

Blessings To You At Christmas

The Franciscan Friars and the Staff at Our Lady of Grace are grateful for your faithful support of our community. During this difficult year you have been the light that has inspired us to serve you. You faithfully participated in our Live Stream Masses, as well as our liturgy outdoors, and have returned for our Masses in the church. You have supported us in prayer, action, and financially so we could offer you opportunities for the Sacrament and Mass. I offer special thanks to Claudia and all the volunteers who coordinated our drive in Mass. Thanks to the Knights of Columbus who helped with directing people for our Masses and built our Outdoor Chapel. I thank our St. Vincent de Paul members who continued to help those in need even with restrictions. I thank our School Principals and teachers who have done a great job in keeping our school running and opening for students to return. Ron Stainbrook has been tireless in his commitment to keep our Masses up and running. I thank our Ministers at Mass and our Catechists who helped. Our Staff: Colleen, Jay, Bonnie, Jackie, Leeanne, Susana and Rosemary all worked so hard to serve you. Finally, my Franciscan brothers: Paul, Francisco, Thomas, and John have stepped up to assist providing the Sacraments and helping with Catechesis.

We have been blessed during this year and I am grateful for this community. As we celebrate our First Christmas in our refurbished church, I am filled with Joy for the many blessings that have brought us together to celebrate the Feast of Feasts, the birth of our Lord Jesus! You have made room for the Lord who comes to us in simplicity. May our hearts be in awe of the love for our God who comes to us in a manger.

It is your generosity that makes this all possible and we ask that you continue to bless us with your Faith, Hope, and Charity. We ask that you remember us with a special gift this Christmas so we can continue to offer hope to the world. Together, as we face the challenges before us, we find Hope in Emmanuel, God with Us!

Fire At The School, No Room In The Inn

On December 9th we had a fire in the School. The fire was confined to one furnace but filled the building with smoke. Grades 1st-8th had to have remote learning for this last week. I want to thank our Principal Kathy Gannon-Briggs and Shyra Dawson for taking charge keeping our students and teachers safe. We are now having the building cleaned and then the air will be tested with a new furnace being installed. We should be ready to reopen the school in January. The safety of our students and teachers is our priority and we will take all precautions. I want to thank Sylvia Martinez who is in charge of buildings in the Diocese along with Dr. Andrew Currier, the superintendent of schools, for their help during this emergency.

As I reflect on Christmas I realize that no difficulty will stop the love of God from coming to us in Jesus Christ at Christmas. Let our children know it will be alright because Jesus came to be with us to help us. With your help we will continue to offer hope and love in Jesus Christ!

I will be away with my family at Christmas and through the month of January! Fr. Paul will be in charge and Fr. John Heinz will assist him. I will keep you in prayer but will be unable for correspondence. I will see you in February.

Peace & Love,
Fr. Tom

Christmas Blessings from the Franciscan Friars and Staff at Our Lady of Grace!



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The Epiphany of the Lord (January 2nd)

Matthew 2:1-12

When Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea, in the days of King Herod, behold, magi from the east arrived in Jerusalem, saying, "Where is the newborn king of the Jews? We saw his star at its rising and have come to do him homage." When King Herod heard this, he was greatly troubled, and all Jerusalem with him. Assembling all the chief priests and the scribes of the people, He inquired of them where the Christ was to be born. They said to him, "In Bethlehem of Judea, for thus it has been written through the prophet: *And you, Bethlehem, land of Judah, are by no means least among the rulers of Judah; since from you shall come a ruler, who is to shepherd my people Israel.*" Then Herod called the magi secretly and ascertained from them the time of the star's appearance. He sent them to Bethlehem and said, "Go and search diligently for the child. When you have found him, bring me word, that I too may go and do him homage." After their audience with the king they set out. And behold, the star that they had seen at its rising preceded them, until it came and stopped over the place where the child was. They were overjoyed at seeing the star, and on entering the house they saw the child with Mary his mother. They prostrated themselves and did him homage. Then they opened their treasures and offered him gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh. And having been warned in a dream not to return to Herod, they departed for their country by another way.

NEW YEAR'S MASS SCHEDULE

New Year's Day: Saturday, January 1st
Solemnity of Mary, Holy Mother of God
 Mass at 8:15am

5:00pm Vigil Mass for the Epiphany of Our Lord



END OF YEAR GIVING
Christmas Offering

As we come to the end of this calendar year, we want to take this opportunity to express our gratitude for your financial support of our parish this past year. We have been blessed with the addition to our Evangelization team of Leanne Thomas as the Confirmation Coordinator. We have 72 families enrolled in First Communion preparation and Whole Family and 35 students preparing for Confirmation. As Fr. Tom has said, we are not just maintaining buildings but building families of faith. We need your continued support to make this renewal possible. Our Christmas Offering Budget is \$28,000. Please know that your special Christmas and regular Sunday donations help us to meet our end-of-year expenses and hopefully allow us to begin our new fiscal year on a positive note. We are grateful for your offering to accomplish this goal.

2022 CALENDARS AVAILABLE

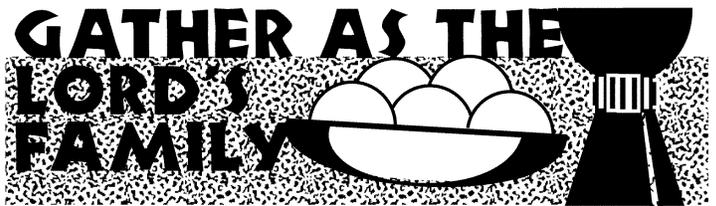
Catholic Extension 2022 Family Appointment Calendars are available. We are grateful and we extend our sincere appreciation to the Catholic Funeral Cremation & Cemetery Services of the Diocese of Oakland for again sponsoring the 2022 calendars. If you have not picked up a copy in the church you may pick one up at the Parish Office. *Please only one per household.*

ST. MAXIMILIAN KOLBE FRIARY
Militia Immaculata Purgatory Society

- Pio Alcala
- Jayruby F. & Virgilio Jugar
- Dona Mari
- Craxiolo Tabique, Sr.
- Lorena & Willy



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HOLIDAY OFFICE HOURS

The Parish office will be closed on Friday, **December 31st** and Monday, **January 3rd** and will re-open on Tuesday, **January 4th** at 8:30am. The entire Parish Staff wishes you a safe and Happy New Year!



"THANK YOU" FROM
ST. VINCENT DE PAUL

St. Vincent de Paul would like to thank all of the OLG parishioners who have been so generous during this past year with their time, talent and treasure. You have allowed us to keep helping our neighbors in need. We would also like to thank the OLG school who put together baskets with food & gift cards for us to bring to those in need for Thanksgiving. Those we serve were overwhelmed by the generosity shown by our community. We will not be taking our last weekend collection in December due to Christmas. This will allow our Vincentians to be with their families during this time. May God bless all of you as we celebrate this holy time of the year and enter into 2022.

CELEBRATE CHILDREN!

Dear Parents,

Our parish enthusiastically welcomes your growing family to fully celebrate with us. May we suggest:

- ***Relax.** God put the wiggle in children; don't feel you have to suppress it in God's house.
- ***Sit** towards the front or aisle where it is easier for little ones to see & hear.
- ***Quietly** explain the parts of the Mass.
- ***Sing** the hymns and **pray** the prayers together.
Children learn from your actions.
- *If necessary, the Family Room located at the right side of the Church is available for your use.

To all Parishioners:

The presence of children is a gift to your Church. Like all of us, they are members of the Body of Christ and a reminder of the growth and future of our Church. Please welcome our children and their parents, and give them a big smile of encouragement!

JESUS, MARY, JOSEPH

pray for us!

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**FAITH FORMATION
2021-2022**

Please pray for the young members of our Church.

First Communion

Next Class: January 9th
10:15am—Stack Center

Whole Family

Next Class: January 9th
10:15am—Augustine Center

Confirmation

Next Class: January 9th
12:15pm—Stack Center

**PRE-BAPTISM CLASS
FOR PARENTS & GODPARENTS**

If you are wishing to have your child baptized, ages infant to six years, 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. Pre-Baptism classes are held the first Wednesday of the month at 7:00pm via Zoom. **Our next class will be on January 5th.** Call Jay at 510-537-0806 for more information.



MEN'S FAITH SHARE

The OLG Men's Faith Share Group meets on **Tuesdays at 7:00pm** in Stack Center, Room 7. All men in the Parish are invited to come. This group meets each week to 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!

**THE CATHOLIC VOICE
MAGAZINE ONLINE**



The December 2021 issue of The Catholic Voice is available online at <https://oakdiocese.org/documents/2021/11/OAK1221-Final.pdf>



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!

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 for the Month of NOVEMBER:

Sunday Plate for the month:	\$ 36,841.00
Month Budgeted Goal:	\$ 45,705.00
Over/[Shortfall]	\$ [8,864.00]
Year-To-Date Over/[Shortfall]	\$ 14,642.00

May God bless your continuing generosity

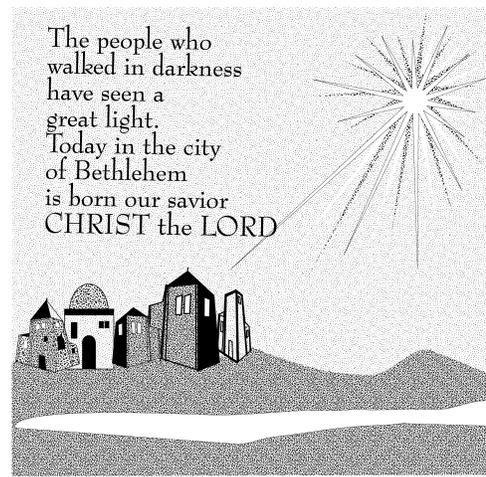


Your Prayers Are Requested

Please lift up in your prayer those many among us who are ill and those who have asked for our prayerful remembrance:

Pam Ahland
Glen Alcorn
Larry Bronzini
Peggy Burton
Virginia Cabardo
James Czek
Nancy French
Mark Jerome
Bill Lawrence
Grace Letteer

Brian Linney
Arcadio Morfin
Diana Riley
Angela Schaaphok
Howard Songey
Ronald Staszko
Concepcion Velasco
Mary Lou Vincent
Arthur Williams
Peggy Winkenbach

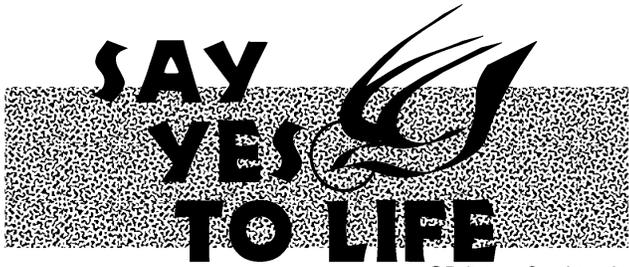


Please remember in your prayers the recently deceased in our parish families and all who mourn the loss of a loved one.

In Memoriam

VICTIMS OF COVID-19

VICTIMS OF KENTUCKY TORNADOES



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DO THIS IN REMEMBRANCE OF ME

Are you looking for an opportunity to serve the OLG Community on your schedule? Consider joining the Eucharistic Ministry to the Sick. We deliver the Blessed Sacrament to the sick and homebound who are unable to join us at Mass on a regular basis. Qualifications required? A faith-filled and compassionate heart! Minimal training required. If this could be your calling or you have questions, please contact Theresa at 510-581-7694 or leave your name and number at the Parish Office. Blessings!



THANK YOU FOR USING ONLINE GIVING

Parishioners who use this 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.

DISCERNMENT TO PRIESTHOOD ZOOM MEETING

To the young adults of our parish: have you ever wondered about a vocation in the church? This meeting is open to young men ages 18-30 years old. It is held the **2nd Tuesday** of each month from 7:00-8:00pm and facilitated by Fr. Carl Arcosa and invited priests.

For more info & to receive access to the Zoom meeting, please email: CArcosa@oakdiocese.org. You may also contact one of our friars and who will assist you in your discernment.

MAXIMILIAN KOLBE QUOTE OF THE WEEK

"Human words cannot describe who the one is who became the true Mother of God. Of course taken by herself, 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."

THIS WEEK

Sunday, December 26th:

The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary & Joseph

Masses
7:30am, 9:00am, 11:00am--Church

Spanish Mass
1:00pm--Church

Monday, December 27th:

Bible Study w/ Fr. Francisco—Spanish
7:00pm—Zoom

Tuesday, December 28th:

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

Thursday, December 30th:

AA Serenity Group
7:30pm—Stack Center

Friday, December 31st:

Parish Office Closed

Saturday, January 1st

HAPPY NEW YEAR!

Solemnity of Mary Mass
8:15am—Church

Vigil Mass
5:00pm--Church

Sunday, January 2nd:

The Epiphany of the Lord

Masses
7:30am, 9:00am, 11:00am--Church

Spanish Mass
1:00pm--Church



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.

Mass  *for the Week*

SUNDAY, December 26th
THE HOLY FAMILY OF JESUS, MARY & JOSEPH
 7:30am Franciscan Friars
 9:00am George Espeights – D
 11:00am Maria Que Nguyen – D
 1:00pm OLG Community

MONDAY, December 27th
 8:15am Beren Godric – D

TUESDAY, December 28th
St. Peter Canisius, Priest & Doctor of the Church
 8:15am Marcie & James Dugan – D
 Everardo Gil – D

WEDNESDAY, December 29th
 8:15am Mona Mulvaney – D

THURSDAY, December 30th
St. John of Kanty, Priest
 8:15am Steve Star – D

FRIDAY, December 31st
 8:15am Araceli Reveles – L

SATURDAY, January 1st
 8:15am Walter Bulling – D

SUNDAY, January 2nd
THE EPIPHANY OF THE LORD
 7:30am Marcelino Perdido – D
 9:00am Agnes Zoleta Vergara – D
 Veronica Ismael – L
 11:00am OLG Community
 1:00pm Franciscan Friars

READINGS FOR THE WEEK:
December 27th through January 2nd

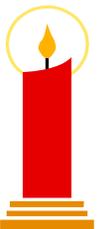
Monday: 1 John 1:1-4; John 20:1a & 2-8
 Tuesday: 1 John 1:5—2:2; Matthew 2:13-18
 Wednesday: 1 John 2:3-11; Luke 2:22-35
 Thursday: 1 John 2:12-17; Luke 2:36-40
 Friday: 1 John 2:18-21; John 1:1-18
 Saturday: Numbers 6:22-27; Galatians 4:4-7;
 Luke 2:16-21
 Sunday: Isaiah 60:1-6; Ephesians 3:2-3a, 5-6;
 Matthew 2:1-12

SAN DAMIANO RETREAT
Your Graced Legacy

Explore your Personal Legacy and Prepare Your End of Life Celebration. On this retreat weekend, **January 7th-9th**, we will creatively use music, poetry, Scripture, quiet time, journaling, and small group sharing to explore your personal legacy. We will use this exploration to influence the deeper hope of what your celebration of life would look like. Our presenters will be Bidi Millet and Margaret Riley. In-person at San Damiano or Zoom participation are available. For more information and registration please go to the San Damiano website at <https://sandamiano.org/events/legacy/>

DEVOTIONAL CANDLES

Candles for our candle stand are available for purchase in the Parish Office or next to the candle stand. 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.



PAX CHRISTI QUOTE OF THE WEEK

“Peace, which the angels proclaimed to the shepherds on Christmas night, is a profound aspiration for everyone, for each individual and all peoples, and especially for those who most keenly suffer its absence.”

-Pope Francis, November 2017

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

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:

PETE’S ACE HARDWARE



STAY IN TOUCH!

Flocknote is the most important way for OLG to communicate to you, our parishioners. If you would like to be a member, visit our website at www.olgcv.org and click on “Flocknote” at the top of the homepage.



Place the LORD at the center of your families’ lives

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