

Why a change in the Altar arrangement?

I was visiting my parents and my father asked me what is this Benedictine altar arrangement and why are you changing it now? I have only known the liturgy since it's reform after Vatican II. So first of all this is not some nostalgia of the Mass of my childhood. I have been inspired by the New Evangelization to consider seriously what we are doing to pass on the faith and why our youth are leaving the Christian faith and embracing secular society. How do we turn to Jesus and show them the way?

This year I hope we can focus on the Liturgy as our source and summit. When the Liturgy was reformed it was promulgated in Latin and with the Priest was in unison with the people mediating the sacrifice of the Mass to God. It was special permission given to the conference of Bishops from Rome to allow: 1. Vernacular Masses and 2. To face the people. While both of these changes were embraced and became the norm of practice there were unexpected consequences from both of these changes. The Benedictine Arrangement is a compromise to continue the norm of facing the people while refocusing the Priest on the Sacrifice offered to God. The *Ad orientem* (facing East symbolically) through the placement of candles and cross is to refocus our hearts on our hope, the Sacrifice of Jesus. As a Christian community, we are all facing *ad orientem* (i.e. toward the east) waiting in joyful expectation for the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ who will return to judge the living and the dead.

What in the early Church determined the position of the altar was that it faced Eastward? To quote St. Augustine: *"When we rise to pray, we turn East, where heaven begins. And we do this not because God is there, as if He had moved away from the other directions on earth..., but rather to help us remember to turn our mind towards a higher order, that is, to God."*

"Does not God say, 'Be converted to Me'? The scriptures are full of it: 'Be converted to Me, be converted to Me.' For what does this mean: 'Be converted to Me'? It does not just mean that you, who were looking toward the west, should now look toward the east—that is easily done. If only you did it inwardly, because that is not easily done. You turn your body around from one cardinal point to another; turn your heart around from one love to another." (Sermo Dolbeau 19.)

This quotation shows that the Christians of those early days, after listening to the homily, would rise for the prayer which followed, and turn towards the East. St. Augustine always refers to this turning to the East in prayer at the end of his homilies, using a set formula, *Conversi ad Dominum* ("turn to face the Lord").

The fathers of Vatican II did not consider Mass offered *ad orientem* (i.e. toward the East) as an obstacle to the full and active participation which they advocated. Even the General Instruction in the 2003 Roman Missal (G.I.R.M.) indicates that the priest is only required to face the people at specific moments in the Mass and not throughout. As the body turns from one direction to another, so should the heart turn from sin and error to the true and living God. "Turn to Me and be safe," says the Lord. Agreed. Conversion and *ad orientem* are the kinds of "safe spaces" our world and the Church really need.

Peace,
Fr. Tom

The Twentieth Sunday in Ordinary Time (August 19th)

John 6:51-58

Jesus said to the crowds: "I am the living bread that came down from heaven; whoever eats this bread will live forever; and the bread that I will give is my flesh for the life of the world." The Jews quarreled among themselves, saying, "How can this man give us his flesh to eat?" Jesus said to them, "Amen, amen, I say to you, unless you eat the flesh of the Son of Man and drink his blood, you do not have life within you. Whoever eats my flesh and drinks my blood has eternal life, and I will raise him on the last day. For my flesh is true food, and my blood is true drink. Whoever eats my flesh and drinks my blood remains in me and I in him. Just as the living Father sent me and I have life because of the Father, so also the one who feeds on me will have life because of me. This is the bread that came down from heaven. Unlike your ancestors who ate and still died, whoever eats this bread will live forever."



**PARISH PICNIC
LAKE CHABOT PARK
AUGUST 19TH**

**PARISH
PICNIC**

Our Annual Parish Picnic will be taking place on **August 19th** in the Cove Picnic Area at Lake Chabot Park.

May we unite as a community as we share a day of fun in the sun together. Mass in the Park will begin at 10:00am, followed by lunch and games from 12:00pm-3:00pm.

Please **RSVP to the Parish Office or send an email to parish@olgcv.org** with the number of adults and children attending, as well as what dish you're bringing to share.

** Please note: the Mass schedule will be our usual weekend schedule in the Church with an additional Mass at 10:00am at Lake Chabot.*

**GREETINGS FROM OUR NEW
EVANGELIZATION COORDINATOR-
JOHN LEE**

Hello all! My name is John Lee and I am your Coordinator for Evangelization ministries. I am excited to be working with Fr. Tom as well as all OLG's staff and volunteers to bring the joy of the Gospel to the young people of this parish. I have had the opportunity to work in parish ministry for three years as the Director of Faith Formation for a small Church in Green River, Wyoming. Along with getting to serve at your parish I will be pursuing graduate studies in Philosophy through the *Dominican School of Philosophy and Theology*. I am looking forward to meeting you all, so please come up and introduce yourself!



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**HISPANIC COMMUNITY OF
OUR LADY OF GRACE FUNDRAISER
"FIESTA MEXICANA"**

You are invited to a "Fiesta Mexicana" to benefit the celebration of the Patronal Feast of the Virgin of Guadalupe on **August 25th**, 6:30pm to 11:00pm in Stack Center. There will be live music, dancing, raffles, & snacks. Alcoholic beverages are available for purchase. Tickets are \$25 per person & includes: dinner, music & dancing. Purchase tickets in the Parish Office. Thank you for your generous support!



MASS OF THE ASSUMPTION

The Mass of the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary is a Holy Day of Obligation and we welcome you to join us **Wednesday, August 15th at 8:15am and 7:00pm.**



**VBS THANKS YOU FOR YOUR
GENEROSITY & HELP!**

A HUGE thank you to all the parishioners who donated snacks for our VBS. Thanks to your generosity, every item requested was received including grocery gift cards to Safeway and Trader Joe's. We are grateful for your generosity and the campers really enjoyed having fresh fruit and healthy snacks! A big thank you to our VBS Campers/families who collected \$300.00 for the Franciscan missions Leper community in Vietnam. It's one way the campers put God's saving love into action. Last but not least, we are grateful for all of our volunteers, both adults and teens, who gave fully of themselves for several days prior to VBS and the entire week of VBS to make it a welcoming and engaging event for our campers. We could not have done it without you!

NEW PARISHIONER REGISTRATION

We extend a warm welcome to new parishioners & guests. Please stop by Stack Center **August 12th**, after the 9:30am Mass to register or update your information. A Hospitality volunteer will greet you at the New Parishioner Registration table. We are grateful to our volunteers for providing this ministry on our behalf.

NO COFFEE & DONUTS

There will be no Coffee & Donuts on **August 12th & August 19th**. We apologize for any inconveniences!

**LA COMUNIDAD HISPANA DE NUESTRA
SEÑORA DE LA GRACIA
"FIESTA MEXICANA"**

Te invita a una "Fiesta Mexicana" el **25 de Agosto** de 6:30 a 11 de la noche en Stack Center. En beneficio de la Fiesta de la Virgen de Guadalupe. Hay musica en vivo, baile, rifas, botanas & venta de bebidas alcholicas. Precio del boleta es \$25 por persona. Incluye cena, musica y baile. Boletos a la venta en la oficina parroquial. Diviertete y ayuda!



**FAMILY FAITH FORMATION
2018-2019**

It's time to register for Whole Family Catechesis (K-5), 1st Holy Communion, Middle School Catechesis & Confirmation. Information flyers are available at the Church entrances. Registration Packets are available in the Parish Office.

Come & register in person on **August 26th** after the 9:30 Mass in Stack Center. Bilingual services in Spanish will be available.

Whole Family Catechesis (K-5th grade)

1st day of class & Orientation: September 16th
10:50am - 12:30pm

Middle School Catechesis (6th-8th grade)

Orientation w/ Parents: September 16th
10:50am - 12:30pm

First Holy Communion

Orientation w/ Parents: August 26th
10:50am - 12:30pm

Confirmation

Orientation w/ Parents: October 7th
6:00pm-8:00pm

**Cost is \$100 for the 1st child
\$45 for each additional child**

All children are welcome!



**CYO FALL SPORTS
REGISTRATION
NOW ONLINE**



Registration is now available online for **CYO Boys Basketball** at www.olgcv.org, follow the link for CYO. **CYO Girls Volleyball registration will be available after August 15th.** All players will need to create an account if you had not done so last year prior to completing their first registration within the system. Boys Basketball is open for grades 2-8 and Girls Volleyball for grades 4-8.

Fees for CYO league 2018-2019

***Boys Basketball:** \$155.00 + \$55.00 uniform purchase fee. There will be a late fee of \$25.00 for registration **after September 7th.**

***Girls Volleyball:** Early registration fee is \$175 (August 16th - August 24th). \$190 through September 15th. \$190 + late fee of \$25.00 for registration **on or after September 16th.**

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 August 5th:

Sunday Plate:	\$ 8,591.00
Last Year this week	\$ 9,013.00
Weekly Budgeted Goal:	\$ 8,920.00
Year-to-date this year:	\$ 271,223.00
Year-to-date last year:	\$ 271,468.00

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:

- | | |
|------------------------------------|----------------------------------|
| Cindy Abraham | Maxine Kruzel |
| Glen Alcorn | Laura Martell |
| Kathleen Andrews | Alice McLaughlin |
| Melissa & David Chavez
& Family | Rose Montalban
Florence Sharp |
| Antonio O. Chocha | Rosemary Slater |
| Claudia Dobbs | Howard Songey |
| Lynn Franks | Lurdes Sousa |
| Anna Friedeberg | Mercedes Tellez |
| Byron Griffith | Baby Jackson Tyler |
| Don Jordan | Bishop |

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

VICTIMS OF VIOLENCE



**OLG FESTIVAL 2018
SEPTEMBER 29TH-30TH
#BeAHero**

Make plans to join us for our annual Parish Festival, **September 29th-30th.** More details to come! Raffle tickets have been mailed!

Consider being a Festival Sponsor--many generous individuals and businesses have sponsored the Festival in the past. Your Sponsorship will be acknowledged with a sign at the Festival as well as in our social media. Call the Parish Office for details.

WOMEN'S EVENING BIBLE STUDY NEWS**"Wisdom is seeing with God's eyes."****– Pope Francis**

Scripture and the Tradition of the Catholic Church provide an abundance of wisdom, though it can often be challenging to apply it to our lives. In this study, we will examine biblical wisdom as it relates to daily life. Drawing on the wisdom literature of the Bible--Proverbs, Wisdom, Sirach, and Ecclesiastes--*Wisdom* will teach you how to actively seek out sound guidance and increase your sense of peace in navigating life.

The Women's Evening Bible Study will begin *Wisdom: God's Vision for Life* on **Monday, September 10, 2018** at 7:00pm. We will meet every other Monday for 8 sessions. Cost is \$23. For more information or to register, contact Jay in the Parish Office or Heidi Denzler-Halsey at 510-881-7850 or heidimdh106@gmail.com. **Last day to register is Wednesday, August 22, 2018.** You will not only benefit personally from being part of this study; you will also help us to grow in fellowship as a parish as we grow closer to Christ together.

GRIEF SUPPORT MINISTRY

The death of a loved one is unlike any other loss. Whether the death was sudden and tragic, or one with warning and preparation, the reality of death leaves most of us in a state of shock, confusion and sadness. Grieving people need time and space to honor their grief. Our next support group will meet on **August 23rd at 7:30pm**, to accompany you on your healing journey at St. Elizabeth Seton Church, 4001 Stoneridge Drive, Pleasanton. No pre-registration is necessary. All are welcome regardless of religious affiliation. For more information call Eleanor at 925-846-8708.

**DIOCESE OF OAKLAND
THANKSGIVING MASS
FOR HEALTHCARE PROVIDERS**

Thank and honor those in physical, mental and spiritual healthcare professions. Bishop Michael C. Barber, SJ will be celebrating Mass on Saturday, **September 29th** at 10:00am at the Cathedral of Christ the Light, 2121 Harrison St. in Oakland. We encourage all who provide healthcare services, direct and administrative, to attend this multicultural Mass, as we celebrate your energy, dedication and generosity. See details, updates and invitations at www.oakdiocese.org/BlessingHealers

THIS WEEK**Sunday, August 12th:****Nineteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time**

Liturgy of the Word

9:30am--Augustine Center

New Parishioner Registration

10:00am--Stack Center

Bishop's Day Mass

3:30pm--Church

ICF Bishop's Day Dinner

4:30pm--Stack Center

Tuesday, August 14th:

Men's Faith Share

7:00pm--Stack Center, Room 7

Wednesday, August 15th:

SVdP Soup & Sandwich Meal

3:30-4:40pm--Outside Parish Office

Strobridge Dinner

5:30pm--Strobridge Apartments

Thursday, August 16th:

Adoration

7:00pm--Church

AA Serenity Group

7:30pm--Augustine Center, Room A2

Sunday, August 19th:**Twentieth Sunday in Ordinary Time****PARISH PICNIC****LAKE CHABOT, COVE PICNIC AREA****10:00am--Mass****Noon-3:00pm--Lunch & Games**

**ST. VINCENT DE PAUL'S
SOUP & SANDWICH MEALS**

If you or someone you know could benefit from a free meal, come by every

Wednesday from 3:30-4:30pm located outside the

**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.

Mass for the Intentions Week

All Masses are celebrated in the Church

SUNDAY, August 12th

THE NINETEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

7:30am Brendan Dolan--D

9:30am Jerome Gann--D

1:30pm Esperanza Ortega--D

MONDAY, August 13th

St. Pontian, Pope & St. Hippolytus, Priest, Martyr

8:15am Maria Grace Ferreira--D

TUESDAY, August 14th

St. Maximilian Mary Kolbe OFM, Conv., Priest, Martyr

8:15am Victoria Gutierrez--L

WEDNESDAY, August 15th

THE ASSUMPTION OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY

8:15am June Antonio--L

THURSDAY, August 16th

St. Stephen of Hungary

8:15am Alvin Gonsalves--D

FRIDAY, August 17th

8:15am Thomas & Mary Hayes--D

SATURDAY, August 18th

Blesseds Louis Armand & Nicholas Savouret OFM, Conv., Martyrs

8:15am Joni & Kathleen Linney--D

5:00pm Tylor Bonora--D

SUNDAY, August 19th

THE TWENTIETH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

9:30am Dorothy Madden--D

11:30am James Barthman--D

1:30pm Wanda Perino--L

READINGS FOR THE WEEK:

August 13th through August 19th

Monday: Ezekiel 1:2-5, 24-28;
Matthew 17:22-27

Tuesday: Ezekiel 2:8-3:4;
Matthew 18:1-5, 10, 12-14

Wednesday: Revelation 11:19; 12:1-6, 10;
1 Corinthians 15:20-27; Luke 1:39-56

Thursday: Ezekiel 12:1-12; Matthew 18:21-19:1

Friday: Ezekiel 16:1-15, 60, 63;
Matthew 19:3-12

Saturday: Ezekiel 18:1-10, 13, 30-32;
Matthew 19:13-15

Sunday: Proverbs 9:1-6; Ephesians 5:15-20;
John 6:51-58

Grow in Faith



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EXECUTION ALERTS

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

August 14th Jose Jimenez Florida
August 14th Carey Dean Moore Nebraska

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

DEVOTIONAL CANDLES



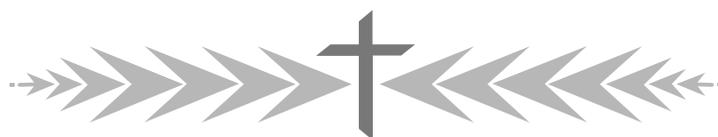
Candles for our candle stand are available for purchase in the Parish Office or in the Sacristy after mass on Sundays. The candles will burn for 5 days. The cost per candle is \$4.00. The glass globes in the candle stand must be left in the church.

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:

REDWOOD CONVALESCENT, INC.



ROSARY BEFORE MASS

Come join in prayer of the Rosary 30 minutes before each of the weekend liturgies. Pray for our Parish. All are welcome!

