

**Advent Begins!****First Sunday of Advent “Be vigilant at all times and pray.” Luke 21:36a**

Advent begins with a call to vigilance as reflected in the passage above. There are numerous Scripture passages that call us to this vigilance and anticipation of the Lord’s coming.

Could this be the year when the Lord returns? Plagues, Rumors of war, food shortages, break down in supply chain, natural disasters, political instability, protests, injustice, restriction of churches, highest suicide rate, abortion is spreading, highest deaths from drugs, explosion of homelessness. Will we turn to the Lord for help? Being vigilant means, also, that we are prepared. We are not caught off guard.

Imagine if Christmas morning came and you woke up suddenly realizing that you forgot to prepare! Imagine if you had no gifts, no food purchased and no plans were made. Of course you wouldn’t allow that to happen, but we do sometimes allow it to happen spiritually speaking. We often are not prepared to celebrate the birth of Christ within our hearts.

The first week of Advent also offers the focus of the Second Coming of Christ. Jesus will return again, in all splendor and glory, to judge the living and the dead. We profess that fact every Sunday in our Creed. So, even though Advent is a time for the preparation of the celebration of the first coming of Jesus in the flesh, it is also a time to acknowledge that His first coming is ultimately fulfilled in His final glorious coming.

As Advent begins, reflect upon how ready you are for Jesus’ coming. Are you preparing for it with the same fervor that you prepare for Christmas through shopping, cooking, decorating, etc.? Are you looking forward to that day when He will return? Are you preparing for the spiritual celebration of His birth? Are you awake and attentive to the numerous ways that God speaks to you on a daily basis?

If you find that you are not as prepared for His return in glory as you’d like to be, make this Advent a time when you get your heart ready. Commit to prayer, spiritual exercises, reflection and attentiveness to His gentle and glorious voice.

Lord, as Advent begins, help me to put my eyes on You. Help me to open my ears to Your voice. And help me to open my heart to Your glorious presence. May I be attentive to You in every way You desire to come to me. Jesus, I trust in You.

Advent Confessions

Prepare your soul for to encounter the Lord. Confessions are available on Wednesday mornings at 9:00am, Thursdays at 6:00pm, and Saturday at 9:00am.

Immaculate Conception Novena

Enter into the mystery of God’s plan to save humanity by joining in the Immaculate Conception Novena beginning **November 29th**. Then join us for Mass of the Immaculate Conception on **December 8th** at 8:15am, 9:30am with the School and 7:00pm for a bilingual celebration.

Make a Commitment to pray

Join us for daily Mass, pick up a prayer book in the back of church and make a daily commitment to pray. Pray the Rosary as a family.

Offer Charity

St. Vincent de Paul is waiting for your donations after Mass today. Make a commitment to give to the Missions. Support our Giving Tree. Remember the mission of the Church and support it.

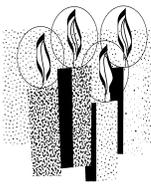
Reception of Communion Reminder

Once you have received the Host, please consume it immediately in front of the Extraordinary Minister or Priest before returning to your pew. God Bless and Thank you.

Peace & Love,
Fr. Tom

Second Sunday of Advent (December 5th)**Luke 3:1-6**

In the fifteenth year of the reign of Tiberius Caesar, when Pontius Pilate was governor of Judea, and Herod was tetrarch of Galilee, and his brother Philip tetrarch of the region of Ituraea and Trachonitis, and Lysanias was tetrarch of Abilene, during the high priesthood of Annas and Caiaphas, the word of God came to John the son of Zechariah in the desert. John went throughout the whole region of the Jordan, proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins, as it is written in the book of the words of the prophet Isaiah: *A voice of one crying out in the desert: “Prepare the way of the Lord, make straight his paths. Every valley shall be filled and every mountain and hill shall be made low. The winding roads shall be made straight, and the rough ways made smooth, and all flesh shall see the salvation of God.”*



The Season of Advent
lights our way to the Lord

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CHRISTMAS FLOWERS

We invite you to remember family members and friends through a Flower Offering which will help us to purchase plants and other decorations we need to beautify our sanctuary. You may list the names of loved ones you wish to remember or memorialize by using the special flower envelopes or by submitting the name to the Parish Office. A list of names will be available after Christmas. Thank you for considering this thoughtful and helpful way to remember those you love.

**FESCO AND CASTRO VALLEY OUTREACH
Christmas Giving Trees**

Our Lady of Grace is helping Castro Valley families with our Giving Trees. Each family member has an ornament on our Giving Trees which you will find in Church, in Stack Center after Church, & in the School and Parish offices. Please take an ornament and return the gifts with the ornament, box and receipt, unwrapped to the Parish Office by **Thursday, December 9th** in order for our students & Parent Group members to catalog and wrap. We are also helping FESCO keep their programs running. They are asking for monetary donations. Donation envelopes are on the Giving Trees. Please return the envelopes to the Parish office. Thank you for your generosity!

**CATHOLIC CAMPAIGN
FOR HUMAN DEVELOPMENT
PARISH APPEAL**

Thank you for your generous support last week for the collection for the Catholic Campaign for Human Development! Your donation goes to support those on the margins who live in poverty by funding non-profit organizations in our local community. If you missed the collection, it's not too late to give! Visit www.CCHDEastBay.org.

**MASS FOR SCHOOL FAMILIES &
TREE LIGHTING CEREMONY**

Join us on Saturday, **December 4th** at 5:00pm, for Mass in the Church with our School families. At 6:30pm at the St. Francis Garden Chapel, we will celebrate Advent with a Concert and Tree Lighting Ceremony. Bring your lawn chairs and have your face masks in place, regardless of vaccination status.



**THE SOLEMNITY OF THE FEAST
OF THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION**

Our Holy Day Masses honoring Mary on the Feast of the Immaculate Conception will be celebrated on Wednesday, **December 8th** at **8:15am, 9:30am (School children liturgy) and 7:00pm (Bilingual)** in the Church.



**HELPING THOSE IN NEED
THIS HOLIDAY SEASON**

ST. VINCENT DE PAUL

Do you or someone you know need assistance this holiday season? The Society of St. Vincent de Paul at Our Lady of Grace can help you with food for the holidays or other resources as needed. Please call our message line at 510-581-2164 or email svdp@olgcv.org and leave a message. We will get back to you the next day. All names are kept confidential.

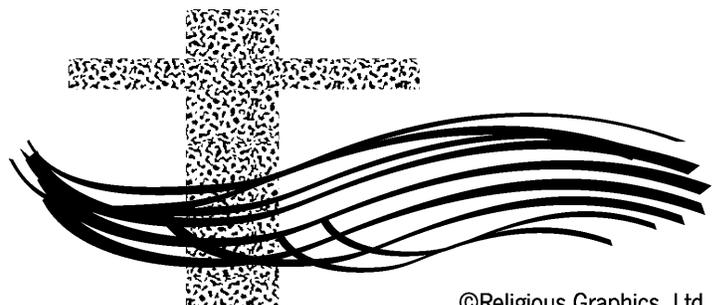


ONE WARM COAT DRIVE

We thank you for all the generous donations that have come in so far! We continue to accept donations of **new or gently used men's, women's or children's coats**. These coats will be distributed throughout our local Conference and the drop-in centers and clothing closet at St. Vincent de Paul's main campus in Oakland. We will also be collecting **sleeping bags, blankets & tarps**. Please bring your donations and place them in the barrel at the Somerset entrance of the church. *We will be accepting coats until December 31st.* Thank you so much for your generosity.

1ST FRIDAY-TRADITIONAL LATIN MASS

Join us in the Church on **Friday, December 3rd** at 7:00pm for 1st Friday Mass in Latin.



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**OUR LADY OF GUADALUPE
CELEBRATION
DECEMBER 9th-12th**

The Hispanic Group invites the entire Parish community to honor Our Lady of Guadalupe with a Triduum of Rosaries and Masses.

December 9th, 10th and 11th

Triduum of Rosaries at 7:00pm in the Church
Triduo de Rosarios a las 7:00pm en la Iglesia

December 12th

Feast Day of Our Lady of Guadalupe

Join us as we begin with the Rosary and Mañanitas from 6:00-7:00am in the Church. Immediately following, Mexican hot chocolate and bread will be served in the Prayer Garden. Our Lady of Guadalupe Mass in Spanish will be held at 1:00pm in the Church. Immediately following Mass, join us outside at the Tent next to the St. Francis Garden Chapel. We will be serving tacos, rice and beans in honor of Our Lady.

Diciembre 12

Celebraciones En Honor a la Virgen de Guadalupe

Rosario y mañanitas de 6:00 a 7:00 am. Se servirá inmediatamente después chocolate y pan mexicano en la Jardín de Oración. Misa en español a la 1:00 pm seguida de una pequeña taquiza en honor a Nuestra Señora.

**ADVENT CONFESSIONS
Ready The Way Of The Lord
December 1st-22nd**



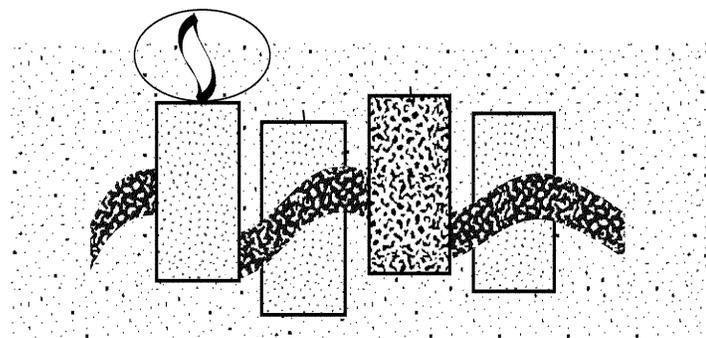
Confessions during Advent will be available with the following schedule:

Wednesdays: 9:00-10:00am

Thursdays: 6:00-7:00pm during Adoration

Saturdays: 9:00-10:00pm during Adoration

First Friday, December 3rd: 7:00-8:00pm



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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 OCTOBER:

Sunday Plate for the month:	\$ 44,751.00
Month Budgeted Goal:	\$ 43,945.00
Over/[Shortfall]	\$ 806.00
Year-To-Date Over/[Shortfall]	\$ 23,506.00

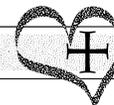
May God bless your continuing generosity



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 | Brian Linney |
| Glen Alcorn | Arcadio Morfin |
| Larry Bronzini | Diana Riley |
| Peggy Burton | Angela Schaaphok |
| Virginia Cabardo | Howard Songey |
| Gina Castillo | Ronald Staszko |
| Joyce & James Czeck | Concepcion Velasco |
| Nancy French | Mary Lou Vincent |
| Mark Jerome | Arthur Williams |
| Bill Lawrence | Peggy Winkenbach |
| Grace Letteer | |



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

In Memoriam

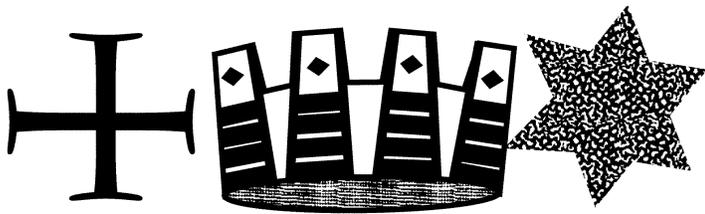
SANDRA KETCHEL

VICTIMS OF COVID-19

VICTIMS OF GUN VIOLENCE

**MAXIMILIAN KOLBE
QUOTE OF THE WEEK**

"We are actually all brothers and sisters, since we have one common heavenly Mother, the Immaculata, one common Father who is in Heaven, and one common elder Brother, Jesus, Man and God."



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BAPTISM

**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 December 1st.** Call Jay at 510-537-0806 for more information.



USE SCRIP FOR YOUR HOLIDAY SHOPPING!

Want to avoid those dreadful shipping delays this holiday season? Purchase holiday gift cards for your family and friends using SCRIP. SCRIP cards (at face value) help Our Lady of Grace’s Evangelization Program earn 2%-17% per card. Orders placed on the 1st & 3rd week of the month will be ready for pick-up on the 2nd & 4th week of the month. Payment is due at the time of your order. Download a copy of the order form by visiting our website: www.olgcv.org and click on “SCRIP” at the top of the homepage. Forms are also available at the Parish Office.

**INSTRUCTIONAL ASSISTANT POSITION
Our Lady of Grace School**

Our Lady of Grace Catholic School is looking for an instructional assistant for the lower grades. Please contact the principal, Mrs. Gannon-Briggs, directly at kgannon-briggs@cndo.org or call the school office at 510-581-3155.



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!

THIS WEEK

Sunday, November 28th:

First Sunday of Advent

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

Spanish Mass
1:00pm--Church

Tuesday, November 30th:

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

Wednesday, December 1st:

Confession
9:00am—Church

Pre-Baptism Class
7:00pm—Zoom

Thursday, December 2nd:

Adoration & Confession
6:00pm—Church

AA Serenity
7:00pm—Augustine Center

Friday, December 3rd:

First Friday Latin Mass with Confession
7:00pm—Church

Saturday, December 4th:

Adoration & Confession
9:00-10:00am—Church

MI Consecration Preparation
10:00am—Stack Center, OLG Room

Vigil Mass
5:00pm—Church

Sunday, December 5th:

Second Sunday of Advent

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

Children’s Liturgy of the Word
9:00am—Church/Augustine Center

1st Communion Class
10:15am—Stack Center

Confirmation Class
12:15pm—Stack Center

Spanish Mass
1:00pm--Church

Mass for the Intentions  *for the Week*

SUNDAY, November 28th

FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT

7:30am Reydante D. Padua – D

9:00am Ernie Selmeczki – D

11:00am Victims of Covid-19

1:00pm OLG Community

MONDAY, November 29th

St. Andrew, Apostle

8:15am Jim Mulvaney – L

TUESDAY, November 30th

8:15am Maria Ha Vo – D

WEDNESDAY, December 1st

8:15am Edward J. Linney, Sr. – D

THURSDAY, December 2nd

8:15am Debi Telles – D

FRIDAY, December 3rd

St. Francis Xavier, Priest

8:15am Reydante D. Padua – D

SATURDAY, December 4th

St. John Damascene, Priest & Doctor of the Church

8:15am Cory Nicasio – D

5:00pm Franciscan Friars

SUNDAY, December 5th

SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT

7:30am Victims of Covid-19

9:00am Mary Gladden – L

11:00am OLG Community

1:00pm Robert Hess – D



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READINGS FOR THE WEEK:

November 29th through December 5th

Monday: Isaiah 2:1-5; Matthew 8:5-11

Tuesday: Romans 10:9-18; Matthew 4:18-22

Wednesday: Isaiah 25:6-10a; Matthew 15:29-37

Thursday: Isaiah 26:1-6; Matthew 7:21, 24-27

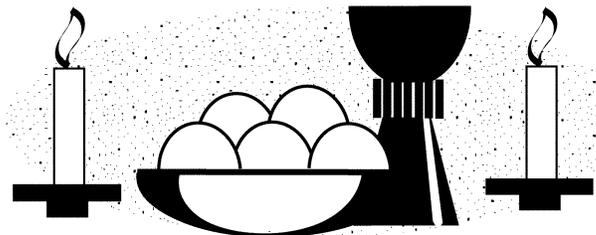
Friday: Isaiah 29:17-24; Matthew 9:27-31

Saturday: Isaiah 30:19-21, 23-26;

Matthew 9:35-10:1, 5a, 6-8

Sunday: Baruch 5:1-9; Philippians 1:4-6, 8-11;

Luke 3:1-6



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WINGS - WOMEN IN GOD'S SPIRIT

We invite all women to join us for WINGS

Our meetings are held at the Transfiguration Church Hall and we will be following COVID safety protocols

Next Meeting: **December 2nd**

9:00am to 11:00am

Speaker: Sr. Rosheen Glennon, CSJ

Topic: *"Advent Journey with Mary & Elizabeth - Willing, Waiting, Wondering"*

For more information or if you would like to attend, please contact Peggy Maurer at pegmail8@gmail.com

PAX CHRISTI QUOTE OF THE WEEK

"Love in action is harsh and dreadful when compared to love in dreams."

-Dorothy Day

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:

LANDMARK VILLA

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

KRAKOW • WADOWICE • CZESTOCHOWA • PRAGUE
 VIENNA • SALZBURG • MUNICH

HOSTED BY

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MILITIA IMMACULATA OF THE CONVENTUAL FRANCISCANS
 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!!!

