

■■■■■■■ Purification and Enlightenment

□□□□□□ Scrutinies Are Celebrations with the Elect. Elected catechumens – children, youth, adults – chosen by God and affirmed by the Church in the Diocesan Rite of Election and Call to Continuing Conversion, entrust their lives to the 40 Days of Purification and Enlightenment. So does the rest of the Church. “In the liturgy and liturgical catechesis of Lent the reminder of baptism already received [by us] or the preparation for its reception [by them], as well as the theme of repentance, renew the entire community along with those being prepared to celebrate the paschal mystery [us and them]...” [RCIA, no. 138]. Three Scrutinies are a necessary part of this journey. They are so important, all three must be celebrated.

Sin and evil are real. They are part of our lives. Their power is strong. Salvation is also real. Christ’s power to save, protect, and strengthen us is stronger. Sin is only recognized in the light of grace. God’s grace is always first. The three scrutinies ritually celebrate the central mystery of life, death, and resurrection in the lives of the elect. It is the paschal mystery. The faithful see the power of God acting in them by participating in the rites, see the power of God at work, and decide once again to turn from sin and be faithful to the Gospel.

We will be celebrating the final Scrutiny at the 11:30AM Mass this Sunday. May we as a community pray for Julia, Dillon, Kendall, Stephanie, and Heather as they participate in the final Scrutiny in preparation for their Initiation at the Easter Vigil. Please pray for our Elect and our Candidates to be received into full communion with the Church: Laura, Xavier, Lupita, and Joshua.

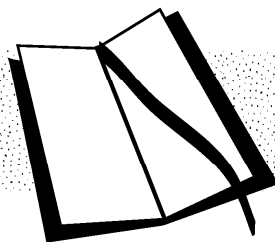
Reconciliation

May we purify ourselves in preparation for Holy Week by doing penance and going to confession. Enter into Jesus' sacrifice by walking the Stations of the Cross, fasting, and doing acts of mercy and charity in the coming weeks. Purify yourself by coming to confession and receiving the forgiveness Jesus won for us by dying on the Cross. We have our **Communal Penance Service** next Tuesday **March 20th**, at 7:00pm.

Confessions:

Saturday, **March 24th** 3:30-4:30pm,
 Tuesday, **March 27th** 7:00-8:00am
 Wednesday, **March 28th** 6:00-7:00pm

Hear the Word



of the LORD

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Gospel for the Processional on Palm Sunday of the Lord’s Passion (March 25th)

Mark 11:1-10

When Jesus and his disciples drew near to Jerusalem, to Bethphage and Bethany at the Mount of Olives, he sent two of his disciples and said to them, "Go into the village opposite you, and immediately on entering it, you will find a colt tethered on which no one has ever sat. Untie it and bring it here. If anyone should say to you, 'Why are you doing this?' reply, 'The Master has need of it and will send it back here at once.'" So they went off and found a colt tethered at a gate outside on the street, and they untied it. Some of the bystanders said to them, "What are you doing, untying the colt?" They answered them just as Jesus had told them to, and they permitted them to do it. So they brought the colt to Jesus and put their cloaks over it. And he sat on it. Many people spread their cloaks on the road, and others spread leafy branches that they had cut from the fields. Those preceding him as well as those following kept crying out: "Hosanna! Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord! Blessed is the kingdom of our father David that is to come! Hosanna in the highest!"

LITURGICAL SCHEDULE :

Last opportunities for confessions at O.L.G.
 Saturday, **March 24th** 9:00-10:00am
 3:30-4:30pm

Mass Schedule for Holy Week

Monday, **March 26th** 8:15am
 Tuesday, **March 27th** 8:15am
 Wednesday, **March 28th** 8:15am & 6:00pm
No morning Masses Thursday-Saturday

The Sacred Triduum

The Sacred Triduum, spanning three days, is one commemoration celebrating the great event of 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.



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SCHEDULE FOR THE SACRED TRIDUUM:

Holy Thursday, March 29th, 7:30pm
MASS OF THE LORD'S SUPPER

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

Good Friday, March 30th

STATIONS OF THE CROSS
 12:00pm (English) & 5:30pm (Spanish)
CELEBRATION OF THE LORD'S PASSION
 1:30pm, 6:30pm (Spanish) and 8:00pm

Holy Saturday, March 31st, 8:00pm
THE GREAT EASTER VIGIL

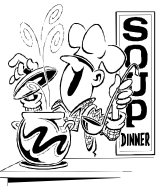
Service of Light, Liturgy of the Word, Rites of Initiation for the Elect and Liturgy of the Eucharist

Easter Sunday Masses, April 1st
THE RESURRECTION OF THE LORD
 7:30am, 9:30am, 11:30am & 1:30pm (Spanish)

**COMMUNAL PENANCE SERVICE
 TUESDAY, MARCH 20th**

DO NOT BE AFRAID OF CONFESSION

During the Lenten season, Confession will be available every Thursday from 7:00pm during Adoration and on Saturdays from 3:30-4:30pm. Our Communal Penance service is scheduled for Tuesday, **March 20th** at 7:00pm.



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 friends of OLG for sponsoring the Soup Meal. Financial donations at the Soup Meal will be accepted for CRS Rice Bowl.

LENTEN LECTURE SERIES

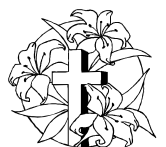
Biblical Reflections on Christian Discipleship
 Presented by Fr. Francisco Nahoe

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. Lecture begins at 7:15pm.**

March 21st *Pauline Paths of Christian Discipleship*

**MANY WAYS TO PREPARE
 FOR EASTER**

For more ways to grow in faith & deepen your personal relationship with Jesus this Lenten season, please visit our webpage at www.olgcv.org/lent-2018.



**STATIONS OF THE CROSS
 English & Spanish**

Stations of the Cross in English, led by our school students are offered at Our Lady of Grace, Fridays at 2:00pm during Lent in the Church. Stations of the Cross in Spanish are offered also on Fridays at 6:30pm in the Church.

**THE 2018 BISHOP'S
APPEAL**

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

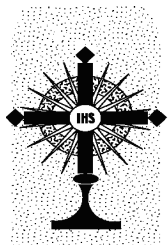
If you have not had an opportunity to make a pledge by returning your card through the mail, please complete a pledge envelope found in the pew & place it in the collection basket today. **YOUR GIFT MAKES A DIFFERENCE.** Thank you to all who generously contributed last year. Our Lady of Grace raised 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!

**DISCIPLES ON THE JOURNEY
MEMORY VERSE**

“God so loved the world that he gave his only Son so everyone who believes in him might have eternal life.”
John 3:16

**GOOD FRIDAY COLLECTION
A Message from Pope Francis**

Pope Francis has asked our parish to support the Pontifical Good Friday Collection, which helps Christians in the Holy Land. Your support helps the church minister in parishes, provide Catholic schools, offer religious education & helps preserve sacred shrines. The wars, unrest & instability have been hard on Christians. In these times of crisis, this collection provides humanitarian aid to refugees. When you contribute, you become an instrument of peace & join with Catholics around the world in solidarity with the Church in the Holy Land. Baskets will be available in the Church for your donations. Please be generous! For more info, visit www.myfranciscan.org/good-friday



**ADORATION OF THE
BLESSED SACRAMENT**

Join us every Saturday for Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament following the 8:15am Mass, and every Thursday at 7:00pm in the Church. Also, there will be Adoration every 1st Friday of the month at 7:00pm.

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 11th:

Sunday Plate:	\$ 8,357.00
Last Year this week	\$ 9,899.00
Weekly Budgeted Goal:	\$ 8,920.00
Year-to-date this year:	\$ 92,720.00
Year-to-date last year:	\$ 91,702.00

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:

- | | |
|-------------------|---------------------------|
| Kathleen Andrews | Maxine Kruzel |
| James Barthman | Laura Martell |
| Jot Brown | Alice McLaughlin |
| Leonardo Cabardo | Julie Peterson |
| Antonio O. Chocha | Stephanie Rosevear |
| Claudia Dobbs | David Rountree |
| Lynn Franks | Florence Sharp |
| Anna Friedeberg | Rosemary Slater |
| Byron Griffith | Mercedes Tellez |
| Don Jordan | Baby Jackson Tyler Bishop |
| Elaine Jordan | |

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

JOSEPH DE VILLIER

**LIGHTING THE WAY
BISHOP'S APPEAL 2018**

Following is the status of our Annual Bishop's Appeal through **March 9th:**

\$ 7,931.00—Actual Donations Received

Our Goal for 2018:	\$29,000.00
# of Registered Families	1,100
# of Acknowledged Donors to date:	38
Funds Raised (includes pledges)	\$10,165.00

We are currently at 35% of our goal for this year's Bishop's Appeal. We are most grateful to all those who have contributed and look forward to completing this appeal. If you have not yet made your contribution, consider doing so today.

**PILGRIMAGE TO THE HOLY LAND
A SCHEDULE CHANGE**

The Pilgrimage culminates by walking the the way of the cross to the Church of the Holy Sepulchre. We will be walking through the Via Dolorosa (the Way of the Cross) to the Basilica of the Holy Sepulcher for a detailed visit to Mount Calvary, the Holy Tomb and St. Helen Chapel.

Join Fr. Tom for a Pilgrimage of a life time **October 17-29**

Cost is \$3499

For more information contact Anastasis Tours at 661-478-2331 or contact Jay in the office.



**EASTER MEMORIAL FLOWERS
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 available in the pews. A list of names of all who are remembered will be available after Easter.

NO MEN'S FAITH SHARE on March 20th

Due to the Communal Penance Service, there will be no Men's Faith Share gathering on **March 20th**. We will resume on **March 27th**.

EVANGELIZATION CORNER

Youth Ministry

Next Meetings: March 18th & 25th

1st Holy Communion

Next Meetings: March 18th *We Are Sent*
April 14th *Retreat Day & Practice*
(10:30am-1:00pm)

Whole Family Catechesis

Next Meetings: April 8th *Divine Mercy*
April 29th *How to Pray Well*

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



COME JOIN US

All are invited after the **9:30am** Sunday Mass to gather in Stack Center for coffee and donuts.

THIS WEEK

Sunday, March 18th:

The Fifth Sunday of Lent

Liturgy of the Word

9:30am--Augustine Center

Coffee & Donuts

After 9:30am Mass--Stack Center

1st Communion Class

10:50am--Stack Center

Youth Ministry

6:00pm--Stack Center

Monday, March 19th:

Lenten Journey Faith Sharing

11:00am--Parish Office

Tuesday, March 20th:

Tuesday Morning Bible Study

9:30am--Parish Office

Communal Penance Service

7:00pm--Church

St. Vincent de Paul Meeting

7:00pm--Parish Office

Wednesday, March 21st:

Strobridge Dinner

5:30pm--Strobridge Apartments

Lenten Soup Meal

Following the 6:00pm Mass--Stack Center

Lenten Lecture Series

7:15pm--Stack Center

Thursday, March 22nd:

Lenten Journey Faith Sharing

6:00pm--Stack Center, OLG Conference Room

Adoration & Confession

7:00pm--Church

Knights of Columbus Meeting

7:00pm--Stack Center, OLG Room

AA Serenity Group

7:30pm--Augustine Center, Room A2

Friday, March 23rd:

Lenten Journey Faith Sharing

8:45am--Stack Center, OLG Room

Stations of the Cross - English

2:00pm--Church

Stations of the Cross - Spanish

6:30pm--Church

Lenten Journey Faith Sharing - Spanish

7:00pm--Stack Center, OLG Room

Mass Intentions for the Week

All Masses are celebrated in the Church

SUNDAY, March 18th

The Fifth Sunday of Lent

7:30am Mario Tejada (D)

1:30pm Jose Duarte (D)

MONDAY, March 19th

ST. JOSEPH, SPOUSE OF THE BLESSED VIRGEN MARY

8:15am Julsandra Calalo (D)

TUESDAY, March 20th

8:15am Velasquez & Moran Families

WEDNESDAY, March 21st

8:15am Laverne Blaha (D)

THURSDAY, March 22nd

8:15am Maria Nguyen (L)

FRIDAY, March 23rd

St. Turibius of Mogrovejo, Bishop

8:15am Stephanie Rosevear (L)

2:00pm Stations of the Cross - English

6:30pm Stations of the Cross - Spanish

SATURDAY, March 24th

8:15am Mary Boles & Family (L)

5:00pm Louis Rodrigues (D)

SUNDAY, March 25th

Palm Sunday of the Passion of the Lord

11:30am Debbie & Doug Reetz & Family (L)

1:30pm Maria de Jesus de Toribio (D)

THIS WEEK--Continued

Saturday, March 24th:

Adoration

8:45am--Church

Sunday, March 25th:

Palm Sunday of the Passion of the Lord

Liturgy of the Word

9:30am--Augustine Center

Coffee & Donuts

After 9:30am Mass--Stack Center

New Parishioner Registration

10:00am--Stack Center

Youth Ministry

6:00pm--Stack Center

READINGS FOR THE WEEK:

March 19th through March 25th

Monday: 2 Samuel 7:4-5a, 12-14a, 16;

Romans 4:13, 16-18, 22;

Matthew 1:16, 18-21, 24a

Tuesday: Numbers 21:4-9; John 8:21-30

Wednesday: Daniel 3:14-20, 91-92, 95;

John 8:31-42

Thursday: Genesis 17:3-9; John 8:51-59

Friday: Jeremiah 20:10-13; John 10:31-42

Saturday: Ezekiel 37:21-28; John 11:45-56

Sunday: Isaiah 50:4-7; Philippians 2:6-11;

Mark 14:1-15:47



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ST. VINCENT DE PAUL NEWS

Be sure to check out "Our Faith in Action: Today's Society of St. Vincent de Paul" on EWTN beginning every Saturday from March 17th – June 2nd at 3:00pm. Join the Society of St. Vincent de Paul members on their spiritual growth journey through service to people in need. Watch our Catholic faith in action through the volunteers of our unique lay vocation and Christ's face in those we serve.

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 **March 31st** & we plan to drop off every 2 weeks thereafter. 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.

THANK THEM WITH YOUR SUPPORT

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This week we extend our gratitude to:

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