

OUR LADY OF GRACE CATHOLIC CHURCH

3433 Somerset Avenue, Castro Valley, CA 94546

510-537-0806 www.olgcv.org

Fifth Sunday of Lent
March 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: 510-707-8988

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 the fifth Sunday of Lent, the final week before Holy Week, our focus shifts from personal penance to Jesus as “the resurrection and the life”. The Gospel of John (11:1-45) presents us with a powerful scene: Jesus at the tomb of Lazarus. He raises his friend Lazarus from the dead after four days in a tomb in Bethany. This is not just a miracle of the past; it is a promise for us today. Jesus calls us to step out of our own “tombs” – our chains of addiction, fear, resentment, or spiritual apathy – and trust in Christ's power over death. We are invited to let go of the “burial cloths” of our past sins and embrace the freedom of a life lived in the Spirit.

This Gospel passage serves as a prelude to Easter, showing that Jesus’s love brings new life even when we feel dead inside. It reminds us that no matter how long we have been in the “grave” of sin, Jesus can call us forth. As we move into Passiontide, you may notice the statues and crucifixes in our church are covered in purple, signaling a time of mourning and intense preparation for the Lord's Passion. This week, let us:

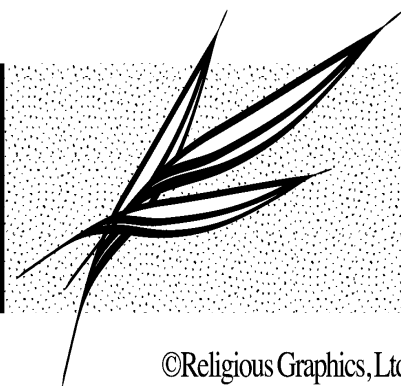
- **Embrace Hope:** Trust that God can revive any area of our lives that feels hopeless.
- **Seek Reconciliation:** Take time for confession, allowing the Lord to remove the “burial cloths” of sin.
- **Prepare for Holy Week:** Come and pray the Stations of the Cross with us on Friday at 6:00 PM in English and 6:45 PM in Spanish.

May we hear Jesus calling us by name to come out and experience his new life. Let us use this final stretch to intensify our prayer and charity, fully preparing our hearts for the joy of Easter. Please see the bulletin for our upcoming Holy Week schedule and make a conscious effort to attend these sacred liturgies as a community.

Fr. Luke

HOSANNA
Hosanna
HOSANNA

*Enter into the
Passion and Glory
of the Lord*



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Palm Sunday of the Passion of the Lord (March 29th)

Matthew 26:14-27:66

To access next week's Gospel in full text, please visit the US Conference of Catholic Bishops' Daily Readings at <https://bible.usccb.org/>.

create for me
a clean heart,
o god



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Faith + Family + Mission

BISHOP'S MINISTRIES APPEAL 2026 MINISTRIES OF HOPE

Diocese of Oakland

2026 BISHOP'S MINISTRIES APPEAL

The Bishop's Ministries Appeal sustains the vital programs that bind our diocesan family together in faith and service. Your participation ensures that we continue to form disciples, strengthen parishes, and serve Christ in those most in need. These essential initiatives include:

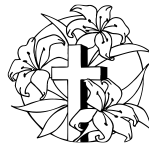
- Catholic education and faith formation for students in our 37 schools and 75 parish religious education programs.
- Seminarian formation and vocations support, nurturing the future priests who will serve our parishes.
- Pastoral care ministries reaching the sick, the homebound, and those in hospitals and prisons.
- Outreach to the poor and immigrant communities, offering compassion, advocacy, and hope.
- Parish leadership development, helping each faith community thrive in mission and service.

By participating in the Bishop's Ministries Appeal, you strengthen our shared mission to be instruments of God's mercy and grace—and you help secure a foundation of hope for thousands we are called to serve.

Envelopes are in the pews for your use. You may also scan the QR Code or visit: www.oakdiocese.org/bishops-ministries-appeal to make a gift online.



Thank you for your time and response as faithful stewards of God's Church. God bless you!



**EASTER MEMORIAL FLOWERS
OUR LADY OF GRACE TRADITION**

Once again, this year we are inviting you to remember family members and friends through a Flower Offering which will help us to purchase the plants and other decorations we need to beautify our sanctuary. A list of names of all who are remembered will be available after Easter.

You may list the names of loved ones and make your offering by using the special Easter Flower Offering envelopes available in the pews or by scanning the QR code.



**WEDNESDAY LENTEN MASSES &
SOUP MEALS
March 25th**



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. *We thank Our Lady of Grace School for their hospitality for this meal.* Financial donations will be accepted for CRS Rice Bowl.



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

Stations of the Cross, led by our school students is offered at 9:00am (due to the School's Fun Run in the afternoon). Evening Stations in English begins at 6:00pm and in Spanish at 6:45pm.

Transfiguration Church
Fridays at 7:30pm in English

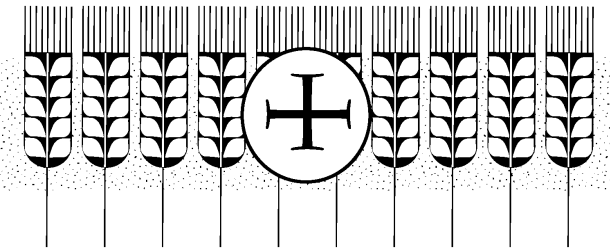
DO NOT BE AFRAID OF RECONCILIATION

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. **Last opportunities will be on March 26th, 28th & and 31st.**



**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.



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**CATHOLIC RELIEF SERVICES
BISHOP'S OVERSEAS APPEAL**

Thank you for your generous support of The Catholic Relief Services Collection and for revealing Christ's love to those who are poor and marginalized around the world. If you missed the collection, it's not too late to give! Just visit <http://www.ucscsb.org/nationalcollections> or scan the QR code. May God bless you for your generosity!



**COMMUNAL PENCE SERVICE
March 31st at Transfiguration**

Prepare your hearts and minds for the coming of the Lord! All are invited to a Communal Penance Service on **March 31st** at 7:00pm at Transfiguration Church. Join us for Liturgy of the Word, music and an opportunity for individual reconciliation with our priests.

FORMED 40 DAYS OF LENT WITH FORMED.ORG

The Shroud of Turin

<https://watch.formed.org/videos/formednow-2021-0226-akers-frpeffley-shroudofturin-vimeo-1080p-full-hd>

Dr. Ben Akers sits down with Fr. Francis Peffley to discuss the Holy Shroud of Turin. This miraculous shroud is believed to be the burial shroud of Jesus Christ. Throughout this conversation they talk about the scientific evidence for the authenticity of the shroud, its history, and how the shroud can help us meditate on the person of Christ and his Passion.

Brother Francis: The Stations of the Cross

<https://watch.formed.org/videos/brother-francis-the-stations-of-the-cross>

Gather your kids and join Brother Francis as he follows our Lord on his way to the Cross with beautiful illustrations and thought-provoking meditations.

Not a member yet? Subscribe for FREE! Register by visiting formed.org/signup, enter our parish zip code "94546", select 'Our Lady of Grace' then register your name and email address.

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:	\$ 44,175.00
Month Budgeted Goal:	\$ 46,002.22
Over/[Shortfall]	\$ [1,827.22]
Year-To-Date Over/[Shortfall]	\$ [1,115.22]

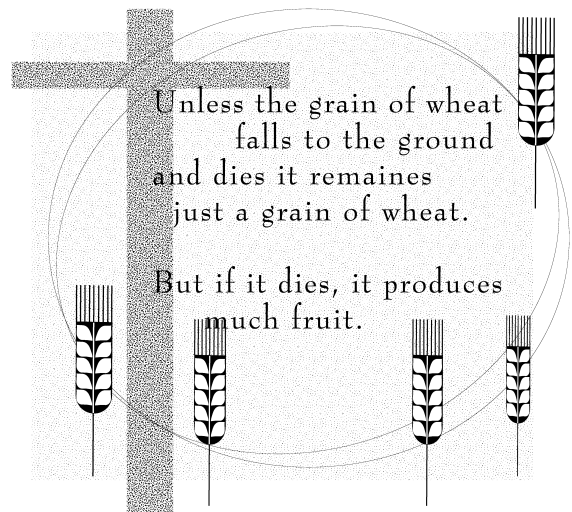
May God bless your continuing generosity.



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:

- | | |
|----------------------------|-----------------------|
| Steven Bell | Skeets Jennings |
| Wayne Blackard | Catherine Lucas |
| Jeff Brown | Bella Martinez |
| Jot Brown | Maria Flores Martinez |
| Beatriz Campos | Sheryl Michaud |
| Cristina Castellanos | Bertha Ortega Plate |
| Felicitas Cervantes Galves | Diana Riley |
| Charles Chen | Tommy Rosenbusch |
| Norma Dockter | Lisa Tortora |
| Diego Gonzalez | Mark Vaz |
| Theresa Hull-Nye | Peggy Winkenbach |

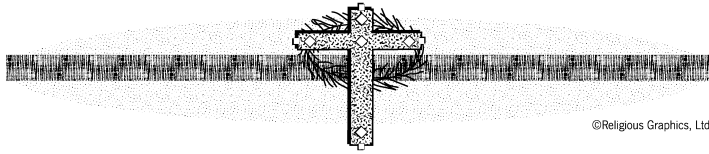


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Please remember in your prayers the recently deceased in our parish families and all who mourn the loss of a loved one.

In Memorial

**VICTIMS OF VIOLENCE
VICTIMS OF GUN VIOLENCE**



HELP US DECORATE FOR EASTER

We will be readying the church for our Easter Services beginning at **10:00am on Saturday, April 4th**. If you are available to help place flowers, dust and spruce up the church, we would be most appreciative. We look forward to seeing you!



**ICF'S 90th ANNIVERSARY
Save the Date-May 2nd**

All are invited to the *Italian Catholic Federation's 90th Anniversary!* Join us in celebration on **May 2nd** at the 5:00pm Mass. Reception will follow in Stack Center. Cost is \$25 per person and includes cocktails and hors d'oeuvre. **RSVP by April 17th**. Contact Lisa Crudo at 510-861-9835 or email watkins6pk@aol.com. We hope to see you there!

**PRAYER GARDEN CLEAN-UP
March 28th**



Help Wanted! The Knights are looking for volunteers to assist with sprucing up our Prayer Garden. Join us on Saturday, **March 28th at 10:00am** and bring your gloves, hat and water. The Prayer Garden is located next to the rear entrance of the church. Tools will be provided but you may also bring your own from home. See you there!

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!* Please call Margaret McKean (510-340-1871) or you may leave your name and number at the Parish Office. Thank you and God Bless!

MAXIMILIAN KOLBE QUOTE OF THE WEEK

"Mortification is a power which together with prayer, obtains divine graces, purifies souls, inflames them with love for God and one's neighbor and lovingly submits them to God through the Immaculata."

THIS WEEK

Sunday, March 22nd:

The Fifth Sunday of Lent

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

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

Tuesday, March 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, March 25th:

Lenten Mass
6:00pm—Church

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

Thursday, March 26th:

Adoration & Reconciliation
6:00pm—Church

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

Friday, March 27th:

Stations of the Cross
9:00am with the School
6:00pm (English) & 6:45pm (Spanish)—Church

Saturday, March 28th:

Adoration & Reconciliation
8:45am—Church

Prayer Garden Cleanup
10:00am—Prayer Garden

Sunday, March 29th:

Palm Sunday of the Passion of the Lord



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Mass Intentions for the Week

SUNDAY, March 22nd

THE FIFTH SUNDAY OF LENT

- 7:30am Gregory Prinsze – D
- 9:00am Victor Pasquini – D
- 11:00am Henrigueta Gomes – D
- 1:00pm OLG Community

MONDAY, March 23rd

St. Turibius of Mogrovejo, Bishop

- 8:15am Ida Mae Kempel – D

TUESDAY, March 24th

- 8:15am Brenda Velez – L

WEDNESDAY, March 25th

THE ANNUNCIATION OF THE LORD

- 8:15am Sylvia Borden – D

THURSDAY, March 26th

- 8:15am Jordan Ismael – L

FRIDAY, March 27th

- 8:15am No Intention

SATURDAY, March 28th

- 8:15am No Intention
- 5:00pm Lou Richards-D

SUNDAY, March 29th

PALM SUNDAY OF THE PASSION OF THE LORD

- 7:30am OLG Community
- 9:00am Frank Lang – D
- 11:00am Ron Sponsel – D
- 1:00pm Maria Ibarra – D



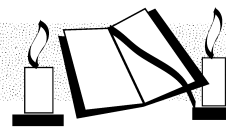
ROSARY BEFORE MASS

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

READINGS FOR THE WEEK:

March 23rd through March 29th

- Monday: Daniel 13:1-9, 15-17, 19-30, 33-62; John 8:1-11
- Tuesday: Numbers 21:4-9; John 8:21-30
- Wednesday: Isaiah 7:10-14;8:10; Hebrews 10:4-10; Luke 1:26-38
- Thursday: Genesis 17:3-9; John 8:51-59
- Friday: Jeremiah 20:10-13; John 10:31-42
- Saturday: Ezekiel 37:21-28; John 11:45-56
- Sunday: Matthew 21:1-11; Isaiah 50:4-7; Philippians 2:6-11; Matthew 26:14-27:66



do all that you do for the sake of the gospel in hopes of having a share in its blessings

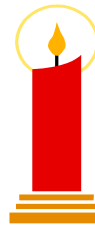
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DID YOU KNOW???

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!



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.

PAX CHRISTI QUOTE OF THE WEEK

“War is not always inevitable, it is always a defeat for humanity.”

-St. Pope John Paul II, 2003

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:

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ONE

Faith + Family + Mission

Your gift to the **2026 Bishop's Ministries Appeal** supports the ministries that bind our diocesan family as One Faith, One Family, One Mission. Together, we sustain Catholic education in 37 schools and 75 parish programs, form future priests, provide pastoral care to the sick and homebound, and serve the poor and immigrant communities with compassion and advocacy.

Every gift is shared across the diocese so that no parish, school, or ministry stands alone. Your generosity strengthens parish leadership and helps us serve Christ in those most in need. Please prayerfully consider your gift today so that future generations may inherit a Church that is strong, vibrant, and united in love.

WAYS to GIVE

MAIL Send check or money order to: **Bishop's Ministries Appeal**
Diocese of Oakland, 2121 Harrison Street, Suite 100, Oakland, CA 94612

ONLINE Scan the QR code or visit oakdiocese.org/bishops-ministries-appeal to make a gift by credit card or direct debit.

CALL 510-267-8358

EMAIL BishopsMinistriesAppeal@oakdiocese.org

ADDITIONAL GIFT OPTIONS Gifts of stock, IRA distributions, bequests, and charitable gift annuities can be coordinated by contacting the Office for Mission Advancement at 510-267-8358 or BishopsMinistriesAppeal@oakdiocese.org



FOR MORE INFORMATION

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510-267-8314 | tporter@oakdiocese.org

Lewis Bracy, Associate Director of Operations
510-271-1932 | lbracy@oakdiocese.org



2026 BISHOP'S MINISTRIES APPEAL



Diocese of Oakland

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 difficult times, the words you
 most want to hear are:
 "It's over."

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