

**A Prayer of Thanksgiving**

Thank you, Father, for having created us and given us to each other in the human family. Thank you for being with us in all our joys and sorrows, for your comfort in our sadness, your companionship in our loneliness. Thank you for yesterday, today, tomorrow and for the whole of our lives. Thank you for friends, for health and for grace. May we live this and every day conscious of all that has been given to us.

From *The Catholic Prayer Book*, compiled by Msgr. Michael Buckley

Consecrate Yourself To The Blessed Virgin Mary

Join Fr. Tom on Saturday, **November 30th** at 10:00am in Stack Center, OLG Room, for a Consecration Class to the Blessed Virgin Mary. We will offer the Militia Immaculata Consecration on **December 9th**, during the Mass of the Immaculate Conception at 6:00pm.

The Militia of the Immaculata (MI) is a worldwide evangelization movement founded by St. Maximilian Kolbe in 1917 that encourages total consecration to the Blessed Virgin Mary as a means of spiritual renewal for individuals and society. The MI movement is open to all Catholics over 7 years old. It employs prayer as the main weapon in the spiritual battle with evil. Members of the Militia Immaculata also immerse themselves in apostolic initiatives throughout society, either individually or in groups, to deepen the knowledge of the Gospel and our Catholic Faith in them and in others. Marian consecration is a formal act of self-giving that does not stop at Mary, but is Christ-directed. It is really consecration to Jesus. The MI's mission is "To Lead Every Individual With Mary to the Most Sacred Heart of Jesus."

Novena in Honor of the Immaculate Conception with St. Maximilian Kolbe

This Novena includes: Daily Opening Prayer, Readings from the Writings of St. Maximilian Kolbe (KW), Prayer Intention, Closing Prayer.

Daily Opening Prayer

*You are all beautiful, Mary,
and the original stain is not in you. You are the glory of Jerusalem, you are the joy of Israel,
you give honor to our people.*

You are the advocate of sinners.

O Mary,

Virgin most prudent,

Mother most merciful,

pray for us, intercede for us,

with the Lord Jesus Christ.

Day One, November 30th: The Immaculata

A Reading from the Writings of St. Maximilian Kolbe

Human words cannot describe who she is, who became the true Mother of God. Of course taken by herself, she is merely a creature. Yet, she was raised up so high by God that one would need to understand who God is to comprehend who the Mother of God is. Also, she is the true Mother of God. It is a dogma of faith. Although the dignity of divine motherhood accounts for most of her privileges, the first grace she received from God was her Immaculate Conception, her exemption from any blemish, even from original sin, since the first moment of her existence. Such privilege, moreover, must be very dear to her, for in Lourdes she named herself: "I am the Immaculate Conception." On that occasion, she did not say, "I was conceived without sin," but "I am the Immaculate Conception;" it follows of necessity that she is immaculateness itself. In fact, she is a conception, since she came into existence in time. However, she is the Immaculate Conception. God said to Moses: "I am Who I am" [Ex 3:14]: I am existence itself, so I am without beginning. Instead, the Immaculata says of herself, "I am Conception," but, unlike all other human beings, the "Immaculate Conception." (KW 1292)

O God, who by the Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin prepared a worthy dwelling for your Son, grant, we pray, that, as you preserved her from every stain by virtue of the death of your Son, which you foresaw, so, through her intercession, we, too, may be cleansed and admitted to your presence. Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, forever and ever. Amen.

Prayer Intention

Daily Closing Prayer

Our Father, Hail Mary, Glory Be

O Mary, conceived without sin, pray for us who have recourse to you, and for all those who do not have recourse to you, especially the enemies of Holy Church and all those recommended to you.

The remainder of the Novena will be printed in the upcoming Bulletins. Please see Pages 2 & 3 of this Bulletin for upcoming events for Advent.

Peace,
Fr. Tom

THANKSGIVING DAY LITURGY

Our Lady of Grace Parish will celebrate a *Mass of Thanksgiving* on **Thursday, November 28th at 9:00am**. There is much to be thankful for in our lives and this is also a time to consider ways of helping those around us who are in need. The monetary collection from this Mass will benefit the work of our St. Vincent de Paul Society. As in years past, the St. Vincent de Paul Society will be taking donations of food and money at the Mass. As you give your donations, please pray for those families who will be helped. Over the years, the population that we serve has changed. Most of our clients are single and have minimal access to cooking facilities. Items most needed for our pantry are: soups, chili, pork & beans, instant mashed potatoes & gravy, canned fruits & vegetables, tuna & canned meats, pasta & pasta sauce, instant pudding, packaged cookies (something for our Christmas baskets). When possible, pop top cans are great. Please check “best by” dates. God bless all of you for your support! You are also invited to bring the bread and wine you will be serving at your own Thanksgiving meal to be blessed for your feast.



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 and leave a message. We will get back to you the next day. All names are kept confidential.



ONE WARM COAT DRIVE

This year the St. Vincent de Paul Conference at Our Lady of Grace will be participating in the One Warm Coat Drive. We invite parishioners to donate **new or gently used men’s, women’s or children’s coats** to this drive. These coats will be distributed through our local Conference and the drop-in centers and clothing closet at St. Vincent de Paul’s main campus in Oakland. We will also be collecting **sleeping bags, blankets, handwarmers & tarps**. Please bring your donations and place in the barrel at the Somerset entrance of the church or in the parish office. We will be accepting coats from **November 1st to December 31st**. We thank you for your generosity.



CONSECRATE YOURSELF TO MARY THIS ADVENT

Fr. Tom will be having a Consecration Class on **Saturday, November 30th** at 10:00am at Stack Center, OLG Room. We will have a consecration at a Mass for the Immaculate Conception on **Monday, December 9th** at 6:00pm, followed by a presentation by Dr. John Galten (President of the Militia Immaculata) on *“Who Is The Immaculata And Why Is She Essential For Catholics?”* at 7:00pm in Stack Center.



**CATHOLIC CAMPAIGN FOR HUMAN DEVELOPMENT
November 23rd & 24th**

Please be generous in this weekend’s special collection, which supports the Catholic Campaign for Human Development. *In the U.S. alone, 1 in 6 people live in poverty. Your donation will help fund grass-root organizations empowering low-income people to lift themselves out of poverty.* Also, 25% of the funds we collect will remain in our Diocese to fund local anti-poverty projects. Please prayerfully consider how you can support this collection and assist to make this year’s collection a success!. More information about the Catholic Campaign for Human Development can be found at www.cchdeastbay.org.

**FESCO AND CASTRO VALLEY OUTREACH
Christmas Giving Trees**

Starting this weekend, Our Lady of Grace is helping Castro Valley families with our Giving Trees. As members of CV Outreach, we are sponsoring several families. Each family member has an ornament on our Giving Trees which you will find in Church, in Stack Center after Church, & in the school and Parish offices. Please take an ornament to help a child have a blessed holiday. All gifts need to be returned with the ornament, box and receipt, unwrapped to the Parish office by **Thursday, December 12th** in order for our REC students & Parent Group members to catalog and wrap. *New this year:* CV Outreach will also be accepting donations of tree ornaments & lights for families. You may bring these donations to the Parish Office **December 4th-6th**. In addition to helping CV Outreach, we are helping FESCO keep their programs running. They are asking for monetary donations. Donation envelopes are on the Giving Trees. Please return the envelopes to the Parish office. Thank you for your generosity!



THANKSGIVING

**THANKSGIVING DAY
PARISH OFFICE HOURS**

The Parish offices will be closed on Thursday, **November 28th** & Friday, **November 29th**. The office will re-open on Monday, **December 2nd** at 8:30am. The entire Parish staff wishes you and your family a Blessed Thanksgiving.

IMMACULATE CONCEPTION NOVENA

Join in the Immaculate Conception Novena beginning on **November 30th** until **December 8th**. Copies of the Novena will be available at the Church entrances.

**JOIN FR. TOM'S GROUP TO SEE
LOVE & MERCY MOVIE**

The movie *Faustina: Love and Mercy* will only be shown in theaters on **Monday, December 2nd** at 7:00pm. I am organizing a group of 10 people to see the movie at the theater. It sold out in many theaters on its one-day release on October 28th. Call Jay in Parish office at 510-537-0806 to RSVP.



ICF BISCOTTI PICK-UP

Biscotti orders will be available for pick up after all Masses this weekend of **November 23rd & 24th**. Thanks for your support. Happy Thanksgiving from the ICF!

DELICIOUS TAMALES FOR SALE!

The Hispanic Group, once again, will be selling tamales on **Sunday, November 24th** in Stack Center, after all the Masses until they are sold out. Please pick up your pre-orders here. Price is \$19.50 per dozen in pork, chicken or vegetarian (cheese and chile). Thank you for your support.



ALTAR SERVER MINISTRY

Altar Serving is a privilege, and a necessary ministry, assisting priests and deacons at Masses and other liturgical services. It is open to students in 5th through 12th grades. Students must have received Baptism, 1st Reconciliation & 1st Holy Eucharist in order to participate. There are four required training sessions at 3:15pm January 13th, 15th, 22nd & 27th. Registration forms are available at the Church entrances. Please fill out the bottom portion & return it to the Parish Office by **December 5th**. Thank you for your interest!

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 November 17th:

Sunday Plate:	\$ 14,737.00
Weekly Budgeted Goal:	\$ 9,038.00
Over/[Shortfall]	\$ 5,699.00
Year-To-Date Over/[Shortfall]	\$ [4,178.00]

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 | Florence Sharp |
| Heidi Carne | Howard Songey |
| Ana Cochran | Lurdes Sousa |
| Byron Griffith | Mercedes Tellez |
| Linda Guzman | Denyse Verhaegen |
| Maxine Kruzel | Mary Lou Vincent |
| Wally Lim | Arthur Williams |
| Laura Martell | Peggy Winkenbach |

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

**MARGARET LENFESTEY
ROGER LOWE**



**1ST FRIDAY &
1ST SATURDAY DEVOTION**

Come join us **1st Friday, December 6th**, for Mass of Reparation with Holy Hour at 8:15am in the Church. On **1st Saturday, December 7th**, join us for Mass, Adoration, Rosary & Benediction at 8:15am, followed by our Advent Series "Mary, Full of Grace" at 10:00am in Stack Center, OLG Room.



1ST FRIDAY- LATIN LOW MASS

There will be a Latin Low Mass on **December 6th** at 7:00pm, for St. Nicholas, in the Friary Chapel in the CASA at 19950 Anita Ave.

FORMED

ADVENT REFLECTIONS WITH FORMED Preparing for the Birth of Our Savior

This Advent season, walk with Dr. Tim Gray on a journey of renewal to ready your heart for the coming of Christ. Each day of Advent, Dr. Gray will unpack the meaning of this season and its rich traditions, as well as offer practical advice for making this Advent your best yet. Brother Francis will help your young ones prepare for Christmas with joyful songs & valuable lessons. To start your Advent journey, become a member for free. Go to formed.org, find/type our parish name/city on the pull down tab, and create a free account!



SINGERS WANTED FOR OUR CHOIR

In his letters to the Ephesians (5.19) and also to the Colossians (3.16), **St. Paul tells us** to “let the word of Christ dwell in us richly; teach and admonish one another in all wisdom; and with **gratitude in our hearts sing psalms, hymns, and spiritual songs to God.** Whatever the style or form, the purpose of music is to glorify God. Please consider joining the choir. There are flyers at the church doors. Call the Parish Office to leave your name and contact information for Bonnie Ricketts.

DO YOUR HOLIDAY SHOPPING WITH AMAZON SMILE!

If you shop at Amazon.com, please consider going to smile.amazon.com and choosing Our Lady of Grace to receive 0.5% of all qualifying purchases you make when shopping through smile.amazon.com. Buy your gifts and holiday essentials here. Products and prices are the same, and Our Lady of Grace will receive a donation each time you make a purchase.

ADULT CONFIRMATION

If you are over eighteen years of age, out of high school, and have not yet been confirmed, you may register for adult confirmation. Fr. Francisco will prepare the candidates. Please contact the Parish Office and leave your full name, mobile number and email address for further details.



OLG CRAB FEED 2020 SAVE THE DATE!



You don't want to miss the OLG Crab Feed scheduled for **February 1st, 2020** in Stack Center, hosted by the Knights of Columbus.

THIS WEEK

Sunday, November 24th:

Our Lord Jesus Christ, King of the Universe

Hispanic Group Tamales Sale
After all Masses--Stack Center

ICF Biscotti Pick-Up
After all Masses--Gathering Area

Children's Liturgy of the Word
9:30am Mass--Augustine Center

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

New Parishioner Registration
10:30am--Stack Center

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

Tuesday, November 26th:

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

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

Wednesday, November 27th:

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

Thursday, November 28th:

HAPPY THANKSGIVING!

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

Sunday, December 1st:

The First Sunday of Advent

Children's Liturgy of the Word
9:30am Mass--Augustine Center

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

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

RELEVANT RADIO - 1260 AM



Relevant 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.

Mass Intentions for the Week

All Masses are celebrated in the Church

SUNDAY, November 24th

OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST, KING OF THE UNIVERSE
9:30am Debi Telles--D

MONDAY, November 25th

St. Catherine of Alexandria, Virgin & Martyr
8:15am Nigel Martin--D

TUESDAY, November 26th

8:15am Greg Murowski--D

WEDNESDAY, November 27th

8:15am Ernie Selmeczeki--D

THURSDAY, November 28th

9:00am Mass of Thanksgiving

FRIDAY, November 29th

8:15am Cosmo Palazzotto--D

SATURDAY, November 30th

St. Andrew, Apostle
8:15am Fred Hammer--D
5:00pm Jerome Gann--D

SUNDAY, December 1st

FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT
7:30am Anna Friedeberg--L
9:30am Al & Carolina Dela Torre--L

READINGS FOR THE WEEK:

November 25th through December 1st

Monday: Daniel 1:1-6, 8-20; Luke 21:1-4
Tuesday: Daniel 2:31-45; Luke 21:5-11
Wednesday: Daniel 5:1-6,13-14, 16-17, 23-28;
Luke 21:12-19
Thursday: Daniel 6:12-28; Luke 21:20-28
Friday: Daniel 7:2-14; Luke 21:29-33
Saturday: Romans 10:9-18; Matthew 4:18-22
Sunday: Isaiah 2:1-5; Romans 13:11-14;
Matthew 24:37-44

USE SCRIP WHILE YOU SHOP

You can purchase SCRIP gift cards and spend it at local stores where you already shop. SCRIP cards (at face value) help Our Lady of Grace's Evangelization Program 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.

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.



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.



CALLING ALL WOMEN!



Magnificat SOTI, a Ministry for Catholic Women invite all to join them at their Prayer Breakfast, Saturday, **December 7th** at 9:30am-12:30pm at the Crowne Plaza at 45 John Glenn Dr., Concord. Our speaker will be Fr. Erick Villa, the parochial vicar at the Immaculate Heart of Mary Church in Brentwood. Tickets are \$33 & \$40 after **November 30th**. Men are always welcome! For reservations email Magnificatsortirsvp@gmail.com or call Kim Sullivan at 925-683-8220. For more info, visit <https://Magnificat-ministry.net/ca-walnut-creek>.

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.

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.