

**Presentation of the Lord**

Next Sunday, the Church celebrates the feast of the Presentation of the Lord which occurs forty days after the birth of Jesus and is also known as Candlemas day, since the blessing and procession of candles is included in today's liturgy. Please bring candles that you use in prayer to be blessed at the Mass next weekend.

The Mosaic law prescribed that every firstborn male in Israel had to be consecrated to God forty days after birth and redeemed with a sum deposited in the Temple treasury. This was in remembrance of the firstborn sons being preserved from death on the night of the first Passover during the exodus from Egypt. The Gospel according to St. Luke gives us this account of Jesus' presentation in the Temple: *when the time came for their purification according to the law of Moses, they brought him up to Jerusalem to present him to the Lord, as it is written in the law of the Lord, "Every male that opens the womb shall be called holy to the Lord."* St. Joseph and our Lady entered the temple, unnoticed among the crowd. The "desired of all nations" came to the house of his Father in his Mother's arms. The liturgy of this feast-day exhorts us, in the Responsorial Psalm, to adore the King of Glory in the heart of his humble family: *Attolite, portae, capita vestra, et elevamini, portae aeternales, et introibit rex gloriae:* "Lift up your heads, O gates! and be lifted up, O ancient doors! that the King of glory may come in."

The Church of Jerusalem began the annual commemoration of this mystery in the 4th century. The feast was celebrated on February 14th, forty days after the Epiphany, because the Jerusalem liturgy had not yet adopted the Roman custom of celebrating Christmas on December 25th. That is why when this became the common custom throughout the whole Christian world, the feast of the Presentation was moved to February 2nd and was soon celebrated throughout the entire East. In Byzantium, the emperor Justinian I introduced it in the 6th century, under the title "*Hypapante*" or "*encounter,*" referring to Jesus' encounter with the aged Simeon, who was a figure of the just men of Israel who had patiently awaited the fulfillment of the messianic prophecies for so many years.

During the 7th century, the celebration also took root in the West. The widespread name of Candlemas comes from the tradition instituted by Pope Sergius I of having a procession with candles. As the elderly Simeon proclaimed, Jesus is the Savior, *prepared in the presence of all peoples, a light for revelation to the Gentiles.* In commemorating the arrival and manifestation of the divine light to the world, the Church each year blesses candles, symbol of Jesus' perennial presence and the light of faith that the faithful receive in the sacrament of Baptism. The procession with lighted candles thus becomes an expression of Christian life: a pathway illuminated by the light of Christ.

The annual commemoration of the Presentation of the Lord in the Temple is also a Marian celebration and therefore at certain times in the past it was also known as the feast of the Purification of Mary. Even though Mary was preserved by God from original sin, as a Hebrew mother she chose to submit to the *Law of the Lord*, and therefore offered a *pair of turtledoves or two young pigeons.* Mary's offering was thus a sign of her prompt obedience to God's commands. "Through this example, foolish child, will you learn to obey the Holy Law of God, regardless of any personal sacrifice?"

Walk for Life West Coast

I want to thank all who participated in the Walk for Life West Coast. The Walk for Life West Coast is an annual pro-life event protesting abortion, held in San Francisco, California. It is held on a Saturday on or near January 22nd, the anniversary date of the decision in the United States Supreme Court case, *Roe v. Wade.* The first Walk for Life was held on January 22, 2005. May we all take a moment to pray this prayer before the image of Our Lady of Guadalupe the Patroness of the Pro-life Movement:

*Virgin of Guadalupe,
Patroness of unborn children,
we implore your intercession
for every child at risk of abortion.
Help expectant parents to welcome from God
the priceless gift of their child's life.*

*Console parents who have lost that gift
through abortion,
and lead them to forgiveness and healing
through the Divine Mercy of your Son.*

*Teach us to cherish
and to care for family and friends
until God calls them home.*

Help us never to see others as burdens.

*Guide our public officials
to defend each and every human life
through just laws.
Inspire us all to bring our faith into public life,
to speak for those who have no voice.
We ask this in the name of your Son,
Jesus Christ, who is Love and Mercy itself.
Amen.*

Peace,
Fr. Tom



**OUR LADY OF GRACE SCHOOL
OPEN HOUSE - TODAY!**

Our Lady of Grace School will host its annual Open House for grades TK-8 from 11:00am-Noon on Sunday, **January 26th**. Visitors are invited to join us for a light brunch in Stack Center. Tour the school, meet our principal, Mrs. Anderson, our teachers, and school parents. Also, meet representatives from our after-school programs, CYO Board, PTG Board, School Board, Tech Coordinator and Kid Kare Director. Submit your application for the 2020-2021 school year on our website: <https://www.olgschool.org/>. For further information, please call Our Lady of Grace School office at 510-581-3155 between the hours of 8:30am--3:00pm. Please note: Our Lady of Grace School offers Transitional Kindergarten for children who do not meet the age requirement of being 5 years old by **September 1st** to enter Kindergarten. Our Transitional Kindergarten includes rigorous academics and age-appropriate play in a Catholic environment to prepare for Kindergarten.



**CYO GIRLS BASKETBALL
REGISTRATION**



Registration is available online for *CYO Girls Basketball* at www.olgcvcyo.siplay.com then click "Login". Girl's Basketball is open for grades 2nd-8th. Fees for the 2020 program year will be \$190.00 and will increase to \$215 beginning **February 1st**. Space is limited. Registrants will be placed on a "Waiting List" if slots are full. For more information or questions, please email: olgcycv@gmail.com. Go Lions!

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.



**OUR LADY OF GRACE
CRAB FEED
Saturday, February 1st
6:00pm-10:00pm
Stack Center**

Get your Crab Feed Tickets today!

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

Price is \$50 per person

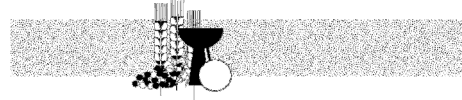
Group Purchases Welcome (Tables of 10) - \$450

No-Host Bar
\$15 Corkage Fee

Kids care opens at 6:00pm (\$15)

Tickets are available after Mass, in the Parish and School Offices and online at <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/our-lady-of-grace-crab-feed-tickets-84526453899>

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



**ST. MAXMILLIAN KOLBE FRIARY
Militia Immaculata Purgatory Society**

- | | |
|-------------------------|------------------------|
| Daville Stainbrook | Ramiro Navarra Ramirez |
| Martha Melendez | & Mariano Navaroo |
| Ana Sanchez | Sanchez |
| Cecilia Villanueva | John Michaud |
| Rojo & Barrios Families | Xavier Ramos |
| Deceased of Schoting | Yolanda Reveles |
| Family | Covarrubias |
| Deceased of Lawrence | Antonio O. Chocha |
| Family | Paul Manuel Borges |
| Peggy Ward | Geraldo Elias Ferro |
| Joseph Kien Pham & | Fernandez |
| Maria Nhuan Nguyen | Filomeno Ruiz |



1ST SATURDAY DEVOTION

Join us on **1st Saturday, February 1st** for Mass, Adoration, Rosary & Benediction at 8:15am. Afterwards, join us for a video presentation:



"The Assumption" from The Bible & The Virgin Mary Series at 10:00am in Stack Center, OLG Room. At 11:00am, The Village of the Militia Immaculata holds their monthly meeting in the OLG Room.



ALTAR CANDLE MEMORIALS

We are looking to have 6 monthly sponsors for our Altar Candles and ask for a donation of \$20 to cover the cost of the candles for the month. Our donors will be recognized in the 1st 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.



**ST. VINCENT de PAUL NEWS
THANK YOU!**

Many thanks to the Our Lady of Grace Parish and School Communities that have helped St. Vincent de Paul in their Outreach Ministry this past year. We have received food, coats, blankets, homeless hygiene bags, socks, and financial contributions. In the 196 times we've met with people, we have assisted in the following ways:

- Food – helped 747 people
- Rent & deposits – helped 83 people
- Utilities: - helped 43 people

We also assisted a few people with vehicle issues, telephone bills & furniture. None of this would have been possible without your help!

In 2019 we started to give out bag lunches on Thursdays at First Presbyterian Church when the Abode Medical Van is there. During the winter we are also giving away socks and some of the coats that have been collected during the One Warm Coat Drive. We have also provided some supplies for local homeless encampments.

May God bless you all for your generosity. If you want to know more about this ministry, please contact Heidi at the SVdP hotline number: 510-581-2164.



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

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 January 19th:

Sunday Plate:	\$ 7,165.00
Weekly Budgeted Goal:	\$ 7,722.00
Over/[Shortfall]	\$ [557.00]
Year-To-Date Over/[Shortfall]	\$ 3,827.00
<i>May God bless your continuing generosity.</i>	



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 | Rose Montalban |
| Glen Alcorn | Leticia Nelson |
| Maureen Boeh | Diana Riley |
| Peggy Burton | Florence Sharp |
| Heidi Carne | Howard Songey |
| Theresa Ferrari | Lurdes Sousa |
| Linda Guzman | Mercedes Tellez |
| Wally Lim | Mary Lou Vincent |
| Laura Martell | Arthur Williams |
| Sheila McAlinden | Peggy Winkenbach |

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

ANGIE DORADO

PRAYER SHAWL MINISTRY

Prayer shawls are universal and embracing, they comfort and enfold, wrap and warm, shelter and embrace. Those who knit or crochet or receive a shawl are blessed. If you know of someone in need and would like to give them this gift of prayer, you are welcome to pick one up at the Parish Office or contact Ruth Picha at 510-538-9063.



**YEARLY CONTRIBUTION
STATEMENTS**

For your convenience in preparing your tax return, a contribution statement for 2019 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.





ICF POLENTA FEED

Come join the ICF Branch #343 for our Polenta Feed on Saturday, **February 15th**, in Stack Center. Doors open at 6:00pm. Menu includes: Salad, Polenta, Sausage, Bread, Dessert, Wine, Soda and Coffee. There will be entertainment and raffles. Price is \$35 per person or \$250 for a table of 8! Reservations and payment required in advance. **Deadline is February 8th**. Please send one check with the names of those at your table for 8 to: Lisa Crudo, 3718 September Ct. Castro Valley, CA 94546, the same for individual reservations. Any questions, please call Lisa at 510-861-9835.



ST. VINCENT DE PAUL'S SOUP & SANDWICH MEALS

Each Thursday from 10:00-11:00am, free lunches will be offered for our neighbors in need at the First Presbyterian Church on Grove & Redwood Road. ABODE Services will also be there weekly to offer free medical services 1x/week. Please pass this info on to anyone you may know within our parish boundaries who may benefit from these services.

FORMED

FORMED provides the very best Catholic video and audio library. The is content helps families and individuals explore their faith anywhere and anytime. The new FORMED format now provides faith-filled, engaging content direct to your living room television with Roku, Apple TV, Amazon Fire, XBOX, and Chromecast among others. You can also access content on the go with offline playback on you mobile phone or tablet. Supporting iOS and Android devices. Go to formed.org, find/type our parish name/city on the pull down tab, and create a free account!

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!



THIS WEEK

Sunday, January 26th:

The Third Sunday in Ordinary Time

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

New Parishioner Registration
10:30am--Stack Center

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

Open House
11:00am--Stack Center & School

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

Tuesday, January 28th:

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

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

Thursday, January 30th:

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

Adoration
7:00pm--Church

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

Saturday, February 1st:

First Saturday Mass, Adoration & Franciscan Friars' Intentions
8:15am--Church

The Bible & The Virgin Mary Video Presentation
10:00am--Stack Center, OLG Room

The Village of the Militia Immaculata Meeting
11:00am--Stack Center, OLG Room

Crab Feed
6:00pm--Stack Center

Sunday, February 2nd:

The Presentation of the Lord

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

1st Communion Class
10:50am--Stack Center

Mass Intentions for the Week

All Masses are celebrated in the Church

SUNDAY, January 26th

THE THIRD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

7:30am Franciscan Friars' Intentions

9:30am Erlinda P. Barroso--L

1:30pm Guillermo Cordova--D

MONDAY, January 27th

St. Angela Merici, Virgin

8:15am Mariane Mendonca

TUESDAY, January 28th

St. Thomas Aquinas, Priest & Doctor of the Church

8:15am Taylor & Felicity Hill--L

WEDNESDAY, January 29th

8:15am Elena & Violeta Salazar Walters--D

THURSDAY, January 30th

8:15am Joanna Badger--L

FRIDAY, January 31st

St. John Bosco, Priest

8:15am Roger Lowe--D

SATURDAY, February 1st

8:15am Mona Mulvaney--D

5:00pm Stephanie Rosevear--D

SUNDAY, February 2nd

THE PRESENTATION OF THE LORD

7:30am Franciscan Friars' Intentions

9:30am Maria Chan--D

Aaron Alcorn--D

Maria Nhuan Nguyen--D

1:30pm Duarte & Ortega Families

WINGS - WOMEN IN GOD'S SPIRIT

We invite all women to join us for WINGS
(Women in God's Spirit).

WINGS is a faith enhancement group that encourages
spiritual growth through prayer, scripture study,
Catechesis, life sharing and community.

We meet at Transfiguration Church
Marian Room (Hall)

Next Meeting: **February 6th**
9:00am to 11:15am

Speaker: Karen Miller

Topic: "Into The Desert"

READINGS FOR THE WEEK:

January 27th through February 2nd

Monday: 2 Samuel 5:1-7, 10; Mark 3:22-30

Tuesday: 2 Samuel 6:12-15, 17-19;
Mark 3:31-35

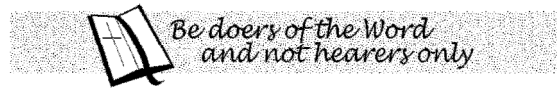
Wednesday: 2 Samuel 7:4-17; Mark 4:1-20

Thursday: 2 Samuel 7:18-19, 24-29;
Mark 4:21-25

Friday: 2 Samuel 11:1-10, 13-17;
Mark 4:26-34

Saturday: 2 Samuel 12:1-7, 10-17; Mark 4:35-41

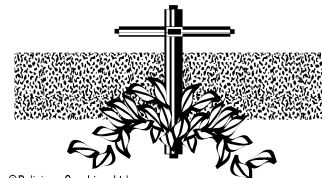
Sunday: Malachi 3:1-4; Hebrews 2:14-18;
Luke 2:22-40



In Memory of

FLOWER REMEMBRANCE FUND

We are grateful for the generous
donation from Marylou Vincent in
memory of Jack Vincent. Flower dona-
tion envelopes can be found at the en-
trances of the church to make a donation in memory of
or in 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.



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YOUR MARRIAGE

RENEW

Retrouvaille... A lifeline for marriages. Do you feel
lost, frustrated, hurt, or angry with your spouse?
Retrouvaille helps married couples heal and renew
their marriages. The next Weekend Program begins
February 21st-23rd. For more information or to regis-
ter visit our website at HelpOurMarriage.com or con-
tact Gus & Edda Rivera at (510) 709-6063. Our Week-

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This week we extend our gratitude to:

PALACE GARAGE