OUR LADY of GRACE CATHOLIC CHURCH



MASS SCHEDULE AND PRIEST'S INTENTIONS

Sun, Dec 22	FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT
5:30 pm	† Hank Marcotte
8:00 am	† Mark Steckbauer
11:00 am	
5:30 pm	† For the People of the Parish
Mon, Dec 23	Advent Weekday
8:00 am	† Malachy Kelly
	Evening confessions are cancelled.
Tues, Dec 24	Advent Weekday
8:00 am	† Edward J. & † Joan Maucere
	VIGIL OF THE NATIVITY OF THE LORD
3:30 pm	† Magdalene Shaw
6:30 pm	† Hank Marcotte
10:00 pm	† For the People of the Parish
Wed, Dec 25	THE NATIVITY OF THE LORD
	(CHRISTMAS) [holy day of obligation]
9:00 am	† Deceased Members of the Cruz &
	Hilgeman Families
11:00 am	† Jack Cloward
Thurs, Dec 26	
	Sp Int Michael Hilgeman
•	SAINT JOHN, APOSTLE, EVANGELIST
8:00 am	† Joeman Villavicencio
Sat, Dec 28	THE HOLY INNOCENTS, MARTYRS
8:00 am	† Anthony Tornay
Sun, Dec 29	THE HOLY FAMILY OF JESUS, MARY
5.00	AND JOSEPH
5:30 pm	For the People of the Parish
8:00 am	† Frank & † Aurora Echeandia
11:00 am	Sp Int Blake Comfort
5:30 pm	† Rosanna Spearendo

FOOD AND FELLOWSHIP IN THE PARISH CENTER

All are welcome after morning Masses.

Dec 22 Sunday Pancake Breakfast

Sponsored by the Knights of Columbus On the menu: delicious, hot pancakes, bacon, sausage, eggs, fruit, coffee, juice and milk. Biscuits and gravy also available as an "add on." Proceeds benefit the various charities of the Knights of Columbus.

Dec 29 Farewell to 2019

No hospitality service this morning Please enjoy post-Mass hospitality on your own with friends and/or family!

Jan 1 Welcome the New Year | Mass at 9:00 am Sponsored by the Events Committee Join fellow parishioners for coffee, juice and donuts before heading home.

Jan 5 Food and Fellowship Sunday Sponsored by the members of the International Catholic Families (ICF) organization On the menu: Breakfast Surprise!

Welcome to OUR LADY of GRACE!

elcome 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 with restless children are welcome to make use of this chapel at any time during Mass should it be necessary. We ask that this chapel, like the church itself, remain free of food and drink.

Allergies—The first morning Mass of the Sunday or holy day will always be incense-free. The Sunday 11:00 am Mass will always include the use of incense.

Invitation to the R.C.I.A.

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 *R.C.I.A.* process and experience a new and enriched meaning

to your life through renewed faith and love. For more info, please contact Deacon John Sawaya at (858) 869-5079 or jsawaya@olg-church.org.

READINGS FOR DEC 22 - 29

Sun:	Is 7:10-14; Rom 1:1-7; Mt 1:18-24
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Mon: Mal 3:1-4, 23-24; Lk 1:57-66

- **Tue:** 2 Sm 7:1-5, 8b-12, 14a, 16; Lk 1:67-79 *Vigil:* Is 62:1-5, Acts 13:16-17, 22-25; Lk 2:1-14
- Wed: Night: Is 9:1-6; Ti 2:11-14; Lk 2:1-14 Day: Is 52:7-10; Heb 1:1-6; Jn 1:1-18 or 1:1-5, 9-14

Thu: Acts 6:8-10; 7:54-59; Mt 10:17-22

- Fri: 1 Jn 1:1-4; Jn 20:1a, 2-8
- **Sat:** 1 Jn 1:5–2:2; Mt 2:13-18
- **Sun:** Sir 3:2-6, 12-14; Col 3:12-21 or 3:12-17; Mt 2:13-15, 19-23

GUEST COLUMNIST

ALICE CAMILLE

The Right Way to be Righteous

🚺 hat is a righteous person supposed to look like? We can make all kinds of guesses, some scholarly, others opinionated. The prophets might declare a soul righteous who walks in the path of justice and peace. A person who exhibits a preferential option for the poor is righteous in a Catholic sort of way. The martyrs of the church were certainly righteous in their love of God more than their own lives. We can make moral judgments or insist on a particular display of bravery as the litmus test for this quality. And all of these notions, while admirable, would all be wrong from a Hebrew point of view.

The Hebrew word for righteousness implied a true weight, as the one used to balance an honest scale. A righteous weight is one that is what it says it is. Righteousness described a straight path that goes directly without meandering to its destination. A sacrificial offering was righteous if it followed the prescriptions of the law flawlessly. The measure of this characteristic is met when a thing meets its standard perfectly. That's why, according to the Hebraic use of the word, a righteous person is one who keeps the law.

Joseph, betrothed to Mary, was deemed a righteous man. In terms of salvation history, is this a good thing?

Fast-forward to Paul

ow Paul of Tarsus, he was a righteous fellow. A Pharisee well esteemed by the Sanhedrin, he was ferocious enough in service to the law that he was eager to hand over Christian "lawbreakers" to their deaths. Their leader, Jesus, was an infamous lawbreaker himself. not respecting the Sabbath imperative and interacting with the unclean: the sick. women with a flow of blood, the dead, and Samaritans. Jesus was clearly not among the righteous, and Paul saw such people as a threat to God's holy way of doing things. Such people, Paul was certain, were blasphemers even if they didn't happen to say I AM in regard to themselves.

It is extraordinary to consider that one day Paul would call himself a "slave of Christ Jesus" without blushing. The spotless Pharisee would submit himself to the authority of one who had declared himself the "lord of the Sabbath." Paul would come to believe that the freedom of the children of God was a greater thing than absolute observance of the law. It was to this outrageous freedom that Paul chose to enslave himself.

Those who are militantly law-abiding today, moralists par excellence, will have trouble hearing this message. Rules are not made to be broken, and the lines are drawn so that we might live tightly within their perimeters. The right-



eous today are not unlike those of biblical times. They want a society in which values are black and white, good and evil are clearly defined, and sinners and saints have nothing in common. I saw a bumper sticker for 2 Corinthians 6:17 recently. In front of me on the freeway was a righteous person for sure, for the citation reads: "Go out from among them and be ye separate, saith the Lord, and touch not the unclean thing."

Backpedal to Ahaz

s prophets go, Isaiah A was a great one. Chances are if he had an oracle for you, it could be trusted. But King Ahaz was a cautious character, motivated more by fear than obedience to the divine command. This is a red alert for righteousness: the literal fear of the Lord. When Isaiah tells Ahaz that God wants to give him a sign, Ahaz strikes a pious pose: "I will not tempt the Lord!" Truth is, he doesn't want to get anywhere near the Lord.

Real obedience involves listening, and Ahaz isn't listening. There's a difference between demanding a sign from the Almighty and being offered one free of charge. Isaiah pronounces God "weary" of religious posturing in the guise of goodness. Since Ahaz will not choose a sign, God makes the selection for him. The Emmanuel prophecy is the result.

OUR LADY OF GRACE CHURCH Founded 1954

CLERGY

PASTOR Very Rev. Peter McGuine

AUXILIARY PRIEST *Rev. Gino Correa, OFM*

PRIESTS IN RESIDENCE Rev. Jerome Molokie, O Praem. Rev. Curtiss Duyer, LT, CHC, USN

> **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.

Advent Penance Services El Cajon Deanery			
Parish	Day	Date	Time
Our Lady of Perpetual Help, Lakeside	Mon	12/23	9:00 am 7:00 pm

Confession on Monday evening, **Dec 23** is canceled.

Our Lady of Grace Christmas Eve and Christmas Day Masses

Christmas Eve | Tue, Dec 24

Christmas hymns and songs will precede all three Christmas Eve Masses for 30 minutes

3:30 pm Mass with homily for children and their families
6:30 pm Mass with homily for children and their families
10:00 pm Mass at Night

Christmas Day | Wed, Dec 25 Mass at 9:00 and 11:00 am

Parish offices will be closed Dec 25 and Jan 1.

HAPPY NEW YEAR! Mary, Mother of God | Wed, Jan 1 Holy day; obligation to attend Mass dispensed Mass at 9:00 am

Food Pantry Collection Weekend

ood Collection Weekend, the third weekend of the month, is **this week**end! Please support our pantry by bringing nonperishable food to any of the entrances of the church before Mass. Monetary gifts are welcome and gratefully accepted. Gifts may be made by way of the special envelopes marked "Food Pantry" or the parish website, olg-church.org, using the "Online Giving" link. *Thank you!*

It's Time for Bunco!

The Catholic Women's Club in-



vites with both men and women to a fun day of lunch and BUNCO at 11:00 am on Sat, **Jan 4**, in the Parish Center. Cost

is \$20.00 per person; lunch included. Bring your friends! Don't know how to play? We will teach you! There will be lots of cash prizes and a raffle. RSVP to Nettie at (619) 251-2214!

OLG Blood Drive

Sun, Jan 12, 9:00 am to 2:00 pm, behind the Parish Cen-



ter. For appointments, visit: <u>sandiegobloodbank.org</u>, click on "Donate Blood Today," and search for the blood drive taking place at Our Lady of Grace Catholic Church.

Parishioners can call the San Diego Blood Bank at (619) 296-6393 to use the OLG Church blood account.

For questions call Frank at (619) 448-8181 or (619) 672-8332.

(Continued from page 3)

To Joseph at last

he carpenter Joseph shows every sign of being a righteous Jew. He betrothed himself to the virgin Mary and now she's turned up undeniably pregnant. The right thing to do is to cancel the wedding and divorce her, as the custom required. Mary might also be turned over to the elders for judgment and, possibly, stoning. We hear enough about socalled honor killings in the Middle East these days to know that such an outcome is well within the range of probability.

But there's one word in this story that tips us off to the idea that Joseph is more than a strictly righteous man. The word is "quietly." Now, Joseph is not exactly heroic in this portrayal. He doesn't go out there on a cultural limb and actually talk to Mary about her situation: take a risk, question her about the circumstances and maybe even believe the scenario she might posit. He doesn't go the greater compassionate distance and consider marrying her despite the uncomfortable reality taking shape in her. But he does

2020 Appointment Calendars

C alendars are available in the parish office and in the church while supplies last. One per household please. Compliments of Holy Cross Catholic Cemetery and Mausoleum. For info about Holy Cross please call: (619) 264-3127. take one step beyond righteousness when he resolves to divorce her without exposing her presumed sin. He will not offer her the mantle of his protection, but he will provide her with the opportunity to come forward with the father of the child and marry him instead.

It's this small step outside the pale of righteousness that God exploits with the usual extravagance. Quickly, the angel is dispatched, the dream reveals, and Joseph is offered the chance to make the leap of faith. Eternity may hang on the slenderest reed of opportunity.

Beyond righteousness

iving in the law is not necessarily a bad thing, and rules are certainly useful guidelines. But moral absolutism tempts us to sin by closing our hearts to the risk that trust, compassion, and courage represent. Joseph was a righteous man, but he was also more than that. Even a mustard seed beyond righteousness is enough to bring the kingdom of God closer into view.

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Living Faith Catholic Devotional Booklets

Booklets for Jan-Mar 2020

are available in the parish office for \$1.00 each while supplies



last. Sorry, no large print books are available.



It's OLG Holiday Angels team collection day! Thank you to the many parish families who contributed to bringing Christmas joy to struggling families in our area through this ministry effort. To be a part of this amazing charity effort watch for the 2020 sign-up campaign in Fall 2020!

PRAYER REQUESTS

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

Patricia Adams Griselda Albanez Heriberto Albanez Betty Anderson Eleanor Bigknife Angie Biner Anita Branch Pat Burke Stephanie Butcher Tim Clasemen Rosemary Cosgrove Chris Davis Vincy Discenza Steve Duggins Gary Ferris Chelsea Fuich Dawn Garofalo Gloria Grajeda Angela Grohall Mark Habina Leigh Hartman **Bill Harrington Family** Beth Haworth

Hannah Hilgeman Susan Hori Debbie Howell José A. Lopez Peter Lopez, Jr. Natalie Mascari Allen Moore **Stephanie Navrides** Linda Qzden Patricia Parent Apollonia Peklar Jim Ouinn Silverio Ramirez Ann Renzi Anthony Renzi Carter Santos Clayton Schenkelberg Theresa Smith Tillie Sousa Hibe Thornton Andy Tong Marilyn Winger Kirsten Winterhouse

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

ESCAPE—MIDDLE SCHOOL YOUTH MINISTRY GRADES 6-8

L azer Tag - Mark your calendar for Fri, Jan 10, when the middle school youth will visit *Ultra Zone* for two games of Lazar Tag followed by an excursion to *In and Out Burger*. The event lasts from 7:30 to 10:30 pm. Parents must provide transportation to and from this event and a permission form will be available on the parish website <u>olg-church.org</u> Escape page or available from the youth office.

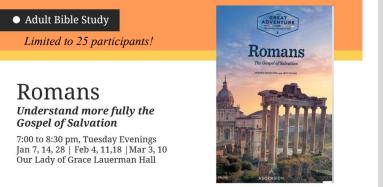
New Life—High School Youth Ministry Grades 9-12

There will be no New Life Youth Group on **Dec 22** or **29**.



Plan now to attend LA Youth Day in Anaheim! Thu, **Feb 20**, we'll travel by bus for this amazing day with 15,000 teens from all over the Southwest. Registration and Permission Forms will be available for you on the on the Youth Ministry page of the parish website: <u>olg-church.org.</u> Registrations are due Sun, **Jan 5**.

For any questions about Escape, New Life, or their activities please contact Doris at dhertzig@olg-church.org or call her at (619) 466-5451.



To register, visit "Upcoming Events" at olg-church.org.

End of Year Reminders

Donations received or postmarked by Dec 31 will be included in your 2019 contribution statement which will be mailed no later than Jan 31, 2020.

2019 Annual Catholic Appeal

The Annual Catholic Appeal (ACA) ensures our diocese can carry out our mission to support priestly formation, assist the poor and vulnerable people, provide partial funding for some Catholic Schools, and fund tuition assistance for Catholic school students. Your gifts also support our Restorative Justice and Detention Ministry programs. **Please remember to finish all payments for your 2019 ACA pledge before Dec 31**. Any payments made after Dec 31 will be attributed to your 2020 statement. If you would still like to participate in the 2019 Appeal, visit <u>sdcatholic.org</u>. Thank you!

OUR LADY OF GRACE CATHOLIC SCHOOL

Kindergarten, Elementary & Junior High Now Enrolling for Fall 2020

SCHOOL VISITS MAY BE SCHEDULED DAILY, CONTACT US FOR AN APPOINTMENT TODAY!



WWW.OLG.ORG 619.466.0055 | INFO@OLG.ORG

\$10,000 DRAWDOWN

\$100 PER TICKET - ONLY 200 TICKETS WILL BE SOLD!

WINNER WILL BE DRAWN ON SATURDAY, JANUARY 25, 2020 AT THE VIEJAS RESORT DURING GALA 2020 - NEED NOT BE PRESENT TO WIN -ALL PROCEEDS DIRECTLY BENEFIT OUR PARISH SCHOOL! TICKETS AVAILABLE AT ALL WEEKEND MASSES AND IN THE SCHOOL OFFICE

66 The giver of every good and perfect gift has called upon us to mimic His giving by grace, through faith, and this is not of ourselves." ~ *St. Nicholas*

WEEKLY OFFERING REPORT

Dec 10 - 16, 2019	\$16,628.47
Plate	\$ 1,789.09
Envelopes	\$11,939.38
Online Giving	\$ 2,900.00
Breakdown of gifts received	
\$0.01 - \$5.00	60
\$5.01 - \$10.00	69
\$10.01 - \$25.00	127
\$25.01 - \$50.00	74
\$50.01 - \$100.00	37
\$100.01 - \$150.00	8
\$150.01 - \$500.00	14
Total Contributing Households	389
Additional Gifts	
Building Fund	\$925.00
Christmas	\$771.00
Christmas Flowers	\$264.00
Faith Formation & Youth Ministry	\$705.00
Food Pantry	\$2,441.85
Holiday Angels	\$450.00
Immaculate Conception	\$150.00
National Needs Collection	\$100.00
Retirement Fund for Religious	\$3,129.00
School Support-Tuition Assistance	\$130.00

Secure Parish Online Giving Give a one-time gift or set up recurring gifts.

Visit <u>olg-church.org</u> and click on the "Online Giving" link in the upper right corner of the webpage (or use the QR code with your smart phone app!).



#1 holiday hack: When you buy your gifts at smile.amazon.com, Amazon donates. amazonsmile

Shop at <u>smile.amazon.com/ch/27-3860489</u> and Amazon will donate 0.5% of your purchase to Our Lady of Grace!

Fax:

WEB:

Laudate Ensemble (5:30 pm Sun)

OUR LADY of GRACE PARISH AND SCHOOL DIRECTORY

2766 NAVAJO ROAD, EL CAJON, CA 92020



	PARISH OFFICE	
PHONE:	(619) 469-0133	

(619) 469-0575 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	VACANT Ext. 10
Publicity & Communications	GEORGENE KRUZEL Ext. 33

Housekeeping MARIA ARIAS Maintenance & Facilities DAN BRESLIN, MATTHEW HILGEMAN & PATRICK ROGERS

LITURGICAL MINISTRIES

Liturgy Coordinator	Rosa Hilgeman Ext. 14	
Director of Liturgical Music Cantate Kids and Gaudete Cha	PAUL MAY Ext. 26 pir (11:00 am Sun)	
Director	ROBERT FILLEY	

ROBERT FILLEY

FAITH FORMATION MINISTRY

PHONE: (619) 466-5656

Director of Catechetical M	inistry LISSA HUTCHESON
Program Coordinator	GEORGENE KRUZEL
Youth Ministry Coord. J Jr. High, High School	Doris Hertzig (619) 466-5451
Young Adults (18-39 urs)	Bernadette Rose Hilgeman

bernhilge@gmail.com

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 calling (858) 490-8353 or writing misconduct@sdcatholic.org.

Please submit bulletin articles to media@olg-church.org at least10 days before your requested publication date. Articles are considered on a space available basis.



Fax:

Web:

Hours:

PARISH SCHOOL

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

Interim Principal	Erin Mares Ext. 11
Vice-Principal	RACHEL SATO Ext. 27 rsato@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		(610)	462 1100
Mary Cloward		(619)	463-1129
CATHOLIC WOMEN'S CLUB- CWC—Mary Cloward	–CwC	(610)	462 1100
Book Club—Julie Hazelto	n		463-1129 461-2448
Craft Fair—Kathy Porterf	ield		980-6841
CENTERING PRAYER		()	
Irma Eichinger	М, 9:00-10:30 ат	(619)	449-8400
Beatrice Doblado	M, 6:30-8:00 pm		
CUB SCOUTS—Pack 951	1	()	
Crystal Carr	miscrys(00@hc	tmail.com
CURSILLO			
Dcn. John Sawaya		(858)	869-5079
EVENTS COMMITTEE			
Nettie Aguinaldo		(619)	251-2214
FOOD PANTRY—Since 198	1		
Bob Cosgrove M	I–F, 9:00–11:00 am	(619)	469-0061
Holiday Angels—Since 1	988		
Lesley Bradley		(619)	878-0278
INTERNATIONAL CATHOLIC	FAMILIES—ICF		
Carla Pedroncelli		(619)	368-2585
KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS-H	Frances Cabrini Cou	ncil 8	879
Kelly Missey, Grand Knig	ht	(858)	705-0773
LADIES OF GRACE			
Rose Marie McLain		(619)	466-3333
LEGION OF MARY—Since 1	987		
Dee Draper		(619)	464-4169
Men for Christ			
Steve Faucher		(619)	449-9176
MINISTRY TO THE SICK &	Homebound		
Rosa Hilgeman		(619)	469-0133
PRAYER QUILT MINISTRY-	-Since 2006		
Nettie Aguinaldo		(619)	251-2214
Pro-Life			
Mary Dixon			460-5150
Vicki Whitmire (40 Days	,	` '	647-5793
Walking with Purpose—Women's Bible Study			
Rebecca Krawczak		(619)	400-7916





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