



I would like to share 2 Reflections taken from “*Emmanuel: An Advent Devotional*” by Fr. Angelus Montgomery, CFR & Sr. Karolyn Nunes, FSGM

### Third Sunday of Advent: “*Are you the one who is to come?*” Matthew 11:3

John the Baptist’s question in today’s Gospel comes from a place deep in his own heart and in the hearts of the Jewish people. First-century Jewish culture was filled with a daily anticipation and hunger for the coming of the Messiah. They hoped and longed at every moment for the coming of the One who would save them from their exile and slavery and lead them to salvation. And then Jesus entered into their waiting and longing, and a new spirit of hope emerged among the people. Could there be more to life than sin and struggle? Could there be more than our self-focused pursuits and plans?

But most of us living today have stopped waiting for the Messiah. Not so much because we know he has already come in the person of Jesus over 2,000 years ago, but because we’re kind of over it. We moved on to bigger and more important things.

We wait in line for coffee, wait for our Amazon packages to arrive, wait for a friend to call or text, or for the next Instagram post, the next viral YouTube video, the next season of our favorite show. These are not bad things, but what if this kind of waiting has distracted us from waiting for the One who wants to come into our lives in a profound way this Christmas?

We will spend our lives waiting for all sorts of things. But Advent is a time to wait for Him, long for Him, and turn our hearts again to Jesus, who longs to come and be with us.

*Emmanuel enter into our waiting, as You did for the Jewish people, and perform miracles that will change our hearts forever.*

### Our Lady of Guadalupe: “*She set out and traveled to the hill country in haste.*” Luke 1:39

When I receive news, whether good or bad, I sometimes just need a minute to sit and let it sink in before I determine a course of action. My introspection, however, can also keep me locked in my thoughts and frozen in my own world instead of bringing my thoughts, feelings, and desires to God.

Sometimes it’s most helpful to go and do something for someone else to get me out of my head. Mary models this in today’s Gospel. What was her response to news that she would be the mother of God? “She set out and traveled to the hill country in haste” to be with her relative Elizabeth, who had also conceived a child. In some ways, Mary had every right to sit back and try to figure out what this news meant for her, but she makes a gift of herself and goes “with haste.”

Her response is quick and directed toward others. This selflessness is a great gift to Elizabeth and Zechariah, who undoubtedly had a lot on their “to-do” list before welcoming their first child. But Mary’s visit was not just about work; it was also about relationship. She literally brings Christ to Elizabeth. Because she “believes that what was spoken by the Lord [will] be fulfilled,” she can make a gift of herself and of Jesus, who she carries with her in her womb.

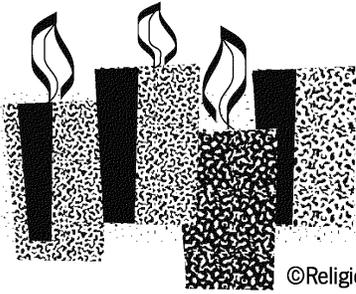
*Emmanuel, come and be with me in my thoughts, feelings, and desires, and let me carry you with me to those who need your presence.*

-Fr. Ray

### Gospel For The Fourth Sunday of Advent (December 18th)

Matthew 1:18-24

This is how the birth of Jesus Christ came about. When his mother Mary was betrothed to Joseph, but before they lived together, she was found with child through the Holy Spirit. Joseph her husband, since he was a righteous man, yet unwilling to expose her to shame, decided to divorce her quietly. Such was his intention when, behold, the angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream and said, “Joseph, son of David, do not be afraid to take Mary your wife into your home. For it is through the Holy Spirit that this child has been conceived in her. She will bear a son and you are to name him Jesus, because he will save his people from their sins.” All this took place to fulfill what the Lord had said through the prophet: *Behold, the virgin shall conceive and bear a son, and they shall name him Emmanuel*, which means “God is with us.” When Joseph awoke, he did as the angel of the Lord had commanded him and took his wife into his home.



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**OUR LADY OF GUADALUPE  
CELEBRATION  
December 12th**

The Hispanic Group invites the entire Parish community to honor Our Lady of Guadalupe.

**Feast Day of Our Lady of Guadalupe**

Join us as we begin with Mañanitas (joyous Mexican Folk Music) from 5:30-7:00am. Immediately following, Mexican hot chocolate and bread will be served in Stack Center. At 8:15am we will celebrate Mass with the School. At 7:00pm we will celebrate Mass in Spanish.

**Celebraciones En Honor a al Virgen de Guadalupe**  
Mañanitas a la 5:30 am en la Iglesia. Se servirá inmediatamente después chocolate y pan mexicano en el Stack Center. Misas a la 8:15 am con la escuela y a la 7:00 pm en español.

**DIOCESAN PRIEST RETIREMENT  
BENEFIT TRUST  
December 10th & 11th**

This collection allows us to express gratitude and support for our retired and soon-to-be retired priests. They now face retirement with minimal government assistance. Please prayerfully consider how you can match their generosity to the Church by contributing to the Retirement Fund. Please make your check out to "Roman Catholic Bishop of Oakland". Envelopes will be in the pews for your use. You may also drop your donation off at the Parish Office mail slot. Thank you and God bless.



**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 9:00am**, it would be most appreciated. The more hands, the quicker the work will be completed. Thanks in advance for your assistance!

**CHRISTMAS MASS SCHEDULE**

**Vigil Masses—Saturday, December 24th**

*There will be carols 30 minutes before the evening Masses*

Family Mass: 5:00pm  
Mass at Night: 10:00pm

**Sunday, December 25th**

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

**HOLIDAY OFFICE HOURS**

The Parish Office will be closed on Friday, **December 23rd** and Monday, **December 26th**. We will re-open on Tuesday, **December 27th** at 8:30am.



Additionally, the office will be closed on Friday, **December 30th** and Monday, **January 2nd** will re-open on Tuesday, **January 3rd** at 8:30am.

*The entire Parish Staff wishes you all a Blessed Christmas and a safe Happy New Year!*

**CHRISTMAS FLOWERS**

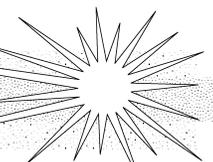
We invite you to remember family members and friends through a Flower Offering which will help us to purchase plants and other decorations we need to beautify our sanctuary. You may list the names of loved ones you wish to remember or memorialize by using the special flower envelopes or by submitting 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.



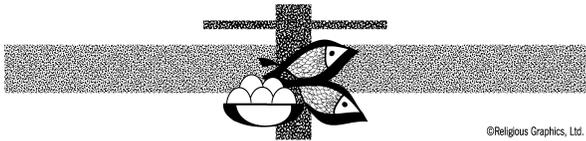
**FESCO AND CASTRO VALLEY OUTREACH  
Christmas Giving Trees**

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 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 15th**, in order for our students and Parent Group members to catalog and wrap. We are also helping FESCO keep their programs running. They are asking for monetary donations. FESCO Donation envelopes are available on the Giving Trees. Please return the envelopes to the Parish Office. Thank you for your generosity!

*Rejoice! The Lord is near.*



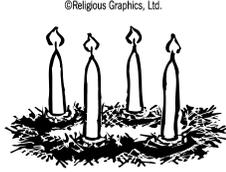
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**ADVENT RECONCILIATION  
Ready the Way of the Lord**

Reconciliation during Advent will follow our regular Reconciliation schedule with Adoration:

**Thursdays: 6:00-7:00pm**  
**Saturdays: 8:45-10:00am**



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**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 OLG can help you with food for the holidays or other resources. Please call us at 510-581-2164 and leave a message. We will get back to you. All names are kept confidential. If you are interested in knowing more about this ministry – please call the same number and someone will get back to you.

**Warm Coat Drive**



*We are thankful for the generosity from those who have given so far.* St. Vincent de Paul is collecting **new and gently used coats, sleeping bags and blankets.**

Our main need is men’s coats in larger sizes; but we will accept women’s and children’s sizes too. Collection barrels are located at the Somerset entrance of the church and in the Parish Office. Please do not leave other articles of clothing at this time. Items will be accepted **until December 31st.** Thank you for your generosity!



**CYO GIRLS BASKETBALL  
REGISTRATION**



Registration will be available online beginning January 2nd to January 7th for OLG School Students and current OLG Religious Education Students ONLY. All other students residing in our Parish boundaries may register beginning January 8th.

**Registration closes on January 14th.** To register, please visit: [www.olgcvcyo.com](http://www.olgcvcyo.com). Girl’s Basketball is open for grades 2nd-8th. Fee for the 2023 program year is \$195. Space is limited. For more information, questions or if you would like to coach, please email: [olgcyocv@gmail.com](mailto:olgcyocv@gmail.com). Go Lions!

**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 NOVEMBER:**

Sunday Plate for the month:	\$ 36,318.00
<b>Month Budgeted Goal:</b>	<b>\$ 37,689.00</b>
Over/[Shortfall]	\$ [1,371.00]
Year-To-Date Over/[Shortfall]	\$ [30,515.00]

*May God bless your continuing generosity.*

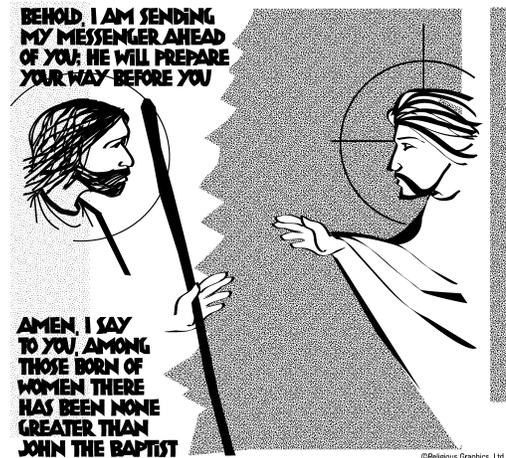


**Your Prayers Are Requested**

Please lift up in your prayer those among us who are ill and those who have asked for our prayerful remembrance:

Raul Cepeda  
Peggy Deadder  
Jim Gonzales  
Emile Lassalle  
Grace Letteer  
Brian Linney  
Sheryl Michaud  
Cec Penland

Diana Riley  
Angela Schaaphok  
Alyssia Tortora  
James Van Wert  
Concepcion Velasco  
Mary Lou Vincent  
Arthur Williams  
Peggy Winkenbach



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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 Memorial**

**JOSEPHINE RABELO**

**ELIZABETH BETTY LU VAZ**

**VICTIMS OF GUN VIOLENCE**

**VICTIMS OF THE UKRANIAN INVASION**

**VICTIMS OF COVID-19**

**KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS  
DINNER WITH THE FRANCISCANS  
January 14th, 2023**



Join us on Saturday, **January 14th** as we celebrate the **41st Year of the Province of St. Joseph of Cupertino!** Doors open at 6:00pm in Stack Center. Dinner will be catered by Star Catering. Beer and wine available for purchase. Cost is \$40 per person. Tickets will be sold after all the Masses and in the Parish Office. If you are not able to attend, we kindly ask for a donation supporting our Franciscan Seminarians.



**CYO ATHLETICS &  
KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS  
CRAB FEED  
February 4th, 2023**

*Save the date!* Join us on Saturday, **February 4th** as we raise funds for OLG's CYO Athletics. Doors open at 6:00pm in Stack Center. Festivities include Music, Silent Auction and No-Host Bar. Pricing and online ticket sales information will be available soon!

**USE 'SCRIP' FOR YOUR  
HOLIDAY SHOPPING**



Simplify your holiday shopping and support OLG's Evangelization Program at the same time by purchasing SCRIP gift cards! With each gift card purchase, our Evangelization Program earns 2%-17% of the gift card value. Stop by the Parish Office and take a look at which gift cards are offered. *Orders placed on the 1st and 3rd week of the month will be ready for pickup on the 2nd and 4th week of the month.* Payment is due at the time of purchase, cash or check please. Questions? Call the Parish Office at 510-537-0806.

**MAXIMILIAN KOLBE QUOTE OF THE WEEK**

*"The Immaculata is the Mediatrix of all graces, because she belongs to the Holy Spirit. That is why through her we go to Jesus and to the Father."*

**EXECUTION ALERTS**

The following execution is scheduled to take place in **December:**

December 14th    Thomas Edwin Loden, Jr.  
   Mississippi

We ask your prayers for this person for the victims of his crimes, and for their families.

**THIS WEEK**

**Sunday, December 11th:**

**Third Sunday of Advent**

- Masses  
7:30am, 9:00am (Livestream), 11:00am —Church
- 1st Communion Class (Year 1)  
10:15am—Stack Center
- Whole Family Class  
10:15am—Augustine Center
- Confirmation Class  
12:15pm—Stack Center
- Spanish Mass  
1:00pm—Church
- Rosary  
7:00pm—Church

**Monday, December 12th:**

Our Lady of Guadalupe Festivities

- Mañanitas  
5:30am—Church
- Hot Chocolate & Bread  
7:00am—Stack Center
- Mass w/ School  
8:15am—Church
- Mass in Spanish  
7:00pm—Church

**Tuesday, December 13th:**

- Women's Advent Study  
7:00pm—Stack Center
- Men's Faith Share  
7:00pm—Stack Center, Room 7

**Wednesday, December 14th:**

- RCIA  
7:00pm—Stack Center, Room 7

**Thursday, December 15th:**

- AA Serenity Group  
7:30pm—Augustine Center

**Saturday, December 17th:**

- Adoration & Reconciliation  
8:45-10:00am—Church
- 1st Reconciliation  
10:00am—Church
- Vigil Mass  
5:00pm—Church

# Mass Intentions for the Week



**SUNDAY, December 11th**

**THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT**

7:30am OLG Community  
 9:00am Emma & Mike McCormick – L  
 11:00am Eleanor Whittaker – D  
 1:00pm Franciscan Friars  
 Benjamin Dicus – D

**MONDAY, December 12th**

**OUR LADY OF GUADALUPE**

8:15am Matthias Lee – D

**TUESDAY, December 13th**

**St. Lucy, Virgin & Martyr**

8:15am Ferdinand Perdido – D

**WEDNESDAY, December 14th**

**St. John of the Cross, Priest & Doctor of the Church**

8:15am Lilia Sousa – D

**THURSDAY, December 15th**

8:15am Renato Constantino Vergara – D

**FRIDAY, December 16th**

8:15am Duarte-Ortega Families – L

**SATURDAY, December 17th**

8:15am Rosa Martinez Reyes – D

5:00pm Antonio O. Chocha – D

**SUNDAY, December 18th**

**FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT**

7:30am Jesusa Perdido – D

9:00am Gina Castillo – L

11:00am OLG Community

1:00pm Franciscan Friars



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**PAX CHRISTI QUOTE OF THE WEEK**

*“Prayer and sacrifice must be used as the most effective spiritual weapons in the war against war, and like all weapons, they must be used with deliberate aim: not just with a vague aspiration for peace and security but against violence and war.”*

–Thomas Merton, 1961

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

**READINGS FOR THE WEEK:**

**December 12th through December 18th**

Monday: Zechariah 2:14-17; Luke 1:26-38  
 Tuesday: Zephaniah 3:1-2, 9-13; Matthew 21:28-32  
 Wednesday: Isaiah 45:6-8, 18, 21-25; Luke 7:18-23  
 Thursday: Isaiah 54:1-10; Luke 7:24-30  
 Friday: Isaiah 56:1-3, 6-8; John 5:33-36  
 Saturday: Genesis 49:2, 8-10; Matthew 1:1-17  
 Sunday: Isaiah 7:10-14; Romans 1:1-7; Matthew 1:18-24

**THIS WEEK--Continued**

**Sunday, December 18th:**

**Fourth Sunday of Advent**

Masses

7:30am, 9:00am (Livestream), 11:00am —Church

Spanish Mass

1:00pm—Church

**HOLIDAY BULLETIN DEADLINES**

Please have items for the Bulletin to the Parish Office no later than the deadlines shown below:

December 25th Bulletin: **Due December 13th**

January 1st Bulletin: **Due December 16th**



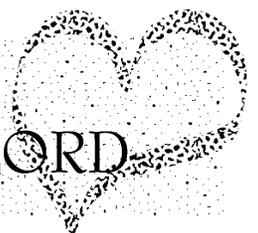
**BAPTISM**

**PRE-BAPTISM CLASS**

**FOR PARENTS & GODPARENTS**

If you are wishing to have your child, ages infant to six years baptized, 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. Call Jay at 510-537-0806 to register. The next Pre-Baptism Class will be held in Stack Center, OLG Room at 7:00pm on **January 4th**.

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



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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:

**BLAHA, HARTFORD & PERRY**