

40 Days for Life

I want to thank all of you for your prayers and to those who have kept Vigil at the “A” Street clinic. Our Bishops have reaffirmed that this is the preeminent Social Justice issue of our time. As Catholics, we have always stood for a Pro-Life position proclaiming that life begins at conception. Yet 27% of Catholics have had or support abortions. I spoke to a woman as I kept Vigil who had an abortion years ago and I let her know that God is merciful and that He loved her. I let her know that the reason why I kept Vigil is because abortion hurts everyone: the Child, the Mothers, the Fathers, and our society which has become cold to people who have disabilities or are poor and struggling. I stand in Vigil because the mercy and love of God in Christ Jesus will heal and save us. If you have been hurt by abortion, I invite you to seek healing and restoration in Christ Jesus. The ministry of Rachel’s Vineyard is here to help in this healing. Rachel's Vineyard: 877-HOPE-4-ME (877-467-3463) - National Hotline for Abortion Recovery: 866-482-LIFE (866-482-5433).

Lenten Prayer Opportunity

- Masses for Life on Wednesdays at 6PM
- Stations of the Cross on Fridays at 2:30PM & 6PM (English) & 7PM (Spanish)
- All Night Prayer Vigil before the Blessed Sacrament 8PM to 8AM on March 13th, 20th, 27th
- Confession available from 8PM until 10PM at Night Vigils
- Confession During Adoration on Thursdays or Saturdays and at 3:30PM on Saturdays
- Penance Service on Tuesday, March 31st at 7PM
- Pray the Angelus with your family during your family meal
- Pray the Stations at home as well as in Church
- Pray the Rosary, especially 30 minutes before Mass on Sunday Liturgies.
- Daily Lenten Reflections with 40 Days for Life booklet and on FORMED.org

Virus Precaution Update

COVID-19 is an infectious respiratory disease that seems to be spreading much like the flu. The symptoms include a cough, runny nose, sore throat, fever, difficulty breathing and, in more severe cases, pneumonia. People with other medical conditions (such as asthma, diabetes, or heart disease) or compromised/weakened immune systems may be more vulnerable to this virus. **If you have these symptoms which are not under control, please do an act of charity for our elderly and stay home. If you are not sure and have respiratory issues, please stand or sit in a chair in the back of the Church. Illness always releases you from your Sunday obligation to attend Mass.**

We understand that with the growing number of diagnosed illnesses, the likelihood of further cases being identified and with increased media coverage, concerns are heightened for our families and staff. **Please note, to date, there is no evidence COVID-19 is circulating in the communities of Alameda or Contra Costa Counties.**

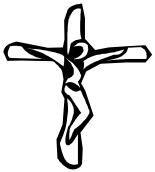
According to these public health officials, our families should continue their regular routines and take the **same precautions they would during cold and flu season:**

- Wash your hands often with soap and water for at least 20 seconds.
- If soap and water are not available, use at least a 60% alcohol-based hand sanitizer.
- Avoid touching your eyes, nose, and mouth with unwashed hands.
- Avoid close contact with people who are sick.
- **Stay home when sick or with a fever.** The CDC defines a fever as 100.4° F [37.8° C] or greater using an oral thermometer.
- Communicate all health concerns with your physician.
- Cover your cough or sneeze with a tissue, then throw the tissue in the trash.
- Clean and disinfect frequently touched objects and surfaces.
- The flu vaccine will not protect against COVID-19, but it is highly recommended to help keep you healthy.

Peace,
Fr. Tom



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STATIONS OF THE CROSS
English & Spanish

Join us on Lenten Fridays for Stations of the Cross which is offered at Our Lady of Grace at 2:30pm with the School, 6:00pm in English & 7:00pm in Spanish, in the Church.

DO NOT BE AFRAID OF CONFESSION

During the Lenten season, Confession will be available every Thursday at 7:00pm during Adoration and on Saturdays at 8:45am & 3:30pm. In addition, Confessions will also be heard on **April 7th & 8th** at 7:30am. Our Communal Penance service is scheduled for Tuesday, **March 31st** at 7:00pm.

FRIDAY FISH FRY'S

Join us each Lenten Friday from 5:00-8:00pm in Stack Center for a delicious fish dinner, prepared by the Knights of Columbus. Curbside pick-up, Take-out or Dine-in options are available. Cost is \$10 for adults & \$5 for children. Dinner includes fried fish, salad & fries. Please pre-pay in the Parish Office or reserve your dinner at Pay-At-The-Door. Checks may be made payable to St. Maximillian Kolbe Council 16770. You may pay online at <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/friday-fish-frys-during-lent-tickets-94873548337> for a small fee.



JOURNEY THROUGH LENT WITH FORMED.ORG

Lent has begun! Exploring what FORMED has to offer is a wonderful way to help us prepare our hearts and minds for the Easter season. Take advantage of the many free movies and ebooks at your disposal which can be shared and discussed with family and friends. You will also find many choices which are educational and entertaining for the youngest members of your family. **If you don't have an account yet, just follow the instructions below for free access to FORMED.**

To register for free, visit: www.olgcv.formed.org Type in "Our Lady of Grace, Castro Valley CA" to become a member.



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THE 2020 BISHOP'S APPEAL

The 2020 Bishop's Appeal is under way! Here are some ways your gifts helped to **Rebuild the Church** in 2019:

- * 600 Catechumens participated in the Rite of Election Of Adults.
- * More than 700 religious education teachers attended Our Diocesan Catechetical Congress.
- * Over 2,000 young people received the Sacrament of Confirmation.

Our goal this year is to gain 100% participation from ALL members of Our Lady of Grace Parish!

Envelopes are in the pews for your use. Please be sure to write "Our Lady of Grace" in the envelope.

Be assured that none of the funds are ever redirected to any other causes.

The Bishop's Appeal is necessary to meet the needs of the Diocese and Chancery. *This appeal helps cover costs of ministries and services.* There are many exciting and positive things happening around the diocese and the services it provides. There are active ministries and programs that serve all the faithful within all parishes in one way or another.

For more information on the Appeal, visit: www.oakdiocese.org/bishops-appeal

ICF CORNED BEEF & CABBAGE DINNER



Come join the "ICF" (Italian/Irish Catholic Federation), for Corned Beef and Cabbage Dinner with the St. Joseph's Table on **March 12th** in Stack Center.

The St. Joseph's Table is a fundraiser for the St. Vincent de Paul Society at Transfiguration Parish. Not to worry, we donate non-perishable food to the OLG St. Vincent de Paul Society in November. The St. Joseph's Table will have homemade desserts that you may make a donation to buy. Doors open at 6:00pm. Cost is \$15 for members, \$20 for non-members and \$8 for children aged 10 and under. For reservations, please call Juanita at 510-582-7242, deadline is **March 8th**.



YOUNG CHILDREN'S MINISTRY

Bring your toddler to kindergarten age kids today, **March 8th**, after the 9:30am Mass. The theme will be *Lent and St. Joseph*. We will meet in the TK Room in Augustine Center. See you there!



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.



**OLG SPRING AUCTION
SAVE THE DATE
MAY 16TH!**

Our Lady of Grace's Spring Auction is scheduled for **Saturday, May 16th, 5:30-10:00pm**. This year's theme is *Moonlit Masquerade*. We look forward to seeing you there!

Donations: We need donations. Do you have a nice bottle of wine? Extra tickets to a Sporting Event? Play? Musical? Symphony? Is there a favorite kids' class/camp, fitness club/class, restaurant, spa, hair salon that you might solicit a gift certificate or gift basket from? Do you have a cabin or vacation home?

Make Something: 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!*

Desserts: If you like to bake, we'd love a donation of cake, cupcakes, etc. for the Dessert Dash!

Advertise: If you own a business or provide a service, place an ad in our program.

Donations accepted through April 15th.

Have questions? Feel free to ask! Please send questions to: our.lady.of.grace.auction@gmail.com.

Stay tuned for ticket & website information!

**OLG TRACK & FIELD
REGISTRATION**

Registration for Track & Field is now open. The 2020 program is open to K thru 8th grade students. Fees will be \$90 and includes uniform, practice & meet fees. For a sign-up packet, contact Shane Rogge at shanerogge@comcast.net (510-325-4205) or John Embody at jembody@hotmail.com (510-300-5024). For more information, login to www.olgcyo.siplay.com to view eligibility requirements. Go Lions!



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 March 1st:

Sunday Plate:	\$ 10,909.00
Weekly Budgeted Goal:	\$ 9,884.00
Over/[Shortfall]	\$ 1,025.00
Year-To-Date Over/[Shortfall]	\$ 3,076.00
<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 | Sheila McAlinden |
| Glen Alcorn | Rose Montalban |
| Maureen Boeh | Diana Riley |
| Peggy Burton | Florence Sharp |
| Heidi Carne | Howard Songey |
| Natalina De Freitas | Lurdes Sousa |
| Theresa Ferrari | Julius Spekner |
| Linda Guzman | 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.

LETICIA NELSON



**ST. VINCENT de PAUL NEWS
Who Are We Helping?**

The OLG Conference has also been able to help support the a San Leandro Homeless Camp of about 20 by providing food, blankets, tents, and sleeping bags. Thanks to a generous parishioner, we were able to provide them with a hot cooked meal for Thanksgiving and Christmas.

We appreciate your support of St. Vincent de Paul as we help those in our community. Please keep us and those we serve in your prayers. If you would like to get involved in this ministry or just have some questions, please call Heidi at 510-881-7850 or email svdp@olgcv.org



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FESCO SHUFFLE - SAVE THE DATE!

The FESCO Shuffle is scheduled for Saturday, **May 2nd** (9:00am-12 Noon) at the San Leandro Marina Park - Seagull Picnic Area. More details to come.

PAX CHRISTI QUOTE OF THE WEEK

"I really only love God as much as I love the person I love the least." – Dorothy Day

To join our work with Pax Christi, please contact the Parish Office at 510-537-0806



ST. VINCENT DE PAUL'S BAG LUNCH PROGRAM

Each Thursday from 9:30-10:30am, members of Our Lady of Grace's Society of St. Vincent de Paul will be offering free bag lunches to those in need in front of First Presbyterian Church on Grove Way. The ABODE Services will also be there at the same time to offer free medical services. Please pass this info on to anyone you may know who may benefit from these services.

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.

EXECUTION ALERTS

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

March 5th	Nathaniel Woods	Alabama
March 13th	Jordan Clemons	Philadelphia

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!

THIS WEEK

Sunday, March 8th:

The Second Sunday of Lent

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

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

Young Children's Ministry
After 9:30am Mass--Augustine Center, TK Room

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

Tuesday, March 10th:

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

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

Wednesday, March 11th:

Mass for Life
6:00pm--Church

Thursday, March 12th:

ICF Corned Beef & Cabbage Dinner
6:00pm--Stack Center

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

Adoration
7:00pm--Church

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

Friday, March 13th:

Stations of the Cross
2:30pm (w/ School), 6:00pm (English)
& 7:00pm (Spanish)--Church

Friday Fish Fry's
5:00pm--Stack Center

Sunday, March 15th:

The Third Sunday of Lent

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

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

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

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

Mass Intentions for the Week

All Masses are celebrated in the Church

SUNDAY, March 8th

THE SECOND SUNDAY OF LENT

- 7:30am Franciscan Friars' Intentions
- 9:30am Ricardo Estrada--D
Rudy & Augie Enriquez--D
- 1:30pm Mela Ortega--D

MONDAY, March 9th

St. Frances of Rome, Religious

- 8:15am Rosemary & Bill Wiedeman--L

TUESDAY, March 10th

- 8:15am Mona Mulvaney--D

WEDNESDAY, March 11th

- 8:15am Lilia Sousa--D
- 6:00pm Elena Suyat--D

THURSDAY, March 12th

- 8:15am Andrew Chocha--L

FRIDAY, March 13th

- 8:15am Enacia D. Freitas--D

SATURDAY, March 14th

- 8:15am Geraldo Ferro Fernandez--D
- 5:00pm Jerome Gann--D

SUNDAY, March 15th

THE THIRD SUNDAY OF LENT

- 7:30am Violet Cary--D
- 9:30am Franciscan Friars' Intentions
- 1:30pm Avelina Garcia--D



HEALTH PRECAUTIONS

During this cold/flu/virus season, we will discontinue offering the Precious Blood during Holy Communion. In lieu of offering our hands to others at the Sign of Peace, we will acknowledge each other with a slight head bow. Likewise, during the Our Father, we will refrain from holding hands. We thank you for your understanding.

All of us must be aware of such sensitive matters in the intimate life of the Christian community & we should be aware that by refraining from the Sign of Peace and the communal chalice is out of care for our well-being and not out of unkindness or lack of piety.

READINGS FOR THE WEEK:

March 9th through March 15th

- Monday: Daniel 9:4-10; Luke 6:36-38
- Tuesday: Isaiah 1:10, 16-20; Matthew 23:1-12
- Wednesday: Jeremiah 18:18-20; Matthew 20:17-28
- Thursday: Jeremiah 17:5-10; Luke 16:19-31
- Friday: Genesis 37:3-4, 12-13, 17-28; Matthew 21:33-43,45-46
- Saturday: Micah 7:14-15, 18-20; Luke 15:1-3,11-32
- Sunday: Exodus 17:3-7; Romans 5:1-2, 5-8; John 4:5-42



FLOWER REMEMBRANCE FUND

Flower donation envelopes can be found at the entrances 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.

USE SCRIP WHILE YOU SHOP

Do you get coffee at Starbucks? Buy groceries at Safeway? Use SCRIP 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. 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? Contact the Parish Office at 510-537-0806.

GRIEF SUPPORT

The death of a loved one is unlike any other loss. Please join us on your healing journey at St. Elizabeth Seton, 4001 Stoneridge Drive, Pleasanton, at 7:30pm. **Thursday, March 12th and 26th.** All are welcome regardless of religious affiliation. Please call Eleanor at 925-46-8708 for more information.

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:

RIGHT AT HOME