

#### Message for Divine Mercy Sunday

[[]][][][] St. Maria Faustina Kowalska received messages from Jesus in the 1930's which she wrote down in her diary as directed by her spiritual director, Fr. Sopocko. She died on October 5, 1938 just before the invasion of Poland, the beginning of World War II, which was a merciless time. Her message of Divine Mercy helped mend hearts. One heart that was touched by her diary and her message of Divine Mercy was St. John Paul II. He

brought this message and devotion to the universal church when he canonized St. Faustina on April 30, 2000 and gave us Divine Mercy Sunday.

## St. Faustina received this message from Jesus which she recorded it in her diary:

"I am love and mercy itself. ... Let no soul fear to draw near to Me, even though its sins be as scarlet. ... My mercy is greater than your sins, and those of the entire world. ... I let My Sacred Heart be pierced with a lance, thus opening wide the source of mercy for you. Come then with trust to draw graces from this fountain. ... The graces of My mercy are drawn by the means of one vessel only, and that is trust. The more a soul trusts, the more it will receive."

"I desire that the first Sunday after Easter be the Feast of Mercy. Ask of my faithful servant [Fr. Sopocko] that on this day, he tell the whole world of My great mercy; that whoever approaches the Fount of Life on this day will be granted complete remission of sins and punishment. Mankind will not have peace until it turns with trust to My mercy. ... My Heart rejoices in this title of Mercy. Proclaim that mercy is the greatest attribute of God. All the works of My hands are crowned with mercv."

During this time of fear due to the Corona Virus and the medical and financial devastation it has caused as people became ill and die, we need the hope that comes from the Divine Mercy message. I know how powerful this message is as I shared the diary with my friend's mother, Betty Fiddle, when she was dying from cancer. She found strength and hope in the messages from Jesus to Sr. Faustina. May we turn to the message of Divine Mercy to give us hope at this time.

Peace.

Fr. Tom

#### We Need Your Generosity

With no Masses being allowed, there are no collections which we depend on for running Our Lady of Grace Church. If you could remember us by sending us your donation either online, by mail, or dropping it in our office mail slot, it will be appreciated. We may have to let some of our employees go or reduce their hours to make it through this financial crisis. May those who have lost work and need assistance please contact our office and/or St. Vincent de Paul to do what we can to assist you. We are all in this together and together we can find our way to recovery and find a new solidarity in our relationships and our faith.

#### Delivery of the Blessed Sacrament in the Easter Season

Fr. Tom will deliver the Easter Sacrament to your home. Please call the Parish Office at 510-537-0806 so we may arrange a visit following CDC and Alameda County health regulations for home delivery.

## Gospel for The Third Sunday of Easter (April 26th)

Luke 24:13-35

That very day, the first day of the week, two of Jesus' disciples were going to a village seven miles from Jerusalem called Emmaus. and they were conversing about all the things that had occurred. And it happened that while they were conversing and debating, Jesus himself drew near and walked with them, but their eyes were prevented from recognizing him. He asked them, "What are you discussing as you walk along?" They stopped, looking downcast. One of them, named Cleopas, said to him in reply, "Are you the only visitor to Jerusalem who does not know of the things that have taken place there in these days?" And he replied to them, "What sort of things?" They said to him, "The things that happened to Jesus the Nazarene, who was a prophet mighty in deed and word before God and all the people, how our chief priests and rulers both handed him over to a sentence of death and crucified him. But we were hoping that he would be the one to redeem Israel; and besides all this, it is now the third day since this took place. Some women from our group, however, have astounded us: they were at the tomb early in the morning and did not find his body; they came back and reported that they had indeed seen a vision of angels who announced that he was alive. Then some of those with us went to the tomb and found things just as the women had described, but him they did not see." And he said to them, "Oh, how foolish you are! How slow of heart to believe all that the prophets spoke! Was it not necessary that the Christ should suffer these things and enter into his glory?" Then beginning with Moses and all the prophets, he interpreted to them what referred to him in all the Scriptures. As they approached the village to which they were going, he gave the impression that he was going on farther. But they urged him, "Stay with us, for it is nearly evening and the day is almost over." So he went in to stay with them. And it happened that, while he was with them at table, he took bread, said the blessing, broke it, and gave it to them. With that their eyes were opened and they recognized him, but he vanished from their sight. Then they said to each other, "Were not our hearts burning within us while he spoke to us on the way and opened the Scriptures to us?" So they set out at once and returned to Jerusalem where they found gathered together the eleven and those with them who were saying, "The Lord has truly been raised and has appeared to Simon!" Then the two recounted what had taken place on the way and how he was made known to them in the breaking of bread.

## **DIVINE MERCY SUNDAY**

Images of the Divine Mercy are available to take home and are located near the statue of St. Joseph and at the front of the Church. Join us for a Livestream Mass at 9:00am on Fr. Tom's Facebook page, visit



website at www.olgcv.org and click on "Livestream Mass" at the top of the homepage.



## LIVESTREAM MASS SCHEDULE

Our Livestream Mass Schedule is 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.

## 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.

## **EASTER WEEK**

Our Lady of Grace Church will be open daily from 9:00 AM to 7:00 PM for private prayer. The Blessed Sacrament will be exposed Monday to Friday, 5:00-7:00pm and Confessions will be heard.

#### **AFTER APRIL 19TH**

Our Lady of Grace Church will be open Monday to Saturday from 9:00 AM to Noon for private prayer. The Blessed Sacrament will be exposed Thursdays from 5:00-7:00pm & Saturdays. Confessions will be heard during those times. On Sundays the Blessed Sacrament will be exposed from 10:00am -5:00pm with no Confession.

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 at all 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 As-REBUILD Jesus Christ promised us at His As-MYCHURCH cension: "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 in 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 vou 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.



## 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



#### **HOPE 4 THE HEART FOOD GIVEAWAY**

Hope 4 The Heart in Hayward is donating food to where it is needed the most. If you or someone you know could use a helping hand (seniors & families), come to Hope 4 the Heart, 22035 Meekland Ave. in Hayward on Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays at 12:30pm. All you need to do is bring your shopping bags.

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.

#### **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

## 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.



## 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 Peggy Winkenbach Wally Lim

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" **DURING THE EASTER SEASON**

Fr. Tom will deliver the Blessed Easter Sacrament to your home. Please call the Parish Office at 510-537-0806 so we may arrange a visit.

The Blessed Sacrament for the homebound and those with compromised health conditions 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.



#### 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 then 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.

# THSWEEK

## Sunday, April 19th:

Second Sunday of Easter (Sunday of Divine Mercy)

Livestream Mass on Facebook (Thomas Czeck) 9:00am

Private Prayer

9:00am-7:00pm--Church

Adoration

10:00am-5:00pm--Church

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

Rear Entrance

## Monday, April 20th:

Livestream Mass on Facebook (Thomas Czeck)

8:15am

Private Prayer

9:00am-Noon--Church

## Tuesday, April 21st:

Livestream Mass on Facebook (Thomas Czeck)

8:15am

Private Prayer

9:00am-Noon--Church

#### Wednesday, April 22nd:

Livestream Mass on Facebook (Thomas Czeck)

8:15am

Private Prayer

9:00am-Noon--Church

## Thursday, April 23rd:

Livestream Mass on Facebook (Thomas Czeck)

8:15am

Private Prayer

9:00am-Noon--Church

Adoration & Confession

5:00-7:00pm--Church

#### Friday, April 24th:

Livestream Mass on Facebook (Thomas Czeck)

8:15am

Private Prayer

9:00am-Noon--Church

#### Saturday, April 25th:

Livestream Mass on Facebook (Thomas Czeck)

8:15am

Private Praver

9:00am-Noon--Church

Adoration & Confession

9:00-10:00am--Church

# Mass for the Intentions Week

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

MONDAY, April 20th

8:15am Louis Rodrigues--D

TUESDAY, April 21st

St. Anselm, Bishop & Doctor of the Church

8:15am Ted, Joni & Katie Linney--D

WEDNESDAY, April 22nd

8:15am Stephanie Rosevear--D

THURSDAY, April 23rd

St. George, Martyr

St. Adalbert, Bishop and Martyr

8:15am Mary Groves--L

FRIDAY, April 24th

St. Fidelis of Sigmaringen, Priest & Martyr

8:15am Roger Lowe--D

SATURDAY, April 25th

ST. MARK, EVANGELIST

51. MARK, EVANGELIST

8:15am Lana Carlos--D

5:00pm Don King--D

SUNDAY, April 26th

THIRD SUNDAY OF EASTER

7:30am Franciscan Friars' Intentions

9:30am Marvin Picha--D

11:30am Eleanor Whittaker--L

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 26th:

Third Sunday of Easter

Livestream Mass on Facebook (Thomas Czeck)

9:00am

Private Prayer

10:00am-5:00pm--Church

Adoration

10:00am-5:00pm--Church

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

## READINGS FOR THE WEEK:

## April 20th through April 26th

Monday: Acts 4:23-31; John 3:1-8

Tuesday: Acts 4:32-37; John 3:7-15

Wednesday: Acts 5:17-26; John 3:16-21

Thursday: Acts 5:27-33; John 3:31-36

Friday: Acts 5:34-42; John 6:1-15

Saturday: 1 Peter 5:5-14; Mark 16:15-20

Sunday: Acts 2:14, 22-33; 1 Peter 1:17-21;

Luke 24:13-35

#### **EXECUTION ALERTS**

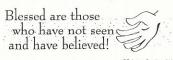
The following executions are scheduled to take place in **April:** 

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.

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#### PAX CHRISTI QUOTE OF THE WEEK

"The Gospel takes away our right forever, to discriminate between the deserving and the undeserving poor." –Dorothy Day

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

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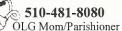
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