

**Thank You From Fr. Tom**

Many thanks for your prayers and concern during my families dealings with Covid. I learned much from this experience. I am so blessed by the grace of God, the love of my family and this community. I have learned much from this experience. First of all, that the virus is contagious. Thankfully, this variant was mild. The second thing I learned was that the vaccination did not protect my family from the omicron variant. Third, that asymptomatic transmission is real since my sister had no detectable symptoms. Fourth, were those seemingly unrelated pains, such as a backache, an indication of Omicron. Fifth, that early treatments can be effective since my father was able to get monoclonal antibodies and within hours, reversed his symptoms. Sixth, treatment is rationed due to comorbidity, race, and age. My mother could not get treatment. Seventh, if you are younger and relatively healthy, you are told to stay away from the doctor, treat symptoms and go to the ER if you cannot breath. Eighth, in Minnesota, a hospital refused to give treatment to someone who was unvaccinated which led to a court battle to allow the man to be able to be transferred to an out of state facility so he could get treatment. Unfortunately, the 40 year old man died on the way. Ninth, the importance of prayer and the love of family is essential in dealing with the challenges of life. Tenth, taking an eternal perspective with faith in God is important so as to not live life in fear. My parents did not get upset but said you are going to die of something. Finally, I mentioned a movie that I watched during quarantine which had that eternal perspective for life so as to live and not be afraid even when illness comes. The movie is [Until Forever](#) and is free on the Tubi App. The movie is a true story of Michael Boyum who lived in a neighboring town where I grew up. I think you will enjoy this family movie. Here is the link for you to see the preview: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=cU-kRiY5Pz8>

Preparing For The Listening Sessions

"To speak of a 'culture of encounter' means that we as people should be passionate about meeting others, seeking points of contact, building bridges, planning a project that includes everyone."

- Pope Francis, *Fratelli Tutti*, no. 216

What are some things you are facing in life right now that you hope the Church will accompany you in?

- How do you see yourself sharing in the Church work of being Christ's life and love for the whole world?
- What are the joys in carrying out journeying together? What helps or hinders us in this?
- How and where is the Holy Spirit calling us to grow in journeying with one another?

In order to respond, you are invited to:

- a) Ask yourselves what experiences at Our Lady of Grace do the fundamental questions call to mind?
- b) Reflecting on these experiences in greater depth: What joys did they provoke? What difficulties and obstacles have they encountered? What wounds have they brought to light? What insights have they elicited?
- c) Finally, we gather the fruits to share: Where, in these experiences, does the voice of the Spirit resound? What is He asking of us? What are the points to be confirmed, the prospects for change, the steps to be taken? Where do we register a consensus? What paths are opening up for our particular Church?

We ask your participation in the listening sessions so that our community and church may be the place to encounter the love and real presence of God. The Pope and Bishops ask your consultation to reveal how Church is received today and what the Holy Spirit is calling us to?

Please join us for a Listening Session in the next 2 weekends (February 26th-27th & March 5th-6th).

Peace & Love,
Fr. Tom

The Eighth Sunday in Ordinary Time (February 27th)

Luke 6:39-45

Jesus told his disciples a parable, "Can a blind person guide a blind person? Will not both fall into a pit? No disciple is superior to the teacher; but when fully trained, every disciple will be like his teacher. Why do you notice the splinter in your brother's eye, but do not perceive the wooden beam in your own? How can you say to your brother, 'Brother, let me remove that splinter in your eye,' when you do not even notice the wooden beam in your own eye? You hypocrite! Remove the wooden beam from your eye first; then you will see clearly to remove the splinter in your brother's eye. "A good tree does not bear rotten fruit, nor does a rotten tree bear good fruit. For every tree is known by its own fruit. For people do not pick figs from thornbushes, nor do they gather grapes from brambles. A good person out of the store of goodness in his heart produces good, but an evil person out of a store of evil produces evil; for from the fullness of the heart the mouth speaks."

MASK PROTOCOL UPDATE FROM THE DIOCESE OF OAKLAND

Effective **February 16th**, the mask mandate in indoor settings for vaccinated individuals will be lifted.

Mass/Worship Services: Only those who are unvaccinated must continue to wear a mask. *No one will be forced or requested to 'prove' their vaccination status to participate in worship.*

Sign of Peace: The Sign of Peace will continue to be exchanged without physical contact, except for family members.

The Eucharist: It is still encouraged that the faithful receive Communion in the hand. The Precious Blood will continue to not be distributed.

Parish Office: When visiting the Parish Office, only those who are unvaccinated must continue to wear a mask.

We thank you for your continuing understanding.



PARTICIPATE IN THE SYNOD

Our Holy Father, Pope Francis, has called for a Synod to discern the Holy Spirit's call to the Church. Our Lady of Grace will hold "listening sessions"

after all of the Masses on the weekend of **February 26th – 27th** and **March 5th – 6th**. Various groups in the parish and the school community will also host both in-person and Zoom sessions. Please plan to be part of this exciting opportunity to get your voices heard. You can find more information on the Synod at <https://oakdiocese.org/synod-resources>. If you have questions about this process or are interested in becoming a group facilitator or coordinator, contact Denise Burgess at denniseburgess@gmail.com or Kim Vanderheiden at kidae.family@gmail.com.

CELEBRATION OF BAPTISM

Recently, we welcomed

Julianne Hatsuko Manuel

Jonathan Rodriguez-Flores

Gabriel Khirati Palma

into Our Lady of Grace Church by the Sacrament of Holy Baptism. God Bless you!



PRESIDENTS' DAY PARISH HOLIDAY

Monday, **February 21st**, is a federal holiday. The Parish Office will be closed in honor of Presidents' Day & will re-open on Tuesday, **February 22nd** at 8:30am. Monday's Mass is at 8:15am. The entire Parish staff wishes you a safe and relaxing holiday!

COLLECTION FOR THE CHURCH IN CENTRAL & EASTERN EUROPE This Weekend February 19th & 20th

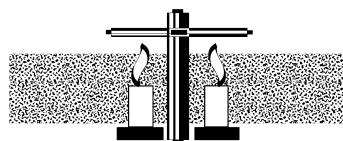


The countries in Central and Eastern Europe have faced a century of hardship. They have been oppressed by radical communism, horrendous crimes against humanity, and revolutionary, civil, and world wars. Under communism, religion and religious practices were openly persecuted and atheism was actively propagated and enforced. Control of every aspect of life was taken over by totalitarian governments and the communist party, and civil society and the economy were deconstructed. Since the collapse of the former Soviet Union in 1991, Central and Eastern European countries have been working to rebuild: their political structures, social welfare, economies and their religious life. Please, won't you help? You may make your check out to "Church in Central & Eastern Europe" Envelopes are in the pews for your use. For more information, please visit: <https://www.usccb.org/committees/church-central-eastern-europe>. God Bless!

ICF POLENTA DINNER March 12th



The East Bay District of the ICF will be hosting a Polenta and Chicken Dinner on **Saturday, March 12th** in Stack Center. Doors open at 6:00pm and dinner is served at 7:00pm. Cost is \$45 per person, \$20 for 12 years old and under. Table of 8 is \$320. Come and enjoy! We will also have entertainment and a raffle! **Reservations are required by February 28th.** Please send payment to Pat Grasso at 16987 Hinton Court, Castro Valley, 94546. Checks may be made out to *ICF Branch #343*. If you are reserving a table, please send one check with names of the guests. Questions? Please call Pat at 510-538-2844. Grazie!



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OLG SCHOOL'S FUN RUN T-SHIRT SPONSORSHIP

We are looking for companies and organizations to sponsor the OLG Fun Run.

Sponsorship is \$250 for your business to be listed on the back of each T-shirt. A \$500 sponsorship gets your logo in one color as well. Additionally, your company name will appear on the pledge form for the event and have a link on the OLG Fun Run website. Sponsorships, as well as any pledges, are tax deductible. Family Sponsorship is \$250 for your family's name or in memory of a loved one to be listed on the back of every t-shirt. **Please turn in your form and sponsorship donation by March 1st.** Checks may be payable to *OLG School*. Thank you! Forms are available in the Parish Office.

OLG CYO PROGRAM

In order to prepare for the Fall 2022-23 CYO Sports programs, we need to fill some needed volunteer positions. There will be an informational Zoom meeting on **Thursday, February 24th** at 7:30pm. Please email Nicole at kocolek22@hotmail.com or Liz at cyo.olg.lions@gmail.com if you are interested in learning more about the open positions and are interested in joining the informational meeting.

OLG & TRANSFIGURATION CYO TRACK & FIELD 2022

Registration for 2022 Track & Field is open to K to 8th grade students who are OLG students and parish residents. Practices have begun and are held on Wednesdays and Fridays, 6:30pm-8:00pm at the Canyon Middle School Track. Meets are scheduled for Sunday afternoons beginning on **March 13th** at the Moreau Catholic High School Track. Cost is \$100 per athlete (\$90 per athlete for families registering 2 or more). For more information or to register, please contact: Shane Rogge at shanerogge@comcast.net or 510-325-4205.

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 JANUARY:

Sunday Plate for the month:	\$ 44,642.00
Month Budgeted Goal:	\$ 47,691.00
Over/[Shortfall]	\$ [3,049.00]
Year-To-Date Over/[Shortfall]	\$ [3,049.00]

May God bless your continuing generosity

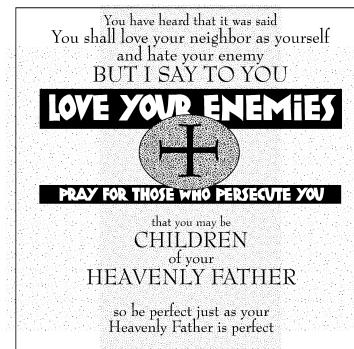


Your Prayers Are Requested

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

Larry Bronzini
Peggy Burton
James Czeck
Trish Ferrari
Nancy French
Elena Harder
Billy Lawrence
Grace Letteer
Brian Linney
Arcadio Morfin

Diana Riley
Ricardo Sanchez
Angela Schaaphok
Howard Songey
Ronald Staszkow
Jim Taylor
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

ARTHUR SANTIAGO
FR. JOHN C. ENDRES, S.J.
JOSE RICARDO SANCHEZ
VICTIMS OF COVID-19

**PILGRIMAGE TO POLAND & EASTERN EUROPE
FEATURING THE PASSION PLAY OF OBERAMMERGAU
12 DAYS: AUGUST 9-20, 2022**

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AT OUR LADY OF GRACE CHURCH

\$5,100 FROM SAN FRANCISCO*
*Air/land tour price is \$4,530 plus \$570 gov't taxes/
airline surcharges

For More Information, Please Contact:
Ms. Susana Dugan:
Tel: 1-510-537-0806
Email: susana.d@olgcv.org

SPACE IS LIMITED - SIGN UP TODAY!!!



OLGCV
OUR LADY OF GRACE CHURCH

DISCERNMENT FOR WOMEN INTERESTED IN RELIGIOUS LIFE

Do you want to be a Catholic religious sister? Do you feel God tugging at your heart? If you are a single, Catholic woman between the ages of 18 to 40, consider spending a day or a weekend with the Dominican Sisters of Mission San Jose. Come and learn about religious life! During this pandemic, our Come and See retreats and individual visits will be on Zoom unless otherwise arranged. To register, please visit:

<https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSeX4wS1BgSqyvoSCvqUPczJxhaFT5VBFn0Ntkw70z0v6Rs5A/viewform>

DISCERNMENT TO PRIESTHOOD ST. PATRICK'S SEMINARY

St. Patrick's next retreat will be held **February 25th -27th** at St. Patrick's Seminary in Menlo Park. It's free of charge and open to men 21 years and older. If you are interested or know someone who is, please email Fr. Carl Arcosa at: CArcosa@oakdiocese.org or call the Vocations Office of the Diocese of Oakland at 510-267-8356.



YEARLY CONTRIBUTION STATEMENTS

For your convenience in preparing your tax return, a contribution statement for 2021 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.

MAXIMILIAN KOLBE QUOTE OF THE WEEK

"The Immaculata...The apex of the perfection of creation, the Mother of God, among creatures the one who is most divinized."

THIS WEEK

Sunday, February 20th:

The Seventh Sunday In Ordinary Time

Masses

7:30am, 9:00am (Livestream), 11:00am--Church

Confirmation Class

12:15pm—Stack Center

Spanish Mass

1:00pm--Church

Monday, February 21st:

Bible Study w/ Fr. Francisco—English

7:00pm—Zoom

Tuesday, February 22nd:

Men's Faith Share

7:00pm—Stack Center, Room 7

Wednesday, February 23rd:

RCIA

7:00pm—Stack Center

Thursday, February 24th:

AA Serenity Group

7:30pm—Augustine Center

Adoration & Confession

6:00-7:00pm—Church

Saturday, February 26th:

Adoration & Confession

8:45-10:00pm—Church

Vigil Mass

5:00pm--Church

Sunday, February 27th:

The Eighth Sunday In Ordinary Time

Masses

7:30am, 9:00am (Livestream), 11:00am--Church

1st Communion Class

10:15pm—Stack Center

Spanish Mass

1:00pm--Church



Mass Intentions for the Week

SUNDAY, February 20th**THE SEVENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME**

7:30am Genieve Atol—D
 9:00am Franciscan Friars
 11:00am Antonio O. Chocha—D
 1:00pm OLG Community

MONDAY, February 21st

St. Peter Damian, Bishop & Doctor of the Church
 8:15am Jaime & Martha Gonzalez—L

TUESDAY, February 22nd

The Chair of St. Peter the Apostle
 8:15am Alfredo De la Torre—D

WEDNESDAY, February 23rd

St. Polycarp, Bishop & Martyr
 8:15am Melissa Futagaki—D

THURSDAY, February 24th

8:15am Brenda Jaussaud—D

FRIDAY, February 25th

8:15am Dorothy & Manuel Callier—D

SATURDAY, February 26th

8:15am Eduardo Calalo—D
 5:00pm Melissa Futagaki—D

SUNDAY, February 27th**THE EIGHTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME**

7:30am Ramona Cristobal—D
 9:00am Kathleen Cande—L
 11:00am OLG Community
 1:00pm Franciscan Friars



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ADORATION & CONFESSION IN THE CHURCH

Come on Thursdays from 6:00-7:00pm for Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament and Confession and on Saturdays immediately following the 8:15am Mass, concluding at 10:00am.

**READINGS FOR THE WEEK:****February 21st through February 27th**

Monday:	James 3:13-18; Mark 9:14-29
Tuesday:	1 Peter 5:1-4; Matthew 16:13-19
Wednesday:	James 4:13-17; Mark 9:38-40
Thursday:	James 5:1-6; Mark 9:41-50
Friday:	James 5:9-12; Mark 10:1-12
Saturday:	James 5:13-20; Mark 10:13-16
Sunday:	Sirach 27:4-7; 1 Corinthians 15:54-58; Luke 6:39-45

BEWARE OF EMAIL SCAMS!

There have been fraudulent emails circulating through our parish, using Fr. Tom's name and a fake email address. For your safety, please do not open these emails and report these to Jay in the Parish Office at 537-0806. God Bless and be safe.

RELEVANT RADIO - 1260 AM

Relevant Radio brings you the best in **relevant radio** Catholic Radio 24/7! Playing on 1260AM and dedicated to sharing the heart of the Catholic Faith and changing lives.

**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!

PAX CHRISTI QUOTE OF THE WEEK

"I personally believe that what we need most of all today is patient, constructive and pastoral work rather than acts of defiance which antagonize the average person without enlightening him."

-Thomas Merton, December 1965

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:

**BERNIE KEMPEN CERTIFIED
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