



INTERESTED IN
RECEIVING BAPTISM, EUCHARIST AND CONFIRMATION IN THE CATHOLIC CHURCH? JOIN THE ORDER OF CHRISTIAN INITIATION OF ADULTS.

Are you interested in becoming a full, participating member in the Catholic Church? Do you know someone who is interested in becoming a full participating member in the Catholic Church? Anyone who is interested in becoming a full participating member in the Catholic Church, receiving the Sacraments of Baptism, Eucharist and Confirmation, consider being part of the *Order of Christian Initiation of Adults*. Sessions will begin late in September. The heart of the initiation process is conversion—conversion to Jesus Christ. Through these sessions, those seeking initiation in the Catholic Church, all who participate have the opportunity to get to know Jesus Christ, to believe the good news, and to put it into practice. The initiation process leads those being initiated to embrace a conversion, which nurtures a life-long journey of faith.

The Order of Christian Initiation of Adults provides a vision of the community walking with those seeking full membership in the Catholic Church as God awakens in them a desire for a faith relationship as their minds and hearts are opened to the workings of the Holy Spirit. Those immersed in this initiation process are drawn into the mystery of God's love. Such an invitation calls the candidate to turn away from sin and to lead a life worthy of a disciple of Christ. Those who enter into this initiation process become candidates for the Sacraments of Initiation. It is a time of evangelization. Hearing the good news, those involved in the process are invited to begin to look at their lives through in light of the basic Christian message found in Sacred Scripture. It is a time of formation. There is an apprenticeship in the Catholic way of life. The formation of this period occurs through a focus on the Church's liturgical calendar and the Sunday Lectionary, the readings for Mass. As the initiation process continues, the candidates, those who are counted among the elect, strengthen all that is upright, strong and good. This prepares those involved in the initiation process to receive the Sacraments of Baptism, Eucharist and Confirmation. Following the reception of the Sacraments of Initiation, those who have entered into full membership in the Catholic Church are given the opportunity to integrate what they have learned about our faith in the initiation process and be incorporated into life as a fully initiated Catholic.

Let's all walk in the footsteps of our Lord, Jesus Christ,

-Fr. Raphael



Be always open
to the Spirit

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The Twenty-Second Sunday in Ordinary Time (September 1st)

Mark 7:1-8, 14-15, 21-23

When the Pharisees with some scribes who had come from Jerusalem gathered around Jesus, they observed that some of his disciples ate their meals with unclean, that is, unwashed, hands.—For the Pharisees and, in fact, all Jews, do not eat without carefully washing their hands, keeping the tradition of the elders. And on coming from the marketplace they do not eat without purifying themselves. And there are many other things that they have traditionally observed, the purification of cups and jugs and kettles and beds. — So the Pharisees and scribes questioned him, "Why do your disciples not follow the tradition of the elders but instead eat a meal with unclean hands?" He responded, "Well did Isaiah prophesy about you hypocrites, as it is written: *This people honors me with their lips, but their hearts are far from me; in vain do they worship me, teaching as doctrines human precepts.* You disregard God's commandment but cling to human tradition." He summoned the crowd again and said to them, "Hear me, all of you, and understand. Nothing that enters one from outside can defile that person; but the things that come out from within are what defile. "From within people, from their hearts, come evil thoughts, unchastity, theft, murder, adultery, greed, malice, deceit, licentiousness, envy, blasphemy, arrogance, folly. All these evils come from within and they defile."

Rejoice
in the good news
of the Lord!

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**FAITH FORMATION
REGISTRATION
2024-2025**

**Classes Are Starting,
Register Today!**

Registration for 1st Communion, Confirmation and Whole Family 2024-2025 is open for children entering grades 1st-12th.

Online Registration and payment is available on our website at www.olgcv.org. On the homepage, scroll down and click on the 'Faith Formation' or 'Confirmation' box.

Registration forms are also available in the Parish Office. Please bring your payment of check or cash when registering in person.

Cost is \$120 per child and \$60 for each additional child in the same household. **Avoid the \$20 late fee by registering by September 15th.** If you are in need of financial assistance, please call the Parish Office at 510-537-0806.

OUR LADY OF GRACE 2024 HARVEST FESTIVAL
September 28th & 29th



Family Fun For All!

Free admission, Outdoor Sunday Morning Mass, Live Entertainment, Exciting Raffle, Carnival Games, International Gourmet Food, Pancake Breakfast, Pasta Dinner and more!

Volunteers Needed

Sign up for a timeslot and offer your time and talent to help make this year's Festival a memorable one for all! Please visit our website at www.olgcv.org and sign up by clicking on *2024 Fall Harvest Festival* on the homepage. Questions? Please email Kathleen Cande at kathycande@aol.com

Raffle Tickets

Be sure to return them to the Parish Office by **September 27th**. Donation is \$1 per ticket or \$20 for 21 tickets. You could win the Grand Prize of \$1000 or 2nd Prize of \$500! See the last page of the Bulletin for more details.

Game, Food Booth and Pancake Tickets

Purchase your tickets ahead of time and beat the long lines. Game and Food tickets are \$1 each and Pancake Breakfast tickets are \$10 per adult and \$7 per child. Please visit our website at www.olgcv.org and get your tickets by clicking on *2024 Fall Harvest Festival* on the homepage.

Become A Festival Sponsor

Consider being a Festival Sponsor-many generous individuals and businesses have sponsored the Festival in the past. Your Sponsorship will be acknowledged with a sign at the Festival as well as in our social media and Parish Bulletin. Please call the Parish Office for details at 510-537-0806.

Get Your Festival T-Shirts

Hurry before they run out! Cost is \$12 each child size and \$15 each adult size. Stop by the Parish Office to purchase or order online by visiting: <https://tinyurl.com/2024festivaltshirt>



**OUR LADY OF GRACE
IS ACCEPTING APPLICATIONS**



Our Lady of Grace School is accepting applications for the current school year. If you agree that individualized attention is a positive and is beneficial for your child's education, OLG Parish School is the school for your child(ren). We have an average of 1 to 15 teacher/student ration and we individualize instruction to optimize the learning experience of each student. Having your child(ren) at OLG School, we treat each student as unique and holy because each student is made in the image and likeness of God.

For information about OLG School, please go to the OLG School website: www.olgschool.org or call the School Office at 510-581-3155 and speak to the Principal, Dr. Gena McGowan. Why not arrange for an individual tour of the school!



**ST. VINCENT DE PAUL
MONTHLY DONATIONS
(August 24th & 25th)**

This weekend is the last weekend of the month and members of St. Vincent de Paul will be at the doors accepting donations for their work with the poor. We want to thank you for your continued support to make this ministry possible.



**CYO FALL SPORTS
2024-2025
Registration Closes
On September 1st**



Registration for Boys Basketball (Grades 2nd-8th) and Girls Volleyball (Grades 4th-8th) is open for students living within our parish boundaries. Space may be limited. Registration fee is \$220 plus the uniform fee. Sibling discount code for 15% off: SIBLING. **For more information and to register online, visit: www.olgcvcyo.com.**

JOIN THE OAKLAND CURSILLO!

Do you or someone you know need to reexamine your faith life? The answer—come join us for a Cursillo weekend and experience firsthand an authentic Christian Community. The weekend helps give you a better understanding of church teachings, and time to sort out your own feelings about your faith. New friendships are formed, and a great deal of learning takes place. During the 3 days, candidates listen to talks given by both lay people and clergy. Some of the topics discussed are: *Finding Your Life Mission; Recognizing God's Grace; Growing in Discipleship; and Shaping our World.* Location: St. Elizabeth Seton in Pleasanton. **Upcoming dates—Men's Cursillo: September 12th-15th and Women's Cursillo: September 19th-22nd.** Please contact Roberta Santiago at 510-733-5193 for Women's Cursillo or Ron Emory at 510 825-6677 for Men's Cursillo.

**WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDY &
FAITH SHARE
Beginning September 17th**



What does the Catholic Church teach about the end times? Is the idea of "the rapture" a Biblical concept? How does one read the Book of Revelation? Many Christians are unaware that the Catholic church has very explicit teachings about the Tribulation, the Antichrist, the Second Coming, and the New Creation.

Ladies, please join us for this 8-part video Bible study on *Jesus and the End Times* presented by Dr. Brant Pitre.

Dates: Tuesdays from September 17th to November 5th

Time: 7:00pm-8:30pm

Where: Stack Center – Room 7

If you have questions, please contact Heidi Denzler at 510-881-7850 or heidimdh106@gmail.com. You may also sign-up by contacting Jay in the Parish Office at 510-537-0806.

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 for the Month of JULY:

Sunday Plate for the month:	\$ 35,981.00
Month Budgeted Goal:	\$ 43,896.00
Over/[Shortfall]	\$ [7,915.00]
Year-To-Date Over/[Shortfall]	\$ 376.00

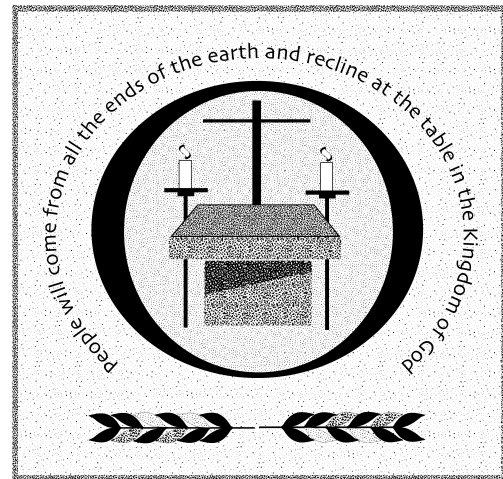
May God bless your continuing generosity.



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:

- | | |
|--------------------------|------------------|
| Esperanza Ortega Alarcón | Marisa Gonzalez |
| Susan Anderson | Brian Linney |
| Lois Belmessieri | Hector Paez |
| Jot Brown | Diana Riley |
| Brian Bucholtz | Al Rojas |
| Virginia Cabardo | Jill Stavosky |
| Norma Dockter | Lisa Tortora |
| Nancy French | Arthur Williams |
| Joan Gabrielli | Peggy Winkenbach |
| Maria C. Gallegos | |



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

In Memorial

JOHN SKIPPER

**VICTIMS OF VIOLENCE IN
THE MIDDLE EAST**

VICTIMS OF GUN VIOLENCE



**MANY MINISTRIES
ONE CHURCH**
BISHOP'S MINISTRIES APPEAL 2024

**2024 BISHOP'S
MINISTRIES APPEAL**

Many thanks to those parishioners who have already generously contributed towards our Bishop's Ministries Appeal. Following is the status of this appeal through **July 31st**:

Actual Donations Received:	\$23,809.00
Overall Goal for 2024:	\$29,000.00
# of Acknowledged Donors to date:	78
Funds Raised (includes pledges):	\$27,026.00

As school opens for the fall, so will the work of the Catholic Youth Organization (CYO). CYO is our diocesan ministry that fosters sportsmanship, learning and prayer. CYO is also funded by the annual Bishop's Ministries Appeal. Support the amazing work of CYO by supporting the Bishop's Ministries Appeal today.

It's the FINAL PUSH! We are currently at **82%** of our goal. Please use the envelopes provided in the pews or make your donation online by visiting:

<https://www.oakdiocese.org/bishops-ministries-appeal>.

We thank you for your generosity.



ICF'S BITES AND BINGO!

Branch #343 of the Italian Catholic Federation invite all parishioners for a fun afternoon of *Bites and Bingo* in Stack Center, **September 21st from 11:30am to 2:30pm**. There will be delicious Hors d' Oeuvres, Desserts and Drinks, followed by Bingo and a Raffle. Entry fee is \$30 per adult and \$15 per child. Bingo winners will win big money prizes and there will also be prizes for the kids! Please make your reservations by calling Lisa Crudo at 510-861-9835.

Bring Your Family Your Friends!



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, Room 7. Our next meeting will be on **September 7th**.

MAXIMILIAN KOLBE QUOTE OF THE WEEK

"The ideal of each [MI member] is to belong to the Immaculata, to be her servant, her child, her loving slave, her possession, her property, in other words to belong to her under any title that love toward her had contrived or will be ever capable of contriving, belonging to her in all ways throughout one's life, throughout death, and for all eternity."

THIS WEEK

Sunday, August 25th:

The Twenty-First Sunday in Ordinary Time

1st Communion Year 2 Class
10:15am—Stack Center

Confirmation Class
11:15am—Stack Center

Tuesday, August 27th:

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

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

Thursday, August 29th:

Adoration & Reconciliation
6:00pm—Church

AA Serenity Group
7:30pm—Stack Center, Room 9

Saturday, August 31st:

Adoration & Reconciliation
8:45am—Church

Sunday, September 1st:

The Twenty-Second Sunday in Ordinary Time

ST. VINCENT DE PAUL IS LOOKING FOR VOLUNTEERS

Every Sunday our St. Vincent de Paul team visits 9 to 10 homeless camps. Among other things, we provide hot meals which are prepared by a wonderful team of individual volunteers. We look for a one-container meal. We provide knives, forks, spoons, and plates and the members of the homeless community serve themselves out of the one pot. **We are always looking for volunteers to cook.** The largest meal we want would serve 10 to 12 and the smallest to serve one. (We often have individuals who live a short distance from each other but will not share the larger meals so the individual meals work well). The beauty of this ministry is the cooks can make whatever they want, in the size that they want, and we will be able to use it. In addition, we send out a sign-up sheet each month and you can sign up for a weekend when you want to cook. If plans change, we work around it. This meal is then dropped off in front of the Friary (school entrance) at 1:00pm. If you are interested in being on the mailing list, please contact Chris Ippolito at christineippolito@comcast.net.

Mass for the Intentions Week

SSUNDAY, August 25th
THE TWENTY-FIRST SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

7:30am OLG Community
9:00am Francisco & Manuel Jardim – D
11:00am Mary Fatima Chocha – L
1:00pm Martin Flores Martinez – D

MONDAY, August 26th

8:15am Teresa Ramos – D

TUESDAY, August 27th

St. Monica
8:15am Arcadio Morfin – D

WEDNESDAY, August 28th

St. Augustine, Bishop & Doctor of the Church
8:15am Agustin Ramos – D

THURSDAY, August 29th

The Passion of St. John the Baptist
8:15am Tiburcio Garcia – D

FRIDAY, August 30th

8:15am Gilberto C. Marquez – D

SATURDAY, August 31st

8:15am Eric Sicam – L
5:00pm Henriqueta Gomes – D

SUNDAY, September 1st

THE TWENTY-SECOND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

7:30am Arcadio Morfin – D
9:00am OLG Community
11:00am Martha Sanchez – D
1:00pm Rosa Martinez Reyes – D



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.

EXECUTION ALERTS

The following execution are scheduled to take place in August:

August 29th Loren Kenstley Cole Florida

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

READINGS FOR THE WEEK:
August 26th through September 1st

Monday: 2 Thessalonians 1:1-5, 11-12;
Matthew 23:13-22
Tuesday: 2 Thessalonians 2:1-3, 14-17;
Matthew 23:23-26
Wednesday: 2 Thessalonians 3:6-10, 16-18;
Matthew 23:27-32
Thursday: 1 Corinthians 1:1-9; Mark 6:17-29
Friday: 1 Corinthians 1:17-25;
Matthew 25:1-13
Saturday: 1 Corinthians 1:26-31;
Matthew 25:14-30
Sunday: Deuteronomy 4:1-2, 6-8;
James 1:17-18, 21-22, 27;
Mark 7:1-8, 14-15, 21-23



FLOWER REMEMBRANCE FUND

In Memory of Flower donation envelopes may be found at the entrances of the church to make a donation in memory of or in honor of a loved one or other occasion. If you have any questions, feel free to contact Jay at 510-537-0806. Your donation in honor of your loved one will be mentioned in the bulletin.

BOOKKEEPER WANTED

We are looking for a part-time Bookkeeper. Hours are flexible. If you are interested, please contact the Parish Office at 510-537-0806.

PAX CHRISTI QUOTE OF THE WEEK

"...the basic problem is not political, it is a-political and human. One of the most important things to do is to keep cutting deliberately through political lines and barriers and emphasizing the fact that these are largely fabrications and that there is another dimension, a genuine reality, totally opposed to the fictions of politics: the human dimension which politics pretend to arrogate entirely to themselves."

-Thomas Merton, 1983

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

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:

B.A. MORRISON