th *We Pray*
March 4th *We Receive*

Whole Family Catechesis

Next Meetings: February 11th *Lenten Family Day*
March 11th *Keeping the Commandments*

For more information, contact the Evangelization Office at 510-582-9266.



RCIA CORNER

Knowing Your Faith Series

We offer a warm, accepting setting in small group discussions to find ways to deepen our faith and to nurture those seeking membership into the Catholic Church. Our next meeting will be on **February 13th** at 6:00pm. For more information, please contact Marie at rcia@olgcv.org



**HIGH SCHOOL TEENS: GOT QUESTIONS?
ALPHA - FEBRUARY 11TH**

Join us **tonight** from 6-8pm in Stack Center to share a **Meal**, watch an exciting **Video** & discuss in small groups the video and **our Faith in God** as we have **Fun** & make new **Friends!** Our hope for those teens who attend ALPHA is to have a deep experience with God as we explore our faith and answer questions in a comfortable setting. All are welcome!

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 4th:

Sunday Plate:	\$ 10,137.00
Last Year this week	\$ 9,603.00
Weekly Budgeted Goal:	\$ 8,920.00
Year-to-date this year:	\$ 44,783.00
Year-to-date last year:	\$ 43,600.00

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 | Elaine Jordan |
| Kathleen Andrews | Laura Martell |
| James Barthman | Alice McLaughlin |
| Jot Brown | Rosy Pereira |
| Leonardo Cabardo | Stephanie Rosevear |
| Antonio O. Chocha | David Rountree |
| Claudia Dobbs | Florence Sharp |
| Lynn Franks | Rosemary Slater |
| Anna Friedeberg | Mercedes Tellez |
| Byron Griffith | Iwan Tunggal |
| Don Jordan | Butch Vargas |

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

NORMA SILVA

VISIT WITH OUR REFUGEE FAMILY

The refugees from Uganda that our parish adopted in September, 2016, Esperance Zibera and her family, are planning to attend our 9:30am Mass next Sunday, **February 18**. They greatly appreciate all the material and monetary gifts that our parishioners have been donating to them as they start their new lives in our country, and they would like an opportunity to meet you and thank you. We invite you to come over to Stack Center after Mass to visit with them while enjoying our weekly "coffee and donuts."

COME & SEE
The Life & Ministry of the Friars

We invite unmarried men, ages 18-50 to meet the Friars, pray with us, learn our Spirituality and learn more about our life! **February 16th-18th**, beginning on **February 16th, Friday** at 4:00pm in Arroyo Grande. Concludes at 1:00pm, Sunday. For more information, call Fr. Paul at 510-671-0537.

The Lord IS CALLING You!??
MEN'S FAITH SHARE

All men of the parish are invited to join Our Men's Faith Share and Bible Study every Tuesday evening from 7 – 8:15pm in Stack Center-Room 7. Each week Fr. Paul leads a discussion on the meaning and application to our lives for the upcoming Sunday Mass readings. **COME & YOU WILL SEE!** (Jn 1:39). Next meeting is **February 13th**.

LENTEN SUGGESTIONS

“Give It Up for the Earth!” is a Lenten faith-in-action campaign for the environment sponsored by the Citizens for Public Justice. We are challenged to choose an action for God's creation as one of our Lenten promises this year. OLG's Pax Christi/Social Justice group has these suggestions:

- *Turn off your lights & appliances when not in use
- *Carry your water in a reusable bottle
- *Reduce your usage of paper towels
- *Have more meatless meals or don't eat beef
- *Put all your food waste in the green bin
- *Remember to bring your reusable shopping bags
- *Bring your own leftover containers to restaurants
- *Use cloth napkins
- *Recycle plastic bags by putting “bags in a bag” in a bag
- *Turn down your heat a couple of degrees & wear a sweater at home
- *Reduce your use of water
- *Drive less/bike or walk more
- *Use the cold water setting in your washing machine
- *Reduce or eliminate the use of poisons, pesticides & herbicides
- *Only use recyclable paper plates & cups

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.



THIS WEEK

Sunday, February 11th:

The Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time

- Liturgy of the Word
9:30am--Augustine Center
- Coffee & Donuts
After 9:30am Mass--Stack Center
- New Parishioner Registration
10:00am--Stack Center
- Whole Family Catechesis
10:50am--Stack Center
- ALPHA/Youth Ministry
6:00pm--Stack Center

Tuesday, February 13th:

- Tuesday Morning Bible Study
9:30am--Parish Office
- RCIA Inquiry
6:00pm--Stack Center
- Men's Faith Share
7:00pm--Stack Center, Room 7

Wednesday, February 14th:

- Ash Wednesday Masses
8:15am, 12 noon & 6:00pm--Church
- Lenten Soup Meal
Following the 6:00pm Mass--Stack Center
- Lenten Lecture Series
7:30pm--Stack Center

Thursday, February 15th:

- Adoration
7:00pm--Church
- AA Serenity Group
7:30pm--Augustine Center, Room A2

Friday, February 16th:

- Stations of the Cross
2:00pm--Church

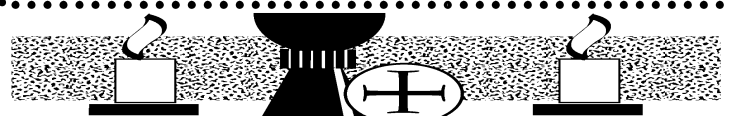
Saturday, February 17th:

- Adoration
8:45am--Church

Sunday, February 18th:

The First Sunday of Lent

- Liturgy of the Word
9:30am--Augustine Center
- Coffee & Donuts
After 9:30am Mass--Stack Center



Mass Intentions for the Week

All Masses are celebrated in the Church

SUNDAY, February 11th

The Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time

7:30am Helen Maes (D)

1:30pm Isabel Vastag (L)

MONDAY, February 12th

8:15am George Low, Jr. (D)

TUESDAY, February 13th

8:15am Jerome Gann (D)

WEDNESDAY, February 14th

ASH WEDNESDAY

8:15am Mass with Ashes (School Liturgy)

Noon Mass with Ashes

6:00pm Mass with Ashes

THURSDAY, February 15th

8:15am Fr. Jack Finucane

FRIDAY, February 16th

8:15am Thomas & Mary Hayes (D)

2:00pm Stations of the Cross

SATURDAY, February 17th

8:15am Martha Kozel (D)

SUNDAY, February 18th

The First Sunday of Lent

11:30am Tan Liong (D)

1:30pm Bella Martinez (L)



FLOWER REMEMBRANCE FUND

We are grateful for the anonymous donation to the Flower Fund in remembrance of Phanxico Nguyen Tan Tien, Giuse Nguyen Van Tiem, Anna Nguyen Thi Canh, Gioanbaotixita Vu Nhu Pho, Lucia Vu Thi Khanh, Maria Nguyen Thi Thuong & Robert Joseph Barry.

Flower donation envelopes can be found at the entrances of the church to make a donation in memory of or honor of a loved one or other occasion. 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.

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READINGS FOR THE WEEK:

February 12th through February 18th

- Monday: James 1:1-11; Mark 8:11-13
- Tuesday: James 1:12-18; Mark 8:14-21
- Wednesday: Joel 2:12-18; 2 Corinthians 5:20-6:2; Matthew 6:1-6, 16-18
- Thursday: Deuteronomy 30:15-20; Luke 9:22-25
- Friday: Isaiah 58:1-9a; Matthew 9:14-15
- Saturday: Isaiah 58:9b-14; Luke 5:27-32
- Sunday: Genesis 9:8-15; 1 Peter 3:18-22; Mark 1:12-15

CASTRO VALLEY HOMELESS OUTREACH

A very special thank you to all who supported Homeless Outreach over the last year. Your kindness and generosity were truly a blessing and was greatly appreciated by those who received your help. As we go into the new year, we will be redoubling our efforts to reach out to those in need. Our next drop off date is **February 17th & March 3rd**. We will gladly pick up your donation or you may drop your donation at the Parish Office. Your help is truly a blessing. For more info & a list of needed items, contact Ken White at k2rm@comcast.net or 510-909-5774 or Sean Nalty at sean.nalty@ogletree.com or 415-369-3552.

WINGS

WOMEN IN GOD'S SPIRIT

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 will meet at Transfiguration Church Marian Room (Hall)

Next Meeting: **February 15th, 2018**

9:00am to 11:15am

Speaker: Fr. Jayson Landeza

Topic: Spirituality through Bible Stories

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:

SCOTTY'S BARBER