OUR LADY OF GRACE CATHOLIC CHURCH

3433 Somerset Avenue, Castro Valley, CA 94546 510-537-0806 www.olgcv.org



MASSES:

Saturday: Vigil Mass 5:00pm Sunday: 7:30, 9:00 & 11:00am Spanish Mass: 1:00pm **Weekdays:** Monday-Friday 7:00am Holy Family Friary, 19697 Redwood Rd., C.V. Monday-Saturday 8:15am in the Church

PARISH:

Email: parish@olgcv.org

Office Hours: Monday-Friday, 8:30am-4:30pm

Staffed by the Conventual Franciscans:

Fr. Raphael Zwolenkiewicz, OFM Conv., Pastor

Fr. Luke Vu, OFM Conv., Parochial Vicar

Fr. Kevin Schindler-McGraw, OFM Conv., Parochial Vicar

Fr. Paul Fazio, OFM Conv., In Residence

Parish Registration, Baptism, Marriage, and Sacramental Preparation for Adults:

Please contact Parish Office for information.

Secretary: Jay Aquitania

Business Manager: Sharon Sangco

EUCHARISTIC ADORATION: CHURCH

Saturday: Following the 8:15 Mass

Thursday: 6:00-7:00pm **CONFESSIONS:**

During Eucharistic Adoration or by appointment

WHOLE FAMILY FAITH PROGRAM: 510-582-9266

Religious Ed. Coordinator: Roberta Santiago

Email: roberta.santiago@olgcv.org

Confirmation Coordinator: Leeanne Thomas

Email: leeanne.thomas@olgcv.org

PASTORAL CARE FOR THE SICK: 537-0806 SCHOOL:

Phone: 510-581-3155

Website: www.olgschool.org

Principal: Dr. Eugenia "Gena" McGowan

Mission Statement

We, the Catholic community of Our Lady of Grace, endeavor to live our faith grounded in Jesus Christ, celebrating His presence in Word, Sacrament and shared experiences.

Dear Sisters and Brothers in the Lord,

The Exaltation of the Holy Cross

The one symbol most often identified with Jesus and his Church is the cross. This Sunday, September 14th, we celebrate The Feast of The Exaltation of the Holy Cross. For many, the cross is seen as a sign of suffering, but by Christ's love shown in the Paschal Mystery, the cross has become for us a sign of triumph and victory, the sign of God, who is love itself.

We often make the Sign of the Cross over ourselves. We make it before prayer to help fix our minds and hearts on God. We make it after prayer, hoping to stay close to God. At Baptism, the celebrant, parents, and godparents make the sign on the forehead of the baptized as a visible sign that they have been claimed by Christ. So, please look to the cross often. Make the Sign of the Cross reverently.

As you make the sign of the cross keep in mind that we bring our whole selves to God—our minds, souls, bodies, wills, thoughts, hearts—everything we are and will become. Entrust yourself to the Lord who suffered and died upon the cross for us and our salvation.

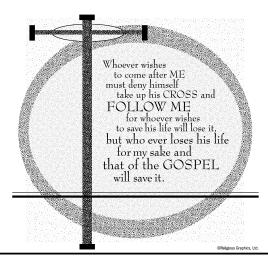
And finally, looking at the cross, let us respond to the invitation "Come, let us worship." Looking to the cross of Our Lord Jesus Christ let us hear the echoing of these words...

"Bless us who find salvation in the cross of Christ. May we always recognize His glory. We ask this through Christ, crucified and exalted, who is Lord forever and ever. Amen."

-Fr. Raphael

From the

Paster



The Twenty-Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time (September 21st)

Luke16:1-13

Jesus said to his disciples, "A rich man had a steward who was reported to him for squandering his property. He summoned him and said, 'What is this I hear about you? Prepare a full account of your stewardship, because you can no longer be my steward.' The steward said to himself, 'What shall I do, now that my master is taking the position of steward away from me? I am not strong enough to dig and I am ashamed to beg. I know what I shall do so that, when I am removed from the stewardship, they may welcome me into their homes.' He called in his master's debtors one by one. To the first he said, 'How much do you owe my master?' He replied, 'One hundred measures of olive oil.' He said to him, 'Here is your promissory note. Sit down and quickly write one for fifty.' Then to another the steward said, 'And you, how much do you owe?' He replied, 'One hundred kors of wheat.' The steward said to him, 'Here is your promissory note; write one for eighty.' And the master commended that dishonest steward for acting prudently. "For the children of this world are more prudent in dealing with their own generation than are the children of light. I tell you, make friends for yourselves with dishonest wealth, so that when it fails, you will be welcomed into eternal dwellings. The person who is trustworthy in very small matters is also trustworthy in great ones; and the person who is dishonest in very small matters is also dishonest in great ones. If, therefore, you are not trustworthy with dishonest wealth, who will trust you with true wealth? If you are not trustworthy with what belongs to another, who will give you what is yours? No servant can serve two masters. He will either hate one and love the other, or be devoted to one and despise the other. You cannot serve both God and mammon."



OLG'S PARISH & SCHOOL FALL FESTIVAL 70th School Anniversary September 27th & 28th

Family Fun For All!

Free admission, Sunday Morning Mass, Live Entertainment, Exciting Raffle, Carnival Games, Internation Gourmet Food, Pancake Breakfast, and much more!

Get Your Pancake Breakfast, Game & Food Tickets!

Avoid the long lines! Purchase your tickets ahead of time by scanning the QR code. Pancake Breakfast is \$10 per adult and \$7 per child. Game and Food tickets are \$1 each.



Become a Volunteer!

Games: www.signupgenius.com/tabs/83C72D701A7C2E8C71-games

Food: www.signupgenius.com/tabs/83C72D701A7C2E8C71-food

Kids Zone: www.signupgenius.com/tabs/83C72D701A7C2E8C71-kidzone

Behind the Scenes: www.signupgenius.com/tabs/83C72D701A7C2E8C71-behind

Purchase Your Festival T-Shirts

Hurry before they run out! Cost is \$12 each for children sizes and \$15 each for adult sizes—visit https://www.zeffy.com/en-US/ticketing/2025-fall-festival-t-shirt-pre-sale. Please come by the Parish Office to pick up your T-shirts.

Raffle Tickets

Be sure to turn in your Raffle Ticket stubs to the Parish Office for a chance to win the **\$1000 Grand Prize!** Cost is \$1 per ticket or \$20 for 21 tickets. More tickets are available for purchase in the Parish Office.

Cake Booth Donations Needed

We are looking for donations of baked good or store bought cakes, tarts, pies, cookies and pastries. Please make sure your baked goods are packaged in small portions (ex: 4 cookies, 1/4 cake or pie, 2 cupcakes per package) You may use paper plates and cling wrap to secure the goodies. All items MUST be clearly labeled: nut-free items should be separate from items with nuts. Please drop off donations on September 26th, Noon-3pm at the Parish Office or September 27th-28th, 8-10am at the Cake Wheel Booth. Thank you!

CELEBRATION OF LIFE FOR THELMA DAWSON September 20th

Long-time OLG School staff member,
Thelma Dawson, will be remembered on
September 20th at 11:00am at Our Lady of Grace
Church. This celebration of her life will be followed
by a reception in Stack Center. All who loved her are
welcome!

May Perpetual Light Shine Upon Her

FESTIVAL PANCAKE BREAKFAST September 28th at 8:30-11:00am

Join us for a delicious breakfast prepared by OLG School parents in Stack Center. Cost is \$10 per adult and \$7 per child (10 and under). Scan the QR code to the left to purchase your tickets online or stop by the Parish Office.



FESTIVAL OUTDOOR MASS St. Francis Garden Chapel September 28th at 9:00am

All are invited to our Outdoor Mass. The Garden Chapel is located next to the large play structure by the parking lot. This Mass will take the place of the 9:00am Mass in the Church. Please bring your lawn chairs or blankets.

KID ZONE PRIZE DONATIONS NEEDED!

The Fall Festival Kid Zone is requesting as prizes new or gently used and clean: stuffed animals, Happy Meal toys, small puzzles, small Lego sets and other little items that your child no longer plays with. Donations may be brought to the Parish Office Monday-Friday 8:30am to 4:30pm by **Friday, September 26th**. Thank you!

DIOCESAN PRIEST RETIREMENT BENEFIT TRUST There's Still Time to Give

Thank you to those who gave generously last weekend! This collection allows us to express gratitude and support for our retired and soon-to-be retired priests, many of whom are still "laboring in the vineyard" in service to the faithful. They now face retirement with minimal government assistance. Please prayerfully consider how you can match their generosity to the Church by contributing to the Retirement Fund. Envelopes are in the pews for your use. Please make your checks out to "Roman Catholic Bishop of Oakland". Thank you and God bless!



2025 BISHOP'S MINISTRIES APPEAL

We have achieved 129% of our yearly goal! Thank you all who have given so generously!

If you have not had a chance to give towards the Bishop's Ministries Appeal, it is not too late. Scan the QR Code or visit: www.oakdiocese.org/bishops-ministriesappeal to make your donation today.



Overall Goal for 2025: # of Gifts Received:

\$29,000.00 92

Funds Raised (includes pledges):

\$37,534.00



FAITH FORMATION REGISTRATION 2025-2026

Registration for Whole Family-Year 1 is still available.

Last Day is October 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' 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. If you are in need of financial assistance, please call the Parish Office at 510-537-0806.

OCIA 2025-2026 Order of Christian Initiation of Adults

Our 2025-2026 OCIA program will begin on October 1st. If you or someone you know is interested in knowing more about the Catholic faith or is seeking full initiation into the Church, please call the Parish Office at 510-537-0806. All are welcome!



COLUMBIETTES NEW MEMBER INITIATION September 17th

Attention Ladies! Are you interested in becoming active in our parish? Come see what the Columbiettes are all about! We invite all women over 18 to join us at our New Member Initiation Meeting on September 17th at 6:30pm in Stack Center, OLG Room. Meet other women of the parish for camaraderie, fun and purpose! Questions? 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

Offerings for the Month of AUGUST:

Sunday Plate for the month: \$ 40,640.50 **Month Budgeted Goal:** \$ 38,285.00 \$ 2,355.50 Over/[Shortfall] Year-To-Date Over/[Shortfall] \$ 15,275.22

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:

Wayne Blackard Maria Flores Martinez Jeff Brown Sheryl Michaud Jot Brown Cec Penland Vince Ouintana Gina Castillo Tommy Rosenbusch Norma Dockter

Diego Gonzalez Lisa Tortora Theresa Hull-Nye Mark Vaz

Brian Linney 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

VICTIMS OF VIOLENCE IN THE MIDDLE EAST VICTIMS OF GUN VIOLENCE



COLLECTION TO ASSIST IN PROVIDING RELIEF IN GAZA September 21st

It is with great pastoral concern for the ongoing crisis in Gaza that we have been asked to show our financial support. The suffering of Christians is terrible and innocent victims of violence in Gaza and surrounding areas are struggling to survive, to protect their children, and to live with dignity in dire conditions. Vital emergency humanitarian relief and medical and psychological care for the sick, malnourished and wounded is being provided through the Catholic Relief Services (CRS). Given the extraordinary nature of this crisis, we will have a second collection next Sunday, September 21st to assist in these humanitarian services. We thank you for your generosity.

MONTHLY OLG SCHOOL MASS

Students from Our Lady of Grace Catholic School will once again be participating in the monthly 9:00am parish Mass. Students will altar serve, lector, assist with the readings, and bring up the Gifts. Additionally, a different grade each month will host "Coffee and Doughnuts" after Mass. Look for our students in full uniform if you want more information about our parish school.

This month, the members of the Class of 2026 (our 8th graders) will host. In addition, the teachers who can attend, as well as parish catechists, will receive their commission and blessing as teachers of our Catholic Faith.

HELP WANTED

Our Lady of Grace Church 1st Communion Instructor

OLG Church is seeking a 1st Communion Instructor to join their Faith Formation team. The Instructor is responsible for preparing children to receive the Sacraments of Reconciliation and 1st Holy Communion. Training will be provided. For more details and if you are interested in volunteering for this ministry, please email Roberta Santiago at

roberta.santiago@olgcv.org



BE A MEMBER OF FORMED

Become a member of FORMED.org for free and get easy access to movies, ebooks, podcasts and daily Mass. Don't miss out! If you don't have an account yet, just follow the instructions below for free access. To register for free, visit: www.olgcv.formed.org
Type in "Our Lady of Grace, Castro Valley CA" to become a member. Also, check out selections in English and Spanish on our Parish website at https://olgcv.org/formed-2/.

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.



MAXIMILIAN KOLBE QUOTE OF THE WEEK

"Offer yourself up to the Immaculata!...Let her work through you, and you shall disseminate much happiness on earth even during this our time. To many a restless soul, you will give peace and serenity in God."



Sunday, September 14th:

The Exaltation of the Holy Cross

Coffee & Donuts After the 9:00am Mass—Gathering Area

Tuesday, September 16th:

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

Women's Faith Share 7:00pm—Stack Center

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

Wednesday, September 17th:

Columbiettes' Meeting 6:30pm—Stack Center

SVdP Meeting 7:00pm—Parish Office

Thursday, September 18th:

Adoration & Reconciliation 6:00pm—Church

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

Saturday, September 20th:

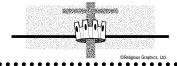
Adoration & Reconciliation 8:45am—Church

Thelma Dawson's Memorial & Reception 11:00am—Church & Stack Center

Sunday, September 21st:

Twenty-Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Confirmation Class 11:15am—Stack Center



FLOWER REMEMBRANCE FUND

We are grateful for the generous donation from Phyllis Barthman in remembrance of James Barthman. 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.



SUNDAY, September 14th

THE EXALTATION OF THE HOLY CROSS

7:30am Manuel & Gose Silva – D

9:00am Jacob & Emily Hurter – L

11:00am Kelly Joanino – D 1:00pm OLG Community

MONDAY, September 15th

Our Lady of Sorrows

8:15am Denis & Tina Chaix – L

TUESDAY, September 16th

Sts. Cornelius, Pope, & Cyprian, Bishop, Martyrs

8:15am Raul Mario Ortega – D

WEDNESDAY, September 17th

St. Robert Bellarmine, Bishop & Doctor of the Church

St. Hildegard of Bingen, Virgin & Doctor of the Church

8:15am Amor T. Guerrero – D

THURSDAY, September 18th

8:15am Richard & Constance Chaix – D

FRIDAY, September 19th

St. Januarius, Bishop & Martyr

8:15am Marguerite Bachand – D

SATURDAY, September 20th

Sts. Andrew Kim Tae-gŏn, Priest, & Paul Chŏng Ha-sang, Companions, Martyrs

8:15am Louis Rodrigues – D 5:00pm Theresa Silveira – L

SUNDAY, September 21st

THE TWENTY-FIFTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

7:30am OLG Community

9:00am Elizabeth Mahoney – D

11:00am Paul Ledyard – D

1:00pm Jose Rogelio Duarte – D

EXECUTION ALERTS

The following executions are scheduled to take place in **September**:

September 17thDavid Joseph PittmanFloridaSeptember 25thGeoffrey T. WestAlabamaSeptember 25thBlaine MilamTexas

We ask for your prayers for these persons, for the victims of their crimes, and for their families.

READINGS FOR THE WEEK:

September 15th through September 21st

Monday: 1 Timothy 2:1-8; John 19:25-27 Tuesday: 1 Timothy 3:1-13; Luke 7:11-17 Wednesday: 1 Timothy 3:14-16; Luke 7:31-35 Thursday: 1 Timothy 4:12-16; Luke 7:36-50 1 Timothy 6:2-12; Luke 8:1-3 Saturday: 1 Timothy 6:13-16; Luke 8:4-15 Sunday: Amos 8:4-7; 1 Timothy 2:1-8;

Luke16:1-13

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.

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!



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PAX CHRISTI QUOTE OF THE WEEK

"For Christians, non-violence is not merely tactical behavior but a person's way of being, the attitude of one who is so convinced of God's love and power that he is not afraid to tackle evil with the weapons of love and truth alone."

-Pope Benedict XVI, 2007

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:

BLAHA, HARTFORD & PERRY



OLG FALL FESTIVAL 2025

Saturday, September 27 10:00 AM – 9:00 PM Sunday, September 28 10:00 AM – 6:00 PM

Family Fun for All!

Celebrating the 50\$ and the 70th Anniversary of Our Lady of Grace School

- FREE ADMISSION
- Carnival Games and Prizes
- International Food
- Beer, Wine & Margaritas

Great Local Entertainment

including Swiss Lander music, dancing by Castro Valley Performing Arts and Ballet Folklorico Mexicano de Carlos Moreno, and performances by Sons of Nimitz, Devil Mountain Chorus, Same Street Band, and more!!!



GRAND Prize: \$1000

Second Prize: \$500

Third Prizes: \$100

Tickets: \$1 each or 21 tickets for \$20

Drawing: Sunday 9/28 at 6:00 PM

Tickets can be purchasesd at parish or school offices.

PANCAKE BREAKFAST SUNDAY MORNING

September 28th 8:30 - 11:30



Our Lady of Grace Stack Center



PURCHASE BREAKFAST AND EVENT TICKETS ON LINE AT www.tinyurl.com/20250LGFestival

Call 510.537.0806 for Festival, Sponsorship and Donor Information and to purchase Raffle Tickets.



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Eugenia "Gena" McGowan, Principal

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