

OUR LADY OF GRACE CATHOLIC CHURCH

3433 Somerset Avenue, Castro Valley, CA 94546

510-537-0806 www.olgcv.org

**Twenty-Third Sunday in
Ordinary Time
September 6th, 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., Pastor
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

Principals: Dr. Gena McGowan & Mark Manifesto

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 gather to celebrate the 23rd Sunday in Ordinary Time, my heart is filled with profound gratitude for each of you. Thank you for sharing your unique gifts, prayers, and presence, which continually bless our parish family. Every week, our community grows stronger because you are a part of it.

I also want to extend my sincere gratitude to the liturgical ministers who participated in our recent workshop on Saturday, August 29. Facilitated by Fr. Alejandro Báez, S.J., this gathering allowed ministers from throughout the Our Lady of Grace–Transfiguration cluster and wider deanery region to connect, reflect, and collaborate on how to best serve the People of God through our liturgical ministries. Our parish is blessed by your commitment to serve. You serve as Ushers, Greeters, Lectors, Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion, Altar Servers, and Music Ministers. When you step into your roles, you are not merely performing a duty. You are helping our community encounter the living God.

This week's readings remind us of the deep responsibility and beauty of Christian community. In the First Reading, the prophet Ezekiel is called to be a "watchman" for God's people. In the Gospel of Matthew, Jesus speaks about the delicate, sacred work of reconciliation and communal prayer. He promises us: *"Where two or three are gathered together in my name, there am I in the midst of them."* (Matthew 18:20).

You are the hands, feet, voices, and faces that facilitate this holy gathering. In his letter to the Romans, St. Paul writes, *"Owe nothing to anyone, except to love one another; for the one who loves another has fulfilled the law."* (Romans 13:8). Your ministry is an act of pure love. I encourage you to approach your service with patience and grace. When an usher smiles at a late comer, a lector proclaims the Word with conviction, or a minister offers the Eucharist with reverence, you reveal God's gentle grace to his people.

Our responsorial psalm calls us to *"sing joyfully to the Lord"* and *"come into his presence with thanksgiving."* (Psalm 95:1-2). Let the joy of Christ radiate through your actions. A cheerful spirit naturally attracts and inspires those around. A joyful heart softens the hardened hearts of those who may be carrying heavy burdens into the pews.

Thank you for your sacrifice of time, your preparation, and your open hearts. You help create a sanctuary where the parish family can heal, reconcile, and grow closer to Christ. Please know how grateful I am for your ongoing "yes" to your ministry. You do not merely fulfill a duty; you foster communion. May God bless you, renew your spirit, and deepen your love for the Eucharist as we continue to serve the Lord together.

-Fr. Luke



The Twenty-Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time (September 13th)

Matthew 18:21-35

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



**OLG'S PARISH & SCHOOL
FALL FESTIVAL
September 26th & 27th**

Family Fun for All!

Free admission, Sunday Morning Mass (in the church), Exciting Raffle, Carnival Games, International Gourmet Food, Pancake Breakfast, and much more!

**Get Your Pancake Breakfast Tickets!
September 27th - Stack Center
8:30-11:00am**



Join us for a delicious breakfast prepared by OLG parents in Stack Center. Cost is \$10 per adult and \$7 per child (10 & under).

**Get Your Pasta Dinner Tickets!
September 27th - Stack Center
Doors open at 3:30pm**



Join us for a delicious pasta dinner in Stack Center. Cost is \$20 per adult and \$10 per child (10 & under). Advanced purchase required by 9/22.

Become a Volunteer!

Sign up for a timeslot and offer your time and talent by scanning the QR code. Signups are available for *Game Booths, Food and Beverages Booths, Kid Zone and Operations.*



**Purchase Your Festival
T-Shirts!**



Cost is \$15 each child size and \$20 each adult size. Get yours today (before they run out!). Scan the QR code to place your order and pick up at the Parish Office. You may also purchase T-shirts at the Parish Office. Please bring your payment of cash or check.

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 \$25 for 26 tickets.

**LABOR DAY HOLIDAY
PARISH OFFICE CLOSED**

The Parish Office will be closed on **September 7th** in observance of Labor Day. We hope you have a restful holiday. We will re-open on **September 8th.**

DONATIONS NEEDED FOR OUR FESTIVAL

Kid Zone Prizes

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 you child no longer plays with. Donation may be brought to the Parish Office by **Friday, September 25th.** Thank you!

Cake Booth Goodies

We are looking for donations of baked goods or store bought cakes, tarts, pies, cookies and pastries. Please make sure your baked goods are packaged in small portions (ex: 4 cookies, ¼ 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 25th, 9am-3pm at the Parish Office or September 26th-27th, 8-10am at the Cake Wheel Booth.** Thank you!

**DIOCESAN PRIEST RETIREMENT
BENEFIT TRUST**

This Weekend-September 5th & 6th

This special collection for the Diocesan Priest Retirement Benefit Trust this weekend 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!

2026 BISHOP'S MINISTRIES APPEAL

Following is the status of this appeal through
July 31st:

Overall Goal for 2026:	\$29,000.00
# of Donors:	76
Funds Raised (includes pledges):	\$25,912.00

We are currently at 89% of our goal!

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 and for more information regarding parish goals.





ALTAR CANDLE MEMORIAL DONORS

We deeply thank the following donors who have given generously towards sponsoring our Altar Candle Memorial.

Given By:	In Memory of / In Honor of:
Anonymous	All Souls in Purgatory
Virginia Cabardo	Noveda, Reyes & Cabardo Families
Carl Gagnon	Ken & Ann Gagnon
Veronica Ismael	The Ismael Family
Kaye McCann	John McCann
Mai Pham	The Pham Family



FAITH FORMATION REGISTRATION 2026-2027

1st Communion & Whole Family
Grades 1st-8th

Last day to register is September 15th! Online Registration and payment is available at www.olgc.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 \$130 for the 1st child and \$80 for each sibling in the same household.

CONFIRMATION REGISTRATION 2026-2027

Grades 9th-12th



Last day to register is September 15th! Online Registration and payment is available at www.olgc.org. On the homepage, scroll down and click on the 'Confirmation' box. **Registration forms are also available in the Parish Office.** Please bring your payment of check or cash when registering in person. Cost is \$130 per child and \$80 for each sibling in the same household. Cost for the Retreat is \$80 for the 1st child and \$60 for each sibling in the same household.



OCIA 2026-2027

Order of Christian Initiation of Adults
Our OCIA program begins on September 30th at 6:30pm in the Parish Office. 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!

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 JULY:**

Sunday Plate for the month:	\$ 38,709.00
Month Budgeted Goal:	\$ 40,795.38
Over/[Shortfall]	\$ [2,086.38]
Year-To-Date Over/[Shortfall]	\$ [2,315.31]

May God bless your continuing generosity.



Your Prayers Are Requested

Please lift up in your prayers those among us who are ill and those who have asked for our prayerful remembrance:

Kathleen Benassi	Mark Jerome
Wayne Blackard	Cecilia Laverne
Jeff Brown	Joan Lewis
Jot Brown	Brian Linney
Mary Chocha	Richard Lindgren
Norma Dockter	Maria Flores Martinez
Catherine Godric	Sheryl Michaud
Theresa Hull-Nye	Diana Riley
Skeets Jennings	Lisa Tortora

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

In Memorial

VICTIMS OF NEPAL-TIBET FLOODS

VICTIMS OF VIOLENCE

VICTIMS OF GUN VIOLENCE



ICF BITES & BINGO

September 19th

Join the Italian Catholic Federation of Castro Valley Branch #343 for "Bites & Bingo" on **September 19th** from 11:30am to 2:30pm in Stack Center. Enjoy delicious hors d'oeuvres, desserts, and 5 bingo cards for \$30 per person (\$15 for children under 10). Win cash, gifts and raffle prizes! To register, pick up a flyer at the back of the church and mail it with your payment (please make checks payable to *ICF Br#343*) to: Lisa Crudo at 20965 San Miguel Ave., CV, 94546. Proceeds benefit seminarians, fund Thalassemia research and the scholarship fund. See you there!



"REBUILD MY CHURCH"
A Franciscan Jubilee Year
Day of Renewal
October 17th (9am-5pm)

In this Jubilee Year proclaimed by Pope Leo XIV, join fellow parishioners in Stack Center for a one-day Franciscan retreat (no overnight stay). Through conferences, prayer, and Holy Mass, discover what it means to be *living stones* in the rebuilding of Christ's Church today. Suggested donation is \$10. To register, please call the Parish Office at 510-537-0806

AN INVITATION TO ATTEND
A CURSILLO WEEKEND
St. Elizabeth Seton in Pleasanton



During the Cursillo weekend, you will have the opportunity to discuss your faith, discover your unique gifts from God, and an opportunity for an examination of conscience that fosters new spiritual growth. Discover a way to impact your community and to bring the presence of Christ to all you meet.

Men's Cursillo: September 10th-13th
Women's Cursillo: September 24th-27th
Combined 4th Day: October 3rd (2-4pm)
St. Joan of Arc in San Ramon

If you are interested in attending, please contact Roberta Santiago by email: roberta.santiago@olgcv.org

OLG CONFIRMATION INTERNSHIP

Have you been confirmed at OLG? Would you like to serve as a leader to help guide our young people through their confirmation as well? Our OLG Confirmation Team is beginning an internship program for youth and young adults who have been recently confirmed and would like to be mentored and to gain experience in helping young people to understand and embrace their faith. (Internships also are great for college applications!) If you're interested in learning more and serving with us, contact Leanne and Matt at leeanne.thomas@olgcv.org.

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.



THIS WEEK

Sunday, September 6th:

The Twenty-Third Sunday in Ordinary Time

Monday, September 7th:

Labor Day
Parish Office Closed

Tuesday, September 8th:

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

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

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

Wednesday, September 9th:

Adoration with School
 9:00am—Church

Thursday, September 10th:

Adoration & Reconciliation
 6:00pm—Church

Saturday, September 12th:

Adoration & Reconciliation
 After 8:15am Mass—Church

Sunday, September 13th:

The Twenty-Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time



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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

"Do you know that - We can easily obtain full and swift forgiveness of our sins, by forgiving any faults of other people toward us?"

Mass for the Intentions for the Week

SUNDAY, September 6th

THE TWENTY- THIRD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

7:30am OLG Community
 9:00am Manuel Reyes--D
 11:00am Sophie Nguyen--L
 1:00pm Rosa Martinez Reyes-D

MONDAY, September 7th

8:15am Elvira Vazquez & Gilberto Ramos--D

TUESDAY, September 8th

The Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary

8:15am Catherine Lucas--D

WEDNESDAY, September 9th

St. Peter Claver, Priest

8:15am Gina Castillo--D

THURSDAY, September 10th

8:15am Ron Emory--D

FRIDAY, September 11th

8:15am Lilia Sousa--D

SATURDAY, September 12th

The Most Holy Name of Mary

8:15am Mariano Realina--D
 5:00pm Antonio Oliveira Chocha--D

SUNDAY, September 13th

THE TWENTY- FOURTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

7:30am Geraldine Bargiacchi--D
 9:00am OLG Community
 11:00am Lan Nguyen--L
 1:00pm Xavier Ramos-D

**EXECUTION ALERTS**

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

Sept. 1	Harold Gene Lucas	Florida
Sept. 10	Daniel Owen Conahan, Jr.	Florida
Sept. 16	LeJames Norman	Texas
Sept. 16	Stacey Humphreys	Georgia
Sept. 17	Jeffery Lee	Alabama
Sept. 23	Ker'Sean Olajuwa Ramey	Texas
Sept. 29	Crutis Beasley	Florida
Sept. 30	Christa Pike	Tennessee

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

READINGS FOR THE WEEK:

September 7th through September 13th

Monday: 1 Corinthians 5:1-8; Luke 6:6-11
 Tuesday: Micah 5:1-4a; Matthew 1:1-16, 18-23
 Wednesday: 1 Corinthians 7:25-31; Luke 6:20-26
 Thursday: 1 Corinthians 8:1b-7, 11-13;
 Luke 6:27-38
 Friday: 1 Corinthians 9:16-19, 22b-27;
 Luke 6:39-42
 Saturday: 1 Corinthians 10:14-22; Luke 6:43-49
 Sunday: Sirach 27:30-28:7; Romans 14:7-9;
 Matthew 18:21-35



*if today you hear his voice,
 harden not your hearts*

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**DRESS-A-GIRL MINISTRY
September 9th**

Join us for our monthly *Dress-a-Girl* gathering and help make sundresses for young school girls in foreign countries. We will meet on Wednesday, **September 9th** at the Transfiguration Church Hall, 10:00am-12:00pm. If you're interested, please contact Yolanda Arredondo at 510-303-4023 or email: Yarredondo747@gmail.com.

PAX CHRISTI QUOTE OF THE WEEK

"We have tried so many times and over so many years to resolve our conflicts by our own powers and by the force of our arms. How many moments of hostility and darkness have we experienced; how much blood has been shed; how many lives have been shattered;...Now, Lord, come to our aid! Grant us peace, teach us peace; guide our steps in the way of peace."

-Pope Francis, 2014

To join our work with Pax Christi, our Peace and Social Justice Ministry, 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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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 Mass. *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

Columbiette'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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