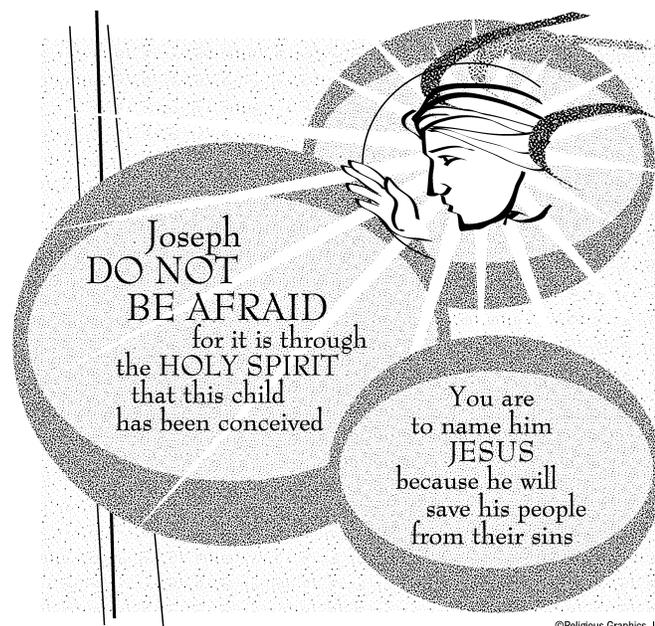




One more week of Advent, how have you been preparing for your remembrance of Christ's birth? By now you have considered your gift giving. What will you give to yourself? What will you give to your family? What will you give to others? I pray that you have been preparing and renewing your gifts of Faith, Hope and Charity as the most important gifts that you can give. These gifts are intangible but are truly life giving. How have you been preparing them? How are you wrapping them? How and when will you give them? These gifts cannot be placed under your Christmas tree but will be felt by yourself and others, as you live life. You still have time to prepare your gifts for giving. Please create some good memories this Christmas for yourself and for others. Make this Christmas one to remember!

We are approaching the end of the year, when some of you need to make decisions about your charitable giving. This has been a difficult year financially both for the parish and our parish school. Both need your help. Your financial gifts this Christmas are very appreciated.

-Fr. Ray

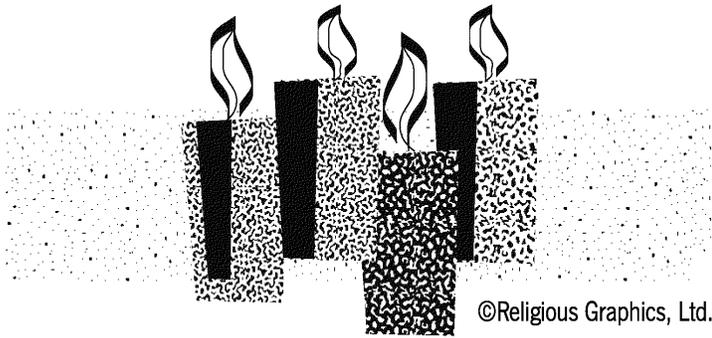


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### Gospel For The Nativity of the Lord (December 25th)

**John 1:1-18**

In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was in the beginning with God. All things came to be through him, and without him nothing came to be. What came to be through him was life, and this life was the light of the human race; the light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it. A man named John was sent from God. He came for testimony, to testify to the light, so that all might believe through him. He was not the light, but came to testify to the light. The true light, which enlightens everyone, was coming into the world. He was in the world, and the world came to be through him, but the world did not know him. He came to what was his own, but his own people did not accept him. But to those who did accept him he gave power to become children of God, to those who believe in his name, who were born not by natural generation nor by human choice nor by a man's decision but of God. And the Word became flesh and made his dwelling among us, and we saw his glory, the glory as of the Father's only Son, full of grace and truth. John testified to him and cried out, saying, "This was he of whom I said, 'The one who is coming after me ranks ahead of me because he existed before me.'" From his fullness we have all received, grace in place of grace, because while the law was given through Moses, grace and truth came through Jesus Christ. No one has ever seen God. The only Son, God, who is at the Father's side, has revealed him.



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**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)

**NEW YEAR'S MASS SCHEDULE**

*Saturday, December 31st*

8:15am Daily Mass  
 5:00pm Vigil Mass

*Sunday, January 1st*

**Solemnity of Mary, Holy Mother of God**

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

**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.



**DECORATING FOR CHRISTMAS**



The committee is in need of help to get the church ready for Christmas. If you are available to help on Saturday, **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!

**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!*

**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 Thank You!**



*Thank you to all who have donated coats, blankets and sleeping bags. As the weather gets colder, these items are flying out the door. Please remember that we are NOT accepting other clothes at this time. Our storage is limited and we have no way to distribute them. We will continue to take donations of coats, blankets and sleeping bags through **December 31st**. Collection barrels are located at the Somerset entrance of the church and in the Parish Office. Thank you!*

**CHRISTMAS OFFERING**

As we move into the Christmas season and the end of the year, we are thankful for all the good God has brought to our parish and for your continuing generosity in donating your time, talents and treasures. Your donations to St. Vincent de Paul and gifts to the families helped, through our Giving Tree program, make a difference in the lives of those who are most in need.

From a financial standpoint, income from our Sunday plate has been on a decline against the previous year since March. We have kept expenses under tight control given this trend. Our Christmas Offering budget is \$28,000 which is the same we received last year from your Christmas donations. Please know we count on your Christmas and end of year offerings to help us meet our end of year expenses. We are most grateful for your offering to accomplish this goal.



**CELEBRATION OF BAPTISM**

Recently, we welcomed

**Max Cofreros Ellis**

**Elianna Alyssa Gual**

**Savanna Leigh Gual**

**Donovan Terry Leary**

**Sierra Thi Nguyen**

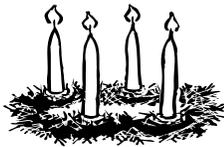
into Our Lady of Grace Church by the Sacrament of Holy Baptism. May God Bless you!

**ICF CANNOLI KITS READY FOR PICK UP!**

Just a reminder to pick up your Cannoli Kits on Thursday, **December 22nd** between 5:00-7:30pm in Stack Center. See you then and thank you from ICF Branch #343.

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

Last opportunity for Reconciliation and Adoration during Advent will be on **Thursday, December 22nd: 6:00-7:00pm.**



**FAITH FORMATION NATIVITY STORY  
Thank You!**

'Thank you' to all our Whole Family students who participated in their Nativity Story presentation last weekend in Stack Center! It was a wonderful event enjoyed by all the students' families and loved ones. We also would like to thank our 1st Communion Catechists: *Dennise Burgess, Chris Richards, Sabina Hill and Maria Trinidad* for a job well done in teaching the children about the true meaning of Christmas.

**DIOCESAN PRIEST RETIREMENT  
BENEFIT TRUST**

It's not too late to give! 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.

**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    | Diana Riley        |
| Peggy Deadder  | Angela Schaaphok   |
| Jim Gonzales   | Alyssia Tortora    |
| Emile Lassalle | James Van Wert     |
| Grace Letteer  | Concepcion Velasco |
| Brian Linney   | Mary Lou Vincent   |
| Sheryl Michaud | Arthur Williams    |
| Cec Penland    | Peggy Winkenbach   |

*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**

**VICTIMS OF GUN VIOLENCE**

**VICTIMS OF THE UKRANIAN INVASION**

**VICTIMS OF COVID-19**



**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.olgvcyo.com](http://www.olgvcyo.com). Girl's Basketball is open to 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: [olgcycv@gmail.com](mailto:olgcycv@gmail.com). Go Lions!



**THIS WEEK**

**Sunday, December 18th:**

**Fourth Sunday of Advent**

Masses

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

Spanish Mass

1:00pm—Church

**Tuesday, December 20th:**

Women's Advent Study

7:00pm—Stack Center

Men's Faith Share

7:00pm—Stack Center, Room 7

**Wednesday, December 21st:**

RCIA

7:00pm—Stack Center, Room 7

**Thursday, December 22nd:**

AA Serenity Group

7:30pm—Augustine Center

**Friday, December 23rd:**

**Parish Office Closed**

**Saturday, December 24th:**

Christmas Decorating

9:00am—Church

**Christmas Eve Vigil Masses**

5:00pm & 10:00pm—Church

**Sunday, December 25th:**

**The Nativity of the Lord**

**Merry Christmas!**

Masses

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

Spanish Mass

1:00pm—Church

**THE HEAVENS ANNOUNCE  
THE LORD'S COMING**

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**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 5:30pm in Stack Center. Festivities include Music, Silent Auction and No-Host Bar. Pricing and online ticket sales information will be available soon!

**FROM THE FINANCE COMMITTEE**

If you have an IRA and are over the age of 70 1/2, you are faced with a required minimum distribution from your IRA. The IRS has a qualified charitable donation rule that allows you to exempt your distribution from taxes. The significant advantage of this is that it lowers your adjusted gross income. The main rules are: donation must be paid directly from the IRA to the charity; the donor must be over 70 1/2; the amount is limited to \$100k. If you are in this situation, check and see if it makes sense for you to apply this IRS rule and direct your distribution to Our Lady of Grace Parish. *May God Bless your generous giving.*

**MILITIA IMMACULATA MEETINGS**

Come join us as members of the Militia Immaculata (MI) on the 1st Saturday of each month at 10:00am in Stack Center, OLG Room. Our next meeting will be on **January 7th, 2023.**



**MAXIMILIAN KOLBE QUOTE OF THE WEEK**

*"Let us turn our gaze to Jesus, our most perfect model. He, God, holiness itself, gave himself to the Immaculata with no reservation. He became her son, wanted her to lead Him as she liked for a good thirty years of His earthly life. Could we possibly need better encouragement?"*

**PRE-BAPTISM CLASS  
FOR PARENTS & GODPARENTS**



**BAPTISM**

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.**

# Mass Intentions for the Week

**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

**MONDAY, December 19th**

8:15am Gilberto C. Marquez – D

**TUESDAY, December 20th**

8:15am Louis Rodrigues – D

**WEDNESDAY, December 21st**

8:15am Celia & Fred Dorado

**THURSDAY, December 22nd**

8:15am Felix Vargas – L

**FRIDAY, December 23rd**

8:15am Sean Hinkson – L

**SATURDAY, December 24th**

5:00pm Marvin Picha – D  
Norma Wardle – D  
10:00pm *Christmas Eve*

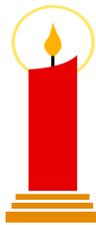
**SUNDAY, December 25th**

THE NATIVITY OF THE LORD

7:30am *The Solemnity of Christmas*  
9:00am *The Solemnity of Christmas*  
11:00am *The Solemnity of Christmas*  
1:00pm *The Solemnity of Christmas*

**DEVOTIONAL CANDLES**

Candles for our candle stand are available for purchase. The candles will burn for 5 days and *are only intended for use in the church*. Please do not remove the glass globes from the stand. The cost per candle is \$5.00. You may put your payment in the pouch, located at the candle stand.



**PAX CHRISTI QUOTE OF THE WEEK**

*“If you have men who will exclude any of God’s creatures from the shelter of compassion and pity, you will have men who will deal likewise with their fellow men.”*  
–St. Francis of Assisi

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

**READINGS FOR THE WEEK:**

**December 19th through December 25th**

Monday: Judges 13:2-7, 24-25; Luke 1:5-25  
Tuesday: Isaiah 7:10-14; Luke 1:26-38  
Wednesday: Song of Songs 2:8-14; Luke 1:39-45  
Thursday: 1 Samuel 1:24-28; Luke 1:46-56  
Friday: Malachi 3:1-4, 23-24; Luke 1:57-66  
Saturday: 2 Samuel 7:1-5, 8-12, 14, 16; Luke 1:67-79  
Sunday:  
**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

His name shall be  
**EMMANUEL**  
GOD with US

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**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!

**DIACONATE FORMATION INFORMATION MEETINGS**

*Are you being called? Have you considered becoming a Deacon?* Deacons are members of the clergy and serve throughout the Diocese in a three-fold ministry of “Word”, “Sacrament”, and “Charity”. Deacons may serve at Mass, preside at funerals, benedictions and give blessings, just to name a few. If you would like more information, please join a 7:00pm Zoom meeting on **January 4th, 6th, 10th or 12th**. Wives are also encouraged to attend. Please use Zoom Meeting Link: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/8745798692>. Phone Connection: 1-408-638-0968, Meeting ID: 874 579 8692#. Questions? Please call Cielo Barroso-Branco at 510-267-8356.

**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:

**BERNIE KEMPEN CERTIFIED  
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