



**Message from the Pastor**

Many thanks to all our members who have supported the Our Lady of Grace Community this last year. Your generosity has sustained us allowing us to serve more families in our Whole Family programs which is reflected in a growing community. We are busy about the work of the Lord and we have been blessed with a growing community. Thank you for responding generously to our collection allowing us to have increased revenue each year while many parishes in our country have been declining in attendance and revenues.

I thank all our volunteers and all who help in ministry. I feel blessed to be the Pastor of a community with a dynamic School, St. Vincent de Paul, Bible Studies, Choirs, Helping Hands, Lectors, Eucharistic Ministers, Ushers, Counters, Office helpers, Committee and Board members. Your generosity of service is inspiring. Thank You!

Have a Blessed New Year!

**Preparing for Battle!**

Jesus has arrived and we celebrate Mary the Mother of God on January 1st. Mass will be at 9:00am. Jesus has come with a mission to save the lost. He gives his life to complete His Mission. Jesus battles Satan and sin which seeks to deceive, harm, and destroy us. There is so much confusion in our world and Jesus comes to give the Word which is Truth, Love, and Peace. He is not just another voice but The Voice to reveal our identity as beloved children of God who are precious and priceless. We are called to an eternal destiny.

Be prepared for the trials for the coming year that will test your faith. Jesus told us in Luke 8:17 "For nothing is hidden that will not become evident, nor anything secret that will not be known and come to light." The sins and secrets of clergy and leadership of the church are coming to light and being prosecuted. These revelations are disturbing and disheartening but how can we respond? May we strengthen our roots in the faith to withstand the storm.

St. Maximilian Kolbe as a child was always in trouble, so his mother told him to pray in front of a statue of the Virgin Mary and ask her to help him. He began to change and one as he began asking for the Blessed Mother help. Much of his life was strongly influenced by a vision he had of the Virgin Mary when he was 12.

"That night I asked the Mother of God what was to become of me. Then she came to me holding two crowns, one white, the other red. She asked me if I was willing to accept either of these crowns. The white one meant that I should persevere in purity, and the red that I should become a martyr. I said that I would accept them both."

In 1917 with the Christian world at war and the rise of anti-church movements, St. Maximilian Kolbe organized the Militia Immaculata (Army of the Immaculate One) after witnessing demonstrations against Pope St. Pius X and Benedict XV. His goal was to work for the conversion of sinners and enemies of the Church, specifically, the Freemasons and he would do so with the intercession of Mary.

I believe it is our time to take a stand for our faith to reclaim souls that have been seduced by secular culture and harmed by the immoral behavior of some of the leaders of the church causing them to lose faith. The mission of saving souls by seeking conversion of sinners and enemies of the Church through the intercession of the Immaculate is a powerful response for our time of trouble.

In the coming weeks, I will inform you more about the Militia of the Immaculata and invite the community to Consecration. I hope to establish 2 prayer groups: A Village of the Immaculate and Knights of the Immaculata group. May we not be dismayed but be strong in faith.

Peace,  
Fr. Tom

**Gospel for The Epiphany of the Lord (January 6th)**

**Matthew 2:1-12**

When Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea, in the days of King Herod, behold, magi from the east arrived in Jerusalem, saying, "Where is the newborn king of the Jews? We saw his star at its rising and have come to do him homage." When King Herod heard this, he was greatly troubled, and all Jerusalem with him. Assembling all the chief priests and the scribes of the people, He inquired of them where the Christ was to be born. They said to him, "In Bethlehem of Judea, for thus it has been written through the prophet: And you, Bethlehem, land of Judah, are by no means least among the rulers of Judah; since from you shall come a ruler, who is to shepherd my people Israel." Then Herod called the magi secretly and ascertained from them the time of the star's appearance. He sent them to Bethlehem and said, "Go and search diligently for the child. When you have found him, bring me word, that I too may go and do him homage." After their audience with the king they set out. And behold, the star that they had seen at its rising preceded them, until it came and stopped over the place where the child was. They were overjoyed at seeing the star, and on entering the house they saw the child with Mary his mother. They prostrated themselves and did him homage. Then they opened their treasures and offered him gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh. And having been warned in a dream not to return to Herod, they departed for their country by another way.

**NEW YEAR'S MASS SCHEDULE**

*New Year's Eve: Monday, December 31st*  
Vigil Mass at 5:00pm

*New Year's Day: Tuesday, January 1st*  
**Mary, the Mother of God**  
Mass at 9:00am

**HELPING THOSE IN NEED  
THIS HOLIDAY SEASON**



**ST. VINCENT DE PAUL**

Do you or someone you know need assistance this holiday season? The Society of St. Vincent de Paul at Our Lady of Grace can help you with food for the holidays or other resources as needed. Please call our message line at 510-581-2164 or email [svdp@olgcv.org](mailto:svdp@olgcv.org). We will get back to you the next day. All names are kept confidential.



**ONE WARM COAT DRIVE  
Thank you!**

Heartfelt thanks to all in our Parish who donated generously to the coat drive, as well as those who offered their time to collect and sort through the many coats. Your support and love has made a difference to those less-fortunate. Thank you for giving the gift of warmth this Christmas!



**FESCO AND CASTRO VALLEY  
OUTREACH  
Christmas Giving Trees-Thank you!**

Also, many thanks to those who participated in donating wonderful gifts to those in our community! Also, thank you to those who donated their time and effort to collect and sort through the gifts and deliver them to the CV Outreach Families. Thank you to our OLG students who volunteered their time to beautifully wrap the gifts for our families in need.

May God bless you all this Christmas Season!

**MASS AT HOLY FAMILY FRIARY**

Please note the Friars will be on retreat **January 1st through January 4th**, therefore there will be no morning mass at the Holy Family Friary while they are away.

LORD  
Bless us all  
in the coming year

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**HOLIDAY OFFICE HOURS**

The Parish Offices will be close early at Noon on Monday, **December 31st** and will be closed on Tuesday, **January 1st** and will re-open on Wednesday, **January 2nd** at 8:30am. The entire Parish Staff wishes you all a blessed and safe New Year!



**KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS  
CRAB FEED**

**Saturday, January 19, 2019**

**Get your Crab Feed Tickets today!**

Save the Date: Saturday, **January 19, 2019**  
6:00pm to 10:00pm in Stack Center

Live Music Featuring Triple Play and Rust. Dancing,  
50/50 Raffle and Great Food!

Kids care opens at 6:00 pm

Crab Feed tickets make a great stocking stuffer, get them while they last!

Tickets are on available in the Parish and School Office's for \$40.00 each or \$38.00 each, **if purchased by today, December 30th** and online at <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/our-lady-of-grace-crab-feed-dance-5050-affle-tickets-52767377647>

Chicken option if ordered at the time of ticket purchase, Bring your own Crab Butter!



**ICF CRAB FEED  
Saturday, January 19, 2019**

Join the ICF, East Bay District for the Dave Rose Memorial Crab Feed on Saturday **January 19, 2019** at St. Philip Neri Parish, Msgr. O'Brien Hall in Alameda. Hosted bar and Hors d'Oeuvres at 6:00pm, Dinner at 7:00pm. Cost is \$55.00 per person, children 10 and under, \$10.00. Chicken may be requested instead of crab when reservations are made. For reservations please call Fran @ 510-887-1509. Deadline for reservations is **January 10, 2019**.

**2019 CALENDARS AVAILABLE**

Catholic Extension 2019 Family Appointment Calendars are available. We are grateful and we extend our sincere appreciation to the Catholic Funeral Cremation & Cemetery Services of the Diocese of Oakland for again sponsoring the 2019 calendars. If you have not picked up a copy in the church you may find one in the Parish Office. **Please only one per household.**

**PLEASE NOTE**

Due to the holiday schedule of our bulletin publisher we are not able to report the weekly offerings for most of December. The Sunday offering will be updated after the first of the year along with the Christmas Offering. Thank you for your generosity.

**CATHOLIC VOICE ANNUAL APPEAL**

There's still time to donate for this year! Please consider a donation to the Annual Appeal for The Catholic Voice. Your donation helps our Parish offset its payment for this important communication ministry. The Voice is the only regular source of Catholic news and information delivered to all parishioners in the Diocese. *Please be generous in your support our Parish pays \$707.00 each month for this subscription. Your donation of \$25.00 would help offset the parish expense.*

Checks should be made payable to Our Lady of Grace. Envelopes are in the pews.



**YEARLY CONTRIBUTION STATEMENTS**

For your convenience in preparing your tax return, a contribution statement for 2018 will be prepared at your request. Please phone the Parish Office at 537-0806, with your name and envelope number. Your statement will be available for you to pick up once it has been signed.

**WOMEN'S EVENING BIBLE STUDY**

Join the Women's Evening Bible Study as we study First Corinthians: The Church and the Christian Community. The conflicts of the early Christians in Corinth are in many ways similar to our struggles today as Christians. With divisions, immorality, persecution, and other trials of the faithful, the message of St. Paul to the Corinthians is a much-needed message for our own times. This study explores the key elements that the apostle Paul introduced to a new and growing Church. St. Paul taught the Corinthians about the nature of grace and the Church as the Body of Christ. In addition, he introduced the Corinthian Christians to the most powerful gift of all, the Eucharist.

We will begin First Corinthians: The Church and the Christian Community on Tuesday **January 22, 2019** at 7PM in Stack Center. Cost for this 11 session series is \$29.00 For more information or to register for the study please contact Heidi Denzler-Halsey at 510-881-7850 or Jay in the parish office at 510-537-0806. Last day to register will be Thursday, **January 3, 2019**.

**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 December 16th:**

|                               |                    |
|-------------------------------|--------------------|
| Sunday Plate:                 | \$ 9,131.00        |
| <b>Weekly Budgeted Goal:</b>  | <b>\$ 9,038.00</b> |
| Over/[Shortfall]              | \$ 93.00           |
| Year-to-date Over/[Shortfall] | [\$ 13,148.00]     |

*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     | Bill Lawrence      |
| Glen Alcorn       | Laura Martell      |
| Kathleen Andrews  | Rose Montalban     |
| Susana Ax         | Mona Mulvaney      |
| Maureen Boeh      | Olga Munoz         |
| Antonio O. Chocha | Angela Schaaphok   |
| Ana Cochran       | Florence Sharp     |
| Claudia Dobbs     | Rosemary Slater    |
| Lynn Franks       | Howard Songey      |
| Anna Friedeberg   | Lurdes Sousa       |
| Byron Griffith    | Mercedes Tellez    |
| Cher Jones        | Baby Jackson Tyler |
| Don Jordan        | Bishop             |
| Maxine Kruzel     | Norma Wardle       |

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

**MARY MALLON-FARLEY**

**NORMAN GOYETTE**

**FRED HAMMER**

**VICTIMS OF VIOLENCE**

**ICF PIZZA DINNER**

Come start the new year with the ICF on Thursday, **January 10th**, and enjoy a Pizza and Salad dinner. Doors open at 6:00pm, dinner is at 6:30pm. For reservations, call Juanita at 510-582-7242 by **January 6th**. Mangia! Mangia!



**ALTAR CANDLE MEMORIALS**

We are looking to have 6 monthly sponsors for our Altar Candles. We ask for a donation of \$20 to cover the cost of the candles for the month. Our donors for the month will be recognized in the first bulletin of the month and there will be a monthly Mass offered for the intention of our Candle Memorial. Many blessed thanks for those who have donated so far. For more information, please call the Parish Office.

**WALK FOR LIFE WEST COAST 2019  
Saturday, January 26, 2019**

Join fellow Catholics and Pro-Lifers from all over California and beyond as we stand up for the littlest among us at the 15th Annual Walk for Life West Coast in San Francisco on **January 26, 2019**. There will be Mass at 9:30am celebrated by Archbishop Salvatore Cordileone at St. Mary's Cathedral. The rally begins at 12:30pm in San Francisco's Civic Center Plaza, and the Walk, down the city's Market Street, begins at 1:30pm. Last year's Walk drew 50,000+ people. For complete information about the Walk, visit [www.walkforlifewc.com](http://www.walkforlifewc.com) or call 415-658-1793.



**1ST SATURDAY DEVOTION**

Come join us **1st Saturday, January 5th** for Mass, Adoration, Rosary & Benediction at 8:15am.



**NEW ALTAR SERVER TRAINING**

New Altar Server Training begins **January 2019** for students in Grades 5th-12th. Registration forms are by the bulletin boards and in the Parish Office. Questions? See Bonnie Ricketts or Florence Thau.



**PRE-BAPTISM CLASS  
FOR PARENTS & GODPARENTS**

If you are wishing to have your child, ages infant to six years baptized, parents and godparents need to attend a Pre-Baptism Class. You also need to be registered members of the parish for at least three months. Call Jay at 510-537-0806 for more information. The next Pre-Baptism Class will be held on **January 2nd** at 7:00pm in the OLG Room in Stack Center.

**THIS WEEK**

**Sunday, December 30th:**

***The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary & Joseph***

Liturgy of the Word  
9:30am--Augustine Center

Farewell Reception for Fr. Kevin  
After 9:30am Mass--Stack Center

**Monday, December 31st:**

*Parish Offices Close at Noon*

*New Year's Eve Vigil Mass*  
5:00pm--Church

**Tuesday, January 1st:**

**HAPPY NEW YEAR!**  
*Parish Offices Closed*

**Wednesday, January 2nd:**

Pre-Baptism Class  
7:00pm--Stack Center, OLG Room

**Thursday, January 3rd:**

RCIA  
7:00pm--Stack Center, OLG Room

St. Vincent de Paul Meeting  
7:00pm--Parish Office, Upper Room

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

**Saturday, January 5th:**

1st Saturday Mass & Adoration  
8:15am--Church

**Sunday, January 6th:**

***The Epiphany of the Lord***

Liturgy of the Word  
9:30am--Augustine Center

Coffee & Donuts  
After 9:30am Mass--Stack Center

Whole Family & Middle School Catechesis  
10:50am--Stack Center

Youth Ministry/Confirmation  
6:00pm--Stack Center



*Mass Intentions for the Week*

All Masses are celebrated in the Church

**SUNDAY, December 30th**

THE HOLY FAMILY OF JESUS, MARY & JOSEPH

7:30am Diane Padilla--D

1:30pm Santana Garcia--D

**MONDAY, December 31st**

*Seventh Day within the Octave of the Nativity of the Lord  
St. Sylvester I, Pope*

8:15am Marietta Maher--D

**TUESDAY, January 1st**

THE SOLEMNITY OF MARY, THE HOLY MOTHER OF GOD

*The Octave Day of the Nativity of the Lord*

8:15am Patrick Murry--D

**WEDNESDAY, January 2nd**

*Sts. Basil the Great & Gregory Nazianzen, Bishops & Doctors of the Church*

8:15am Jose Fermin Crisol--D

**THURSDAY, January 3rd**

*The Most Holy Name of Jesus*

8:15am Carmeliza Day-Ross--D

**FRIDAY, January 4th**

*St. Elizabeth Ann Seton, Religious*

8:15am Cheryl Weiland--L

**SATURDAY, January 5th**

*St. John Neumann, Bishop*

8:15am Richard Benson--D

5:00pm Norma McKean--D

**SUNDAY, January 6th**

THE EPIPHANY OF THE LORD

7:30am Ray & Ann Burdette--D

11:30am Debbie & Doug Reetz & Family

1:30pm Abelina Garcia--D



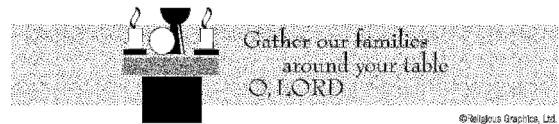
**"MEET YOUR CHRISTIAN NEIGHBOR"**

All are invited to a panel presentation sponsored by the Eden Area Interfaith Council (EAIC) on Saturday, **January 5th**, from 2:00-4:00pm at the Castro Valley Library. The theme of "A Family Reunion" will celebrate the amazing diversity of those who follow Christ! Questions? Call Mark Vaz (OLG Rep to the EAIC) at 510-582-4832.

**READINGS FOR THE WEEK:**

**December 31st thru January 6th**

- Monday: 1 John 2:18-21; John 1:1-18
- Tuesday: Numbers 6:22-27; Galatians 4:4-7; Luke 2:16-21
- Wednesday: 1 John 2:22-28; John 1:19-28
- Thursday: 1 John 2:29-3:6; John 1:29-34
- Friday: 1 John 3:7-10; John 1:35-42
- Saturday: 1 John 3:11-21; John 1:43-51
- Sunday: Isaiah 60:1-6; Ephesians 3:2-3, 5-6; Matthew 2:1-12



**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.

**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.

**RELEVANT HEART RADIO**

Relevant Heart Radio brings you the best in Catholic Radio 24/7! Playing on 1260AM and dedicated to sharing the heart of the Catholic Faith and changing lives.

**FLOWER REMEMBRANCE FUND**



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.

**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:

**MONTGOMERY BUILDERS**