

Message for Our Lady of Grace

logue with Jesus in prayer. I watched on Formed: Divine Mercy, the second greatest story ever told. I was informed and inspired of how God has worked in these times and brought to us by St. John Paul II. This is a 10 part series and I highly recommend you watch one of these 30 minute episodes each day by yourself or

better with your family. Once you encounter the Mercy of God you are never the same and you cannot just go through the motions anymore.

As I prepared for Lent this year I realized that I had become a bit cynical about the world and a bit cold in my heart. I knew I had to change my heart by challenging myself. 40 Days for Life was the challenge that I took on for myself and for you. Praying in front of Planned Parenthood changed me. I was moved to do sacrificial prayer and was moved to pray my Rosary on my knees on the sidewalk. God began to use this time to work on my heart. I first was touched by realizing that for Mary and Joseph, the Conception of Jesus was an unplanned pregnancy. Neither could have imagined such a child from God. Mary had to face her family and Joseph with the unbelievable news of the child in her womb. Mary was sent from the village to visit her cousin Elizabeth who was far away and she gave her refuge and acceptance. When Mary returns, Joseph seeks to abandon and divorce her. Only a dream with a message of an angle could convince him that the impossible Conception was true and he too responds with a yes through his actions. Mary was forced by political leaders to travel to Bethlehem where she gave birth homeless finding shelter in the stable. Then she had to flee because the political leaders sought to rip the child Jesus from arms in order to murder him. Mary and Joseph fled to a foreign country as refugees just to protect their precious child Jesus. By now I was in tears as I watched the young women going in and out of the clinic. I realized that so many have been deceived to see their only choice was to kill their child.

Then Corona Virus came and everything closed and I thought our eyes would be open and we would see the value of every human life. Instead I saw the State of California close the Churches and protect Abortion clinics, Marijuana dispensaries, and liquor stores as essential business. While we fight to protect lives from this new virus in California we have institutionalized suicide by helping people take their lives through medical assistance. Some of the vaccines in development to fight the Corona Virus are from aborted fetal stem cells. I have to fight this deception and darkness in this time. I have to speak for the widow, the orphan, the foreigner, the homeless and especially the unborn. My mission as your Pastor has became clear. I must bring my people to Christ and the Sacraments so they can be saved, know the truth, live in love, and find hope. I have to build the kingdom of God, the civilization of love, and pray for Divine Mercy to convict us and save us. God touched my heart, opened my eyes, and has given me the conviction and drive to fulfill my mission as your Pastor.

Invest in a future of hope!

One of the difficulties of being Pastor is to deal with financial necessities of life in a parish. With our church closed and no Public Masses being allowed and many of you sheltering in place our donations have decreased by over 30%. Living in this new reality of no public ministry we have had to lay-off and furlough several employees at Our Lady of Grace beginning May 1. Since I have had to lay people off staff your clergy are also taking a pay cut. The Franciscans will have to tap our meager savings to cover our deficit from lost wages. If you are able, we ask that you remember Our Lady of Grace and the Conventual Franciscans with a financial gift. May we pray and respond for those who are struggling physically or financially during this Pandemic. It is in difficult times like this that God raises up Saints. Through our prayer and sacrifice we can change the future of the world. That was the message of Fatima: Mary's Immaculate Heart will triumph! There is no time for fear but only faith.

New at Our Lady of Grace this May

Deepening your Faith at Home! On FORMED in May there is a new series called The Search. Ponder the questions of life and hear the life giving and dynamic answers in a life of faith.

Fr. Tom will be creating a Video Series in May on YouTube as he explores the Franciscan Marian Devotion and the insights and life this devotion has brought to the Church. I have already posted my Easter Message to the Mission of the Immaculata on Thomas Czeck YouTube page. Check it out on YouTube!

Fr. Tom would like to conduct a Study on the Eucharist via ZOOM. Look for more information coming in May! Call the office if you would be interested.

Gospel for The Fourth Sunday of Easter (May 3rd)

John 10:1-10



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.

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 from 9:00-10:00am. 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 BLESSED SACRAMENT "TAKE-OUT"

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 also available for pick-up M-F from 10:00am-3:00pm. We ask that you call the Parish Office 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 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



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. Stay tuned for registration information. For more information, please contact the Parish Office at 510-537-0806.

TEEN LEADERS WANTED!

We're looking for positive, enthusiastic incoming 7th through 12th graders to join in the VBS adventure! If you (and a friend) are motivated to serve and lead by example and enjoy working with school-aged children, consider joining our VBS Teen Crew. Earn Service Hours/Work Experience/Servant Leadership Skills! You must be available August 3rd to August 7th from 8:40am to 12:15pm and August 1st from 10:00am to 1:00pm for MANDATORY Saturday Set-Up and Training. To register as a volunteer, email jcruz@olgev.org with your contact info. You may also text 510-560-3330 with your contact info and the word "VBS".



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 clind-berg@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.



PARENTING AND FAMILY RESOURCES

Below are two websites from the Oakland Diocese Family Life Director which may be useful to couples and families. To help par-

ents teach the virtues to their children, visit: https://oakdiocese.org/virtual-virtuous-parenting. To grow in faith together, visit: https://oakdiocese.org/family-resources

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.



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:

Sheila McAlinden Cindy Abraham Pam Ahland Rose Montalban Glen Alcorn Diana Riley Elvira Arechiga Lisa Rosenbusch Maureen Boeh Florence Sharp Peggy Burton Howard Songey Heidi Carne Lurdes Sousa Natalina De Freitas Mary Lou Vincent Arthur Williams Theresa Ferrari 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.

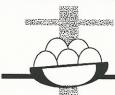
In Memoriam

GLENDA COSTA VICTIMS OF COVID-19



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.



They knew him in the Breaking of the Bread

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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 that 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

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RELEVANT RADIO - 1260 AM

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THIS WEEK

Sunday, April 26th:

Third Sunday of Easter

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

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

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

Monday, April 27th:

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

Private Prayer 9:00am-Noon--Church

Tuesday, April 28th:

Livestream Mass on Facebook (Thomas Czeck)

8:15am

Private Prayer 9:00am-Noon--Church

Wednesday, April 29th:

Livestream Mass on Facebook (Thomas Czeck)

8:15am

Private Prayer

9:00am-Noon--Church

Thursday, April 30th:

Livestream Mass on Facebook (Thomas Czeck)

8:15am

Private Prayer

9:00am-Noon--Church

Adoration & Confession

5:00-7:00pm--Church

Friday, May 1st:

Livestream Mass on Facebook (Thomas Czeck)

8:15am

Private Prayer

9:00am-Noon--Church

Saturday, May 2nd:

Livestream Mass on Facebook (Thomas Czeck)

8:15am

Private Prayer

9:00am-Noon--Church

Adoration & Confession

9:00-10:00am--Church

for the Week Mass Intentions L

SUNDAY, April 26th

THIRD SUNDAY OF EASTER

7:30am Franciscan Friars' Intentions

9:30am Marvin Picha--D

11:30am Eleanor Whittaker--L

MONDAY, April 27th

8:15am Donald Penman--D

TUESDAY, April 28th

St. Peter Chanel, Priest & Martyr

St. Louis Grignion de Montfort, Priest

8:15am David Arovola & Dionesio Oriliza--D

WEDNESDAY, April 29th

ST. CATHERINE OF SIENA, VIRGIN & DOCTOR OF THE

CHURCH

8:15am Tony & Roberta Shomon--L

THURSDAY, April 30th

St. Pius V, Pope

8:15am Victims of Covid-19

FRIDAY, May 1st

St. Joseph the Worker

8:15am Emma L. McCormick--L.

SATURDAY, May 2nd

ST. ATHANASIUS, BISHOP & DOCTOR OF THE

CHURCH

8:15am Victims of Covid-19

Louis Rodrigues--D 5:00pm

SUNDAY, May 3rd

FOURTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

9:30am Helen Maes--D

Rudy & Augie Enriquez--D

11:30am Marcie Dugan

Franciscan Friars' Intentions 1:30pm

THIS WEEK--Continued

Sunday, May 3rd:

Fourth Sunday of Easter

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

Private Prayer & 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 27th through May 3rd

Monday: Acts 6:8-15; John 6:22-29

Tuesday: Acts 7:51-8:1; John 6:30-35

Wednesday: Acts 8:1-8; John 6:35-40 Thursday: Acts 8:26-40; John 6:44-51

Friday: Acts 9:1-20; John 6:52-59;

Matthew 13:54-58

Acts 9:31-42; John 6:60-69 Saturday:

Sunday: Acts 2:14, 36-41; 1 Peter 2:20-25;

John 10:1-10

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

EXECUTION ALERTS

The following executions are scheduled to take place in April:

> 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

"I ask you to ensure humanity is served by wealth and not ruled by it." -Pope Francis, January 2019

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

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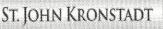
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