



Preparing The Way Of The Lord

This weekend our children will be having their First Reconciliation on Saturday. May we pray for our children that they may all prepare for the coming of Christ this Christmas by being reconciled with God and live in peace with family and neighbors. Come to Confession this week on Wednesday, Thursday, or Friday at 9AM or on Thursday evening at 6PM.

Consecration to the Blessed Virgin Mary

On December 8 over 40 people made consecration to the Blessed Virgin Mary. May our Lady lead us this Christmas with hearts filled with Love for Jesus our Lord!

A Most Magnanimous Heart

Meditation

"[Jesus] has given [the Immaculata] a most magnanimous heart, so much so that she could never fail to spot even the smallest tear-drop on earth or neglect to worry about the salvation and sanctification of every man."

Prayer of Consecration

O Immaculata, I renew my consecration to you. May I always know of your most magnanimous love for me and each and every soul.

Please intercede that ...

The child Jesus may attract us with His tenderness and infuse the peace so necessary to disillusioned hearts searching for the meaning of life. (December Intention)

A Special Gift for You!

St. Maximilian Kolbe's *Marian Spirituality for Our Time*, an in-depth 24-part series will be presented by Fr. James McCurry, OFM Conv. Fr. James is a Conventual Franciscan Friar of the Our Lady of the Angels Province. He offered these excellent talks in the late 1980s. Over the years, Fr. James has appeared on numerous television programs and continues to be an authority on the life and teachings of St. Maximilian Kolbe. This series is available on the MI website: <https://militiaoftheimmaculata.com/st-maximilian-kolbes-marian-spirituality-for-our-time/> free-of-charge. Enjoy!

Preparing for Jesus in 2021

"The O Antiphons are a magnificent theology that uses ancient biblical imagery drawn from the messianic hopes of the Old Testament to proclaim the coming Christ as the fulfillment not only of Old Testament hopes, but present ones as well."

Throughout the rest of Advent the liturgy has expressed the longing for the Messiah. All through Advent the word "come" is repeated throughout the Introit and Communion antiphons. From December 17th to December 23rd we have seven antiphons that intensely express the 4,000 long years of awaiting for the Messiah. The antiphons express the impatience for Christ to come. These final antiphons travel through the history of redemption announcing "Jesus...as our Teacher, our Redeemer, our Liberator, our Guide, our Enlightener and our Saviour" (The Golden Legend of Jacobus de Voragine, trans. Ryan and Ripperger, 1941). During these days, the liturgy of the Mass contrasts the greatest Messianic prophecies and types of Christ from the Old Testament with the Gospels unfolding the more immediate preparation of the birth of Christ through the Annunciation, the Visitation, the birth of John the Baptist, and the espousals of St. Joseph and the Blessed Virgin Mary.

December 17th-24th marks the second part of Advent, the beginning of the Golden Nights featuring the O Antiphons. The O Antiphons are seven precious jewels of our Catholic Liturgy, counting down the last seven days before Christmas with building anticipation. The title O Antiphons is simply because each phrase begins with an "O."

Dating back to the fourth century, these antiphons address Christ with seven magnificent Messianic titles: O Sapientia (Wisdom), O Adonai (Lord and Ruler), O Radix Jesse (Root of Jesse), O Clavis David (Key of David), O Oriens (Dawn of the East), O Rex Gentium (King of the Gentiles), and O Emmanuel (God with Us) based on the Old Testament prophecies and types of Christ. Put in reverse order: Emmanuel, Rex, Oriens, Clavis, Radix, Adonai, and Sapientia, the first letters of these Messianic titles spell out the Latin words ERO CRAS, meaning, "Tomorrow, I will come." The antiphons sum up in excellence the longing of our Redeemer, and we echo the prayers of the Old Testament faithful by also begging Him to "Come!" The "O" Antiphons are the final gift of the liturgy in preparing for Christmas.

Peace & Love,
Fr. Tom

Rejoice! The Lord is near.

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HOLIDAY OFFICE HOURS

The Parish Office will be closed on Friday, **December 24th**. We will re-open on Monday, **December 27th** at 8:30am.

Additionally, the offices will be closed on Friday, **December 31st** and Monday, **January 3rd** and will re-open on Tuesday, **January 4th** at 8:30am. The entire Parish Staff wishes you all a Blessed Christmas and a safe and Happy New Year!

CHRISTMAS MASS SCHEDULE

Vigil Masses, Friday, December 24th

There will be carols 30 minutes before the evening Masses

Family Mass: 5:00pm

Mass at Night: 10:00pm

Saturday, December 25th

Mass at 7:30am, 9:00am, 11:00am, 1:00pm (Spanish)



NEW YEAR'S MASS SCHEDULE

Saturday, January 1st

Solemnity of Mary, Holy Mother of God

Mass at 8:15am

5:00pm Vigil Mass for the Epiphany of Our Lord

**END OF YEAR GIVING
Christmas Offering**

As we come to the end of this calendar year, we want to take this opportunity to express our gratitude for your financial support of our parish this past year. We have been blessed with the addition to our Evangelization team of LEEANNE THOMAS as the Confirmation Coordinator. We have 72 families enrolled in First Communion preparation and Whole Family and 35 students preparing for Confirmation. As Fr. Tom has said, we are not just maintaining buildings but building families of faith. We need your continued support to make this renewal possible. Our Christmas Offering Budget is \$28,000. Please know that your special Christmas and regular Sunday donations help us to meet our end-of-year expenses and hopefully allow us to begin our new fiscal year on a positive note. We are grateful for your offering to accomplish this goal.

DECORATING FOR CHRISTMAS

The committee is in need of help to get the church ready for Christmas, if you are available to help on Friday, **December 24th** at 10:00am it would be most appreciated. The more hands, the quicker the work will be completed. Thanks in advance for your assistance!



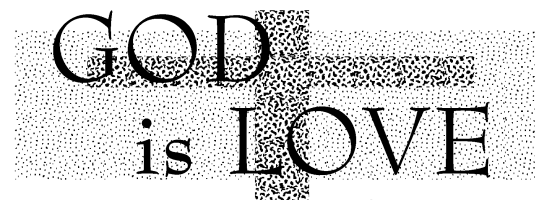
**RELIGIOUS RETIREMENT COLLECTION
There's Still Time To Give**

Thank you to those who have given so generously last weekend. This annual appeal helps retired sister, brother and religious older priests, who spent their lives in church ministries such as education, healthcare and social service. Please give generously. Religious women and men thank you for each merciful action you take on behalf of others and they pray for your spiritual peace. Please make your check out to "Our Lady of Grace" and write "Religious Retirement" on the memo line and on the envelope and place it in the regular offering at Mass. God Bless!



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.





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**ST. MAXIMILIAN KOLBE FRIARY
Militia Immaculata Purgatory Society**

Pio Alcalá
Jayrubby F. & Virgilio Jugar
Dona Mari
Craxiolo Tabique, Sr.
Lorena & Willy



**“THANK YOU” FROM
ST. VINCENT DE PAUL**

St. Vincent de Paul would like to thank all of the OLG parishioners who have been so generous during this past year with their time, talent and treasure. You have allowed us to keep helping our neighbors in need. We would also like to thank the OLG school who put together baskets with food & gift cards for us to bring to those in need for Thanksgiving. Those we serve were overwhelmed by the generosity shown by our community. We will not be taking our last weekend collection in December due to Christmas. This will allow our Vincentians to be with their families during this time. May God bless all of you as we celebrate this holy time of the year and enter into 2022.

**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 January 5th.** Call Jay at 510-537-0806 for more information.



**FINAL OPPORTUNITIES FOR
ADVENT CONFESSIONS**

Wednesday: 9:00-10:00am
Thursday: 9:00-10:00am & 6:00-7:00pm
during Adoration
Saturday: 9:00-10:00am during Adoration

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 NOVEMBER:

| | |
|-------------------------------|---------------------|
| Sunday Plate for the month: | \$ 36,841.00 |
| Month Budgeted Goal: | \$ 45,705.00 |
| Over/[Shortfall] | \$ [8,864.00] |
| Year-To-Date Over/[Shortfall] | \$ 14,642.00 |

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 |
| James Czeck | Concepcion Velasco |
| Nancy French | Mary Lou Vincent |
| Mark Jerome | Arthur Williams |
| Bill Lawrence | Peggy Winkenbach |
| Grace Letteer | |

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

In Memoriam

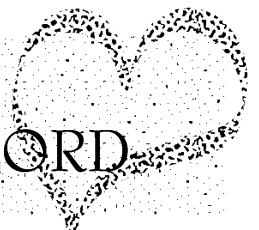
JEANNE HUGHES

PATRICIA MIRAGLIA

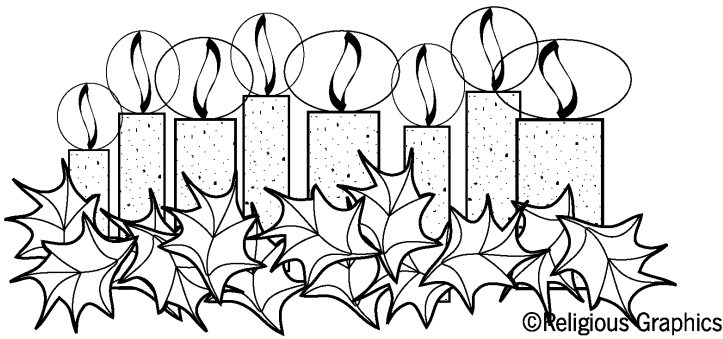
VICTIMS OF COVID-19

VICTIMS OF GUN VIOLENCE

Make your hearts firm because the coming of the LORD is at hand.



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SAN DAMIANO RETREAT
Your Graced Legacy

Explore your Personal Legacy and Prepare Your End of Life Celebration. On this retreat weekend, **January 7th-9th**, we will creatively use music, poetry, Scripture, quiet time, journaling, and small group sharing to explore your personal legacy. We will use this exploration to influence the deeper hope of what your celebration of life would look like. Our presenters will be Bidi Millet and Margaret Riley. In-person at San Damiano or Zoom participation are available. For more information and registration please go to the San Damiano website at <https://sandamiano.org/events/legacy/>



THANK YOU FOR USING ONLINE GIVING

Parishioners who use this 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.



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.

MAXIMILIAN KOLBE
QUOTE OF THE WEEK

" "When the spirit of the MI penetrates....all the world, when the Immaculata becomes the Queen of every heart beating under the sun, the paradise will come on the earth."

THIS WEEK

Sunday, December 19th:

Fourth Sunday of Advent

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

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

Spanish Mass
1:00pm--Church

Monday, December 20th:

Bible Study w/ Fr. Francisco—English
7:00pm—Zoom

Tuesday, December 21st:

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

Wednesday, December 22nd:

Confession
9:00-10:00am —Church

Thursday, December 23rd:

Adoration & Confession
9:00-10:00am & 6:00-7:00pm—Church

Friday, December 24th:

Parish Office Closed

Christmas Eve Vigil Masses
5:00pm & 10:00pm—Church

Saturday, December 25th:

MERRY CHRISTMAS!

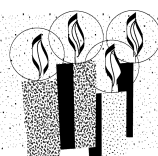
Christmas Day Masses
7:30am, 9:00am, 11:00am & 1:00pm (Spanish)
Church

Sunday, December 26th:

The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary & Joseph

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

Spanish Mass
1:00pm--Church



O come,
emmanuel

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Mass Intentions for the Week

SUNDAY, December 19th
FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT
 7:30am Victims of Covid-19
 9:00am Louis Rodrigues – D
 11:00am Gilberto C. Marquez – D
 1:00pm OLG Community

MONDAY, December 20th
 8:15am Maria Ha Vo – D

TUESDAY, December 21st
St. Peter Canisius, Priest & Doctor of the Church
 8:15am Celia Dorado – L

WEDNESDAY, December 22nd
 8:15am Reydante D. Padua – D

THURSDAY, December 23rd
St. John of Kanty, Priest
 8:15am Sean Hinkson – L

FRIDAY, December 24th
 8:15am Marvin Picha – D
 5:00pm *Christmas Eve Mass*
 10:00pm *Christmas Eve Mass*

SATURDAY, December 25th
 7:30am *The Solemnity of Christmas*
 9:00am *The Solemnity of Christmas*
 11:00am *The Solemnity of Christmas*
 1:00pm *The Solemnity of Christmas (Spanish)*

SUNDAY, December 26th
THE HOLY FAMILY OF JESUS, MARY & JOSEPH
 7:30am Franciscan Friars
 9:00am George Espeights – D
 11:00am Maria Que Nguyen – D
 1:00pm OLG Community



STAY IN TOUCH!

Flocknote is the most important way for OLG to communicate to you, our parishioners. If you would like to be a member, visit our website at www.olgcv.org and click on “Flocknote” at the top of the homepage.

READINGS FOR THE WEEK:

December 20th through December 26th

Monday: Isaiah 7:10-14; Luke 1:26-38
 Tuesday: Song of Songs 2:8-14; Luke 1:39-45
 Wednesday: 1 Samuel 1:24-28; Luke 1:46-56
 Thursday: Malachi 3:1-4, 23-24; Luke 1:57-66
 Friday: 2 Samuel 7:1-5, 8b-12, 14a, 16; Luke 1:67-79
 Saturday:
Vigil: Isaiah 62:1-5; Acts 13:16-17, 22-25; Matthew 1:1-25
Night: Isaiah 9:1-6; Titus 2:11-14; Luke 2:1-14
Dawn: Isaiah 62:11-12; Titus 3:4-7; Luke 2:15-20
Day: Isaiah 52:7-10; Hebrews 1:1-6; John 1:1-18
 Sunday: Sirach 3:2-6, 12-14; Colossians 3:12-21; Luke 2:41-52

To the word of the Lord we say Amen



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DEVOTIONAL CANDLES

Candles for our candle stand are available for purchase in the Parish Office or next to the candle stand. The candles will burn for 5 days. **The cost per candle is \$4.00.** The glass globes in the candle stand must be left in the church.



PAX CHRISTI QUOTE OF THE WEEK

“As we seek the truth together, with respect for the conscience of others, we will be able to go forward along the paths of freedom which lead to peace, in accordance with the will of God.”

-Pope John Paul II, January 1971

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:

PETE’S ACE HARDWARE