



PARISH BULLETIN FOR JANUARY 24, 2016

MASS INTENTIONS

- Sat. Jan. 23: 5pm: *Pro Populo*
- Sun. Jan. 24: 7am: Special Intention
8:30am: Fr. Ken Nobrega
10:30am: Fr. Rafal Duda
12:30pm: +Sharon Schlageter
- Mon. Jan.25: 8am: Michelle
6pm: Abella and Reyes Families
- Tues. Jan. 26: 8am: Rose Stone
6pm: Filder and Rosa Marquez
- Wed. Jan. 27: 8am: Anora, Joseph Daniel & Family
6pm: Bryan Castillo
- Thurs. Jan. 28: 8am: Betty Garland
12pm: Lan Nguyen
6pm: Anora, Joseph Daniel & Family
- Fri. Jan. 29: 8am: Anora, Joseph Daniel & Family
6pm: Institute of Christ the King
- Sat. Jan. 30: 8am: Nancy and Joseph Brady
10am: Tito & Eleanor Tayco
5pm: *Pro Populo*

If you would like to have a Mass offered for a deceased loved-one or for your intentions, please contact the Parish Office. There are Masses still open for January 28-29, February 6, 10-13, 15-20, 23-27, and 29.

Congratulations to Hannah Grace Osias on her baptism at our Parish on Jan18, 2016. ●

Please keep in your prayers.... Fr. Stan Zak, Fr. Bill Marshall; Lianne Claver; Betty Garland; Alex Porcuna; Lewis Mullen; Carmel Mahoney; Nancy Duenas; Brad O’Leary; Titus Ekanem; Elisa & Giovanni Mancarti; Vic and Nancy Miloslavich; Kathryn Rieger; Judy & Louis Delligatti; Eugenia Hunter; Rose Bloom; Stella Lurton; Sue Weber; Cornelius McCauley; Laura Montgomery; Sara Zendejas; Rosaline White; Josephine Palacios; Annie Bozzardi; Francis Martinez, Mike Rodriguez; Patrick Ventanilla; Paul Ehrfurth; John Ehrfurth; Lily McWilliams; Anaidel Perezarevalo; Janice Siliger; Claudia Bermudez; Robert Martinez, Laverne Seliger; Eddie Martinez; Jim Gilheany; Nathan Knight, AJ Garcia. ●

His Hour Had Not Yet Come

As the lengthening shadows of Friday’s sun were closing about the little village that nestled in the cup of hills, a blast from the trumpet of the master of the synagogue proclaimed the beginning of the Sabbath. The following morning Our Blessed Lord went to the synagogue, where He had often been as a child and as a young man. Very likely when He entered the synagogue this time, the news of the miracles at Cana and at the Jordan where the heavens proclaimed His Divinity had already brought the people to a high pitch of expectancy.

Then Jesus, armed with the power of the Spirit, returned to Galilee; and reports about Him spread through the whole countryside. (Luke 4:14)

In the synagogue, He was given the Book of Isaiah. The particular prophecy which He read dealt with the Suffering Servant of God.

*The spirit of the Lord is upon me because
he has anointed me; he has sent me to
announce good news to the poor,
to proclaim release for prisoners
and recovery of sight for the blind; to let
the broken victims go free, to proclaim
the year of the Lord's favor (Luke 4:18-19).*

This passage was familiar to the Jews. It was an Old Testament prophecy concerning the release of the Jews from the Babylonian captivity. But He did something unusual; He took this text woven out of the Exile, and wrapped it around Himself. He changed the meaning of the “poor,” the “enslaved,” and the “blind.” The “poor” were those who had no grace and lacked union with God; the “blind” were those who had not yet seen the Light; the “enslaved” were those who had not yet purchased true freedom from sin. He then proclaimed that all these centered in Himself.

But above all, he declared the Jubilee. The Mosaic code made provision for every fiftieth inheritances which had, by the pressure of time, been alienated, were restored to their original owners; those who had mortgaged their liberty were restored to freedom. It was a Divine safeguard against monopolies; and it kept family life intact. The Jubilee year was to Him a symbol of His Messianic appearance which Jesus proclaimed because he had been anointed with the Spirit to do so. There were to be new spiritual riches, a new spiritual light, a new spiritual liberty, all centering in Him...” (Taken from *Life of Christ* by Fulton J. Sheen) ●

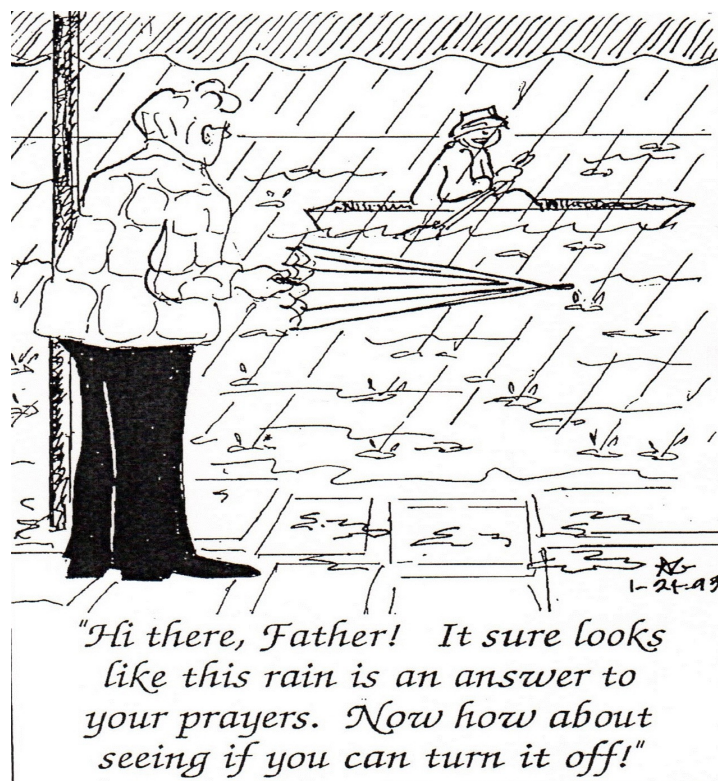
MESSAGE FROM FR. GLENN

For two weeks now we have been running cartoons entitled *Father's Flock* in the Parish bulletin. These cartoons first appeared in the 1980's. The characters in these cartoons are based on actual members of the Parish, many

of whom are still with us. The “Father” is of course Fr. Vladimir Kozina. And the writer of these cartoon was one of our parishioners, Arden Glass, who passed away in January of 2014.

Many of the old-times in our Parish will remember these humorous cartoons. However, a generation of new parishioners have grown up not having seen these illustrations and the simple yet charming humor in them.

And so in memory of Fr. Kozina and Arden Glass, for your edification, and to honor part of our Parish’s history, the bulletin is running some of these cartoons here.



In addition to announcements, the bulletin will also feature some works by spiritual authors. We’ve been running excerpts from works by Archbishop Fulton Sheen and Fr. Ronald Knox.

A small catechism on prayer by Fr. Gabriel of St. Mary Magdalen, OCD is also featured here. There is a great hunger out there for a deeper spiritual

life, a desire to come closer to God. Many folks want to learn how to pray more meaningfully. Fr. Gabriel small catechism gives the basics on prayer.

Many of you have inquired about Fr. Stan. I spoke with him this past Tuesday. He says he's a bit better now. I assured him that we continue to pray for him and wish him continued recovery. Please continue to pray for Fr. Stan.

I would like to thank our parishioners who took part in the Walk For Life this year. Especially to our young people, the JP2 Youth Group, who took part in the Walk. Thanks! ●

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Our annual Parish's **Novena For the Sick** begins on February 6th at the Vigil Mass at 5pm and continues through February 11th—the Memorial of Our Lady of Lourdes and World Day of the Sick. To include your loved-ones in the Novena, please write their names in the form found in the pews and in the vestibule (please write the names in capital letters). Then please send the form and your donation to the Parish. Their names will be entered in the Book of Prayer for the Sick, and the Novena Masses will be offered for their intentions. During the days of the Novena, the Book of Prayer will be enshrined before the image of Our Lady of Lourdes. The Novena Masses are on Feb. 6 (5pm), Feb. 7 (8.30am, 12.30pm), Feb. 8 (8am), Feb. 9 (8am, 6pm), Feb. 10 (8am, 6pm), and Feb. 11 (12pm).

At the 8am and 6pm Masses on February 11 (Thursday)—the Memorial of Our Lady of Lourdes and World Day of the Sick—the **Sacrament of Anointing for the Sick** will be made available. Please inform or accompany someone you love to Mass. Please occupy the front pews. Those who may receive the Anointing are those suffering from chronic illness and are in danger of death due to illness or old age.

If they cannot come to Mass, call the Parish Office and one of the priests of the Parish will visit and administer the Sacrament. ●

Monthly Holy Hour for Priests

Thanks to Alma Hill and Ann Graves who served the priests lunch last week and to Mary Sullivan who also did so last month for the **Monthly Holy Hour for Priests**. The main volunteer (the cook) has been procured for the remaining months until May, but we can use some extra volunteers to help out. If you are available to help on any specific month, please contact Lily Mullen to sign up at lily.mullen@gmail.com or (925)827-1946.

The priests who attend this monthly morning of prayer and recollection appreciate our efforts to provide a homemade meal and serve them. In this little way we say 'Thank You' for their ministry to us. ●

To all who donated towards Christmas poinsettias in memory of their loved ones, many

thanks. Thanks go to: Andrada, James; Basich, Helen; Bodie, John and Margaret; Brady, James and Nancy; Burkart, John and Valerie; Cerdenola, Priscilla; Connolly, Sean and Leiyan; Corley, Evan and Jennifer; Cumbelich, William and Sara; D'Souza, Nina; DaSilva, Grace; Day, Evelyn; De Ornelas, Maria; England, Carl; Franz, Larry; Grayson, Louise; Gulbransen, Jerry; Harris, Randolph and Bridgett; Isquirdo, Margaret and Diana; Jackson, Bernice; Kasdan, Diane; Kelly, Irene; Kiker, Jonathan and Rachel; Lange, Margaret; Lanzar, Ramon and Myrna; Linder, Rita; Maderious, Arlene; Matias, Rom and Amelia; Montgomery, Laura; Navaraini, Moreno and Nancy; Ngai, Cindy; O'Connor, Steve and Linda; Porcuna, Alejandro; ReKay, Cecilia; Rose, Douglas; Sevilla, Josefina; Sharrar, Mary Lou; Torres, Marguerite; Vieira; Watkins, Evan; Wikes, Brion and Claudia Bermudez; Wyborny, Mark and Lucia; Zeitz, Douglas and Karen. ●

The Diocese has made available a video series that follows the stories of the **14 Works of Mercy** in action throughout the Diocese of Oakland. The videos, each focused on one specific Work of Mercy, tell the stories of people from different parishes and all walks of life who have found ways to let God's Mercy shine through their actions. The videos will be released in pairs (one Spiritual Work video and one Corporal Work video) over the next three months. The first two videos in the Mercy Project series—"Feeding the Hungry" and "Forgive All Injuries"—were released January 12.

Both videos can be viewed at <http://jubileeofmercy-eb.org/> which is the Diocese's website marking the **Jubilee Year of Mercy**. Please reflect on these first two videos.

The corporal works of mercy are: feeding the hungry, giving drink to the thirsty; clothing the naked, sheltering the homeless, visiting the sick, visiting those in prison, burying the dead (such as by being present at a funeral or memorial service).

The spiritual works of mercy are counseling the doubtful, giving instruction, admonishing the sinner, comforting the afflicted, forgiving injuries, bearing wrongs patiently, praying for the living and the dead. ●

Alive To God

If only we could walk through the world at God's heels—so close to him, so alive to his presence, that we could share everything with him, refer to him every moment of sunshine, every shadow of uncertainty in our lives; accept everything he sends with conscious gratitude; obey the last whisper of his call...

How far we are, most of the time, even from that intermittent sense of God's presence! Even when we are doing something for him, how often we find that self, not God, is our true centre of reference! We take on some task with feelings of self-congratulations, because we are likely to do it well; we argue with a non-Catholic because we enjoy getting the best of the argument, enjoy putting our own view across, not consciously then and there wanting God's will to be done. Even when we are engaged in worshipping Him, how

often we think more of the people we are praying for than of the Person we are praying to, more of the ceremonies we are performing than of the King who is taking the march-past! Self always there, even when we are at our best; if only it were God always there, even when we are at our worst!

We would like to be alive to God, more than we are; can we do anything about it? Well, at least we can pray for it; it is a rare grace, but I do not think the request is presumptuous. I think, though, most of us could do something else, at least to predispose ourselves for the granting of such a favour. We could make a little more silence for God in our lives. We are so desperately keen, most of us, not to leave our attention unoccupied for a single moment: keeping the wireless on at all hours, picking up the newspaper, though we've already been through all that matters in it, just to while away three minutes before luncheon, humming a tune even as we walk down the street, as if we feared to be left, even for a moment, at the mercy of our thoughts—I wonder whether we couldn't afford, just now and again, to reverse that process? I mean to shut down, just for a minute or two, the busy distractions that are so welcome to us, and leave our minds free, by a deliberate interval of silence, to go back to God? They *will* go back to God, you know, if you let them; he is your centre, your sphere; there is no great effort of the mind needed, no fervent acts of the will. Just a minute or two stolen for God, when you find yourself waiting for a bus, or left with nothing to do while the kettle boils, or switching over from one occupation to another—I fancy this habit cultivated for a little, would bring some of us nearer to the thing we want.

(Taken from *A Retreat For Lay People* by Ronald Knox)

Carmelite Sisters in Kensington

Some of our parishioners are covering some expenses for food and household needs of the **Carmelite Sisters in Kensington**. If you would like to help, please write a check to St. Margaret Mary and in the memo enter "Carmelite Sisters." We also have collection boxes under the names: For the Carmelite Sisters and For the Poor which are attached to the wall by the St. Anthony statue in the church. Thank you for your generosity. ●

Faustina, Messenger of Divine Mercy, A Multimedia Drama with a Message of Mercy, Sun. Jan. 31, 7pm at Castro Valley Center for the Arts. Admission: \$15 each/\$12 Seniors and Youth under 17/\$40 per family of 4. Call Our Lady of Grace for tickets and information: (510) 537-0806 (Sponsored by OLG Church and School). ●

This week's **second collection** is for the Insurance and Diocesan Assessment. Last week's second collection for the Seminary totaled \$1,141. Next week's second collection will be for the St. Vincent dePaul Society. Thank you for your support. May God reward your generosity. ●

Weekly update	January 16th and 17th	Year-to-Date
Actual - 1st Plate	\$4,220	\$12,948
ParishPay-1st plate	\$1,160	\$3,480
Total 1st Plate	\$5,380	\$16,428
Goal	\$6,400	\$332,800 (Year-end goal)
Shortfall	\$1,020	\$316,372

MUSIC

Prelude: "Carols for Quiet Stops", ed. Fischer

Hymns: #, #328 Once in royal David's city

Mass at 5pm (Sat.) "Heritage Mass", Owen Alstott

Offertory at 5pm: Great is the Lord, Toolan

10:30am: Gregorian Mass IV, Offertory: In the Bleak Midwinter (choir)

Communion: I Wonder as I Wander

12:30pm: Gregorian Mass XI, Chorus Magnificat

Organ Postlude: "Noel", McKay ●

Little Catechism Of The Life Of Prayer

Chapter I: Prayer In The Contemplative Life

1. What is the Christian Life?

The Christian life is a life lived in conformity with the teachings of our Lord Jesus Christ, according to which we should direct all our actions to the glory of God, by loving Him and observing His holy laws. The Christian therefore lives ‘for God.’

5. What is the contemplative life?

The contemplative life is a form of Christian life in which one endeavors to live not only ‘for God,’ but also ‘with God.’ It is not restricted to religious, but can also be lived perfectly in the world. It is wholly concentrated on the quest for divine intimacy and for that reason multiplies, during the day, the so-called ‘spiritual exercises.’ These are especially exercises of prayer, which should be accompanied by exercises of mortification because, as St. Teresa, the great Teacher of the contemplative life, says: ‘prayer and too comfortable a life do not go together.’

6. What place does prayer hold in the contemplative life?

Prayer occupies the first place in the contemplative life, and practically, the contemplative life is a life of prayer. Hence contemplative Orders devote much time to prayer. In the Rule of Carmel, an eminently contemplative Order, the central precept is that of continual prayer: ‘Each one of you is to stay in his cell or nearby, pondering the Lord’s law day and night and keeping watch at his prayers.’ In fact Carmelite religious dedicate much time to prayer: they make mental prayer twice daily, they assist at Holy Mass, recite the Divine Office, and apply themselves to the presence of God during the day, not to speak of private exercises of devotion.

7. What is prayer?

Prayer is conversation with God in which we manifest to Him the desires of our hearts. Prayer can be vocal or mental.

8. What is vocal prayer?

Vocal prayer is that in which we recite a formula which expresses our desires; as for example the Our Father, taught us by Jesus, in which we make seven petitions to God. We recite this formula with the intention of honoring God. Often we do not think in a distinct way of the sense of the words we are pronouncing, but this does not hinder our prayer from being true prayer, provided the soul remains turned toward God with the desire of honoring Him. With a similar desire of honoring the Saints, prayer may also be directed to them. (By Fr. Gabriel of St. Mary Magdalen)

[**RETURN TO HOMEPAGE**](#)