



Happy Lent!! How is your Journey this Lent? This is your opportunity to grow in your Christian life and grow in holiness. Remember the three pillars of Lent: Fasting, Prayer and Alms Giving.

Fasting – There are many ways to Fast. The traditional form is Food. Please think wider than this. How about fasting from anger, fasting from the internet, fasting from the phone, fasting from games, fasting from TV or fasting from alcohol or tobacco. What is interfering with you having time for the Lord or for the people you live with. Allow your fasting to truly affect your relationships in your family, work and Church.

Prayer – There are many ways to pray, in Church, at home, while you are exercising, going for a walk etc.. Some use prayers, rosary, prayer books or reflection and mediation. Do you take some quality time to pray each day? Are you giving God a chance to work with you and his grace?

Alms Giving – There are so many opportunities to give alms each day. When we give alms, we are giving a sign to others of the value of human life and a true sign of God's Hope. Alms are a vehicle of God's grace. Possible Lenten Alms are giving to the poor, the Bishop Appeal, our parish, the Missions or our local OLG School. Please be responsible in giving alms. Make certain you are not giving to a scam.

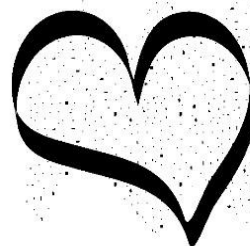
Two important Fundraising events are scheduled: the School Fun Run on March 23rd and the Spring Auction on May 6th. The School Fun Run supports our School and the Auction supports both our Parish and School. Thank you for all the support that you can give to both these events.

I will be walking in the School Fun Run. I am looking for people to support me in this event. You may also be asked by some of our School children to support them. If you would like to help me in this fundraiser, please place your donation in an envelope marked "*Fr. Ray – Fun Run*". You may drop off your envelope at the Parish Office, at the weekend collection basket or give it to me directly. Please make out all checks to "*Our Lady of Grace School*". Thanks for all you do!!

A Eucharistic Reflection:

- 1) Do you remember the first time you felt Christ's presence in the Eucharist?
- 2) What are your memories of your First Holy Communion?

-Fr. Ray



Create for me
a clean heart,
O God

©Religious Graphics, Ltd.

The Gospel for The Fourth Sunday of Lent (March 19th)

John 9:1-41

Due to the length of the Gospel, it could not be printed. We thank you for your understanding.



If today
you hear his voice,
harden not your hearts

©Religious Graphics, Ltd.

CATHOLIC RELIEF SERVICES BISHOP'S OVERSEAS APPEAL NEXT WEEKEND—MARCH 18TH & 19TH

This appeal supports Catholic Church organizations that carry out international relief and solidarity efforts. Programs include relief and resettlement for victims of persecution, war, and natural disasters; development projects to improve living conditions for the poor; legal and support services for poor immigrants; peace and reconciliation work for people suffering from violence; and advocacy on behalf of the powerless. Thank you for your generosity.



LENTEN FISH FRY IS BACK! Knights of Columbus

Join us on **March 31st** for our Fish Fry in Stack Center from 5:00-7:00pm. Cost is \$10 per person. Enjoy a delicious fish dinner prepared by the Knights of Columbus and enjoy the company of fellow parishioners. See you there!

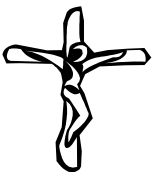
WEDNESDAY LENTEN MASS & SOUP MEAL

Join us for our Lenten Masses held on Wednesday evenings at 6:00pm, followed by a simple meal of soup and bread in Stack Center. It will be a time for fellowship and families coming together. Our next Lenten Soup Meal on **March 15th** is sponsored by our Hispanic Community. We thank them for their ministry of hospitality for this meal. Financial donations will be accepted for CRS Rice Bowl.



LENTEN RECONCILIATION

Reconciliation will be available every Thursday at 6:00pm during Adoration and on Saturdays at 9:00am after the 8:15am Mass.



STATIONS OF THE CROSS English & Spanish

Stations of the Cross in English, led by our school students are offered at Our Lady of Grace on Fridays at 2:15pm. Evening Stations in English begins at 6:00pm and in Spanish at 6:30pm. *There will be no evening Stations on April 7th (Good Friday).*

HAVANA NIGHTS SPRING AUCTION May 6th

Join us for OLG's Spring Auction "Havana Nights" on **May 6th** in Stack Center from 5:30-10:30pm. It'll also be an unforgettable evening of Cocktails, Dinner and Dancing! Tickets are \$65 per person, \$520 for Table of 8 and \$650 for Table of 10. You may purchase them here: zeffy.com/en-US/ticketing/9dbbc6d7-4cda-400e-a700-7a5b471ec49d Onsite childcare will be available. *Wear Your Cuban Attire!*



DECREE OF DISPENSATION FOR ST. PATRICK'S DAY

The disciplinary practice of abstaining from meat on the Fridays in Lent is an important dimension of the penitential nature of the season. This year, the Feast of St. Patrick, March 17, 2023, falls on a Friday in Lent. Given the many celebrations that occur on this day, in accord with the norm of law, I hearwith grant to all Catholics of the Diocese as well as all present here that day, a dispensation from abstinence from meat and meat products. I encourage all who make us of the dispensation to engage in another sacrificial or charitable act that day.

Given in Oakland, this seventh day of February, 2023.

*The Most Reverend Michael C. Barber, S.J.
Bishop of Oakland*

FORMED

40 DAYS OF LENT WITH FORMED

Forgiven: The Transforming Power of Confession

<https://watch.formed.org/forgiven>

Explore the grace and healing offered in Confession and how this sacrament of mercy reveals the depth and bounty of God's love.

Let's Learn About Lent with Brother Francis

<https://watch.formed.org/lent/videos/let-s-learn-about-lent>

Kids will learn what Lent is all about and how we observe it as Catholics. Great for the whole family!

If you are not a member, **register for free**, visit: www.olgcv.formed.org and type in "Our Lady of Grace, Castro Valley CA" to become a member.



©Religious Graphics, Ltd.



FESCO SHUFFLE Save the Date-May 6th

The 26th Annual Shuffle is scheduled for **Saturday, May 6th** at Moreau Catholic High School at 27170 Mission Blvd. in Hayward. *New this year – a 5K timed run at the Moreau Track 7:00 to 8:00am.* **Registration is \$50 for adults and \$25 for youth (16+ with school ID).** The Shuffle from 8:00am to 12:00pm is a free event which includes a walk, morning refreshments, lunch, entertainment, a drawing for door prizes and a “Kidz Zone” with bouncy houses, games and prizes. Please join this event which raises funds to support FESCO’s programs that support homeless families with children. Go to fescoshuffle.org to join a team or donate. For more information, call volunteer, Chris Ippolito at 510-343-4876 or Stephanie Miller at the FESCO office at 510-886-5473.



SUPPORT OUR EVANGELIZATION PROGRAM WITH SCRIP

Do you shop at Amazon and Safeway or get coffee at Starbucks? Simplify your 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 our list of 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.

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 70½; 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.*

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 JANUARY:

Sunday Plate for the month:	\$ 41,788.00
Month Budgeted Goal:	\$ 45,818.00
Over/[Shortfall]	\$ [4,030.00]
Year-To-Date Over/[Shortfall]	\$ [4,030.00]

May God bless your continuing generosity.

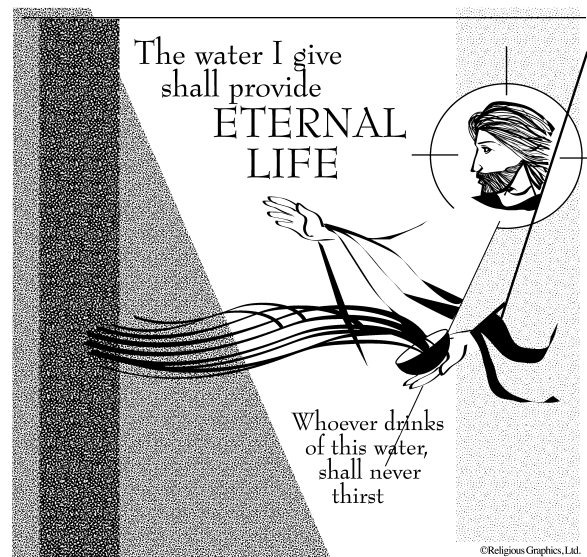


Your Prayers Are Requested

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
Nancy French
Grace Letteer
Brian Linney
Sheila McAlinden
Diana Riley

Jenny Roberts
Angela Schaaphok
Alyssia Tortora
James Van Wert
Mary Lou Vincent
Arthur Williams
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

JACKIE LUIS

VICTIMS OF GUN VIOLENCE

VICTIMS OF THE UKRANIAN INVASION

VICTIMS OF COVID-19

THIS WEEK**Sunday, March 12th:****Third Sunday of Lent**

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

12:15pm—Stack Center

Spanish Mass

1:00pm—Church

Tuesday, March 14th:

Men's Faith Share

7:00pm—Stack Center

Women's Lenten Bible Study

7:00pm—Stack Center, Room 7

Wednesday, March 15th:

Lenten Mass

6:00pm—Church

Lenten Soup Meal

7:00pm—Stack Center

RCIA

7:00pm—Stack Center, Room 7

Thursday, March 16th:

Adoration & Reconciliation

6:00pm—Church

St. Vincent de Paul Meeting

7:00pm—Parish Office

AA Serenity Group

7:30pm—Augustine Center

Friday, March 17th:

Stations of the Cross

2:15pm (School)—Church

Stations of the Cross

6:00pm in English—Church

Estaciones de la Cruz

6:30pm en español—Iglesia

Saturday, March 18th:

Adoration & Reconciliation

9:00am—Church

Vigil Mass

5:00pm—Church

LORD**by your cross, you
have saved the world**

©Religious Graphics, Ltd.

**YEARLY CONTRIBUTION
STATEMENTS**

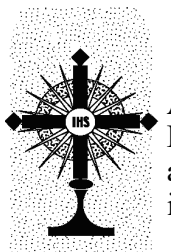
For your convenience in preparing your tax return, a contribution statement for 2022 will be prepared at your request. Please phone the Parish Office at 510-537-0806, with your name and envelope number. Your statement will be available for you to pick up once it has been signed.

HELPING HANDS MINISTRY

As many of you know, OLG has a wonderful ministry called "Helping Hands", started by Dianne Fisher many years ago. We help families who have lost a loved one and whom we assist with making and serving food to their family and friends after the Funeral Mass. If you would like to periodically assist us by making food for these gatherings (each entrée, salad or dessert is enough for 10 people), please contact Carmel Ledyard (510-274-5627) or Margaret McKean (510-340-1871) or you may leave your name and number in the Parish Office. Thank you and God Bless!

**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 **April 5th**.

**ADORATION & RECONCILIATION**

Join us on Thursdays, 6:00-7:00pm for Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament and Reconciliation and on Saturdays, immediately following the 8:15am Mass, concluding at 10:00am.

MAXIMILIAN KOLBE QUOTE OF THE WEEK

"[O Immaculata,] ...many are those who love you, who are fond of you, but how few are those who for love of you are willing to do anything, to labor, to suffer, and even to sacrifice their lives."

Mass Intentions for the Week

SUNDAY, March 12th**THIRD SUNDAY OF LENT**

7:30am Anne Walsh – D
 9:00am OLG Community
 11:00am Antonio O. Chocha – D
 1:00pm Raul Cepeda – D

MONDAY, March 13th

8:15am Manuel & Maria Costa & Family

TUESDAY, March 14th

8:15am Manuel Silva & Family

WEDNESDAY, March 15th

8:15am Bambino Madamba – D

THURSDAY, March 16th

8:15am Lourdes Aquino – L

FRIDAY, March 17th

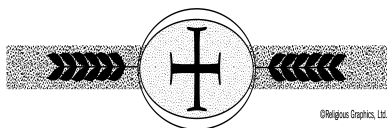
8:15am Jose & Julia Sousa – D

SATURDAY, March 18th

8:15am Mario Tejada – D
 5:00pm Maria Que Nguyen – D

SUNDAY, March 19th**FOURTH SUNDAY OF LENT**

7:30am Bart Jovellana – D
 9:00am Andrew & Lasalette Capote – L
 11:00am OLG Community
 1:00pm Jose Duarte – D



©Religious Graphics, Ltd.

THIS WEEK--Continued**Sunday, March 19th:****Fourth Sunday of Lent****Masses**

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

1st Communion Class (Year 2)

10:15am—Stack Center

Confirmation Class

12:15pm—Church

Spanish Mass

1:00pm—Church

READINGS FOR THE WEEK:**March 13th through March 19th**

Monday: 2 Kings 5:1-15; Luke 4:24-30
 Tuesday: Daniel 3:25, 34-43; Matthew 18:21-35
 Wednesday: Deuteronomy 4:1,5-9; Matthew 5:17-19
 Thursday: Jeremiah 7:23-28; Luke 11:14-23
 Friday: Hosea 14:2-10; Mark 12:28-34
 Saturday: Hosea 6:1-6; Luke 18:9-14
 Sunday: 1 Samuel 16:1,6-7, 10-13;
 Ephesians 5:8-14; John 9:1-41

WINGS - WOMEN IN GOD'S SPIRIT

WINGS is a faith enhancement group that encourages spiritual growth through prayer, scripture study, Catechesis, life sharing and community. Meetings are held at the Transfiguration Church Hall and will be following Covid-19 safety protocols: social distancing and wearing masks.

Next Meeting: **March 16th**

9:00am to 11:30am

Speaker: Nancy Hollister

Topic: *"Spirituality of SVdP & the Holy Spirit in My Life"*

For further information or if you would like to attend, please contact: Carolyn Willkie at willkiecarolyn@gmail.com or 510-410-7223.

PAX CHRISTI QUOTE OF THE WEEK

"War is not always inevitable, it is always a defeat for humanity."

—Pope John Paul II, 2003

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

SEEKING ADVERTISERS FOR OUR WEEKLY BULLETINS

In every weekly bulletin, we proudly publish advertisers from Castro Valley and nearby cities. If you are a business owner or know of someone who is and are interested in having your business information published for hundreds of parishioners to see each week, please contact *Mission Publications* at 888-253-4358. OLG thanks you in advance for your support!

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:

BLAHA, HARTFORD & PERRY