



First Communion

This weekend we celebrate First Communion at Our Lady of Grace. In this Sacrament Jesus brings us into the Agape Love of God. In this Sacrament we come into communion with God who loves us. Jesus gave his life so we can partake in God’s love. He showed his love for us by offering himself. May we and the children at Our Lady of Grace receive this Sacrament to be transformed by the Love of God so we may be true disciples and Love one another.

“My children, I will be with you only a little while longer. I give you a new commandment: love one another. As I have loved you, so you also should love one another. This is how all will know that you are my disciples, if you have love for one another.”

By his Real Presence in the Eucharist Christ fulfils his promise to be with us "always, until the end of the age" (Mt 28:20). As St. Thomas Aquinas wrote, "It is the law of friendship that friends should live together. . . . Christ has not left us without his bodily presence in this our pilgrimage, but he joins us to himself in this sacrament in the reality of his body and blood" (Summa Theologiae, III q. 75, a. 1). With this gift of Christ's presence in our midst, the Church is truly blessed. As Jesus told his disciples, referring to his presence among them, "Amen, I say to you, many prophets and righteous people longed to see what you see but did not see it, and to hear what you hear but did not hear it" (Mt 13:17). In the Eucharist the Church both receives the gift of Jesus Christ and gives grateful thanks to God for such a blessing. This thanksgiving is the only proper response, for through this gift of himself in the celebration of the Eucharist under the appearances of bread and wine Christ gives us the gift of eternal life.

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. . . . 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. (Jn 6:53-57)

Blessings to all our Families whose children received First Communion!
Fr. Tom

Concrete commitment of the Pope and Vatican to address abuse

Pope Francis’ Motu proprio, "Vos estis lux mundi", establishes new procedures for reporting abuse and violence, and ensures that Bishops and Religious Superiors are held accountable for their actions. It includes the obligation for clerics and religious to report abuse. Every Diocese must have a system that allows the public to submit reports easily.

With this new juridical instrument, called for by Pope Francis, the Catholic Church takes a further and incisive step in the prevention and fight against abuse, putting the emphasis on concrete actions. As the Pope writes at the beginning of the document: "In order that these phenomena, in all their forms, never happen again, a continuous and profound conversion of hearts is needed, attested by concrete and effective actions that involve everyone in the Church". (From Vatican News: New norms for the whole Church against those who abuse or cover up)

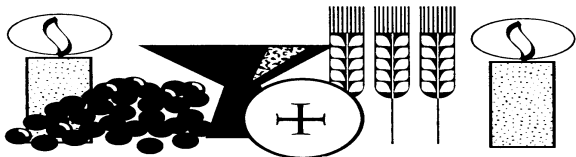
I believe this is a beginning step for the Church to address the problem of clergy sexual abuse. Our Church now understands that this is problem that must be confronted through out the world. There can be no safe haven that would ignore the conduct of sexual abuse of the flock of Jesus Christ. It is difficult to look at these crimes and sins but it has revealed to me the need of every person pray to Jesus our Good Shepherd to save us, protect us, and guide us as a Church. God gave us the commandments and no human person is beyond them. The 6th Commandment, thou shall not commit adultery, was given to humanity by God and Jesus’ teaching on Marriage as a gift of God’s plan for humanity has shown us the way. May the Holy Spirit write the law in our hearts so we may know how to love perfectly.

Peace,
Fr. Tom

Gospel for the Sixth Sunday of Easter (May 26th)

John 14:23-29

Jesus said to his disciples: "Whoever loves me will keep my word, and my Father will love him, and we will come to him and make our dwelling with him. Whoever does not love me does not keep my words; yet the word you hear is not mine but that of the Father who sent me. "I have told you this while I am with you. The Advocate, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in my name, will teach you everything and remind you of all that I told you. Peace I leave with you; my peace I give to you. Not as the world gives do I give it to you. Do not let your hearts be troubled or afraid. You heard me tell you, 'I am going away and I will come back to you.' If you loved me, you would rejoice that I am going to the Father; for the Father is greater than I. And now I have told you this before it happens, so that when it happens you may believe."



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**FIRST HOLY COMMUNION CELEBRATION
SUNDAY, MAY 19TH**

Please join us in welcoming these young members of our community to the table for the first time. First Holy Communion Masses are being celebrated on **May 19th** at 9:30am, 11:30am & 1:30pm

First Holy Communion Recipients

- | | |
|----------------------|-----------------------|
| Isabella Alcantar | Bella Mora |
| Daniela Avila | Amelia Nierengarten |
| Nathan Joshua Ballon | Justin Nguyen |
| Julianna Dela Cruz | Jacob Omans |
| Cecilia Dennis | Jacob Price |
| Carmen Escobedo | Nathan Price |
| Daniel Gambacorta | Evelyn Prieto-Delgado |
| Lara Gambacorta | Isaac Riordan |
| Isaac Garcia | Luke Daniel Rodriguez |
| Izabella Gomez | Matthew Rodriguez |
| Rose Gomez Perez | Andraya Ruiz |
| Diego Guzman | Samuel Sacramento |
| Owen Hannon | Jordan Schaad |
| Kevin Khang Hoang | Sarai Venegas-Sanchez |
| Chloe Lacayo | Brookelynn Wong |
| Sabina Maliksi | Madeline Zasa |
| Heriberto Mata | |

FIRST HOLY EUCHARIST & CONFIRMATION

Please pray for our Sacrament students as they prepare to receive First Holy Eucharist during Masses on **May 19th**. Please continue to pray for our Confirmation candidates as they prepare for their Confirmation on **June 8th, 2:00pm** at Cathedral of Christ the Light.



**CATHOLIC CHARITIES OF THE
EAST BAY, MAY 18TH-19TH**

Every year, we are invited by Catholic Charities of the East Bay, to help those in need in our community. Your gift during this appeal, **May 18th-19th**, makes it possible for Catholic Charities to help people facing difficult circumstances move forward in life. This includes helping children who face pervasive violence at school, home or on the streets, families or seniors facing homelessness, and people fleeing violence in their homelands. Please give generously to this collection. Envelopes are available in the pews for your use. God Bless!



**REBUILD MY CHURCH
BISHOP'S APPEAL 2019**

Many thanks to those parishioners who have already generously contributed towards our Annual Bishop's Appeal. We are off to great start but have a ways to go! Following is the status of our Annual Bishop's Appeal through **April 30th**:

\$ 11,361.00—Actual Donations Received

Our Goal for 2019:	\$29,000.00
# of Acknowledged Donors to date:	68
Funds Raised (includes pledges)	\$15,471.00

We are currently at **54%** of our goal for this year's Bishop's Appeal!



**MARIAN SCRIPTURE STUDIES
WITH FR. TOM**

Fr. Tom is leading a Marian Scripture Study: "The Bible and the Virgin Mary", which can be found on Formed.org. We meet at 10:00am every Saturday in May in Stack Center, OLG Conference Room. Join us as we learn of the essential role of Mary in our faith.



VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL

June 24th-June 28th

9:00am-noon

Time to Register!

Cost is \$65 for 1 child, \$105 for 2 children and \$130 for 3 or more children. **Space is limited!** A late fee of \$20 will be added after **June 1st**. Hard copy registration forms are available at the church exits and in the Parish Office.



We are also in need of Volunteers to help our program run smoothly. We're looking for positive, enthusiastic incoming 7th through 12th graders to join in the VBS adventure! If you are motivated to serve and lead by example and enjoy working with school-aged children, consider joining our VBS Teen Crew.

To register your camper or as a volunteer online, visit our website at www.olgcv.org, then click on "VBS" at the top of the homepage. Questions? Please contact John Lee at jlee@olgcv.org.

FROM FR. TOM
Helping our Financial situation

We keep falling behind in our collections. Please buy your Gas and Groceries using Scrip. You can help our Evangelization efforts at no cost to you. If every family helped us in this way we can make sure we have funds for materials to teach the faith. These funds go only for Religious Education. Stop by the office and Order your Scrip today.

SCRIP ORDER FORMS ARE HERE!

You can purchase SCRIP gift cards and spend it at local stores where you already shop. SCRIP cards (at face value) help our parish & school earn 2%-17% per certificate. Stop by the Parish office and look over the list. 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.



SIGN UP FOR ONLINE GIVING ELECTRONIC FUND TRANSFER

Our parish is offering a convenient service for contributions! Online Giving is a web-based application that allows you to start, stop and change your contributions at any time. It is very easy to use and requires no special knowledge other than how to access the Internet. 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



KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS

The Knights of Columbus monthly meetings are held the 4th 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, **May 22nd**.

MEN'S FAITH SHARE

The Men's Faith Share group meets on Tuesdays each week at 7:00pm in Stack Center, Room 7. We will read and discuss the upcoming Sunday's readings for the Mass. If you are looking for a small group setting to pray with and explore the Word each week, plan on joining us!

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 May 12th:

Sunday Plate:	\$ 7,913.00
Weekly Budgeted Goal:	\$ 9,038.00
Over/[Shortfall]	\$ [1,125.00]
Year-to-date Over/[Shortfall]	\$ [13,556.00]

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 | Laura Martell |
| 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 |
| Tony Goncalves Jr. | Denyse Verhaegen |
| Byron Griffith | Marylou Vincent |
| Linda Guzman | Arthur Williams |
| Maxine Kruzel | Peggy Winkenbach |
| Wally Lim | |

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

CLARA PENZA



ICHTHUS - YOUNG ADULT GROUP

Ichthus is open to all young adults, ages 21-35. Bring a friend! We meet in the Stack Center Resource Room, **every Wednesday at 7:00pm** and start our bible study at 7:30pm, wrapping up around 9:00pm. We are dedicated to helping build good solid friendships, to deepening our understanding of the faith, and to grow closer to Christ.

**3RD ANNUAL PARISH EXCURSION
FRIDAY, JUNE 14TH, 8:15am
Missions San Rafael Arcangel &
San Francisco Solano**

Don't miss a fun-filled day in the Wine Country! On **June 14th**, our bus departs OLG at 8:15am. We will visit & attend Mass at Mission San Rafael Arcangel. Then we will have a guided tour of Mission San Francisco Solano (Sonoma) with lunch at Sonoma Square, followed by a tour & wine tasting at Cline Cellars Winery. Cost is \$85 per person & includes: tours, transportation, boxed lunch & wine tasting. To reserve your spot, contact Dorothy Cassani (510-331-5553), no later than **May 27th**.

**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.

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!



**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 **June 5th** at 7:00pm in the OLG Room in Stack Center.

THIS WEEK

Sunday, May 19th:

The Fifth Sunday of Easter

Children's Liturgy of the Word

9:30am--Augustine Center

Coffee & Donuts

After 9:30am Mass--Stack Center

Youth Ministry/Confirmation

6:00pm--Stack Center

Tuesday, May 21st:

Tuesday Morning Bible Study

9:30am--Parish Office, McGarvey Room

Women's Evening Bible Study

7:00pm--Stack Center, OLG Room

Men's Faith Share

7:00pm--Stack Center, Room 7

Wednesday, May 22nd:

Knights of Columbus

6:00pm--Stack Center, Room 7

Ichthus

7:00pm--Stack Center, Resource Room

Thursday, May 23rd:

Adoration

7:00pm--Church

AA Serenity Group

7:30pm--Augustine Center, Room A2

Saturday, May 25th:

Marian Scripture Study with Fr. Tom

10:00am--Stack Center, OLG Room

Sunday, May 26th:

The Sixth Sunday of Easter

Children's Liturgy of the Word

9:30am--Augustine Center

Coffee & Donuts

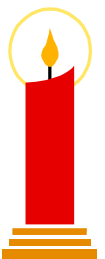
After 9:30am Mass--Stack Center

New Parishioner Registration

10:00am--Stack Center

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.



Mass Intentions for the Week

All Masses are celebrated in the Church

SUNDAY, May 19th

FIFTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

9:30am Margaret Speranza--L

1:30pm Christina Nunes & Family--L

MONDAY, May 20th

St. Bernardine of Siena, Priest

8:15am Velasquez & Moran Families--D

TUESDAY, May 21st

St. Christopher Magallanes & Companions, Martyrs

8:15am Nguyen Family--D

WEDNESDAY, May 22nd

St. Rita of Cascia, Religious

8:15am Delia Lawrence--D

THURSDAY, May 23rd

8:15am Nguyen Family--D

FRIDAY, May 24th

8:15am Bill Correia--D

SATURDAY, May 25th

St. Bede the Venerable, Priest & Doctor of the Church

St. Gregory VII, Pope

St. Mary Magdalene de 'Pazzi, Virgin

8:15am Antonio Chocha--D

5:00pm Dan & Bonnie Sill

SUNDAY, May 26th

SIXTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

7:30am Ben Leal--D

9:30am Norma Wardle--D

1:30pm Antonia Vargas



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CHILDREN'S GUIDE TO MASS

At the entrances of the church, you will find 2 different Children's Guide to the Catholic Mass cards. The first is for young children and uses pictures and a simple description suggesting participation and sequential parts of the Mass. The second card with 25 windows is for children who can read and gives a simple description of the sequential activities during Mass. Please feel free to use these during the Mass and return these cards to the baskets at the end of Mass.

READINGS FOR THE WEEK:

May 20th through May 26th

- Monday: Acts 14:5-18; John 14:21-26
- Tuesday: Acts 14:19-28; John 14:27-31
- Wednesday: Acts 15:1-6; John 15:1-8
- Thursday: Acts 15:7-21; John 15:9-11
- Friday: Acts 15:22-31; John 15:12-17
- Saturday: Acts 16:1-10; John 15:18-21
- Sunday: Acts 15:1-2,22-29;
Revelation 21:10-14, 22-23;
John 14:23-29



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.



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 8:15am Mass each Wednesday in the Church. Please join us.



DID YOU KNOW???

Our church has wonderful, hardworking volunteers who clean & set up our pews with missalettes, song books & envelopes each week for our Masses. We are grateful for their years of service in doing this! It has come to our attention that trash items, such as used tissues, cough drop wrappers, gum wrappers, water bottles, Cheerios & Goldfish crackers have been left behind. Please work with our volunteers & honor their work by picking up after yourselves. Many thanks in advance, in helping keep our church immaculate!

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:

DR. JOAN M. JUPINA, D.D.S.