



Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

Today begins Holy Week. Today, we celebrate Palm Sunday of the Passion of The Lord when Jesus enters the city of Jerusalem. It leads us through the Last Supper and the crucifixion of the Lord and ends on Easter Sunday with the Lord's Resurrection. The Lord's love for us is reflected in every significant step toward the cross and the Lord's Resurrection.

Beginning on Palm Sunday and ending on Easter Sunday, during this whole week, we experience Jesus coming to earth to save humanity by dying on the cross on Good Friday and resurrecting on Easter Sunday. By enduring and defeating death, the gates of heaven are opened for us.

On Palm Sunday, Jesus rode into Jerusalem; palm branches were strewn in Jesus' path, as He rode into the city. Then the emotions of the people changed calling for Jesus to be put to death. Please call to mind that every step toward the cross was intentional, every lesson filled with His personal love for all of us.

On Holy Thursday, Jesus and His disciples shared the Last Supper. Jesus washed the feet of His disciples. At this meal, the Lord took the bread and wine, blessed these simple gifts and shared them with his disciples. The Eucharist was instituted. The Lord's love for us is reflected in every significant step toward the cross and the Lord's Resurrection.

On Good Friday, the last day of Jesus' life on earth before His resurrection is celebrated. He was arrested and condemned to death. He carried His own cross to the place where He was crucified and died. There, Jesus cried out "Father, into your hands I commit my spirit," and died. The Lord's love for us is reflected in every significant step toward the cross and the Lord's Resurrection.

Holy Saturday offers us time to be present to the Lord. It is quiet time when we are able to come before the Lord just to be with Him. The Lord's love for us is reflected in every significant step toward the cross and the Lord's Resurrection.

Beginning at nightfall on Holy Saturday, the Easter Vigil – or the "Great Vigil" is celebrated. It is the high point of the Easter Triduum and of the entire liturgical year. It is when the Church keeps vigil at the tomb and rejoices with the arrival of Easter and Christ's Resurrection. The Lord's love for us is reflected in every significant step toward the cross and the Lord's Resurrection.

The Celebrations of the Sacred Triduum are rich with symbolism and flow from one to another in a seamless way. While it may appear as if these liturgies are separate and distinct, they are actually intended to be one continuous celebration that commemorates the passion, death and resurrection of Jesus. Plan to attend the entire Triduum.

-Fr. Raphael

Easter Sunday of the Resurrection of the Lord (March 31st)

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

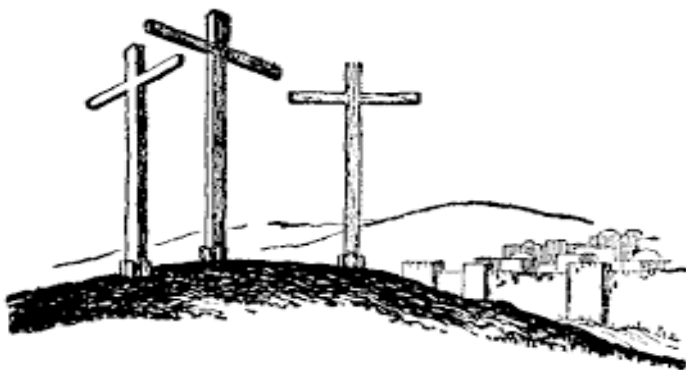
Monday-Wednesday, March 25th-27th at 8:15am
Lenten Wednesday Mass at 6:00pm

No Morning Masses

Thursday-Saturday, March 28th-30th

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
March 28th at 7:30pm

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

Good Friday

March 29th

Stations of the Cross
12 Noon in English

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

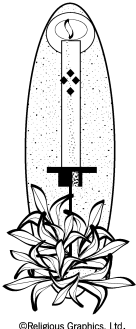
Holy Saturday

The Great Easter Vigil
March 30th at 8:00pm

Easter Sunday Masses

The Resurrection of Our Lord
March 31st

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 2024:

Alyssa Onaga

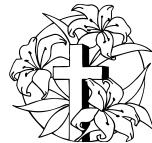
The Solemn Easter Vigil
Saturday, March 30th at 8:00pm
Our Lady of Grace Church

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 \$22,000. We are grateful for your help in accomplishing this goal. May God Bless you and your generosity!

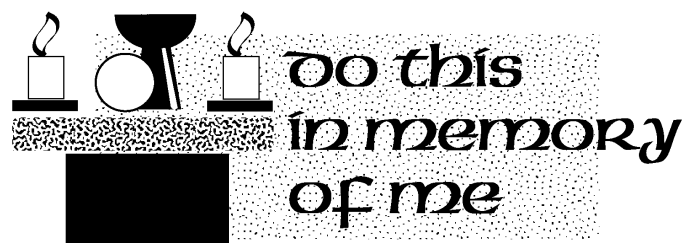


**EASTER MEMORIAL FLOWERS
OUR LADY OF GRACE TRADITION**

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.

HELP US DECORATE FOR EASTER

We will be readying the church for our Easter Services beginning at 9:00am on Saturday, March 30th. 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!



Enter into
the PASSION
and GLORY
of the LORD

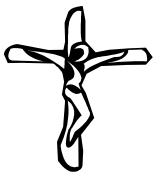


**PASSING OF LONG-TIME
PARISHIONER MIKE MIRAGLIA**

We are saddened by the passing of our dear friend Mike Miraglia. Mike was a true servant of Christ and always looked out for the good of his community. Our deepest condolences to his wife Cheryl and their family. The Funeral Mass for Mike will be announced at a later date.

**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 is on **March 27th**. *We thank the Italian Catholic Federation for their hospitality.* Financial donations will also be accepted for CRS Rice Bowl.



STATIONS OF THE CROSS

Stations of the Cross is offered in English at 12 Noon on Good Friday, March 29th.

FORMED 40 DAYS OF LENT WITH
FORMED.ORG

The Passion of the Christ by Dr. Elizabeth Klein
<https://watch.formed.org/lent/videos/the-passion-of-christ-with-dr-elizabeth-klein>

Join Dr. Elizabeth Klein as she reflects on Christ's passion by exploring the meaning of the phrase "handed over" in the Gospels and Paul's writings.

Holy Thursday: Catholic All Year
<https://watch.formed.org/videos/holy-thursday-catholic-all-year-at-home-w-kendra-tierney>

Gather your kids and observe both the happy (institution of the Eucharist and the sacramental priesthood) and sad (the beginning of Jesus' passion) aspects of the day with suggestions for family activities.

Be sure to check out other Lenten selections on our Parish website at www.olgcv.org. Click on "Formed" on the navigation bar.

Not a member yet? Register for free by visiting www.olgcv.formed.org and type in "Our Lady of Grace, Castro Valley, CA" to become a member.

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 FEBRUARY:

Sunday Plate for the month:	\$ 38,099.00
Month Budgeted Goal:	\$ 49,608.00
Over/[Shortfall]	\$ [11,509.00]
Year-To-Date Over/[Shortfall]	\$ [16,975.00]

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:

- | | |
|------------------|------------------|
| Jaime Arce | Diana Riley |
| Lois Belmessieri | Jenny Roberts |
| Jot Brown | Al Rojas |
| Raul Cepeda | Helen Star |
| Nancy French | Alyssia Tortora |
| Joan Gabrielli | James Van Wert |
| Brian Linney | Arthur Williams |
| Sheryl Michaud | Peggy Winkenbach |
| Julie Richardson | |



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

In Memorial

- SHIELA McALINDEN**
MIKE MIRAGLIA
JUDITH BRAGA

- VICTIMS OF VIOLENCE IN
THE MIDDLE EAST**
VICTIMS OF GUN VIOLENCE



**OLG LIONS AT THE LINKS
Charity Golf Tournament
Save the Date-May 13th**

Our Lady of Grace School will be hosting a golf tournament on Monday, **May 13th**. We invite you to support OLG, Castro Valley’s top performing school, as part of *OLG Lions at the Links* and receive great visibility for your business—help close the gap with our needs-based scholarship fund for our outstanding and deserving scholars! We would also love our community to join us out at the links—so register to play today!

For more details, to sponsor and to register, please scan the QR code. Register today before prices increase after April 15th.



Questions? Please email: ptg@olgschool.org

**OUR LADY OF GRACE
CATHOLIC SCHOOL NEWS
Did You Know??**



- Registration for the 2024-2025 school year is presently open at Our Lady of Grace Catholic School (**your Castro Valley Catholic School**). Please fill out an application at www.olgschool.org.
- Our Lady of Grace recently hosted representatives from the Western Association of Schools and Colleges (WASC) and the Western Catholic Educational Association (WCEA) for its’ regularly scheduled reaccreditation visit. We were pleased to receive the following summary at the conclusion of their visit:

The Visiting Committee observed that Our Lady of Grace Catholic School is a faith-filled, welcoming, and vibrant community anchored in the Core Values of Unity, Truth, and Love. Parents, faculty, staff, and students remarked that Our Lady of Grace Catholic School was their home and a place filled with academic rigor and support. This was extremely evident to the Visiting Committee in all of our interactions. The pastor, principal, faculty, staff, and parents are dedicated to their mission and the ministry of Catholic Education in the Diocese of Oakland.

MAXIMILIAN KOLBE QUOTE OF THE WEEK

“We can have difficulties, but the Immaculata, if she so wills, will triumph, as long as we for our part respond. And she can change even our misdeeds into greater good.....Let us be guided by the Immaculata always and in all things.”

THIS WEEK

Sunday, March 24th:

Palm Sunday of the Passion of the Lord

Hot Cross Buns
After the 9:00am, 11:00am & 1:00pm Masses
Gathering Area

1st Communion Class -Year 1
10:15am—Stack Center

Confirmation Class
12:15pm—Stack Center

Tuesday, March 26th:

Men’s Cursillo Meeting
6:00pm—Stack Center, OLG Room

Women’s Lenten Bible Study
7:00pm—Stack Center

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

Wednesday, March 27th:

Lenten Mass
6:00pm Mass—Church

Lenten Soup Meal
After the 6:00pm Mass—Stack Center

Thursday, March 28th:

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, March 29th:

Stations of the Cross (English)
12 Noon—Church

The Lord’s Passion
1:30pm & 8:00pm (English)
6:00pm (Spanish)—Church

Saturday, March 30th:

RCIA Retreat
9:00am—Church & Stack Center

Easter Vigil
8:00pm—Church

Sunday, March 31st:

Easter Sunday of the Resurrection of the Lord

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

Spanish Mass
1:00pm—Church

Mass Intentions for the Week

SUNDAY, March 24th

PALM SUNDAY OF THE PASSION OF THE LORD

- 7:30am OLG Community
- 9:00am Frank Lang – D
- 11:00am Ronald & Elizabeth Flormata
- 1:00pm Brenda Velez – L

MONDAY, March 25th

- 8:15am Leona Albano – D

TUESDAY, March 26th

- 8:15am Doug & Debbie Reetz & Family

WEDNESDAY, March 27th

- 8:15am Gladys & John Maher – L

THURSDAY, March 28th

HOLY THURSDAY

- 7:30pm *Evening Mass of the Lord's Supper*

FRIDAY, March 29th

GOOD FRIDAY

- 12 Noon Stations of the Cross
- 1:30pm *Liturgy of the Lord's Passion & 8:00pm Veneration of the Cross-English*
- 6:00pm *Liturgy of the Lord's Passion & Veneration of the Cross-Spanish*

SATURDAY, March 30th

HOLY SATURDAY

- 8:00pm *The Great Easter Vigil*

SUNDAY, March 31st

EASTER SUNDAY OF THE RESURRECTION OF THE LORD

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

READINGS FOR THE WEEK:

March 25th through March 31st

- 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 4:16-21
- Friday: Isaiah 52:13-53:12; Hebrews 4:14-16; 5:7-9; John 18:1-19:42
- Saturday: 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; Mark 16:1-7
- Sunday: Acts 10:34,37-43; Colossians 3:1-4; John 20:1-9

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. Our theme this year is *“Joy for the Journey: Rejoice in the Lord Always, Again I Say Rejoice.”*

Our meeting will be at the Transfiguration Church Hall.

Next Meeting: **April 4th**, 9:00am to 11:15am

Speaker: Lisa Northway

Topic: *“Radical Abundance: Letting Joy Take You to Your Peaceful Purpose”*

For further information or if you would like to attend, please contact: Carolyn Willkie at

willkiecarolyn@gmail.com.

PAX CHRISTI QUOTE OF THE WEEK

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

-St. Pope John Paul II, 2003

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

FAITH FORMATION CLASSES

Whole Family-Year 1

Next Class: April 7th
10:15am—Stack Center

Whole Family Program

Next Class: April 7th
10:15am—Augustine Center

First Communion-Year 2

Next Class: April 14th
10:15am—Retreat in Stack Center

Confirmation

Next Class: April 14th
12:15pm—Stack Center

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:

ST. JUDE CHILDREN'S RESEARCH HOSPITAL