

OUR LADY OF GRACE CATHOLIC CHURCH

3433 Somerset Avenue, Castro Valley, CA 94546

510-537-0806 www.olgcv.org



**First Sunday of Lent
February 22nd, 2026**

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. Luke Vu, OFM Conv., Parochial Administrator
Fr. Angel Garcia, 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

St. Vincent de Paul Helpline: 510-581-2164

EUCCHARISTIC 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 Christ,

As we enter this holy season of Lent, we are called to accompany Jesus into the desert for 40 days of prayer, fasting, and almsgiving. In this Sunday's Gospel of Matthew, we reflect on Christ's victory over temptation, inviting us to renew our baptismal promises, repent from sin, and strengthen our dependence on God, rather than worldly comforts.

This season of Lent is often described by St. Francis of Assisi as a time to "do penance, performing worthy fruits of penance". For Francis, this was not simply about giving up luxuries, but about a profound interior conversion—a returning to the heart of the Gospel and a renewal of our love for the "Poor Crucified One". Often, we view temptation and the "desert" as negative experiences. However, St. Francis teaches us to see the wilderness as a place of grace. It is a place of stripping away the unnecessary, allowing us to see more clearly our dependence on God. Francis himself would withdraw to hermitages during Lent to "step apart" from his daily duties to know the will of the Lord better.

The ashes received this past Wednesday mark our mortality and our desire to turn back to God. Like Jesus, we must take this time to withdraw from the noise of daily life and enter into a deeper, more intentional relationship with our Creator. Our efforts should focus on:

- **Prayer:** I encourage you to increase your prayer life, perhaps by attending daily Mass or spending time in Eucharistic Adoration and Confession.
- **Fasting:** Let our fasting from food and other distractions remind us that we rely on God above all.
- **Almsgiving:** Let us reach out to those in need, offering our time and resources as an act of charity.

Let us not be afraid of the temptations that arise, nor discouraged by our failures. As Jesus showed us, victory is found in resisting temptation by relying on the Word of God. May this Lent be a true "springtime" for our souls. Let us follow the invitation of St. Francis to live with hearts filled with gratitude, embracing the cross so that we may fully celebrate the joy of the Resurrection.

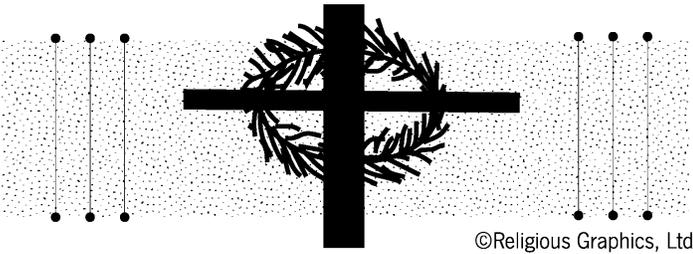
Fr. Luke

The Second Sunday of Lent (March 1st)

Matthew 17:1-9

Jesus took Peter, James, and John his brother, and led them up a high mountain by themselves. And he was transfigured before them; his face shone like the sun and his clothes became white as light. And behold, Moses and Elijah appeared to them, conversing with him. Then Peter said to Jesus in reply, "Lord, it is good that we are here. If you wish, I will make three tents here, one for you, one for Moses, and one for Elijah." While he was still speaking, behold, a bright cloud cast a shadow over them, then from the cloud came a voice that said, "This is my beloved Son, with whom I am well pleased; listen to him." When the disciples heard this, they fell prostrate and were very much afraid. But Jesus came and touched them, saying, "Rise, and do not be afraid." And when the disciples raised their eyes, they saw no one else but Jesus alone. As they were coming down from the mountain, Jesus charged them, "Do not tell the vision to anyone until the Son of Man has been raised from the dead."

"Second Sunday of Lent." *USCCB*, bible.usccb.org/bible/readings/030126.cfm. Accessed 10 Feb. 2026.



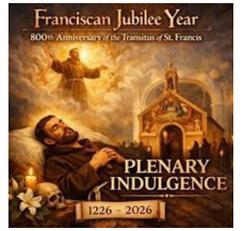
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WEDNESDAY LENTEN MASS & SOUP MEAL

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 **February 25th**. *We thank St. Vincent de Paul for their hospitality for this meal.* Financial donations will be accepted for CRS Rice Bowl.



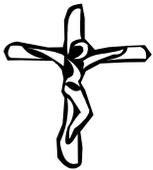
**FRANCISCAN JUBILEE YEAR
800th Anniversary of
the Transitus of St. Francis**



During the Jubilee (January 10, 2026 to January 10, 2027) the Apostolic Penitentiary, by the will of the Holy Father, grant a Plenary Indulgence under the usual conditions, sacramental confession, Holy Communion, and prayer for the intentions of the Holy Father. This indulgence may also be offered for the Souls in Purgatory.

The indulgence is granted to members of the Franciscan Family, and all the faithful who take part in the Jubilee by visiting a Franciscan church or any place connected to St. Francis anywhere in the world by spending time in prayer or reflection, and praying for charity, harmony, and peace among peoples.

The prayers conclude with the Our Father, the Creed, and invocations to the Blessed Virgin Mary, St. Francis of Assisi, St. Clare, and all the Saints of the Franciscan Family.



**STATIONS OF THE CROSS
English & Spanish
February 27th**

Stations of the Cross, led by our school students is offered at Our Lady of Grace at 2:30pm. Evening Stations in English begins at 6:00pm and in Spanish at 6:45pm.

DO NOT BE AFRAID OF RECONCILIATION

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

**LENTEN FISH FRY
February 27th**



Join us before or after Stations of the Cross for a delicious Fish Fry in Stack Center at 5:30-7:30pm. Cost is \$10 per person and includes fish, fries, coleslaw, coffee, tea, punch and dessert. Please pay at the door. We thank the Knights of Columbus for hosting this event!

DO NOT BE AFRAID OF RECONCILIATION

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

**COFFEE AND DONUTS
March 1st**



Come join us after the 9:00am Sunday Mass on **March 1st** in the Gathering Area for coffee, donuts and community. *We thank the Knights, Columbiettes and Confirmation students for this ministry of hospitality. See you there!*



**“LET’S GET CRACKIN’!”
CRAB FEED
February 28th**

Enjoy an Evening with Your Parish Community at Transfiguration Hall

- Doors open at 5pm, after the 4pm Mass
- Cost is \$90 per person
- Menu includes All-You-Can-Eat Appetizers, Bread, Butter, Salad, Pasta, Crab & Ice-Cream
- No Host Bar
- \$15 Corkage Fee
- DJ'd by Dynamic DJ Entertainment

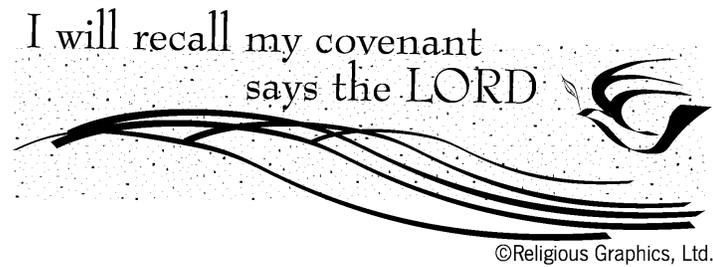
YEARLY CONTRIBUTION STATEMENTS



For your convenience in preparing your tax return, a contribution statement for 2025 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.

Get your tickets by emailing Sunita at TransfigCrabFeed@gmail.com

See you there!



FORMED 40 DAYS OF LENT WITH FORMED.ORG

Restore: Lent with Sr. Miriam Heidland, SOLT
<https://watch.formed.org/restore-lent-with-sr-miriam-james-heidland-solt>

Each week, Sr. Miriam will lead you to meet the tenderness of God’s mercy, the power of his love, and the restoration of your heart and life as you practice prayer, fasting, almsgiving, and sacrifice.

Lent with Brother Francis

<https://watch.formed.org/lent-with-brother-francis>

Join Brother Francis in this compact presentation of what Lent is all about and how we observe it as Catholics. Great for the whole family!

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.



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.

1ST FRIDAYS OF EACH MONTH EXPOSITION AND BENEDICTION March 6th

All are invited to join us after the 8:15am Mass for Exposition and Benediction of the Sacred Heart of Jesus.



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 DECEMBER:

Sunday Plate for the month:	\$ 57,304.00
Month Budgeted Goal:	\$ 52,328.00
Over/[Shortfall]	\$ 4,976.00
Year-To-Date Over/[Shortfall]	\$ 28,242.70

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 | Catherine Lucas |
| Jeff Brown | Bella Martinez |
| Jot Brown | Maria Flores Martinez |
| Beatriz Campos | Sheryl Michaud |
| Cristina Castellanos | Olga Muñoz |
| Felicitas Cervantes Galves | Bertha Ortega Plate |
| Charles Chen | Diana Riley |
| Norma Dockter | Tommy Rosenbusch |
| Diego Gonzalez | Lisa Tortora |
| Theresa Hull-Nye | Mark Vaz |
| Cecilia Laverne | 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

BENNY KWOK

VICTIMS OF VIOLENCE

VICTIMS OF GUN VIOLENCE



Remember you are dust
and unto dust
you shall return

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COLUMBIETTES

Attention Ladies! Are you interested in becoming active in our parish? Come see what the Columbiettes are all about. We meet on the 3rd Wednesday of each month. Join us for our next meeting on **March 18th**, 6:30pm in Stack Center, OLG Room. If you would like to become a member, please call the Parish Office at 510-537-0806. For additional information, please visit: <https://www.californiacolumbiettes.com>



Prayer Shawl Ministry

PRAYER SHAWL MINISTRY

Prayer shawls are universal and embracing, they comfort and enfold, wrap and warm, shelter and embrace. Our prayer shawls are crocheted 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.

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.



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.



ROSARY BEFORE MASS

Come join in prayer of the Rosary 20 minutes before each of the weekend liturgies. Pray for our Parish. All are welcome!

MAXIMILIAN KOLBE QUOTE OF THE WEEK

“Love the Immaculata ever more every day, and so for all eternity because only at the time of death will that love freely blaze forth.”

THIS WEEK

Sunday, February 22nd:

The First Sunday of Lent

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

Tuesday, February 24th:

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

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

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

Wednesday, February 25th:

Lenten Mass
6:00pm—Church

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

Thursday, February 26th:

Adoration & Reconciliation
6:00pm—Church

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

Friday, February 27th:

Stations of the Cross
2:30pm (School), 6:00pm (English)
& 6:45pm (Spanish)—Church

Fish Fry
5:30pm—Stack Center

Saturday, February 28th:

Adoration & Reconciliation
8:45am—Church

Prayer Garden Clean-up
10:00am—Prayer Garden

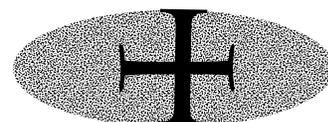
Sunday, March 1st:

The Second Sunday of Lent

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

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

Confirmation Class
11:15am—Stack Center



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Mass Intentions for the Week

SUNDAY, February 22nd

THE FIRST SUNDAY OF LENT

- 7:30am Frank Bargiacchi – D
- 9:00am Kathleen Cande – L
- 11:00am OLG Community
- 1:00pm Rafael Alvarado, Sr. – D

MONDAY, February 23rd

St. Polycarp, Bishop & Martyr

- 8:15am Rose Nicasio – D

TUESDAY, February 24th

- 8:15am Mariano Realina – D

WEDNESDAY, February 25th

- 8:15am Gina Castillo – D

THURSDAY, February 26th

- 8:15am Lou Richards – D

FRIDAY, February 27th

St. Gregory of Narek, Abbot & Doctor of the Church

- 8:15am Len & Eddie Smith – L

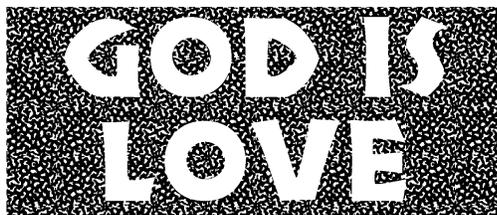
SATURDAY, February 28th

- 8:15am Alfredo De la Torre – D
- 5:00pm Lourdes Villanueva – D

SUNDAY, March 1st

THE SECOND SUNDAY OF LENT

- 7:30am OLG Community
- 9:00am Claudia Dobbs – L
- 11:00am James Martins – D
- 1:00pm Rosa Martinez Reyes – D



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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.

**READINGS FOR THE WEEK:
February 23rd through March 1st**

- Monday: Leviticus 19:1-2, 11-18;
Matthew 25:31-46
- Tuesday: Isaiah 55:10-11; Matthew 6:7-15
- Wednesday: Jonah 3:1-10; Luke 11:29-32
- Thursday: Esther C:12,14-16, 23-25;
Matthew 7:7-12
- Friday: Ezekiel 18:21-28; Matthew 5:20-26
- Saturday: Deuteronomy 26:16-19;
Matthew 5:43-48
- Sunday: Genesis 12:1-4; 2 Timothy 1:8-10;
Matthew 17:1-9

the Body of Christ

⊕ Amen

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HELPING HANDS MINISTRY

What is "Helping Hands"? This very special ministry started by Dianne Fisher many years ago, helps families who have lost a loved one and whom we assist with making and serving food to their family and friends after the Funeral Mass. OLG's funerals are held on weekdays only. *If you would like to periodically assist us by making food for these gatherings (each entrée, salad or dessert enough for 10 people) or help with set-up and clean-up in Stack Center, your time and talent would be most appreciated!* If you would like to be a part of this ministry, please leave your name and number for Margaret McKean at the Parish Office. Thank you and God Bless!

PAX CHRISTI QUOTE OF THE WEEK

"Everything a baptized person does every day would be directly or indirectly related to the Corporal and Spiritual Works of Mercy."

-Dorothy Day

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:

ROBLES LAW OFFICE

OUR LADY OF GRACE - LIST OF MINISTRIES

Community Outreach Ministries

Helping Hands: Assist with hospitality after OLG's funerals for family members and friends of the deceased.

Pastoral Care to the Sick: Visit the sick while praying & distributing the Eucharist.

Pax Christi: Upholding the Gospel values of peace & social justice in our community & the world at large.

St. Vincent de Paul: Assist the poor & those in temporary need with food & financial assistance.

Faith Formation Ministries

Baptism Preparation: Assist with instruction to parents & godparents preparing to have their infants baptized. 1st Wednesday of the month

Family Faith Formation: Assist with religious education of students of grades 1st-8th on Sundays.

Men's Faith Share: Gather with other men of our Parish to discuss the upcoming Sunday readings.

Women's Bible Study: Gather with other women of our Parish during Advent & Lent in preparation for Christmas & Easter.

OCIA (Order of Christian Initiation for Adults): Assist with guidance of adults seeking membership into the Church on Wednesday evenings.

Sacrament Preparation: Assist with Baptism, 1st Reconciliation, 1st Holy Communion (ages 7 & up) and Confirmation (High School) on Sundays.

Liturgical Ministries

Altar Servers: Assist priests at liturgical services, especially the Masses, for grades 5th-12th.

Extraordinary Ministers: Distribute the Holy Eucharist at Mass & to the homebound.

Lectors: Proclaim the 1st & 2nd Readings at Mass.

Music: *Choir* sings at the 11:00am Mass, *Folk Group* sings contemporary Catholic music at the 9:00am Mass & 5:00pm *Ensemble* sings at the 5:00pm Mass. *Coro en la misa de español* a la 1:00 p.m.

Ushers: Assist with greeting parishioners, taking up the collections, seating people as needed.

Parish Life Ministries

Columbette's: Women's auxiliary assisting the Knights of Columbus with Parish activities & fundraising.

CYO (Catholic Youth Organization): Sports program for grades 2nd-8th.

Fall Festival: OLG's biggest fundraiser event held on the last weekend of September.

Italian Catholic Federation (ICF): Non-profit fraternal organization promoting activities that build faith & family.

Knights of Columbus: Catholic Men's fraternal organization organizing year-round fundraising events to benefit OLG.

If you are interested in knowing more about our Ministries, please call the Parish Office at 510-537-0806.

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