



My Brothers and Sisters in the Lord,

Preparing for the Solemnity of St. Francis, I thought it beneficial for us to spend some time reflecting upon St. Francis' life. St. Francis was born in 1182 in Assisi. He was the son of a prosperous cloth merchant, Pietro Bernadone. He had dreams of becoming a knight and gaining glory on the battlefield.

But shortly after riding off to fight against Perugia, a nearby town, he ended up in their prison, a broken and disillusioned young man. It was after his return from prison, and during the recovery that followed, that Francis' life was changed forever.

I'll be sharing with you a few of the special life experiences that took place in Francis' life. The first is when Francis came in contact with a leper. This made a profound difference in Francis' life. It was before Francis' conversion. Francis caught sight of a leper walking toward him. Francis approached the leper. Francis embraced him and kissed him. Francis then came to realize that he had actually embraced none other than his Lord, Jesus Christ.

Sometime later, Francis was praying alone in front of the crucifix in the abandoned chapel of San Damiano. While praying, Francis heard these words: "Francis, repair my house, which is falling into ruin." Christ was asking Francis to rebuild not only this chapel but THE CHURCH itself. As Francis was repairing the chapel, Francis was brought before the Bishop by his father. There, Francis gave back to his father all that he had taken including his clothes. Francis' heart overflowed with joy because His heavenly Father had set him free of all attachment to earthly things.

The bishop understood that Francis' actions were inspired by God. And, two years before his death, Francis was swept up into the mystery of God's overwhelming love for him and for all people. While Francis was praying, a seraph appeared. Francis rejoiced because of the gracious way Christ looked upon him under the appearance of a seraph. When the vision disappeared, imprints on Francis' body were markings that were no less marvelous than those of the Lord. These markings were the stigmata—the five wounds of Christ.

Finally, When Francis' days on earth were growing short, the saint instructed his brothers, "When I am dying, lay me naked on the ground . . . Francis' brothers honored his request. Then, as Francis fell asleep in the Lord, one of his brothers saw his soul under the appearance of a radiant star being carried aloft on a direct path into heaven.

These are just a few moments for us to look into St. Francis' life and prepare us for our celebration of The Solemnity of St. Francis, October 4th, here at Our Lady of Grace Church and Transfiguration Church.

Please join us in the Celebration of this Great Saint's Feast!

-Fr. Raphael



### The Twenty-Seventh Sunday in Ordinary Time (October 6th)

Mark 10:2-16

The Pharisees approached Jesus and asked, "Is it lawful for a husband to divorce his wife?" They were testing him. He said to them in reply, "What did Moses command you?" They replied, "Moses permitted a husband to write a bill of divorce and dismiss her." But Jesus told them, "Because of the hardness of your hearts he wrote you this commandment. But from the beginning of creation, *God made them male and female. For this reason a man shall leave his father and mother and be joined to his wife, and the two shall become one flesh.* So they are no longer two but one flesh. Therefore what God has joined together, no human being must separate." In the house the disciples again questioned Jesus about this. He said to them, "Whoever divorces his wife and marries another commits adultery against her; and if she divorces her husband and marries another, she commits adultery." And people were bringing children to him that he might touch them, but the disciples rebuked them. When Jesus saw this he became indignant and said to them, "Let the children come to me; do not prevent them, for the kingdom of God belongs to such as these. Amen, I say to you, whoever does not accept the kingdom of God like a child will not enter it." Then he embraced them and blessed them, placing his hands on them.

**OUR LADY OF GRACE 2024 HARVEST FESTIVAL**  
 Saturday, September 28th and Sunday, September 29th


**2024 FALL HARVEST FESTIVAL**  
**Family Fun For All!**

Join us on September 29th at 9:00am for the Outdoor Mass at the St. Francis Garden Chapel

**Let Us Entertain You!**  
**Sunday, September 29th**

9:00-10:00am	Outdoor Mass
10:30-11:30am	Enterado
1:00-2:00pm	Ballet Folklorico de Carlos Moreno
2:00-3:00pm	Castro Valley Performing Arts
4:30-5:50pm	Same Street Band
5:50-6:00pm	Raffle Drawing & Closing

**FESTIVAL PANCAKE BREAKFAST**  
**Stack Center**  
**September 29th at 8:30-11:00am**



Join us for a delicious breakfast of pancakes, scrambled eggs, sausage, fruit salad, coffee, tea and juice. Cost is \$10 per adult and \$7 per child (10 and under). Tickets will be sold at the door.

**SVdP'S ANNUAL FALL BINGO FUNDRAISER**  
**Transfiguration Church**



**Tickets Go On Sale Next Weekend!**

St. Vincent de Paul of OLG and Transfiguration Parishes together will be hosting a Fall BINGO Fundraiser on Saturday, **November 2nd at 5:00pm** for a pasta dinner, catered by Strizzi's, in Transfiguration Hall. Dinner Tickets are \$45 each. 50/50 Raffle tickets are \$5 each. Dinner tickets will be sold in OLG's Gathering Area after all the Masses in October, starting next weekend. Tickets are sold on a "1st come, 1st served" basis. If paying by check, please make it payable to "St. Vincent de Paul". Dinner tickets include a bingo card and a drawing for door prizes. Besides enjoying a delicious dinner, you might also be taking home one or more raffle prizes! 100% of the proceeds will go directly to helping people in need in our local community. Please join us and support this worthy event!

**YEARLY MASS ATTENDANCE COUNTING**

October is a very important month for our Church. Beginning on October 6th at each of the weekend Masses, there will be ushers walking down the side aisles counting the number of parishioners present at the Masses. These numbers will be submitted to the Diocese of Oakland. Let us take this opportunity to invite friends and to bring your entire family to OLG to worship.



**THE SOLEMNITY OF ST. FRANCIS OF ASSISI**

**Thursday, October 3rd**  
 Join us at Our Lady of Grace at 7:30pm for the *Transitus of St. Francis*, remembering the passing of St. Francis from life through death to eternal life.



**Friday, October 4th**  
 We celebrate the *Solemnity of St. Francis* at 11:30am at Our Lady of Grace (School liturgy) and at 7:30pm at Transfiguration. OLG's Latin Mass will be at 7:00pm. **There will be no 8:15am Mass and Benediction.**

**Saturday, October 5th & Sunday, October 6th**  
 Bring your well socialized pet and join us for *The Blessing of the Animals* on October 5th at 11:00am at OLG's Gathering Area and on October 6th at 2:00pm at Transfiguration.

**DINNER WITH THE FRANCISCANS**  
**Save the Date—November 9th**  
**Stack Center at 6:00pm**



Planning for the celebration of the **43rd Year of the Province of St. Joseph of Cupertino** is underway! Make plans to dine and enjoy an evening with our Franciscans as we raise funds supporting the Franciscan Seminarians. Enjoy a delicious dinner by Star Catering, Wine and Beverages, Silent Auction and 50/50 Raffle! *We thank the Knights of Columbus for organizing this yearly event.*

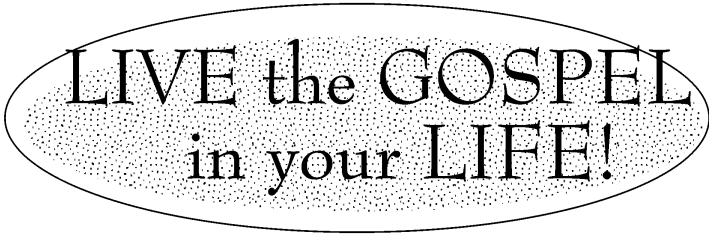
**Cost is \$40 per person.** Scan the QR code to purchase your tickets. Tickets are also sold at the Parish Office and by visiting the homepage of our website at [www.olgcv.org](http://www.olgcv.org).



**THE Catholic VOICE**

**CATHOLIC VOICE ANNUAL APPEAL**  
**Next Weekend**  
**October 5th & 6th**

This annual appeal helps our Diocese offset its payment for this important communication ministry. The Voice is the only regular source of Catholic news and information delivered to all parishioners in the diocese. We thank you for your support. **Checks may be made payable to the "Roman Catholic Bishop of Oakland"**. Envelopes will be in the pews for your use. Thank you for your generosity!



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**ST. VINCENT DE PAUL IS ASKING FOR HELP**



**Cooking For Sunday Meals**

Every Sunday our St. Vincent de Paul team visits 9 to 10 homeless camps. **We are always looking for volunteers to cook a one-container meal of 10 to 12 servings.** *We thank those who have assisted with a meal already!* You may drop off your container in front of the Friary (school entrance on Anita Avenue) at 1:00pm. If you are interested in being on the mailing list, please contact Chris Ippolito at [christineippolito@comcast.net](mailto:christineippolito@comcast.net).

**Donations of Hygienic Items**

St. Vincent de Paul will continue taking donations of **hygiene items** for the month of October. *Thank you to those who have given already!* Any small to medium sizes that can be used for our single folks and couples would be greatly appreciated. There will be bins at the Somerset and parking lot sides of the church and also a bin in the Parish Office. May God bless you for your continued support. If you have any questions, please contact Heidi at [svdp@olgcv.org](mailto:svdp@olgcv.org) or 510-881-7850.



**OCIA (Formerly Known as RCIA) Order of Christian Initiation of Adults**

Our OCIA program invites all who are interested in knowing more about the Catholic faith or is seeking full initiation into the Church. Our 2024-2025 program will begin on **October 9th** (6:30-8:00pm) in the Parish Office. Classes will be held every Wednesday evening. To register, please call the Parish Office at 510-537-0806.



**ALTAR CANDLE MEMORIALS**

We are looking to have 6 monthly sponsors for our Altar Candles and ask for a donation of \$20 to cover the cost of the candles for the month. Our donors will be recognized in the 1st bulletin of the month and there will be a monthly Mass offered for the intention of our Candle Memorial. Many blessed thanks for those who have donated. For more information, please call 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 AUGUST:**

Sunday Plate for the month:	\$ 36,950.00
<b>Month Budgeted Goal:</b>	<b>\$ 37,348.00</b>
Over/[Shortfall]	\$ [397.00]
Year-To-Date Over/[Shortfall]	\$ [2,852.00]

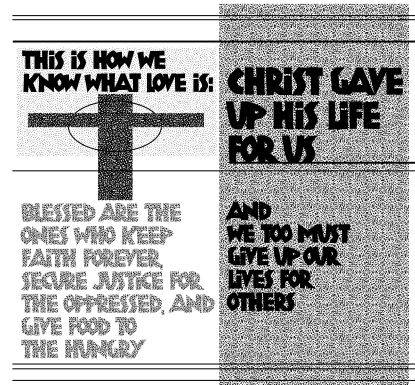
*May God bless your continuing generosity.*



**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 | Joanna Luz       |
| Susan Anderson           | Cheryl Miraglia  |
| Lois Belmessieri         | Hector Paez      |
| Jot Brown                | Diana Riley      |
| Brian Bucholtz           | Larry Salas      |
| Norma Dockter            | Jill Stavosky    |
| Nancy French             | Lisa Tortora     |
| Joan Gabrielli           | Arthur Williams  |
| Maria C. Gallegos        | Peggy Winkenbach |
| Brian Linney             |                  |



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

**In Memorial**

**MARGARET DEADDER**

**JOYCE STEINER**

**VICTIMS OF VIOLENCE IN THE MIDDLE EAST**

**VICTIMS OF GUN VIOLENCE**





**2024 BISHOP'S  
MINISTRIES APPEAL**

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

*We have achieved 121% of our yearly goal! Thank you all who have given so generously!* If you have not yet to given towards the Bishop's Ministries Appeal, it is not too late. Please visit <https://www.oakdiocese.org/bishops-ministries-appeal> to make your donation online. God Bless!

Actual Donations Received:	<b>\$32,207.00</b>
Overall Goal for 2024:	<b>\$29,000.00</b>
# of Gifts Received:	<b>106</b>
Funds Raised (includes pledges):	<b>\$35,127.00</b>

We thank you for your generosity.



**COFFEE AND DONUTS  
October 6th**

Come join us! All are invited after the 9:00am Sunday Mass on **October 6th** in the Gathering Area for coffee, donuts and community. We thank the Knights of Columbus for this ministry of hospitality. See you there!

**NO ADORATION &  
RECONCILIATION**

On Thursday, **October 3rd** there will be no Adoration and Reconciliation due the Transitus of St. Francis at 7:30pm. We thank you for your understanding.



**COME VISIT OUR  
PRAYER GARDEN**

We welcome all parishioners who seek a bit of time away from the hustle and bustle for prayer and spiritual reflection in our lovely Prayer Garden, located between the Parish Office and the rear entrance to the church. Come to the Parish Office during our business hours so Jay may let you in.

**MAXIMILIAN KOLBE QUOTE OF THE WEEK**

*"Through the Immaculata to the Divine Heart of Jesus: that is our essential feature, that is, as instruments in her hand.... We want to radiate the Immaculata to the point of being able to attract to her even the souls of others, indeed of all those who exist now, who will exist, and may exist in the future, without any limitation."*

**THIS WEEK**

*Sunday, September 29th:*

*The Twenty-Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time*

**Outdoor Mass**  
9:00am—St. Francis Garden Chapel

**Parish Festival**  
10:00am—Rear Parking Lot

*Tuesday, October 1st:*

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

Women's Bible Study  
7:00pm—Stack Center

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

*Wednesday, October 2nd:*

Pre-Baptism Class  
7:00pm—Stack Center, OLG Room

*Thursday, October 3rd:*

Transitus of St. Francis  
7:30pm—Church

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

*Friday, October 4th:*

Solemnity of St. Francis (School Liturgy)  
11:30am —Church

1st Friday Latin Mass  
7:00pm —Church

*Saturday, October 5th:*

Adoration & Reconciliation  
8:45am—Church

Militia Immaculata Meeting  
10:00am—Stack Center, Room 7

Blessing of the Animals  
11:00am—Gathering Area

*Sunday, October 6th:*

*The Twenty-Seventh Sunday in Ordinary Time*

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

Whole Family Class  
10:15am—Augustine Center

Confirmation Class  
11:15am—Stack Center

# Mass Intentions for the Week



**SUNDAY, September 29th**  
THE TWENTY-SIXTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

7:30am Maria Villaseñor – D  
9:00am OLG Community  
11:00am Bob & Lisa Rosenbusch & Family  
1:00pm Mariano Navarro Sanchez – D

**MONDAY, September 30th**  
St. Jerome, Priest & Doctor of the Church

8:15am Ron Joseph Flormata – D

**TUESDAY, October 1st**  
St. Thérèse of the Child Jesus, Virgin & Doctor of the Church

8:15am Manuel & Dorothy Callier – D

**WEDNESDAY, October 2nd**  
The Holy Guardian Angels

8:15am Alejandro Porcuna Jr. – D

**THURSDAY, October 3rd**  
8:15am Carlo P. Barroso – L

**FRIDAY, October 4th**  
St. Francis of Assisi  
11:30am Augusto & Edwina Silva – D

**SATURDAY, October 5th**  
St. Faustina Kowalska, Virgin  
Blessed Francis Xavier Seelos, Priest

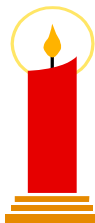
8:15am Alberto Reveles – D  
5:00pm Joe Silva – D

**SUNDAY, October 6th**  
THE TWENTY-SEVENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

7:30am Nora Hassett – D  
9:00am Aster Lim – D  
11:00am OLG Community  
1:00pm Rosa Martinez Reyes – D

**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 slot, located at the candle stand.



**RELEVANT RADIO - 1260 AM**



Relevant Radio brings you the best in Catholic Radio 24/7! Playing on 1260AM and dedicated to sharing the heart of the Catholic Faith and changing lives.

**READINGS FOR THE WEEK:**  
September 30th through October 6th

Monday: Job 1:6-22; Luke 9:46-50  
Tuesday: Job 3:1-3, 11-17, 20-23; Luke 9:51-56  
Wednesday: Job 9:1-12, 14-16; Matthew 18:1-5, 10  
Thursday: Job 19:21-27; Luke 10:1-12  
Friday: Job 38:1,12-21; 40:3-5; Luke 10:13-16  
Saturday: Job 42:1-3, 5-6, 12-17; Luke 10:17-24  
Sunday: Genesis 2:18-24; Hebrews 2:9-11; Mark 10:2-16



his WORD and gospel  
are our light

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**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 *"Cultivating Peace in a Chaotic World...And Let It Begin With Me"*

Our meetings are held at the Transfiguration Church Hall.

Next Meeting: **October 3rd**, 9:00am to 11:15am

Speaker: Sister Rosheen Glennon CSJ

Topic: *"From Chaos to Caring"*

For further information or if you would like to attend, please contact: Carolyn Willkie at [willkiecarolyn@gmail.com](mailto:willkiecarolyn@gmail.com).

**PAX CHRISTI QUOTE OF THE WEEK**

*"No one walks so safely as one who walks humbly and harmlessly with great love and great faith. For such a person gets through to the good in others (and there is good in everyone), and therefore cannot be harmed. This works between individuals, it works between groups and it would work between nations if nations had the courage to try it."*

-Peace Pilgrim

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:

**IRON HORSE REAL ESTATE**