



Dear Sisters and Brothers in the Lord,

### **MINISTRIES OF HOPE**

**GOAL FOR OUR LADY OF GRACE CHURCH—\$29,000.00**

The official start of the 2025 begins next weekend, March 29th and 30th. The Diocese of Oakland has created "*Ministries of Hope*" as the theme for the 2025 Bishop's Ministries Appeal. This theme reflects our commitment to serve as living witnesses of Christ's love to the members of our community here in the Diocese of Oakland. The focus of this year's theme embodies the virtue of hope and demonstrates how our collective faith can and does transform lives locally and throughout the Diocese by providing actions and services which are both tangible and meaningful. As the Appeal begins next weekend, our participation allows the Diocesan Community to extend Christ's love to those seeking comfort, guidance, and support. More than 70 vital programs here within the Diocese serve as beacons of hope.

The ministries assisted by our contributions to the Bishop's Ministries Appeal provide essential assistance and spiritual nourishment to all who seek it. These initiatives include Faith formation programs inspiring youth to deepen their relationship with Christ, Support services for families struggling with daily challenges, Resources for clergy development and retirement care and Assistance for parishes and schools serving communities in need.

At the heart of our mission is the divine promise of redemption through Christ, which inspires our ministry of hope and healing. As we look toward the future, our work aligns with the Year of Jubilee, emphasizing renewal, reconciliation, and restoration within our communities. Your participation in the Bishop's Ministries Appeal strengthens our ability to serve as instruments of God's mercy and grace and helps build a foundation of hope for thousands within our Diocese.

As we continue to journey through the Season of Lent, consider what you might be able to offer in support of the 2025 Bishop's Ministries Appeal. Pray over what might be your personal commitment in support of Ministries of Hope. Our parish goal is \$29,000.00.

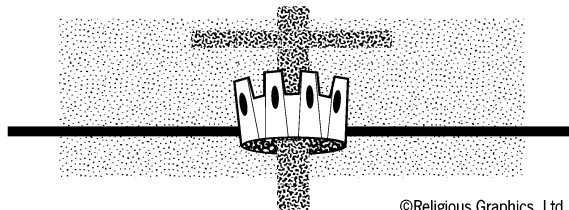
God bless you today for what you will be able to do next weekend as the Diocese and, in a special way, we here at Our Lady of Grace Church, kick off this year's 2025 Appeal! Support *Ministries of Hope*!

You are invited to donate online by visiting: [www.oakdiocese.org/bishops-ministries-appeal](http://www.oakdiocese.org/bishops-ministries-appeal)

-Fr. Raphael

### **Bishop's Ministries Appeal Prayer**

*Loving and merciful God, we are your family, brothers and sisters entrusted with the mission of your Church in the Diocese of Oakland. We call upon our blessed Mother, Queen of the World and patroness of our Diocese, to guide us as a people committed to serving the needs of all God's people, to tend the flock entrusted to our care. Look upon us, loving Shepherd, the sheep you have redeemed by your Precious Blood. We offer you our grateful prayer and ask your blessing on all our endeavors. Amen.*



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**The Fourth Sunday of Lent (March 30th)**

**Luke 15:1-3, 11-32**

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



MINISTRIES of  
**HOPE**  
2025 BISHOP'S MINISTRIES APPEAL

**2025 BISHOP'S APPEAL KICK-OFF!**  
**Join us for Coffee & Donuts on March 30th**

You are invited to join us as we Kick-off the 2025 Bishop Ministries Appeal with fellow parishioners. We will have Coffee and Donuts in Stack Center after the 7:30am and 9:00 am Masses on **March 30th**. We thank the Italian Catholic Federation for their hospitality. 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 is on **March 26th**. *We thank the Our Lady of Grace School for their hospitality for this meal.* Financial donations will be accepted for CRS Rice Bowl.



**LENTEN FISH FRY**  
**Save the Date**

Join us on **April 11th** before or after Stations of the Cross for a delicious Fish Fry in Stack Center at 5:30pm. We thank the Knights of Columbus for hosting this event!

**More details to come!**

**STATIONS OF THE CROSS**  
**English & Spanish**  
**March 28th**



Evening Stations in English begins at 6:00pm and in Spanish at 6:45pm. *Due to the school's Fun Run, there will be no Stations in the afternoon.*

**CATHOLIC RELIEF SERVICES**  
**BISHOP'S OVERSEAS APPEAL**  
**MARCH 22ND & 23RD**



This weekend we take up The Catholic Relief Services Collection to **reveal Christ's love** to our brothers and sisters in need. This collection makes grants to six Catholic agencies that provide relief and support for struggling communities and work for peace and reconciliation among our marginalized brothers and sister, both here and around the world. Please prayerfully consider how you can support the collection. Learn more about the collection at [www.ucsccb.org/catholic-relief](http://www.ucsccb.org/catholic-relief).



**MAKE THIS LENT**  
**MORE MEANINGFUL**

**Walking with Mary to Jerusalem**  
**with Fr. Toups**

We invite you to join us on a Lenten journey as we share weekly videos from Fr. Mark Toups each Monday via Flocknote during Lent. The Women's Faith Share meets on Tuesdays at 7:00pm in Stack Center, walking along side Mary to journey together cultivating a deeper attentiveness to Christ.

**DO NOT BE AFRAID OF RECONCILIATION**

During the Lenten season, Reconciliation and Adoration is available every Thursday at 6:00pm and Saturday at 9:00am, after the 8:15am Mass.

**FORMED** 40 DAYS OF LENT WITH  
**FORMED.ORG**

***Lent & New Life in Christ: The Gift of Grace & Almsgiving***

<https://watch.formed.org/lent/videos/lent-and-new-life-in-christ-the-gift-of-grace-almgiving>

This video invites you to join Dr. Michael Barber of the Augustine Institute as he discusses the transformative power of grace and almsgiving.

***Walking with Jesus: The Rosary Prayers in Song***

<https://watch.formed.org/lent/videos/walking-with-jesus-the-rosary-prayers-in-song>

Gather your kids and let your hearts be filled with the joy of God's wonderful love as you and your young ones listen to these powerfully moving songs depicting the life, death, Resurrection, and glory of His Son through the prayers of the Rosary.

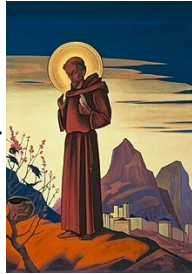
Not a member yet? Register for free by visiting [www.olgcv.formed.org](http://www.olgcv.formed.org) and type in "Our Lady of Grace, Castro Valley, CA" to become a member.



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**SUPPORT THE VIVA FRANCIS FOUNDATION**

The Viva Francis Foundation is devoted to the growth and development of the Franciscan mission by assisting the Conventual Franciscan Friars in their ministries. Generous gifts from those who have witnessed and worked with the friars have made it possible to support the students in formation and the older friars that now need more living assistance. **To make your donation, please visit: <https://vivafrancis.org/>**



On behalf of the Friars and the Viva Francis Foundation, we are eternally grateful for any financial or prayerful support you can provide to help support the Community and their efforts.



**DAY WITH THE FRIARS  
April 5th**

Have you ever considered religious life? Do you have questions on who or what a Franciscan is? If you are a single, Catholic man between the ages of 18-40, consider spending a day with the Conventual Franciscans of St. Joseph of Cupertino Province on April 5th, 10am-4pm. Join us at St. Joseph Cupertino Friary at 19697 Redwood Road in Castro Valley.

Scan the QR code to register.  
**RSVP by April 3rd.**



**PRE-BAPTISM CLASS  
FOR PARENTS & GODPARENTS**

If you are wishing to have your child baptized, ages infant to six years, 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. Our next class will be held on **April 2nd** in Stack Center, OLG Room at 7:00pm. Please call Jay at 510-537-0806 to register.



**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 FEBRUARY:**

Sunday Plate for the month:	\$ 47,568.00
<b>Month Budgeted Goal:</b>	<b>\$ 39,474.00</b>
Over/[Shortfall]	\$ 8,094.00
<b>Year-To-Date Over/[Shortfall]</b>	<b>\$ 10,186.00</b>

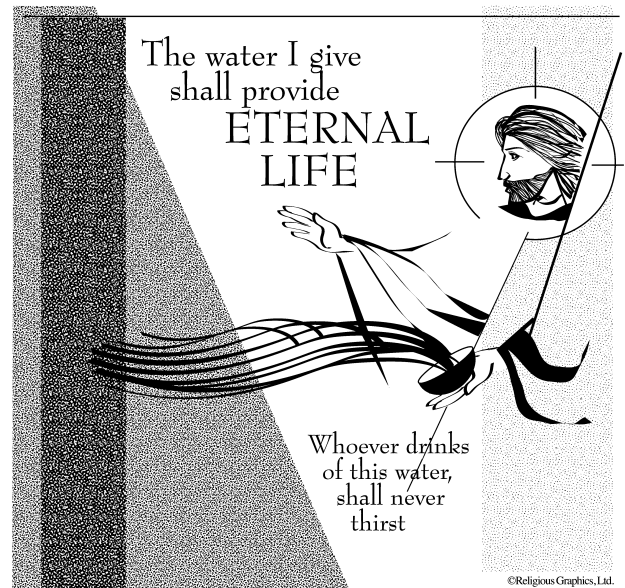
*May God bless your continuing generosity.*



**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 | Maria C. Gallegos |
| Wayne Blackard           | Joan Gabrielli    |
| Jeff Brown               | Brian Linney      |
| Jot Brown                | Maria Mella       |
| Maria Corazon Ocampo     | Hector Paez       |
| Sean Deorsey             | Lisa Tortora      |
| Norma Dockter            | Peggy Winkenbach  |
| Trish Ferrari            |                   |

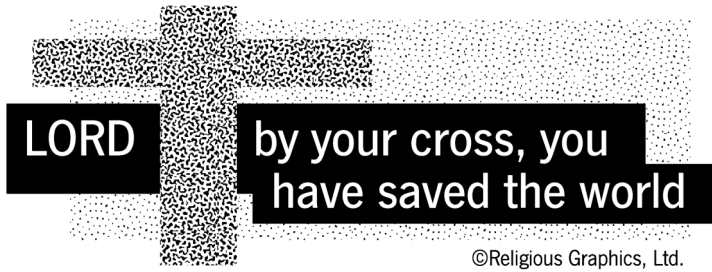


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*Please remember in your prayers the recently deceased in our parish families and all who mourn the loss of a loved one.*

**In Memorial**

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



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**PRAYER SHAWL MINISTRY**

Prayer shawls are universal and embracing, they comfort and enfold, wrap and warm, shelter and embrace. Our prayer shawls are knit with love and are blessed. If you have a loved one who is in need and would like to give them this gift of prayer, you are welcome to pick one up at the Parish Office.

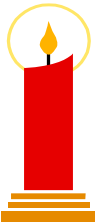


Prayer Shawl Ministry



**YEARLY CONTRIBUTION STATEMENTS**

For your convenience in preparing your tax return, a contribution statement for 2024 will be prepared at your request. Please phone Jay 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.



**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.

**ROSARY BEFORE MASS**

Come join in prayer of the Rosary 30 minutes before each of the weekend liturgies. Pray for our Parish. All are welcome!



**MAXIMILIAN KOLBE QUOTE OF THE WEEK**

*“We emulate good, righteous, holy people yet none of them is flawless. Only she, without stain of sin from the first instant of her existence, knows no fall, even the slightest. To imitate [the Immaculata], therefore, to draw near to her, to offer oneself up as property of her, to become her: that is the pinnacle of human perfection.”*

**THIS WEEK**

**Sunday, March 23rd:**

*The Third Sunday of Lent*

Whole Family Class – Year 1  
10:15am—Stack Center

Confirmation-Discipleship Conferences  
Stack Center

**Tuesday, March 25th:**

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

Women’s Lenten Faith Share  
7:00pm—Stack Center

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

**Wednesday, March 26th:**

Lenten Mass  
6:00pm—Church

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

**Thursday, March 27th:**

Adoration & Reconciliation  
6:00pm—Church

Knights of Columbus Meeting  
6:30pm—Stack Center, OLG Room

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

**Friday, March 28th:**

Stations of the Cross  
6:00pm (English) & 6:45pm (Spanish)

**Saturday, March 29th:**

Adoration & Reconciliation  
8:45am—Church

**Sunday, March 30th:**

*The Fourth Sunday of Lent*

Coffee & Donuts  
After the 7:30am & 9:00am Masses  
Gathering Area



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# Mass Intentions for the Week

**SUNDAY, March 23rd**

THE THIRD SUNDAY OF LENT

- 7:30am OLG Community
- 9:00am Rafael Alvarado – D
- 11:00am Maria F. Jardim – D
- 1:00pm Brenda Velez – L

**MONDAY, March 24th**

- 8:15am Jose Rogelio Duarte – D

**TUESDAY, March 25th**

THE ANNUNCIATION OF THE LORD

- 8:15am Reggie Martin – D

**WEDNESDAY, March 26th**

- 8:15am Rosa Martinez Reyes – D
- 6:00pm George & Emma Kreutzer – D

**THURSDAY, March 27th**

- 8:15am Katherine & Jules Ferreira – D

**FRIDAY, March 28th**

- 8:15am Ray Stavosky – D

**SATURDAY, March 29th**

- 8:15am Rosa Martinez Reyes – D
- 5:00pm Sheila Holmes – D

**SUNDAY, March 30th**

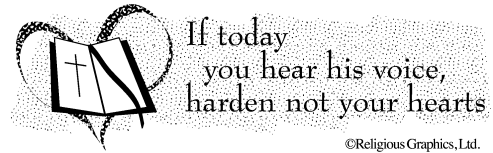
THE FOURTH SUNDAY OF LENT

- 7:30am OLG Community
- 9:00am Frank Lang – D
- 11:00am Manuel Jardim – D
- 1:00pm Raul Anselmo Ortega – D



**READINGS FOR THE WEEK:  
March 24th through March 30th**

- Monday: 2 Kings 5:1-15; Luke 4:24-30
- Tuesday: Isaiah 7:10-14; 8:10; Hebrews 10:4-10; Luke 1:26-38
- 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: Joshua 5:9-12; 2 Corinthians 5:17-21; Luke 15:1-3,11-32



**DID YOU KNOW???**

Our church has wonderful, hardworking volunteers who clean and set up our pews each week with missalettes, song books and envelopes each week for our Masses. We are grateful for their years of service in doing this!



**FLOWER REMEMBRANCE FUND**

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.



**PAX CHRISTI QUOTE OF THE WEEK**

*“Peace in our homes, our families, our schools and communities. Peace in all those places where war never seems to end. Peace for those faces which have known nothing by pain.”*

-Pope Francis, 2015

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

**FR. RAY MALLET’S PILGRIMAGE TO SPAIN  
Spring 2026**

Fr. Ray will be leading a pilgrimage to Spain from **March 10th-19th**, in celebration of his 50th Anniversary of his Ordination to the Priesthood. For more details and to enroll, please email Fr. Ray at [rmallett1@hotmail.com](mailto:rmallett1@hotmail.com).

**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**