



**SOLEMNITY of THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION
of THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY**

Holy Day of Obligation · December 8, 2018

MASS SCHEDULE AND PRIEST'S INTENTIONS

Sun, Dec 2	FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT
5:30 pm	† Yasuko Nicolas
8:00 am	† Mark Steckbauer
11:00 am	† Eduardo Ongpin
5:30 pm	For the People of the Parish
Mon, Dec 3	St Francis Xavier, Priest
8:00 am	† Ann Scott
Tue, Dec 4	Advent Weekday
8:00 am	† Bruce Campbell
Wed, Dec 5	Advent Weekday
8:00 am	† Rudy Arguiles
Thurs, Dec 6	St Nicholas, Bishop
9:00 am	† Edythe Heath
Fri, Dec 7	St Ambrose, Bishop, Doctor of the Church
8:00 am	† Edward Mendoza
Sat, Dec 8	THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY
	[holy day of obligation]
5:30 pm	For the People of the Parish
8:00 am	Sp Int Francis and † Donna Sposato
Sun, Dec 9	SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT
5:30 pm	† Jose C. Cruz; † Jose A. Cruz
8:00 am	† Archbishop Paul Bùi Văn Đọc
11:00 am	† Roseanne Head
5:30 pm	For the People of the Parish

FOOD AND FELLOWSHIP IN THE PARISH CENTER

All are welcome Sunday mornings after Mass.

- Dec 2 Food and Fellowship Sunday**
Sponsored by the International Catholic Families (ICF) Organization
 Join fellow parishioners for coffee, juice and donuts before heading home!
- Dec 9 School Sunday**
Sponsored by OLG School Families
 Stop by for complimentary coffee and refreshments. Contributions not necessary but gratefully accepted. Proceeds benefit OLG's Tuition Assistance Fund, the *Gerard Family Endowment for Catholic Education*.
- Dec 16 Wheelchair Sunday**
Sponsored by the Knights of Columbus, Frances Cabrini Council 8879
 Complimentary coffee, donuts, and baked goods from Flour Power Cakery. Funds received help to provide wheelchairs for children in Mexico.



Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary

Patronal Feast Day of the United States of America

Holy Day of Obligation, Dec 8

Masses will be celebrated on **Fri, Dec 7, at 5:30 pm (Vigil Mass)** and **Sat, Dec 8, at 8:00 am.**

Welcome to OUR LADY of GRACE!

Welcome to all who are joining us for the celebration of the Eucharist. There are many ways and parish organizations to participate in our life in Christ. See the directory on page 7.

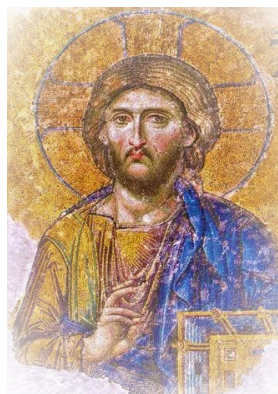
We invite all who attend OLG to become registered members of our parish. Registration forms are available on the table in the main entry of the church or the parish office. Registration allows us to communicate and effectively provide for your needs. It is necessary for baptism, marriage, and godparent or sponsor certification.

Mindfulness of Others—Please silence all devices and refrain from using them during the liturgy. The parish has a Children's Chapel located in the northwest corner of the church. Parents are welcome to make use of this chapel with restless children. We ask that this chapel, like the church itself, remain free of food and drink.

Allergies—The first morning Mass of the Sunday or feast day will always be incense-free.

Invitation to the RCIA

Our Lady of Grace Parish welcomes all who seek to enrich their faith life and explore the possibility of becoming a Catholic Christian. Our community



shares and celebrates this journey with them through a process called "*The Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults*." If you are curious about what Catholics believe and may be interested in learning more about joining the Catholic faith—or perhaps you are an adult Catholic looking to be fully initiated—you are cordially invited to enter the RCIA process this Fall and experience a new and enriched meaning to your life through renewed faith and love. For more information, please contact Deacon John Sawaya at (858) 869-5079.

READINGS FOR DEC 2-9

Sun:	Jer 33:14-16; 1 Thes 3:12—4:2; Lk 21:25-28, 34-36
Mon:	Is 2:1-5; Mt 8:5-11
Tue:	Is 11:1-10; Lk 10:21-24
Wed:	Is 25:6-10a; Mt 15:29-37
Thu:	Is 26:1-6; Mt 7:21, 24-27
Fri:	Is 29:17-24; Mt 9:27-31
Sat:	Gn 3:9-15, 20; Eph 1:3-6, 11-12; Lk 1:26-38
Sun:	Bar 5:19; Phil 1:4-6, 8-11; Lk 3:1-6

GUEST COLUMNIST

ALICE CAMILLE



How to Behave at the End of the World

Ask anyone what he or she would do if told that death is near, and chances are that person will have an answer for you. “Call my mother!” “Forgive my son.” “Spend all my money.” “Make peace with God.”

What this quick lesson in end-times diplomacy teaches us is that, deep down, each one of us knows we aren’t living right. We all have a back-up plan for how to live our lives when the gas gauge is near empty and the sputtering starts. Clarifying our end-time behavior and planning our exit strategy is instructive because it stands in for an examination of conscience for people of faith. What are we doing wrong, and what would we be doing differently if we expected to meet our Maker shortly? Having an answer to that question is important, because the clock is ticking.

Conducting ourselves to please God

Saint Paul put the matter before the Thessalonians in terms of behaving in such a way as to please God. He used the yardstick of love to measure their readiness. After all, in the Hellenized world, athletic ability was next to godliness, and so Paul prayed that the community would have strong hearts

well exercised by the practice of Christian charity.

Paul and his generation anticipated an early *parousia*, so the idea that Jesus might show up later today was no theological fantasy for them. It was more of a historical probability. Earlier prophets like Jeremiah thought the day of fulfillment was at hand, and God’s promises were about to be revealed so don’t turn your back. Oracles often come wrapped in imminence, if not immanence. God is near, the message always says, and amazing things are about to happen.

Why then do we doubt this? God remains near, and amazing things will happen to those with eyes to see. But often we look away, forget to mind our conduct and to exercise our hearts, and live instead as if God is on vacation from human history and won’t be back for millennia.

Even Jesus warns us that we should not allow our hearts to become drowsy from the pursuit of pleasure or, adversely, from the entertainment of anxiety. He advises his disciples to pray for strength, to be vigilant, and to hold up their heads with confidence. When the dazzling finale does come, and there is no doubt of it, we will need strong hearts to endure it.

But the end of the world? Puleeze!

It seems like a cheap Jedi trick, to use the lingo of *Star Wars* fans, to drag out fear of Armageddon to get the faithful in line. Isn’t that millennialist approach a little out of date? Besides, many of us no longer identify with the religion of fear and trepidation. “Apocalypse Soon” may not be the best argument to use for those on a spiritual journey toward a more likeable, less cataclysmic God.

For those who can’t or won’t go there when it comes to the Final Dissolution of All Things, then let’s talk about mortality, plain and simple. We’re all gonna die. The results have been tabulated, and the evidence is convincing that there’s no way out of this world except through the tomb. Even acknowledging the handful of possible biblical exceptions (Enoch, Elijah, and in some traditions, John the disciple), the odds are astronomically high that you and I are not getting out without paying the wage of sin. Because this fact is surer than the weather report, the condition of the stock market, the health benefits of vitamin E, and everything else we put our faith in so blithely, we might consider

(Continued on page 4)

OUR LADY OF GRACE
CHURCH
Founded 1954

CLERGY

PASTOR

Very Rev. Peter McGuine

AUXILIARY PRIESTS

Rev. Gino Correa, OFM

Very Rev. Kevin Mullins, OSA

PRIESTS IN RESIDENCE

Rev. Hugh Barbour, O.Praem.

DEACON

Dcn. John Sawaya

SCHEDULE of MASSES

SUNDAY VIGIL

(Saturday) 5:30 pm

•

SUNDAY

8:00 am, 11:00 am, 5:30 pm

•

MONDAY–SATURDAY

8:00 am

Holy days and holidays listed separately in bulletin.

SACRAMENTS

INFANT BAPTISM

Baptisms are celebrated on the second and fourth Sundays of each month at 12:30 pm. Preparation packet is available in the parish office.

RITE of CHRISTIAN
INITIATION of ADULTS

Contact Deacon Sawaya
(858) 869-5079.

HOLY MATRIMONY

Marriage preparation begins nine months in advance.

Please contact
Fr. Peter McGuine or
Deacon Sawaya.

PENANCE AND
RECONCILIATION

Monday 6:00 pm
Thursday 8:30 am
Saturday 4:00 pm

ANOINTING of THE SICK

Call the parish office
(619) 469-0133

(Continued from page 3)

taking our death more seriously than we normally do.

To put it another way: Despite walking an hour a day, eating the right foods, watching our weight, and using Benecol instead of butter, we're still, incarnately speaking, toast in the long run. So the end is near, and God's promises *are* at hand. Therefore it remains a good idea to trust in their generosity and be forewarned about their immediacy.

Starting over in Advent

The world around us has been getting Christmassy since the end of the summer, regrettably, so it seems very dark and Catholic of us to be fretting about the end of the world at the start of Advent. And yet nothing could be timelier. We Christians do not simply commemorate the coming of Mary's baby into the world in this season, but the everlasting promise of Jesus being with us, "to, to the end of time." *Especially*, we might add, at the end—ours or everybody's. The return of Jesus at the close of history or our return to Jesus on our dying day is a seamless garment of truth and an article of faith. For those who think the Apocalypse is too grim a subject for Advent, I'd say, "The end of suffering and evil and death itself is supposed to be *good news*!"

So we start again, in Advent, with our eyes trained on the horizon of hope that will sustain us in those seasons when courage fails. With the gift of a

whole season to prepare for good news—and isn't our life just such a season?—we might consider what we'd do differently if we knew this was our last day. And then, consider further: Why not live that way every day?

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Our Lady of Grace Catholic School



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TO PURCHASE TICKETS



Advent Penance Services El Cajon Deanery

Parish	Day	Date	Time
St. Therese, San Diego	Tues	12/4	7:00 pm
St. John of the Cross, Lemon Grove	Wed	12/5	7:00 pm
Holy Trinity, El Cajon	Thurs	12/6	7:00 pm
St. Martin of Tours, La Mesa	Mon	12/10	7:00 pm
St. Kateri Tekakwitha, Lakeside/Barona	Tues	12/11	7:00 pm
Guardian Angels, Santee	Tues	12/11	7:00 pm
Santa Sophia, Spring Valley	Wed	12/12	7:00 pm
St. Luke, El Cajon	Thurs	12/13	7:00 pm
Our Lady of Perpetual Help, Lakeside	Mon	12/17	9:00 am
Our Lady of Perpetual Help, Lakeside	Mon	12/17	7:00 pm
OUR LADY OF GRACE, El Cajon	Wed	12/19	7:00 pm
St. Pius X, Jamul	Thurs	12/20	7:00 pm

Eucharistic Exposition & Benediction

Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament is scheduled in the church with OLG School on **Tues, Dec 4, immediately following the 8:00 am Mass. Benediction will take place at 11:40 am.** Attend and spend some time with the Lord in prayer.



Joie de Vivre
JOY OF LIFE

GALA 2019
Our Lady of Grace Catholic School
SATURDAY, JANUARY 26, 2019
LA JOLLA MARRIOTT
5:30pm

VISIT WWW.OLG.ORG
TO PURCHASE TICKETS

Retirement Fund for Religious

Please give generously to the upcoming collection.

ESCAPE—MIDDLE SCHOOL MINISTRIES (GR. 6-8)**Christmas Cookie Baking**

Santa Sophia Church, **Dec 7**, 6:30-8:30 pm.

Christmas Caroling

Good Samaritan Rest Home, **Dec 11**, 6:00-7:00 pm
(Excursion to Starbuck's follows!)

Permission slips required; contact Doris at (619) 466-5451 or dhertzig@olg-church.org to have one emailed.

**NEW LIFE—HIGH SCHOOL YOUTH MINISTRY
GRADES 9-12**

New Life Youth Group meets on **Sundays at 6:30 pm** in the Youth Room located on the back side of Lauerma Hall. All high school students are welcome!

END OF YEAR STOCK AND/OR IRA DONATION INFO**Stock Donations**

A gift of your securities, including stocks or mutual funds, is an easy way to make a gift. By making a gift of your appreciated securities, you can avoid paying capital gains tax that would otherwise be due if you sold these assets. Contributions are deductible for tax purposes. There are no transaction fees or other costs and the full value of the sold securities benefits the parish, school or other Catholic charity you select.

More importantly, the question you may want to consider is this: Have I been blessed with many gifts and am I inspired by Gospel teaching and my Catholic values that charitable giving is a profound and joy-inspiring expression of love and gratitude? How can I live out my Catholic values and put them into action for the greater good of the community? Your stock contribution will help you live out your Catholic values and benefit your parish or school at the same time.

For more information on making a gift please visit our diocesan website at www.sdcatholic.org and

click on Giving – Stock Donations at the top of the website. Or, you may contact the Office for Stewardship, Manny Aguilar, at (858) 490-8294 or call Daniel Pritchard at Merrill Lynch, the Diocese's broker, at (760) 930-3122.

IRA Required Minimum Distributions

As scripture reads, "Jesus said, Give and it will be given to you...For the measure you give will be in turn, the measure that you get back." After years of contributing to tax-deferred IRAs and 401(k)s, income tax is due on that money when a person withdraws it in retirement. Annual withdrawals from traditional retirement accounts are required after age 70½. But, IRA owners that are 70½ or older may make charitable contributions of up to \$100,000 per year directly to an eligible charity (e.g., Catholic Parish, School, Foundation, etc.) without paying income tax on the transaction. If you file a joint return, your spouse may also make a charitable contribution of up to \$100,000, meaning couples can exclude up to \$200,000 of their retirement savings from income tax if they do-

PRAYER REQUESTS

Please pray for those who have requested prayer and for the special intentions written in the *Book of Intentions* in the Baptistry of our church.

John Adams
Patricia Adams
Olive Bauer
John Benito
Tom Bickhaus
Eleanor Bigknife
Nicole Burger
Pat Burke
Stephanie Butcher
Margaret Campbell
Joanne Canfield
Kyle Cearley
Eileen Clemons
Mike Coit
Leo Dela Cruz
John Cunningham
Julie Ayn Discenza
Susana Felix
Bernie Flaherty
Leona Flavin
Bob Franc
Msgr. Michael Glenn
Gloria Grajeda
Roseanna Greene
Mark Habina
Leigh Hartman
Dick Harper
Margie Hays
Brenda Hilgeman

Joseph Hoover
Susan Hori
Patricia Hough
Debbie Howell
Sue Houze
Diann Jacoby
Donna Kater
Frances Krulikowski
Rob Laxon
Bob Leshner
Jack Little
José A. Lopez
Peter Lopez, Jr.
Rosy Martin
Mary Martinez
Jim Maxwell
Rita McNeely
Barbara Messier
Autumn Montgomery
Allen Moore
Sean O'quin
Jim Quinn
Silverio Guntang Ramirez
Erb Said
Theresa Smith
Francisco Jesus Tenorio
The Tenorio Family
Andy Tong
Nora Grace Weigel

Names remain listed for four weeks and can be renewed by contacting Marie Pospichal at mpospichal@olg-church.org

nate it to a charity. Qualified charitable contributions must be made by December 31 each year in order to exclude that amount from income.

Charitable contributions can only be made from IRAs, not 401(k)s or similar types of retirement accounts. Donors might need to roll funds over from a 401(k) to an IRA if they want to make tax-free charitable contributions part of their retirement plan. A donor doesn't need to itemize their taxes in

order to make an IRA charitable distribution. Donors should consult with their personal tax advisors on the donations and the tax implications. Donors may make these donations directly to the parish, school or ministry of their choice or they may make it through the Diocese of San Diego at no additional cost. Contact the Office for Stewardship, Manny Aguilar, at (858) 490-8294 or magui-lar@sdccatholic.org for more information.



Recycle your **aluminum cans and plastic bottles (only)** by dropping them into the Knights of Columbus recycle bin located in the upper parking lot. **Thank you!**

YOUNG ADULTS—AGES 18-39

OLG's Young Adult Group meets in Lauerman Hall on the **first three Thursdays** of every month, 7:30-9:00 pm. The next meeting is **Dec 6**. All young adults are welcome! Contact Bernadette at bernihilge@gmail.com for more information.

Catholic Young Adult Sports is hosting a recreation outdoor basketball league starting **Jan 6** at Our Lady of Perpetual Help Church (13208 Lakeshore Dr, Lakeside). Come play with us on Sundays! Got friends who might want to play? Think about being a team captain! Either way, call Jim Palen for pricing and other details! (Hint: it's cheaper than other leagues!) Early team and free agent registration is discounted through Dec 6. Contact Jim at (619) 384-2918 or james@catholicyoungadultsports.com for more information.

Catholic Daughters Christmas Home Tour



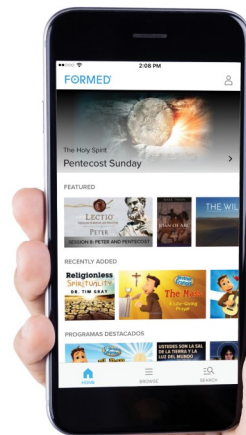
Save the date of **Sat, Dec 8!** The **Santa Sophia Catholic Daughters of the Americas** is hosting a **Christmas Home Tour**. On the tour: eight homes in the Spring Valley/La Mesa area plus the parish rectory, all decorated in the spirit of Christmas. You'll have from 10:00 am to 4:00 pm to enjoy visiting these uniquely

decorated homes along with Christmas treats to sample, caroling, and raffle prizes. Pre-sale tickets are \$20.00. Tickets purchased on the day of the event are \$25.00. For tickets or more info, contact Bonni at (619) 244-3938.

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WEEKLY OFFERING REPORT

November 19-25, 2018

\$13,879.72

Plate	\$1,762.55
Envelopes	\$8,573.17
Online Giving	\$3,544.00

Breakdown of gifts received

\$0.01 - \$5.00	72
\$5.01 - \$10.00	67
\$10.01 - \$25.00	128
\$25.01 - \$50.00	75
\$50.01 - \$100.00	33
\$100.01 - \$150.00	4
\$150.01 - \$500.00	6
\$500.01 - Over	1

Total Contributing Households

386

Additional Gifts

Building Fund	\$572.00
Food Pantry	\$1,379.00
National Needs Collection	\$1,387.00
Retirement Fund for Religious	\$125.00
World Mission Sunday	\$100.00
Thanksgiving Day	\$2,082.24

Secure Parish Online Giving

**Give a one time gift
or set up recurring gifts.**

Visit olg-church.org and click on the Online Giving button in the upper right corner or use the QR code with your smart phone app.

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OUR LADY of GRACE PARISH AND SCHOOL DIRECTORY

2766 NAVAJO ROAD, EL CAJON, CA 92020



PARISH OFFICE

PHONE: (619) 469-0133
 FAX: (619) 469-0575
 WEB: OLG-CHURCH.ORG
 HOURS: WEEKDAYS 8:30 AM–4:30 PM

Pastor **FR. PETER MCGUINE** | Ext. 17
 Deacon **DCN. JOHN SAWAYA**
 Business Manager **PATRICIA KANE** | Ext. 12
 Bookkeeper **RACHEL TEIXEIRA** | Ext. 16
 Office Manager **MARIE POSPICHAL** | Ext. 10
 Office Assistant **ELIZABETH MAY** | Ext. 10
 Publicity & Communications **VACANT** | Ext. 13
 Housekeeping **MARIA ARIAS**
 Maintenance & Facilities **DAN BRESLIN** | Ext. 24
MATTHEW HILGEMAN

LITURGICAL MINISTRIES

Liturgy Coordinator **ROSA HILGEMAN** | Ext. 14
 Director of Liturgical Music **PAUL MAY** | Ext. 26
Cantate Kids and Gaudete Choir (11:00 am Sun)
 Director **ROBERT FILLEY**
Laude Ensemble (5:30 pm Sun)

FAITH FORMATION MINISTRY

PHONE: (619) 466-5656
 Coordinator **GEORGENE KRUZEL** | Ext. 2
 Youth Ministry Coord. **DORIS HERTZIG** | (619) 466-5451
Jr. High, High School
 Young Adults **BERNADETTE ROSE HILGEMAN**
Ages 18–39



To email members of the parish staff, please visit our website at:

olg-church.org

Click on "Contact Us" in the upper right corner of the browser window.

Reporting Sexual Abuse

Complaints about sexual abuse by a member of the clergy or by a parish or Catholic school employee or volunteer can be made by contacting Lisa Petronis at (858) 490-8353 or sdcatholic.org.

Cover: *Immaculate Conception* by Peter Paul Rubens (1577-1640). Painting, oil on canvas, circa 1628. Museo del Prado, Madrid.



PARISH SCHOOL

PHONE: (619) 466-0055
 FAX: (619) 466-8994
 WEB: OLG.ORG
 HOURS: WEEKDAYS 7:15 AM–3:30 PM
(DURING SCHOOL YEAR)

Principal **SUSAN HAUSE** | Ext. 11
 shause@olg.org
 Development & Admissions **KELLI BALISTRERI** | Ext. 16
 kbalistreri@olg.org
 Secretary **LINDA PETERS** | Ext. 10
 lpeters@olg.org

PARISH MINISTRIES AND ORGANIZATIONS

55 PLUS CLUB
 Mary Cloward (619) 463-1129
CATHOLIC WOMEN'S CLUB—CWC
 CWC—Mary Cloward (619) 463-1129
 Book Club—Julie Hazelton (619) 461-2448
 Craft Fair—Kathy Porterfield (619) 980-6841
CENTERING PRAYER
 Irma Eichinger M, 9:00-10:30 am (619) 449-8400
 Beatrice Doblado M, 6:30-8:00 pm (619) 905-6279
CUB SCOUTS—Pack 951
 Angela Bottini thebottinis@gmail.com
CURSILLO
 Dcn. John Sawaya (858) 869-5079
EVENTS COMMITTEE
 Nettie Aguinaldo (619) 251-2214
FOOD PANTRY—Since 1981
 Bob Cosgrove M–F, 9:00–11:00 am (619) 469-0061
HOLIDAY ANGELS—Since 1988
 Lesley Bradley (619) 878-0278
INTERNATIONAL CATHOLIC FAMILIES—ICF
 Carla Pedroncelli (619) 368-2585
KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS—Frances Cabrini Council 8879
 Ron Rosehart, Grand Knight (619) 888-2198
LADIES OF GRACE
 Anna Asaro (619) 855-0359
LEGION OF MARY—Since 1987
 Dee Draper (619) 464-4169
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 Steve Faucher (619) 449-9176
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