



**Lent**

As I reflect on our Church and world this Lent I am convinced that something is wrong in our world. The right of Killing fetuses, infants, and elderly is presented as a moral good by politicians. The meeting in Rome of the Pope and Bishops to deal with sexual abuse of children seemed to be unable to take concrete actions to end this plague of immorality and criminality. Where do we turn during such confusion? May we enter the desert with Jesus where we purify ourselves so we may face the evil that seeks to destroy humanity. During Lent we pray, fast, and give alms to refocus ourselves on God so we may confront sin in our lives and in our world.

**THE PRAYER OF ST. EPHRAIM**

O Lord and Master of my life, take from me the spirit of sloth, despair, lust of power, and idle talk. But give rather the spirit of chastity, humility, patience, and love to Thy servant. Yea, O Lord and King, grant me to see my own transgressions, and not to judge my brother, for blessed art Thou, unto ages of ages. Amen.

**There are many opportunities to renew ourselves this Lent:**

**Monday:** Formed at home (Movie, book, children’s video, Lenten Series)

**Tuesday:** The Gospel of John with Fr. Francisco at 7pm in Stack Center

**Wednesday:** Mass at 6pm followed by a Soup meal in Stack Center  
Join Fr. Tom on Wednesday for the Forgiven Series at 7:15pm

**Thursday:** Eucharistic Adoration with Confession at 7pm

**Friday:** Stations of the Cross 2:30pm in English and at 7pm in Spanish

**Saturday:** Mass at 8:15am followed by Eucharist Adoration, Rosary, and Confession.

**Sunday:** Join us for a Rosary 30 minutes before Masses.

**Formed for Lent:**

Sign up for daily Lenten reflections

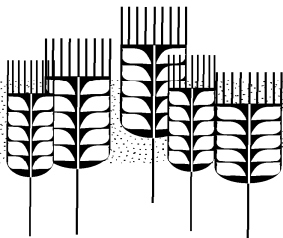
Participate with Fr. Tom with the Forgiven Series

Into the Desert Lenten Series on Prayer

Watch the Movie Convinced: Why should anyone become Catholic?

Read a book The Way of the Gospel

Children Let’s Pray with Brother Francis



*Grow in faith!*

©Religious Graphics, Ltd.

**Gospel for The Second Sunday of Lent (March 17th)**

**Luke 9:28b-36**

Jesus took Peter, John, and James and went up the mountain to pray. While he was praying his face changed in appearance and his clothing became dazzling white. And behold, two men were conversing with him, Moses and Elijah, who appeared in glory and spoke of his exodus that he was going to accomplish in Jerusalem. Peter and his companions had been overcome by sleep, but becoming fully awake, they saw his glory and the two men standing with him. As they were about to part from him, Peter said to Jesus, "Master, it is good that we are here; let us make three tents, one for you, one for Moses, and one for Elijah." But he did not know what he was saying. While he was still speaking, a cloud came and cast a shadow over them, and they became frightened when they entered the cloud. Then from the cloud came a voice that said, "This is my chosen Son; listen to him." After the voice had spoken, Jesus was found alone. They fell silent and did not at that time tell anyone what they had seen.

### “FORGIVEN” VIDEO SERIES WITH FR. TOM

Join Fr. Tom each Wednesday evening as we prepare for Lent by watching a video series called “Forgiven”. Fr. Tom will lead a discussion after each video presentation. We begin on **March 6th, Ash Wednesday**. Join us for Mass in the Church at 6:00pm, followed by a *Lenten Soup & Bread Meal* at 6:30pm. The video presentations begin at 7:15pm. Childcare is available with a reservation. Please call Jackie at 583-9266.

**March 6th:** Where Are You?

**March 13th:** An Encounter With Mercy

**March 20th:** Mercy: The Rite Explained

### LENTEN SCRIPTURE STUDIES WITH FR. FRANCISCO

Join Fr. Francisco as we explore *The Gospel of John* together and discover new meaning for us this Lenten Season. We begin on **March 12th** at 7:00pm in Stack Center.

**March 12th:** Prologue and Signs

**March 19th:** Portraits of Beloved Discipleship

**March 26th:** No Meeting



**PREPARE FOR LENT  
WITH FORMED.ORG**

#### Journey Through Lent with Dr. Tim Gray

Set yourself up for a transformative 40 Days with FORMED Lenten Reflections. It takes less than 5 minutes a day. Get daily videos from Dr. Tim Gray delivered right to your inbox so you don't miss a day of growing closer to our Lord. Visit: <https://lent.formed.org> to sign up!

#### Journey Through Lent for the Kids

Discover a plethora of engaging videos and audio designed for children. Click on the “WATCH” tab & Scroll down to “YOUTH”, watch the Brother Francis video series as well as animated Jesus stories, the saints, and much more.

**If you don't have an account yet, just follow the instructions below for free access to FORMED!**

On your computer, tablet or Smartphone go to our site [www.olgcv.formed.org](http://www.olgcv.formed.org) You should see the “register now” box. Set up a username- whatever username you'll remember - and a password and you are all set. To get the Formed app for your phone or tablet, visit [app.formed.org](http://app.formed.org)

### REGULATIONS FOR LENT

#### Abstinence and Fasting:

Abstinence from eating meat is to be observed on Ash Wednesday, Good Friday, and all Fridays during Lent. This applies to all persons 14 and older. The law of fasting on Ash Wednesday and Good Friday applies to all persons 18 or older and younger than 59.

Fasting means that one full meatless meal per day may be eaten. Two other meatless meals may be taken sufficient to maintain strength, but together they should not equal a full meal. Liquids, including milk and fruit juice, may be taken between meals. If health or ability to work is affected, fasting does not oblige. Private, self-imposed observance of fasting on Lenten weekdays is strongly recommended. Parents should ensure that children who are not bound by the laws of fast and abstinence are taught an authentic sense of penance, conversion and reconciliation.

#### Lenten Observance:

Catholics are encouraged to participate in Holy Mass and in the Sacrament of Penance during Lent, and parishes are encouraged to provide regular and frequent opportunities for such participation. Likewise encouraged are devotions such as Stations of the Cross, vigils and prayer services (with Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament, if opportune). Traditional practices - including increased prayer, Scripture and spiritual reading, alms, personal self-denial in food and drink, increased care and service to the sick and needy - are also suggested.

#### Easter Duty:

All initiated Catholics are bound by the obligations of receiving Communion at least once a year and to confess sacramentally all serious sins not previously acknowledged in individual Confession. This precept must be fulfilled during the Easter duty season, which is from the first Sunday of Lent until Trinity Sunday.

### DO NOT BE AFRAID OF CONFESSION

During the Lenten season, Confession will be available every Thursday at 7:00pm during Adoration & on Saturdays at 8:45am & 3:30pm. Our Communal Penance service is scheduled for Wednesday,

**April 10th** at 7:15pm



### 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 2:30pm during Lent in the Church. Stations of the Cross in Spanish are offered at 7:00pm. On Good Friday, they will be offered at Noon in English, and 6:00pm in Spanish.



**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.



**OLG SPRING AUCTION  
SAVE THE DATE--MAY 18TH!**

Our Lady of Grace's Spring Auction is scheduled for **Saturday, May 18th**. This year's theme is *Tiki Tiki Luau*. We look forward to seeing you there!



**CONGRATULATIONS  
6TH GRADE  
VOLLEYBALL  
BLUE TEAM!**

The 6th grade OLG Volleyball Blue Team took home the Oakland Diocese Championship Title on February 19th! Playing their 5th playoff game in 9 days, the Lady Lions defense shined against a great serving team, St. Bede's of Hayward. This is OLG's first Diocese Volleyball Championship Title since 2005. Go Lady Lions!

We do not live  by bread alone

©Religious Graphics, Ltd.



**LENTEN SOUP & BREAD MEAL**

Please plan on joining us for a simple meal of soup and bread on Wednesdays 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 Faith Formation for sponsoring the Soup Meal on Ash Wednesday. Financial donations at the Soup Meal will be accepted for Catholic Relief Services Rice Bowl.



**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 Parish Office.

**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 3rd:**

Sunday Plate:	\$ 9,537.00
<b>Weekly Budgeted Goal:</b>	<b>\$ 9,038.00</b>
Over/[Shortfall]	\$ [ 499.00]
Year-to-date Over/[Shortfall]	\$ [2,150.00]

*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     | Mona Mulvaney      |
| Maureen Boeh    | Angela Schaaphok   |
| Ana Cochran     | Florence Sharp     |
| Claudia Dobbs   | Rosemary Slater    |
| Lynn Franks     | Howard Songey      |
| Anna Friedeberg | Lurdes Sousa       |
| Byron Griffith  | Mercedes Tellez    |
| Linda Guzman    | Baby Jackson Tyler |
| Cher Jones      | Bishop             |
| Maxine Kruzel   | Denyse Verhaegen   |
| Laura Martell   | Marylou Vincent    |

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

**HARRY CECACI**

**COME GET YOUR SCRIP ORDER FORMS!**

SCRIP CARDS are now available for purchase at Our Lady of Grace. You can purchase the gift cards and spend it at local stores where you already shop. This is a great fundraiser for the church and at NO extra expense to you. You can place your order starting **March 2019**. Orders placed on the 1st & 3rd week of the month will be ready for pick-up on the 2nd & 4th week of the month. Payment is due at the time of your order. An order form is available at the back of the church or in the Parish Office for your convenience. If you have any questions, please contact the Parish Office at 510-537-0806. Thanks for shopping!

**ICF CORNED BEEF & CABBAGE DINNER**

Since so many of you enjoyed our Polenta dinner, we would like to invite you to join our "Italian" Corned Beef and Cabbage dinner on Thursday, **March 14th** and celebrate St. Patrick's Day a wee-bit early. We will also celebrate with a St. Joseph's table where desserts may be "purchased". The proceeds from this free will donation go to support the St. Vincent de Paul's Society at Transfiguration Parish. Doors open at 6:00pm and dinner is at 6:30pm. For reservations please call Juanita at 510-582-7242, deadline is March 10th!

**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. All of us must be aware of such sensitive matters in the intimate life of the Christian community & 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.

**DO THIS IN REMEMBRANCE OF ME**

Are you looking for an opportunity to serve the OLG Community on your schedule? Consider joining the *Eucharistic Ministry to the Sick*. We deliver the Blessed Sacrament to the sick and homebound who are unable to join us at Mass on a regular basis. Qualifications required? A faith-filled and compassionate heart! Minimal training required. If this could be your calling or you have questions, please contact Theresa at 510-581-7694 or leave your name and number at the Parish Office. Blessings!



**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.

**THIS WEEK**

**Sunday, March 10th:**

***The First Sunday of Lent***

- Holy Land Sale
- After All Masses--Rear Entrance
- Children's 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 & Middle School Catechesis
- 10:50am--Stack Center
- Youth Ministry/Confirmation
- 6:00pm--Stack Center

**Tuesday, March 12th:**

- Tuesday Morning Bible Study
- 9:30am--Parish Office, McGarvey Room
- Scripture Studies with Fr. Francisco
- 7:00pm--Stack Center
- Men's Faith Share
- 7:00pm--Stack Center, Room 7
- Women's Evening Bible Study
- 7:00pm--Stack Center, OLG Room

**Wednesday, March 13th:**

- Lenten Soup Meal
- Following the 6:00pm Mass--Stack Center
- Ichthus
- 7:00pm--Stack Center, Resource Room
- Forgiven Video Series with Fr. Tom
- 7:15pm--Stack Center

**Thursday, March 14th:**

- ICF Meeting & Dinner
- 7:00pm--Stack Center
- Adoration
- 7:00pm--Church
- RCIA
- 7:00pm--Stack Center, OLG Room
- AA Serenity Group
- 7:30pm--Augustine Center, Room A2

**Friday, March 15th:**

- Stations of the Cross - English
- 2:30pm--Church
- Stations of the Cross - Spanish
- 7:00pm--Church



*Mass Intentions for the Week*

All Masses are celebrated in the Church

**SUNDAY, March 10th**

THE FIRST SUNDAY OF LENT

7:30am Rudy & Augie Enriquez--D

9:30am Helen Maes--D

1:30pm Rafael Heredia--D

**MONDAY, March 11th**

8:15am Ronald Samonte--D

**TUESDAY, March 12th**

8:15am Joan Dexter--D

**WEDNESDAY, March 13th**

8:15am Bill Correia--D

6:00pm Imelda Corona--L

**THURSDAY, March 14th**

8:15am Erdie S. Garcia--D

**FRIDAY, March 15th**

8:15am Elaine Hammer--L

**SATURDAY, March 16th**

8:15am Foye Flowers--L

5:00pm Jose & Julia Sousa--D

**SUNDAY, March 17th**

THE SECOND SUNDAY OF LENT

9:30am Kathleen Cande--L

11:30pm Norman Goyette--D

**THIS WEEK--Continued**

**Sunday, March 17th:**

*The Second Sunday of Lent*

Children's Liturgy of the Word

9:30am--Augustine Center

Coffee & Donuts

After 9:30am Mass--Stack Center

1st Holy Communion Class

10:50am--Stack Center

Youth Ministry/Confirmation

6:00pm--Stack Center

**COME JOIN US**

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



**READINGS FOR THE WEEK:**

March 11th through March 17th

Monday: Leviticus 19:1-2,11-18;  
Matthew 25:31-46

Tuesday: Isaiah 55:10-11; Matthew 6:7-15

Wednesday: Jonas 3:1-10; Luke 11:29-32

Thursday: Esther C:12,14-16,23-25;  
Matthew 7:7-12

Friday: Ezekiel 18:21-28; Matthew 5:20-26

Saturday: Deuteronomy 26:16-19;  
Matthew 5:43-48

Sunday: Genesis 15:5-12,17-18;  
Philippians 3:17-4:1; Luke 9:28b-36

**EXECUTION ALERTS**

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

March 28th Patrick Murphy Texas

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



**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!

**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**

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:

**TRISH A. PALMERI, D.D.S.**