

Easter Message for 2020

The Lord is Risen from the dead and has appeared to Mary Magdalene and the Apostles. On Easter Sunday morning we hear the Gospel of St. John which states: "They have taken the Lord from the tomb and we do not know where they have put him?" These are the words of Mary Magdala as she discovers the empty tomb. We like Mary Magdala are wondering where is the Lord with no Mass, no community of believers to gather, sheltering in place and being afraid of what may happen to us? Peter and John run to the tomb to investigate. Peter enters and sees the burial cloth but does not understand what this means. John, the beloved disciple, saw and believed. Where are you this Easter with Mary Magdala, Peter or John? Confronted with the empty tomb or an empty church what does it mean to be a disciple of Jesus at this time and place.

May we read the accounts of the Resurrection and the Acts on the Apostles to hear anew this message of hope and inspiration. Death has not won but Christ has been victorious. Love has conquered sin and death. We will celebrate the Ascension in 40 days as the Lord goes to reign from Heaven and we celebrate Pentecost in 50 days where the Holy Spirit is sent to connect us directly with the love of God and to join the mission to proclaim it to the ends of the Earth. Jesus Christ Reigns in heaven and earth! The door to heaven has been opened to us.

I believe and while there has been tears for the suffering, sickness, isolation, and lack of a physical group of believers, I will say my faith is alive and the Lord is close. It is a crisis like this where we have "a come to Jesus talk" about life and what is it about? My prayer has been for you my community and my family. I asked the Lord to keep me healthy not for me but so I may serve the people of God. I believe I was created for this time to give a witness of faith in God who is alive and ready to meet us where we are to bring us life and hope.

As we continue to shelter in place let us connect with the Lord in prayer. It is that still small voice which the Lord usually uses in quiet prayer where God reveals his presence and mission for each of us. Please pray for those who are ill, have lost their job or are alone.

Our Office can receive messages but calls will be returned on Tuesday and Thursday during Easter week.

We depend on donations. Please sign up for Online Giving on our website at www.olgcv.org, mail in your contribution, or drop it in our office mail slot. We have also installed a Donation Box in the church which is by the front pew and is collected daily.

We are looking into Flocknotes as another reliable way to communicate to our parishioners. If you would like to be added to our contact list and receive a note once a week, please email us your email address to newsletter@olgcv.org.

My mission as your pastor is to connect you to Jesus and the Sacraments so you can be saved and get to heaven. Fr. Paul Fazio and Fr. Thomas Hamilton are in self quarantine due to their vulnerability. They both offer a daily Mass in private. Fr. Paul prays for the Our Lady of Grace Community and Fr. Thomas prays for the friars and those who support us. Fr. Francisco Nahoe continues to direct our Youth Confirmation Program and is in contact with those preparing for Confirmation.

During the Easter season I will be bringing Holy Communion home delivery style for our seniors and others who want to receive and must stay home. You can have the Easter Communion delivered during the Easter Season. The Eucharist delivered will not be touched by human hands. The host will be in a sterilized pyx and placed in a plastic bag and delivered in a brown paper bag. Fr. Tom would like to visit even if we need to meet in your front yard during the Easter Season. Fr. Tom also offers anointing of the sick because he will not be allowed to perform the anointing at the hospital. Be assured that the anointing procedure will be performed without any touching. Please call the Parish Office at 510-537-0806 and leave your telephone number so we can schedule a Eucharist delivery and visit.

On behalf of the Friars and our staff, we thank you for your faith and support.

May the Risen Lord renew you in his Love!

Peace be with You!

Friar Thomas Czeck, Friar Paul Fazio, Friar Francisco Nahoe, Friar Thomas Hamilton
and the Staff of Our Lady of Grace Parish wish you a Blessed Easter!

ALLELUIA
+ ALLELUIA
ALLELUIA

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Easter BLESSINGS

EASTER SUNDAY SCHEDULE

Livestream Mass at 7:00 AM

Celebrate the Resurrection of Our Lord by joining us on Fr. Tom's Facebook page. Visit our website at www.olgcv.org and click on "Livestream Mass" at the top of the homepage.

Adoration in the Church, 8:00 AM - 5:00 PM

Distribution of the Eucharist (No Mass)

9:00 AM & 11:00 AM

Gathering Area at Rear Entrance



LIVESTREAM MASS SCHEDULE AFTER EASTER

After Easter Sunday, our Livestream Mass Schedule will be as follows:

Monday to Saturday at 8:15 AM

Sunday at 9:00 AM

In the future, we may have a Spanish Mass scheduled. To join on Fr. Tom's Facebook page, visit our website at www.olgcv.org and click on "Livestream Mass" at the top of the homepage. God Bless!

CHURCH SCHEDULE UPDATE

In response to the Alameda County Health Department's legal order directing residents to shelter in place, Our Lady of Grace Office will be closed to the public until further notice.

Our Lady of Grace Church will be open daily from 10:15 AM to 7:00 PM for private prayer. The Blessed Sacrament will be exposed on Sundays from 10:15 AM to 7:00 PM. On Monday, Wednesday and Friday from 5:00-7:00 PM, the Blessed Sacrament will also be exposed and Confessions will be heard. Please observe social distancing of 6 feet between others. It is recommended that no more than 10 people gather in the church at one time. Please use the disinfectant wipes provided to clean your area before and after your time in the church.

Eucharist will be offered on Sundays at the hours of 8AM, 11AM and 1PM in the Gathering Area. Please maintain social distancing during at those times. Continue to check the website (www.olgcv.org) for the most current information.



THE 2020 BISHOP'S APPEAL

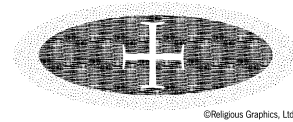
Jesus Christ promised us at His Ascension: "I will be with you all days until the end of the ages." If Christ has helped you and your family, if He has been generous to you, will you consider sharing some of the blessing you have received with Christ and His Church?

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

Please use the envelope that was sent to you in February. If you do not have one, you may mail your donation to: Diocese of Oakland, 2121 Harrison St., Suite 100, Oakland, CA 94612. You may make your check out to: "Bishop's Appeal" and please write "Our Lady of Grace" in the memo line.

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

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



SUGGESTIONS FOR HOW TO CELEBRATE A LIVESTREAMED MASS

Remember you are in the loving presence of the Lord. As you gather in your home to participate at the online Mass consider these suggestions:

- Gather the family and set up an altar or prayer space with a crucifix and candle
- Wear your Sunday Mass attire and do not have any food, drink or electronic devices to distract you from being present and consciously participating at Mass.
- Recite the corresponding responses and observe the proper gestures at Mass, like standing, sitting and kneeling.
- At Communion time, prayerfully recite the *Prayer of Spiritual Communion*: "My Jesus, I believe that you suffered and died, and rose from death to save us. I believe that you are fully present in the bread this is blessed and broken, and the wine that is blessed and poured out in the sacrament of the Eucharist/ Renew in me your sacrificial presence, and let me be united with you at this moment, so that, in all my thoughts, words and actions, I may represent you, and love others as you love me. Amen"



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.

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 for the Month of MARCH:

Sunday Plate for the month:	\$ 33,023.00
Month Budgeted Goal:	\$ 45,158.00
Over/[Shortfall]	\$ [12,135.00]
Year-To-Date Over/[Shortfall]	\$ [2,228.00]

May God bless your continuing generosity.

REJOICE
and be glad

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THANK YOU FOR USING ONLINE GIVING

This is a wonderful way to continue your weekly offering while we shelter in place.

During this time without public Masses, we also have no Sunday collection. We are grateful to the Parishioners who have dropped off or mailed in their weekly offering to the Parish office as well as the Parishioners who continue to support us using our Online Giving.

Parishioners who use the service are pleased with how easy it is to set up and manage. To sign up, visit our website at www.olgcv.org and click on “Online Giving” at the top of the homepage. If you need help with signing up, please contact Colleen at clindberg@olgcv.org



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 |
| Elvira Arechiga | Diana Riley |
| Maureen Boeh | Florence Sharp |
| Peggy Burton | Howard Songey |
| Heidi Carne | Lurdes Sousa |
| Natalina De Freitas | Mary Lou Vincent |
| Theresa Ferrari | Arthur Williams |
| Wally Lim | Peggy Winkenbach |

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

In Memoriam


JULIUS SPEKNER

VICTIMS OF COVID-19

THE BLESSED SACRAMENT “TAKE-OUT” & “DRIVE-BY”

The Blessed Sacrament for the homebound and those with compromised health is available for pick-up M-F from 10:00am-3:00pm. We ask that you call the Parish Office at 510-537-0806 to reserve a pick-up time of A pyx containing the Eucharist outside the office entrance. If you are taking a pyx home, please return it to the mail slot so it may be sanitized for re-use.

The Blessed Sacrament will also be exposed for “Drive-by” prayer M-F from 9:00am-3:00pm at the Parish Office window.

 For our families whose businesses have been affected by the shutdown, please call the Parish Office at 510-537-0806 with the name of your business so we can support you with our prayers. And to list you on our Parish website in our Business Directory.

For those who have lost their jobs, please contact us and we will see if we can connect you with our families who own businesses as to when they will be able to hire again.



POPE FRANCIS' PRAYER FOR COVID-19

O Mary,
you shine always on our way
as sign of our safety and hope.

We entrust ourselves to you,
Health of the Sick,
who at the foot of the Cross bound yourself to the suffering of Jesus,
keeping strong in your faith.

O Salvation of God's people,
you know what we need
and we are sure you will provide it for us
just as at Cana of Galilee
the joy and feasting could return
after that moment of trial.

Mother of Divine Love, help us,
to conform ourselves to the will of the Father
and to do what Jesus tells us,
He who took upon Himself our sufferings
and is marked by our sorrows
and so lead us, toward the Cross,
to the joy of the Resurrection.
Amen.

**NEED TO BE SPIRITUALLY REJUVENATED
WHILE AT HOME?
BE A MEMBER OF FORMED.ORG**

Now more than ever, become a member of FORMED.org for free and get easy access to daily Mass, and thousands of movies and ebooks. Don't miss out! If you don't have an account yet, just follow the instructions below for free access. To register for free, visit: www.olgcv.formed.org Type in "Our Lady of Grace, Castro Valley CA" to become a member.



**VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL
SAVE THE DATE!**

August 3rd-7th
9:00am-12 noon

Church of the Assumption
1851 136th Ave., San Leandro

This summer Our Lady of Grace & Church of the Assumption in San Leandro are teaming up to bring kids K-6th grade another exciting week of VBS!

Cost is \$65/child and \$105/family. **Registration will be available in late April.** For more information, please contact the Parish office at 510-537-0806.

THIS WEEK

Sunday, April 12th:

Easter Sunday of the Resurrection of the Lord

Adoration
8:00am-5:00pm--Church

Distribution of the Eucharist (No Mass)
9:00am & 11:00am--Gathering Area at Rear Entrance

Monday, April 13th:

Livestream Mass on Facebook (Thomas Czeck)
8:15am

Private Prayer
10:15am-7:00pm--Church
Adoration & Confession
5:00-7:00pm--Church

Tuesday, April 14th:

Livestream Mass on Facebook (Thomas Czeck)
8:15am

Private Prayer
10:15am-7:00pm--Church

Wednesday, April 15th:

Livestream Mass on Facebook (Thomas Czeck)
8:15am

Private Prayer
10:15am-7:00pm--Church
Adoration & Confession
5:00-7:00pm--Church

Thursday, April 16th

Livestream Mass on Facebook (Thomas Czeck)
8:15am

Private Prayer
10:15am-7:00pm--Church

Friday, April 17th:

Livestream Mass on Facebook (Thomas Czeck)
8:15am

Private Prayer
10:15am-7:00pm--Church
Adoration & Confession
5:00-7:00pm--Church

Saturday, April 18th:

Livestream Mass on Facebook (Thomas Czeck)
8:15am

Private Prayer
10:15am-7:00pm--Church

Mass Intentions for the Week 

SUNDAY, April 12th
EASTER SUNDAY OF THE RESURRECTION OF THE LORD

7:00am EASTER SUNDAY
Livestream on Facebook (Thomas Czeck)

MONDAY, April 13th

8:15am Lilia Sousa--D

TUESDAY, April 14th

8:15am Anty Zaldivar--D

WEDNESDAY, April 15th

8:15am Frances Fortaleza--L

THURSDAY, April 16th

8:15am Anthony & Carla Toledo--L

FRIDAY, April 17th

8:15am Eira Lindberg--D

SATURDAY, April 18th

8:15am Rosalie Sarboraria--L

5:00pm Antonio Chocha--D

SUNDAY, April 19th

SECOND SUNDAY OF EASTER
(SUNDAY OF DIVINE MERCY)

7:30am Brian O'Leary--D

9:30am Ruth Picha--L

11:30am Franciscan Friars' Intentions

READINGS FOR THE WEEK:

April 13th through April 19th

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 2:42-47; 1 Peter 1:3-9; John 20:19-31

EXECUTION ALERTS

The following executions are scheduled to take place in April:

April 23rd Fabian Hernandez Texas
April 29th Billy Wardlow Texas

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

YOU CAN STILL SUPPORT OUR LADY OF GRACE WHEN YOU SHOP 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 & household items here. Products and prices are the same, and Our Lady of Grace will receive a donation each time you make a purchase.

MASS INTENTIONS DURING THE SHELTER IN PLACE DIRECTIVE

The Mass Intentions will continue to be offered by Fr. Tom during private chapel mass until the Shelter in Place legal order is lifted.

THIS WEEK--Continued

Sunday, April 19th:

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

Private Prayer & Adoration
10:15am-7:00pm--Church

Distribution of the Eucharist (No Mass)
8:00am, 11:00am & 1:00pm--Gathering Area at Rear Entrance

PAX CHRISTI QUOTE OF THE WEEK

"There is no wilderness so terrible, so beautiful, so arid and so fruitful as the wilderness of compassion. It is the only desert that shall truly flourish like the lily."

—Thomas Merton, *Sign of Jonas*, 1953

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

THANK THEM WITH YOUR SUPPORT

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This week we extend our gratitude to:

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