

Reflections of Holy Week

Holy Week begins with Palm Sunday. On this day, we celebrate the triumphant entry of Our Lord, Jesus Christ, into Jerusalem, riding a donkey. On that day, the people laid palms before Him, a gesture reserved for triumphant leaders. We celebrate this at Mass by distributing palms to the faithful who may keep them for a time for use as devotional objects. The palms are blessed at Mass. The faithful sometimes craft portions of palm fronds into crosses. Eventually, these palms are returned to the Church where they are burned. Traditionally, their ashes are saved and distributed at next year's Ash Wednesday services.

Later, when Jesus entered the Temple, he angrily drove out the money changers who had turned the Temple court into a place of business instead of devotion. Once the court was cleared, Jesus began teaching the masses. Meanwhile, His enemies drew plans to kill Him.

The next major event in Holy Week is Holy Thursday. On this day, Jesus celebrated the Passover feast with the disciples. We know this feast as the Last Supper. This is the night He was betrayed by Judas and arrested. The Last Supper is celebrated at every Mass, and especially on Holy Thursday.

After supper, Jesus went to the Mount of Olives and prayed. From this event comes inspiration for our practice of Perpetual Eucharistic Adoration, where we are invited to spend one hour in prayer with Jesus, truly present in the Eucharist; Body, Blood, and Divinity. Jesus was arrested on the night of Holy Thursday.

The next day is Good Friday, and on this day, we commemorate the trial, punishment, and crucifixion of Our Lord. On that morning, Jesus was brought before Annas, a powerful Jewish cleric who condemned Jesus for blasphemy. From there, Jesus was presented to Pilate for trial. Although Pilate found no guilt in Jesus, he agreed to have him crucified to appease the crowd of people and prevent a riot.

Christ was stripped, flogged, and crowned with thorns. He was then forced to carry His Cross to the place of His execution. There, He was nailed to the Cross between two thieves who were likewise crucified. Late that afternoon, seeking to ensure Christ's death, a Roman guard stabbed him in his side with a spear. When Jesus died, an earthquake is said to have occurred as well as a great darkness which covered the land. Suddenly, many people knew Jesus was the Son of God.

Jesus was taken and laid quickly in a borrowed tomb, in accord with Jewish law, which required the dead be buried by sundown before the Sabbath. In our churches, the Tabernacle is left empty, to show that Christ is departed.

On Holy Saturday, there is no Mass. Parishes may hold services, but there is no distribution of Communion. On Holy Saturday, we remember that Jesus was descended into hell where He preached the Gospel to those who died before and opened the way to heaven for all those who were worthy.

This concludes Holy Week. The following day is Easter Sunday, the day on which it was discovered the Tomb was empty, and our Lord was resurrected, triumphing over death once and for all time.

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Would you like to help our Spring Auction, especially if you are not able to attend in May? Fr. Ray is putting together a *Gift Card Tree* to be auctioned off. This tree will be decorated with unused gift cards donated to Fr. Ray for the Auction. If you have any unused gift cards from Christmas or would like to purchase one to contribute, you'd be making a REAL contribution to our Auction. Your generous donations may be given to Fr. Ray, dropped off at the Parish Office, or put in the Sunday collection. Please clearly mark your contributions with "Fr. Ray-for the Auction". Thank you and God bless!



Easter Sunday of the Resurrection of the Lord (April 9th)

John 20:1-9

On the first day of the week, Mary of Magdala came to the tomb early in the morning, while it was still dark, and saw the stone removed from the tomb. So she ran and went to Simon Peter and to the other disciple whom Jesus loved, and told them, "They have taken the Lord from the tomb, and we don't know where they put him." So Peter and the other disciple went out and came to the tomb. They both ran, but the other disciple ran faster than Peter and arrived at the tomb first; he bent down and saw the burial cloths there, but did not go in. When Simon Peter arrived after him, he went into the tomb and saw the burial cloths there, and the cloth that had covered his head, not with the burial cloths but rolled up in a separate place. Then the other disciple also went in, the one who had arrived at the tomb first, and he saw and believed. For they did not yet understand the Scripture that he had to rise from the dead.

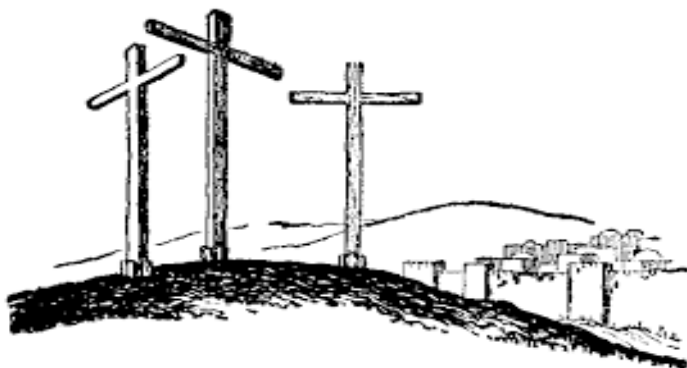
LITURGICAL SCHEDULE

Masses of Holy Week
Mon-Wed, April 3rd-5th at 8:15am

No Morning Masses
Thursday-Saturday

THE SACRED TRIDUUM

The Sacred Triduum is one liturgy in 3 parts, celebrating the great event of the glorious triumph of Jesus over sin and death. We invite you to enter into the mystery of our redemption over 3 days.

**SACRED TRIDUUM SCHEDULE**

Holy Thursday
Mass of the Lord's Supper
April 6th at 7:30pm

Altar of Repose will be in Stack Center
after the Mass.
9:00pm-Midnight.

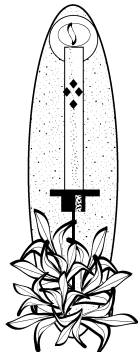
Good Friday
April 7th

Stations of the Cross
12 Noon in English

Celebration of the Lord's Passion
1:30pm & 6:00pm in English
8:00pm in Spanish

Holy Saturday
The Great Easter Vigil
April 8th at 7:45pm

Easter Sunday Masses
The Resurrection of Our Lord
April 9th
7:30am, 9:00am & 11:00am in English
1:00pm in Spanish



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CELEBRATE NEW LIFE IN CHRIST
YOU ARE INVITED TO:

Celebrate the Baptism, First Holy Eucharist
and Confirmation of Our Elect for 2023:

Yudica Anwar, Christian Ceralde,
David Espinoza, Cheryl Royer and
Sara West

The Solemn Easter Vigil
Saturday, April 8th at 7:45pm
Our Lady of Grace Church

GOOD FRIDAY COLLECTION

On Good Friday, our parish will take up the annual Good Friday Collection for the Holy Land. Pope Francis asks us to support this important collection. The wars, unrest and instability have been especially hard on Christians. When you contribute, you become an instrument of peace. Please be generous! You may make your check out to "Our Lady of Grace" and please write "Holy Land" on the memo line and on your envelope. God bless!

EASTER OFFERING

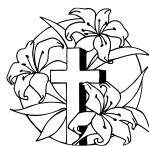
Please know our gratitude for the ongoing and faithful financial support to our Parish. Your special Easter and Sunday offering help us meet our operating expenses. Our Easter Offering Budget this year is \$20,000. We are grateful for your help in accomplishing this goal. May God bless you and your generosity! 2

**PALM SUNDAY FELLOWSHIP & HOT CROSS BUNS**

Join us today on Palm Sunday after the 9:00am, 11:00am and 1:00pm Masses in the Gathering Area. We will enjoy fellowship and delicious Hot Cross Buns.

HELP US DECORATE FOR EASTER

We will be readying the church for our Easter Services beginning at **9:00am on Saturday, April 8th**. If you are available to help place flowers, dust and spruce up the church, we would be most appreciative. We look forward to seeing you then!

**EASTER MEMORIAL FLOWERS**
OUR LADY OF GRACE TRADITION

Once again, this year we are inviting you to remember family members and friends through a Flower Offering which will help us to purchase the 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 Easter Flower Offering envelopes available in the pews. A list of names of all who are remembered will be available after Easter.



FESCO SHUFFLE Sign Up This Weekend

The 26th Annual Shuffle is scheduled for **Saturday, May 6th** from 8:00am to 12:00pm 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).** 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.

Be sure to sign up this weekend! FESCO representatives will be outside the entrances of the Church to take sign ups on April 1st, after the 5:00pm Mass and on April 2nd, after the 9:00am and 11:00am Masses.



PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

Blessed remains of Lent to all of you. I write in full anticipation of Easter joy, and sincerely hope that your Triduum observances are filled with much peace and celebration. May the risen Christ bring you much happiness. Here at OLG school our Lent has been marked with weekly celebrations of The Stations of the Cross, with different grades taking a turn at bringing our thoughts and prayers into sharing the Passion and Death of Our Lord. It was also punctuated by Adoration and Benediction as well as individual celebrations of the Sacrament of Reconciliation for Grades three and above. We keep our second graders in our prayers as they near the time when they will receive Our Lord for the First time in May.

This focus on the richness of our faith is the principal reason that all Catholic (as well as non-Catholic) parents should consider a Catholic education for their sons and daughters. I ask that you assist me in spreading the word that we have open seats to fill and that deadlines for financial aid are coming closer.

Lastly, I hope to see many of you at our school-sponsored Easter Egg Hunt on Easter Sunday following the 9:00 a.m. Mass. We shall have plenty of treat-filled eggs for kids in second grade and below as well as lots of opportunities for photos.

Until then, continue having a prayerful Lent and Holy Week ahead.

In Our Lady's Name and Love,
Gena McGowan

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 MARCH:

Sunday Plate for the month:	\$ 36,016.00
Month Budgeted Goal:	\$ 37,000.00
Over/[Shortfall]	\$ [984.00]
Year-To-Date Over/[Shortfall]	\$ [2,952.00]

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
Cindy Jardin
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

HECTOR EFRAIN RICO

LINDA SILVA

VICTIMS OF GUN VIOLENCE

VICTIMS OF THE UKRANIAN INVASION

VICTIMS OF COVID-19



ALTAR CANDLE MEMORIAL DONORS

We deeply thank the following donor who have given generously towards sponsoring our Altar Candle Memorial.

Given By:

Imelda Guerrero

In Memory of / In Honor of:

Christopher Guerrero
Marcelino Perdido



2023 BISHOP'S MINISTRIES APPEAL

I AM WITH YOU ALWAYS
BISHOP'S MINISTRIES APPEAL 2023

What if my parish goes over goal? Where does the excess go? 100% of all funds collected over a parish's goal will be returned directly to the parish for their own special needs in the form of rebate checks paid at the conclusion of the Appeal. The only exception to this rebate process will be for parishes with delinquent diocesan obligations (i.e. parish assessment, package insurances, workers' compensation, and health benefits.) These parishes will have funds collected over goal credited to these obligations.

To make your donation, please use the envelopes provided in the pews or make your donation online by visiting: <https://oakdiocese.org/bishops-appeal-donation-page>.

HAVANA NIGHTS SPRING AUCTION Saturday, May 6th 5:30pm-10:30pm Stack Center



Join us for an exciting evening of Delicious Bites, Cocktails, Raffle, Live Music, Dancing & the Auction! *Wear Your Cuban Attire!*

Tickets costs \$65 per person
Sponsor an 8-person table for \$520 or
a 10-person table for \$650

Child Care will be offered on-site. Kids will enjoy a movie (as available), crafts snacks and dinner. Dress in jammies and bring your sleeping bag for cozy comfort! Must be purchased by April 24th.

Purchase your dinner and raffle tickets and childcare online by visiting: zeffy.com/en-US/ticketing/9dbbc6d7-4cda-400e-a700-7a5b471ec49d

All proceeds will benefit OLG Parish and School

THIS WEEK

Sunday, April 2nd:

Palm Sunday of the Passion of the Lord

Masses

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

Hot Cross Buns

After 9:00am, 11:00am & 1:00pm Masses

Gathering Area

1st Communion Retreat

10:15am—Stack Center

Spanish Mass

1:00pm—Church

Tuesday, April 4th:

Men's Faith Share

7:00pm—Stack Center

Wednesday, April 5th:

RCIA

7:00pm—Stack Center, Room 7

Thursday, April 6th:

Mass of the Lord's Supper

7:30pm—Church

AA Serenity Group

7:30pm—Augustine Center

Altar of Repose

9:00pm-Midnight—Stack Center

Friday, April 7th:

Stations of the Cross

12 Noon—Church

The Lord's Passion

1:30pm & 6:00pm in English

8:00pm in Spanish—Church

Saturday, April 8th:

Easter Vigil

7:45pm—Church

Sunday, April 9th:

Easter Sunday of the Resurrection of the Lord

Masses

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

Easter Egg Hunt

After 9:00am Mass—Lawn

Spanish Mass

1:00pm—Church

MAXIMILIAN KOLBE QUOTE OF THE WEEK

"It is only by leaning on the steadfast rock [of obedience] that we can be steadfast as God, because we are sure of His will through the Immaculata. Oh, Immaculata, I renew my consecration to you. May I always cling to obedience in order to fulfill God's will through you."

Mass for the Intentions for the Week

SUNDAY, April 2nd

PALM SUNDAY OF THE PASSION OF THE LORD

7:30am Maria Ha Vo—D

9:00am Marcelino Perdido—D

11:00am OLG Community

1:00pm Ricardo Preciado—D

MONDAY, April 3rd

8:15am Raul Ortega—D

TUESDAY, April 4th

8:15am Mary Borges—D

WEDNESDAY, April 5th

8:15am Anty Zaldivar—D

THURSDAY, April 6th

HOLY THURSDAY

7:30pm *Evening Mass of the Lord's Supper***FRIDAY, April 7th**

GOOD FRIDAY

12 Noon Stations of the Cross

1:30pm *Liturgy of the Lord's Passion &*& 6:00pm *Veneration of the Cross-English*8:00pm *Liturgy of the Lord's Passion &
Veneration of the Cross-Spanish***SATURDAY, April 8th**

HOLY SATURDAY

7:45pm *The Great Easter Vigil***SUNDAY, April 9th**

EASTER SUNDAY OF THE RESURRECTION OF THE LORD

7:30am—9:00am—11:00am—1:00pm (Spanish)

READINGS FOR THE WEEK:**April 3rd through April 9th**

Monday: Isaiah 42:1-7; John 12:1-11

Tuesday: Isaiah 49:1-6; John 13:21-33,36-38

Wednesday: Isaiah 50:4-9; Matthew 26:14-25

Thursday: Isaiah 61:1-3,6,8-9; Revelations 1:5-8;
Luke 4:16-21Friday: Isaiah 52:13-53:12;
Hebrews 4:14-16;5:7-9;
John 18:1-19:42Saturday: Genesis 1:1-2:2; Genesis 22:1-18;
Exodus 14:15-15:1; Isaiah 54:5-14;
Isaiah 55:1-11; Baruch 3:9-15, 32-4:4;
Ezekiel 36:16-17a, 18-28; Romans 6:3-11;
Matthew 28:1-10Sunday: Acts 10:34,37-43; Colossians 3:1-4;
John 20:1-9**OLG EVANGELIZATION COORDINATOR
JOB POSTING**

Our Lady of Grace Parish is seeking a Coordinator to manage the K-5 Whole Family Programs. The Coordinator is responsible for developing curriculum consistent with the Diocesan guidelines. The Coordinator maintains the calendar of the program, recruits and supervises catechists and other volunteers, and communicates regularly with students, families, catechists and other volunteers. This is currently a part time position (18 hours per week) for 10 months of the year, starting August thru May. Qualifications include a Bachelor's Degree or equivalent, current Basic Catechist and at least two years of experience as a catechist in the area of responsibility. Please contact Colleen Lindberg in the Parish Office at clindberg@olgcv.org.

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.

Next Meeting: **April 6th**, 9:00am to 11:30am

Speaker: Donna Wright Somerville

Topic: *"The Power of a Home:
You Have a Gift to Give"*

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

**ICF 44TH ANNIVERSARY
DINNER CELEBRATION
April 22nd**

You are invited to celebrate the ICF Branch #343's 44th Anniversary at Terra Mia Restaurant at 4040 East Avenue in Livermore at 5:30pm. Join us for No-Host Cocktails, Dinner with choice of Salmone alla Piccata or Pollo Saltimbocca. Cost is \$65 per person. To reserve your seats by **April 3rd**, please visit: <https://olgcv.org/icf-branch-343-anniversary-dinner/> and print the flyer and complete the bottom portion. Grazie!

THANK THEM WITH YOUR SUPPORT

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