**Easter Message**

We were heartbroken to watch the Cathedral of Norte Dame burn in Paris this last week. Sadness and darkness filled the world as this Church that raised hearts to God was being devoured by fire. Only 1.8% of the French population practice the Catholic Faith and this tragedy of the fire leads us to question will the faith survive? People of faith and vision for generations worked to build the Notre Dame Cathedral. It was a symbol of hope for 850 years. This Easter we may ask where is our faith and hope? Most of the disciples thought the story was over with the death of Jesus. Even with the announcements of the Resurrection by those who encountered him some of the disciples still would not believe. We gather today to affirm that He is alive. He enlightens us today with his Word and Real Presence which we can encounter in the Sacraments. "The Light of Christ" – "Thanks be to God". These are the first words proclaimed at the beginning of the Easter Vigil Mass in every Catholic church throughout the world. In darkness, the large Easter candle is carried through the church, until everyone stands with a lighted candle in their hand, as the Easter proclamation is sung. These moments are solemn and joyful at the same time. The lighted candle reminds us of our baptism and how Christ lights the way for us in our life. The message given is one of hope and of new life, and the message is for all of humanity. Christ is risen. Christ has conquered death and we in turn will rise with Him to new life and glory for He is our light!

This message has been proclaimed for over two thousand years in our churches and in our homes. Yet we see that even though the message is of good news, filled with hope and joy, there seems to be little hope and joy in our world today. Even when Jesus walked on this earth, there was little hope and joy surrounding him and his disciples. So how important is this message of Easter for us today?

If there is one thing that Jesus brings to us in our everyday lives, it is a message of hope and compassion, with our eyes fixed on future glory. Easter is about this for each of us, and even though our lives may be complicated and difficult to manage, the message of Easter is that Jesus will never abandon us, but will accompany us on our journey to assist us especially in difficult times. We must know Jesus in our lives for hope of Resurrection to give us strength and direction. When we know him we can sing songs of faith with the youth of Paris as they watched their beloved Cathedral burn. He is alive and that can never be destroyed. Our Lady and the Saints are interceding for us in this valley of tears and ready to help us become Saints and to rise to everlasting glory with Him.

May is the Month of Mary

Join Fr. Tom to learn of the essential role of Mary in our faith.

Saturday Mornings in May at 10AM in the OLG Room in Stack Center.

Fr. Tom will begin the series the Bible and the Virgin Mary by Scott Hahn.

Gospel for Second Sunday of Easter (Sunday of Divine Mercy) (April 28th)**John 20:19-31**

On the evening of that first day of the week, when the doors were locked, where the disciples were, for fear of the Jews, Jesus came and stood in their midst and said to them, "Peace be with you." When he had said this, he showed them his hands and his side. The disciples rejoiced when they saw the Lord. Jesus said to them again, "Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, so I send you." And when he had said this, he breathed on them and said to them, "Receive the Holy Spirit. Whose sins you forgive are forgiven them, and whose sins you retain are retained." Thomas, called Didymus, one of the Twelve, was not with them when Jesus came. So the other disciples said to him, "We have seen the Lord." But he said to them, "Unless I see the mark of the nails in his hands and put my finger into the nailmarks and put my hand into his side, I will not believe." Now a week later his disciples were again inside and Thomas was with them. Jesus came, although the doors were locked, and stood in their midst and said, "Peace be with you." Then he said to Thomas, "Put your finger here and see my hands, and bring your hand and put it into my side, and do not be unbelieving, but believe." Thomas answered and said to him, "My Lord and my God!" Jesus said to him, "Have you come to believe because you have seen me? Blessed are those who have not seen and have believed." Now Jesus did many other signs in the presence of his disciples that are not written in this book. But these are written that you may come to believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God, and that through this belief you may have life in his name.

Easter BLESSINGS

PARISH OFFICE HOURS

The Parish Office will be closed Monday, **April 22nd** and will re-open on Tuesday, **April 23rd** at 8:30am. The entire Parish staff wishes you & your family a very Blessed Easter!

CATHOLIC RELIEF SERVICES BISHOP'S OVERSEAS APPEAL

There are envelopes in the pews for the annual appeal in support of Catholic Relief Services. This appeal supports Catholic Church organizations that carry out international relief and solidarity efforts. Programs include relief and resettlement for victims of persecution, war, and natural disasters; development projects to improve living conditions for the poor; legal and support services for poor immigrants; peace and reconciliation work for people suffering from violence; and advocacy on behalf of the powerless. Thank you for your generosity.



SIGN UP FOR ONLINE GIVING ELECTRONIC FUND TRANSFER

Our parish now offers Online Giving, a web-based electronic contribution application. We are providing this service so that you have the option to manage your contributions online or with your offering envelopes. This service is safe and secure. And it is convenient for you and for our parish staff. Sign up for Online Giving by visiting our parish website at www.olgcv.org and select "Online Giving" at the top of the screen to register. If you need help, contact Colleen at 537-0806 or email: clindberg@olgcv.org

FR. FRANCISCO NAHOE'S 25TH ANNIVERSARY

Fr. Francisco Nahoe OFM Conv. will be celebrating his **25th Anniversary of Priestly Ordination** at Our Lady of Grace Church on **Sunday, May 5th** at 6:00pm with sung Vespers, followed by refreshments. Let's come together as a church community to honor & rejoice in all that Fr. Francisco has done for our parish!

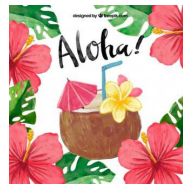


THE 2019 BISHOP'S APPEAL

By sharing your time, talent and treasure with our sisters and brothers and our Church of the East Bay, you are making a sacrifice and returning to God a small portion of the many gifts he has given to you. By embracing Rebuild My Church through the 2019 Bishops Appeal, you are contributing greatly to building up the Kingdom of God here in the Church of the East Bay.

Your Generosity in Action: The Bishop's Appeal provide funds to offset some of the following expenses: Parishes and Schools in Need; Pastoral Ministries and Service; Clergy Formation and Retirement; Religious Education and Formation.

During the 2018 Bishop's Appeal, Our Lady of Grace surpassed it's goal of \$29,000 and contributed \$39,578! This means the \$10,578 comes back to us and will help meet our parish needs!



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

Aloha! Our Lady of Grace's Spring Auction is scheduled for **Saturday, May 18th, 5:30-10:30pm**. This year's theme is *Tiki Tiki Luau*. We need donations! Do you have a nice bottle of wine? Extra tickets to a Sporting Event? Musical? Symphony? Is there a favorite kids' class/camp, fitness club/class, restaurant or spa that you might solicit a gift certificate or gift basket from? Do you have a cabin or vacation home? Do you like to bake or cook? Offer to make dinners, jams, desserts or soups. Are you crafty? Create jewelry, knitwear, blankets or quilts. *Homemade is priceless!* If you like to bake, we'd love a donation of cake, cupcakes, etc. for the Dessert Dash! If you own a business or provide a service, place an AD in our program.

Please email: our.lady.of.grace.auction@gmail.com if you have any questions. Stay tuned for ticket & website information!

FIRST HOLY EUCHARIST & CONFIRMATION

Please pray for our Sacrament students as they prepare to receive First Holy Eucharist during Masses on **May 11th & May 19th**.

Please continue to pray for our Confirmation candidates as they prepare for their Confirmation on **June 8th** at Cathedral of Christ the Light.



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. For more information, please call the Parish Office.



**REGISTER FOR FESCO'S
22nd ANNUAL SHUFFLE WALKATHON
Saturday, May 4th - San Leandro Marina**

Members of Team OLG will be outside Mass on Saturday & Sunday, **April 27th & 28th**, if you would like to stop by and offer your support! Sign up to walk or to donate at www.FESCOSHuffle.org. For more information or a pledge sheet, go to www.fescofamilyshester.org or call Stephanie Miller at the FESCO office at 510-886-5473, ext. 101. Help end family homelessness in Alameda County!



**VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL
June 24th-June 28th
9:00am-noon
Registration Now Open!**

Cost is \$65 for 1 child, \$105 for 2 children and \$130 for 3 or more children. **Space is limited! Register early!** A late fee of \$20 will be added after **June 1st**. To register online, visit our website at www.olgcv.org, then click on "VBS" at the top of the homepage & follow the instructions to register online. Hard copy registration forms are also available at the church exits and in the Parish Office. For more information, please contact John Lee at 510-582-9266. We are also in need of Adult & Teen Volunteers to help our program run smoothly. More details to come!

COME GET YOUR SCRIP ORDER FORMS!

You can purchase SCRIP gift cards and spend it at local stores where you already shop. This is a great fundraiser for the church. 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. Forms are available at the back of the church or in the Parish Office. Questions? Please contact the Parish Office at 510-537-0806.

SUNDAY COLLECTION

Stewardship of treasure involves trust in God. You have to really believe in God's Providence and trust that if you give 10% of your income to the Church and charity, for example, God will help you live on the rest.

Offerings of April 14th:

Sunday Plate:	\$ 9,743.00
Weekly Budgeted Goal:	\$ 9,038.00
Over/[Shortfall]	\$ 705.00
Year-to-date Over/[Shortfall]	\$ [3,158.00]

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 | Sheila McAlinden |
| Maria Bettencourt | Rose Montalban |
| Maureen Boeh | Mona Mulvaney |
| Peggy Burton | Angela Schaaphok |
| Ana Cochran | Florence Sharp |
| Sylvia Dekas | Rosemary Slater |
| Fred Dorado | Howard Songey |
| Lynn Franks | Lurdes Sousa |
| Anna Friedeberg | Mercedes Tellez |
| Byron Griffith | Baby Jackson Tyler Bishop |
| Linda Guzman | Denyse Verhaegen |
| Maxine Kruzel | Marylou Vincent |
| Laura Martell | Arthur Williams |

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

**JOHN CRONE
JEAN ACNAM MIGUEL**

CONNECT TO FORMED.ORG

With FORMED, you have access to thousands of Catholic videos, audios & ebooks. Our site is www.olgcv.formed.org. Here's how easy it is to get FORMED: Either on your computer, tablet or Smartphone go to our site 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 explore all FORMED has to offer. To get the Formed app for your phone or tablet, visit app.formed.org. Don't miss out!



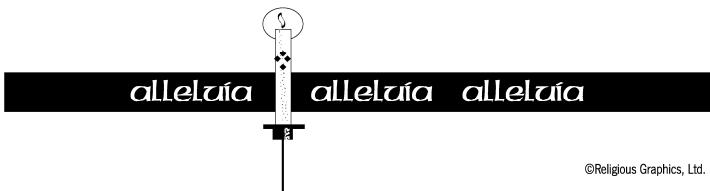
A SPECIAL THANK YOU!

A special thank you to our OLG friends and family for your outpouring of love, prayers and support during this most difficult time for us. We love you for it.

-Glen & Joyce Alcorn

PARENT CAFÉ UPDATE - DATE CHANGE!

The April 28th Parents Cafe has been rescheduled for **May 5th**, please note this change on your calendar. Parent Cafe' invites all families with children kindergarten and younger to come together to enjoy refreshments and conversation with other families while children enjoy themed crafts and activities. May theme is celebrating our Risen Lord Jesus and May Crowning of our Blessed Mother. Please RSVP to jcruz@olgcv.org so we can ensure we have supplies for all who participate!



MOVIE NIGHTS AT OLG

See thought-provoking movies and share fellowship and discussion at OLG movie nights sponsored by our Pax Christi/Social Justice group. On **April 24th** we will be showing **“The Resettled”**, a 30 min. film that puts a human face on the refugee crisis. On **May 1st** the movie will be **“The True Cost”**, a 90 min. documentary on the human and environmental costs of the fashion industry. On **May 15th** you can see **“Risen”**, a 107 min. film that follows the Biblical story of the Resurrection as told through the eyes of a Roman tribune. Films will all be shown these Wednesdays at 7:00 pm in Stack Center. For more info, pick up a flyer at the entrances of the church or call Dennise at 510-538-6071.

**2020 PILGRIMAGE TO POLAND, CZECH REPUBLIC & GERMANY
The Passion Play of Oberammergau**

Hosted by Fr. Tom Czeck, this 11-day pilgrimage begins **August 11th, 2020**. We will visit Warsaw, Czestochowa, Krakow, Auschwitz, Wadowice, Prague & Munich. The price is \$4649 per person and includes RT air from SF, 1st class/select hotels, 1st class admission tickets for the play, most meals, sightseeing & more. Book early! Please contact Heidi Denzler-Halsey at 510-881-7850 or heidimdh106@gmail.com for more details.

THIS WEEK

Sunday, April 21st:

Easter Sunday of the Resurrection of the Lord

Monday, April 22nd

Parish Offices Closed

Tuesday, April 23rd:

Tuesday Morning Bible Study
9:30am--Parish Office, McGarvey Room

Men’s Faith Share
7:00pm--Stack Center, Room 7

Women’s Evening Bible Study
7:00pm--Stack Center, OLG Room

Wednesday, April 24th:

Knights of Columbus
6:00pm--Stack Center, Room 7

Pax Christi Movie Night
7:00pm--Stack Center, Resource Room

Ichthus
7:00pm--Stack Center, Resource Room

Thursday, April 25th:

Adoration
7:00pm--Church

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

Sunday, April 28th:

*The Second Sunday of Easter
(Divine Mercy Sunday)*

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

COME JOIN US



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

Mass Intentions for the Week

All Masses are celebrated in the Church

SUNDAY, April 21st

EASTER SUNDAY OF THE RESURRECTION OF THE LORD

7:30am--9:30am--11:30am--1:30pm (Spanish)

MONDAY, April 22nd

8:15am Stephanie Rosevear--D

TUESDAY, April 23rd

8:15am Marie Evans--D

WEDNESDAY, April 24th

8:15am Julie Peterson--D

THURSDAY, April 25th

8:15am Henry Maravella--D

FRIDAY, April 26th

8:15am Marvin Picha--D

SATURDAY, April 27th

8:15am Richard Benson--D

5:00pm Norma Wardle--D

SUNDAY, April 28th

SUNDAY OF DIVINE MERCY

7:30am Anthony Mirande--L

9:30am Mercy Peterson--D

11:30am Marcie Dugan--D

READINGS FOR THE WEEK:

April 22nd through April 28th

Monday: Acts 2:14, 22-23; Matthew 28:8-15
 Tuesday: Acts 2:36-41; John 20:11-18
 Wednesday: Acts 3:1-10; Luke 24:13-35
 Thursday: Acts 3:11-26; Luke 24:35-48
 Friday: Acts 4:1-12; John 21:1-14
 Saturday: Acts 4:13-21; Mark 16:9-15
 Sunday: Acts 5:12-16;
 Revelations 1:9-13, 17-19;
 John 20:19-31

HELPING HANDS MINISTRY

As many of you know, OLG has a wonderful ministry called "Helping Hands", started by Dianne Fisher many years ago. We help families who have lost a loved one and whom we assist with making and serving food to their family and friends after the Funeral Mass. If you would like to periodically assist us by making food for these gatherings (each entrée, salad or dessert is enough for 10 people), please contact Carmel Ledyard (510-274-5627) or Margaret McKean (510-340-1871) or you may leave your name and number in the Parish Office. Thank you and God Bless!

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.



ST. VINCENT DE PAUL'S SOUP & SANDWICH MEALS

As of May 1st 2019, St. Vincent de Paul will no longer be providing Soup and Sandwich Meals at Our Lady of Grace Church. In order to better serve our neighbors in need, we will be partnering with the HOPE Project Mobile run by ABODE Services. They have started to offer free medical services 1x/week at the First Presbyterian Church on Grove & Redwood Road. **We will be handing out lunches in that location on Thursdays from 10-11:00am beginning May 2nd.**

EXECUTION ALERTS

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

April 24th John King Texas

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



KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS

The Knights of Columbus monthly meetings are held the last Wednesday of every month at 6:00pm in Stack Center-Room 7. If you are interested in joining or would like more information, visit <https://oaklandkofc.org> or join us at our next meeting, **April 24th.**

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:

CERTIFIED FAMILY LAW SPECIALIST