

From the Pastor

This week and next week will conclude our monthly installment of Augustinian Saints and Blessed. The final nine saints and blessed will be covered in my pastor's notes. The faithful of Our Lady of Grace now have a full year of Augustinian hagiography (the branch of writings devoted to the scientific study of saints worthy of our respect and imitation). At this time we will have a full year of our sisters and brothers who intercede for us with the Holy Trinity, Father, Son and Holy Spirit. I pray you enjoyed learning more about our Augustinian women and men who loved God to the fullest.

Augustinian Saints and Blessed

- **May 8 – Our Lady of Grace** - The angel Gabriel was sent by God to the village of Nazareth. He went to the home of a young girl called Mary, and greeted her, "Hail, full of grace..." (cf. Luke 1: 26-28) This greeting is the basis of the title Lady of Grace. It was at this time that Mary became the mother of Jesus, that is to say, the mother of the author and dispenser of Grace. The Order of Saint Augustine, since its very early days, has been given the honor by the Holy See to honor Mary under the title Mother of Grace, or Lady of Grace.
- **May 8 – Bl. Catherine of St. Augustine** - Catherine of Saint Augustine (1632-1668) was an Augustinian Hospitaller Sister of the Mercy of Jesus who ministered to the poor and sick in Quebec. Catherine de Longpré was born May 3, 1632 at Saint-Saveur, France. As a child she was given a good education. Following the advice of Saint John Eudes, she entered the Augustinian Hospitaller Sisters of the Mercy of Jesus in 1644. She volunteered to go to her community's mission in Quebec. Her family was strongly opposed to the idea. Her father even tried to get the French courts to stop her. But Catherine was firmly resolved to serve the sick and the poor of Quebec. She arrived there in 1648. Later on her father came to accept his daughter's mission there. On her voyage to Quebec, Catherine contracted the plague. She recovered and, once arrived, spent much energy caring for poor people who were suffering from sicknesses and hunger. In spite of spiritual dryness and a debilitating long-term illness of her own, Catherine was consistently loving, kind, and gracious toward all. She died May 8, 1668. She was 36 years old. She is considered to be one of the founders of the Catholic Church in Canada.
- **May 11 – Bl. Gregory Celli** - Gregory Celli (1225?-1343?) is an example of the contemplative dimension of Augustinian religious life. Gregory was born around 1225 in Verucchio, Forli, Italy. As a young man, he joined the hermits of Blessed John Good, one of the groups that was incorporated into the Order of Saint Augustine at the time of the Grand Union in 1256. He spent the greatest part of his life in contemplation, penance and asceticism at the Monte Carnerio hermitage, located near Fonte Colombo, Rieti. He is believed to have lived until 1343, which would mean that he was 118 years old at the time of his death. His remains are preserved in Verucchio.
- **May 12 – Bl. William Tirry** - William Tirry (1608-1654) was martyred because he chose loyalty to God and Church over obedience to civil authority. William Tirry was born in Cork, Ireland in 1608. His uncle was Bishop of the Diocese of Cork-Cloyne. William entered the Augustinian Order in Cork. He must have been a promising student, as he was sent for studies in Valladolid, Spain and Paris, France. Following completion of his courses in Paris, he spent five years (1636-1641) in Brussels, Belgium. He returned to Ireland in 1641. A few years later, when hostilities broke out in Ireland, Augustinian community life became impossible. William went to serve for a time on the staff of his uncle, the Bishop. He was later named Secretary of his Augustinian province. He was chosen in 1649 as Prior (local superior) of the Augustinian house in Skreen. However, Oliver Cromwell's troops would not permit him to live there. A law enacted January 6, 1653 declared that any Roman Catholic priest in Ireland was guilty of treason. William and other priests were forced into hiding. Three men betrayed William in return for money. He was arrested March 25, 1654, Holy Thursday, as he was preparing to celebrate the Eucharist. While awaiting trial, William was imprisoned at Clonmel. Here, his spirit of prayer and penance helped to inspire the other priests who were also incarcerated there. At his trial, William readily proclaimed his loyalty to the government in civil matters. But, in matters of religion, he declared that he was bound to obey only his conscience, his Augustinian superiors, and the Pope. He was found guilty of treason and sentenced to death by hanging. William was executed May 12, 1654. He was 45. An account told by another friar who had been tried with William gives some details of that day: William, wearing his Augustinian habit, was led to the gallows praying the rosary. He blessed the crowd which had gathered, pardoned his betrayers and affirmed his faith. It was a moving moment for Catholics and Protestants alike. The body of William was buried on the grounds of the destroyed Augustinian friary at Fethard. His grave was not marked, however, and its exact location is unknown. He and 16 other Irish martyrs, were declared Blessed in 1992 by Pope John Paul II.
- **May 13 – Our Lady of Help** - Devotion to the Blessed Virgin Mary under the title Lady of Help can be traced back to the fourteenth century and to the Church of Saint Augustine in Palermo, Italy. From this Augustinian Church, it spread throughout the Order. The title is derived from biblical references to the enmity between "the woman" and the serpent. (cf. Genesis 3 and Revelation 12). Our Lady of Help is pictured holding a child in her arms, protecting the child from a dragon or serpent which she is casting out.

In Christ Jesus and St. Augustine,
Fr. Gregory Heidenblut, O.S.A.

PARISH MOVIE NIGHT POPE JOHN PAUL II

The entire Parish community is invited to join together for a Light Potluck Dinner and movie, Thursday, **May 22nd** at 5:30pm. The movie will begin at 6:00pm. Please bring a side dish or salad to share if you plan on joining us for dinner, the entrée will be provided by the Augustinian Community. Please RSVP to the Parish office, or with Bonnie Ricketts.

The movie Pope John Paul II stars Jon Voight. This epic film follows Karol Wojtyla's journey from his youth in Poland through his late days on the Chair of St. Pete. It explores his life behind the scenes; how he touched millions of people and changed the face of the Church and the world; and how he defended the dignity of mankind. Shot of location in Rome and Poland in close connection with the Vatican.

SUMMER VBS FUN !!

DATE: July 28th to August 1, 2014

TIME: 9:00 am to Noon OR Family VBS - 6:30 to 8:30 pm

LOCATION: Our Lady of Grace- Stack Center and classrooms

AGES: entering Kindergarten thru entering 5th grade; 6th grade and up- consider becoming a volunteer counselor or CIT "counselor in training"

COST: \$40/ per student; (Scholarships available). Family VBS 5 and under FREE. Children participate with their parents/guardian. Kids Kindergarten to 5th \$40/student. \$100.00 maximum per family. Teen Volunteers- **no cost**.

The incredibly popular **Hero Head Quarters VBS** is **BACK AGAIN** with dynamic Bible lessons, characters, games, crafts and more! At Hero Head Quarters, kids will meet Bible heroes and ordinary everyday heroes who are often overlooked. They will discover that if they're willing to be used by God in any situation, no matter how big or small, they can be heroes' right where they are! With God's power at work, we can be the best we can be in any situation.

CATHOLIC CHARITIES OF THE EAST BAY ANNUAL APPEAL, MAY 18th

This weekend is the annual appeal for Catholic Charities of the East Bay. Directed by our faith, CCEB lifts people out of poverty by promoting self-sufficiency, strengthening families, and supporting safe and just communities. Please make a contribution to support CCEB's education and employment programs, immigrant legal service, mental health and violence prevention programs, and poverty reduction efforts. Envelopes are available in the pews.

RITE OF CHRISTIAN INITIATION OF ADULTS (RCIA)

Did you miss your opportunity with last year's RCIA group? Are you interested in learning more about the Catholic faith? Now is the time to think about becoming Catholic.

The RCIA process is open to adults who are not baptized, Christians validly baptized in another Christian denomination, baptized Catholics who have not received the sacraments of Eucharist, and Confirmation and have had little or no faith formation. Through the RCIA Inquiry process you will discover the truth, beauty, and goodness awaiting you in the Catholic Church. Call the parish office for additional information.

FROM THE OAKLAND DIOCESE CURSILLO COMMUNITY

This is your invitation to make a Cursillo weekend, which is a three day learning, sharing experience of living in a Christian Community. The word "Cursillo" in Spanish, means a little course. During the three days of the weekend, a person not only hears what it really means to be a Christian but actually get to experience the joy of building and being a part of a genuine Christian Community. The next Women's Weekend: **May 30th--June 1st.** at Holy Redeemer Center in Oakland, For information you may go to www.oak-cursillo.org. If you need additional information contact Ruth Picha at 538-9063.

PLEASE REGISTER....

Why is it important that we register at Our Lady of Grace? Isn't it good enough that we go to Mass? Why should we bother to use the envelope system?

Registration is the official way we join a parish community. Many people think that because they attend Our Lady of Grace they automatically belong. At times young adults who have moved away for years think they are still signed up under their parent's registration. But membership requires signing up, formally enrolling yourself with Our Lady of Grace. Registration is a commitment to a community, a way to be included in the religious, social, and ministerial activities of Our Lady of Grace. Your registration affects Our Lady of Grace in many ways. Census numbers can determine what obligations the community has to the diocese, and how Masses, confession, and devotions are planned and scheduled.

Registration shows you belong. It is also necessary for certain benefits, like scheduling sacraments, obtaining certificates, and getting donation statements for taxes. Registering at Our Lady of Grace is a statement of faith and confidence in the life and work of our parish.

The expense of the envelope system is cost effective. Using the envelope system is a way that our parish can verify your participation in weekly Mass. If you are receiving envelopes but not using them, please consider using them now.

FAITHFUL STEWARDS BISHOP'S APPEAL 2014

Following is the status of our Annual Bishops Appeal through May 7th:

\$ 19,308.00 – Actual Donations Received

Our Goal for 2014:	\$25,139.00
# of Registered Families	1,555
# of Acknowledged Donors to date:	142
Funds Raised (includes pledges)	\$23,623.00

We are currently at 94% of our goal for this years Bishop's Appeal. If you have not yet made your contribution consider doing so today.

SUNDAY COLLECTION

Stewardship of treasure involves trust in God. You have to really believe in God's Providence and trust that if you give ten percent of your income to the Church and charity for example, God will help you live on the rest.

In gratitude for God's gifts of "Treasure" to us, we gratefully returned to God's church in the,

Offerings of May 11th:

Sunday Plate:	\$ 6,759.00
Last Year this week	\$ 7,953.00
Year-to-date this year:	\$143,889.00
Year-to-date last year:	\$134,197.00

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:

Frances Arzino	Vernon Rodrigues
Connie Deitrick	Joan Scarlett
Kathleen Denning	Florence Sharp
Hilda Engel	Pat Silva
Estela Enriquez	Carolynne Steen
Mary Franks	Nancy Swinyer
Byron Griffith	James Van Wert
Raymond Lowe	

As we pray for an end to war and violence in our world, let us remember in prayer those family members of our parish community serving on active duty, including:

KEVIN DIAS

DAVID SANCHEZ

MICHAEL SANCHEZ

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

ANH KIM GOODSON

Gospel for the 6th Sunday of Easter (May 25th)
John 14:15-21

Jesus said to his disciples: "If you love me, you will keep my commandments. And I will ask the Father, and he will give you another Advocate to be with you always, the Spirit of truth, whom the world cannot accept, because it neither sees nor knows him. But you know him, because he remains with you, and will be in you. I will not leave you orphans; I will come to you. In a little while the world will no longer see me, but you will see me, because I live and you will live. On that day you will realize that I am in my Father and you are in me and I in you. Whoever has my commandments and observes them is the one who loves me. And whoever loves me will be loved by my Father, and I will love him and reveal myself to him."

**A REFLECTION FROM
 OLG ST. VINCENT de PAUL SOCIETY**

In the Gospel today, Jesus says "...whoever believes in me will do the works that I do, and will do greater ones than these, because I am going to the Father."

Through your almsgiving you are performing a good work; far greater than you think. The money place in the St. Vincent de Paul collection boxed bring Christ's love and compassion to the poor.

The St. Vincent de Paul Society will be gathering next on Wednesday, May 21st at 7:00pm in the Parish Office. Anyone who is interested in joining the effort to help the poor and homeless in our community is welcome to join in the meeting. For more information about our St. Vincent de Paul Society please contact Bob Lindberg at 925-360-1771.

EVENING BIBLE STUDY FOR WOMEN

Patricia Hierro continues a Bible Study on the 1st Letter of Paul to the Corinthians meeting every other Monday, at 7:00pm in the Parish Office. The next meeting date is Monday, **May 19th**. It is not too late to join this group you can join at anytime. All women of the Parish are invited to attend.

THIS WEEK

Sunday, May 18th:

**Coffee and Donuts
 After all Masses**

Children's Liturgy of the Word
 9:00am Mass

Monday, May 19th:

Women's Bible Study
 7:00pm--Parish Office

Tuesday, May 20th:

Nursing Home Mass
 1:30pm--Baywood

Bible Study
 9:30am--Parish Office

Men's Fellowship
 6:00pm--Stack Center

Wednesday, May 21st:

Nursing Home Mass
 10:30pm--Life House

Thursday, May 22nd:

Parish Movie Night & Potluck
 5:30pm--Stack Center

Serenity Group
 8:15pm— Augustine Center

Friday, May 23rd:

Our Lady's Guild Luncheon
 11:30am--Stack Center

Sunday, May 25th:

**Coffee and Donuts
 After all Masses**

Children's Liturgy of the Word
 9:00am Mass

**Misa en Español
 3er domingo del mes
 A las 2.00pm
 SPANISH MASS**

Fr. Greg will be offering a mass in Spanish one Sunday of every month at 2:00pm in the Church. The next Spanish Mass will be Sunday, **May 18th** at 2:00pm.

Mass for the Week

Please note: During the school year, our 8:30am Monday mass will be celebrated in the church. Unless otherwise noted all other weekday masses will be held in the Chapel.

MONDAY, MAY 19th (CHURCH)

8:30am Anty Zaldivar (D)

TUESDAY, MAY 20th

St. Bernardine of Siena, priest

7:00am Tom Hayes (D)

WEDNESDAY, MAY 21st

St. Christopher Magallanes, priest, and Companions, martyrs

7:00am Henriette Belanger Crete (D)

THURSDAY, MAY 22nd

St. Rita of Cascia, O.S.A., religious

7:00am Jose Daniel Tellez (D)

FRIDAY, MAY 23rd

7:00am Lee, Yaka, Frank Music (D)

SATURDAY, MAY 24th

8:30am Bobby & Grace Sharp (D)



ROSARY FOR WORLD PEACE

The rosary will be recited for World Peace after the 8:30 am Mass each Monday in the Church. Please join us.



EXECUTION ALERTS

The following executions are scheduled to take place in May:

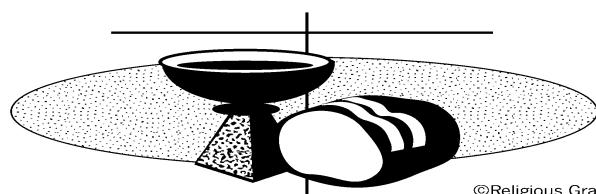
May 21st	Russell Bucklew	MO
May 21st	Robert Pruett	TX
May 28th	Arthur Tyler	OH

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

READINGS FOR THE WEEK:

May 19th through May 25th

- | | |
|------------|--|
| Monday: | Acts 14:5-18; John 14:21-26 |
| Tuesday: | Acts 14:19-28; John 14:27-31 |
| Wednesday: | Acts 15:1-6; John 15:1-8 |
| Thursday: | Acts 15:7-21; John 15:9-11 |
| Friday: | Acts 15:22-31; John 15:12-17 |
| Saturday: | Acts 16:1-10; John 15:18-21 |
| Sunday: | Acts 8:5-8,14-17; 1 Peter 3:15-18; John 14:15-21 |



©Religious Graphics, Ltd.

A NOTE OF APPRECIATION FROM BIRTH RIGHT

The volunteers of Birthright of San Lorenzo want to thank the priests and parishioners of Our Lady of Grace for their generosity in the recent Baby Bottle Fundraiser. So far \$1162.41 have been donated.

If you still have your bottle, please continue filling it and then return it to our Church Office or our Birthright office in San Lorenzo. Call first to see if a volunteer is there (481-9677) and we'll give you a tour.

We are in need of volunteers and Board members. If you would like to get involved, please call our office.

Again thank you very much.

IMMACULATE HEART RADIO

Dedicated to sharing the heart of the Catholic Faith and changing lives, Immaculate Heart Radio brings you the best in Catholic Radio 24/7! Now playing 1260AM.

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:

CASTRO VALLY FLORIST