

Church of the Transfiguration

4000 E. Castro Valley Blvd., Castro Valley, CA 94552-4908

(510) 538-7941 Fax (510) 538-7983 E-mail: transfig_office@sbcglobal.net Website: www.transfigchurch.com

December 6, 2015

Mission Statement: "Transfiguring Our Community Through Faith"



Lord Jesus Christ,
you have taught us to be merciful like the heavenly Father,
and have told us that whoever sees you sees Him.
Show us your face and we will be saved.
Your loving gaze freed Zacchaeus and Matthew from being enslaved by money;
the adulteress and Magdalene from seeking happiness only in created things;
made Peter weep after his betrayal, and assured Paradise to the repentant thief.
Let us hear, as if addressed to each one of us,
the words that you spoke to the Samaritan woman:
"If you knew the gift of God!"
You are the visible face of the invisible Father,
of the God who manifests his power above all by forgiveness and mercy:
let the Church be your visible face in the world, its Lord risen and glorified.
You willed that your ministers would also be clothed in weakness
in order that they may feel compassion for those in ignorance and error:
let everyone who approaches them feel sought after, loved, and forgiven by God.
Send your Spirit and consecrate every one of us with its anointing,
so that the Jubilee of Mercy may be a year of grace from the Lord,
and your Church, with renewed enthusiasm, may bring good news to the poor,
proclaim liberty to captives and the oppressed, and restore sight to the blind.
We ask this through the intercession of Mary, Mother of Mercy,
you who live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit for ever and ever.
Amen.

Rev. Mario L. Borges, Pastor • Rev. Terence O'Malley, Parochial Administrator
Deacon Martin J. Leach • Deacon John A. Mignano • Deacon Timothy L. Moore • Deacon Burton J. Rigley

SCHEDULE OF MASSES

Saturdays 4:00 p.m.
Sundays 7:30 a.m., 9:00 a.m., 11:00 a.m.
Monday-Friday 8:00 a.m. (Except First Fridays - 9:30 a.m.)
Communion Service - Saturdays, 8:00 a.m.

CONFESSIONS

Saturdays 3:00-3:45 p.m.

BAPTISMS: Pre-baptismal class is required. Class is held the second Tuesday of the month at 7:30 p.m. in the Marian Room, Parish Hall. Please call the Parish Office, 538-7941, to register.

MATRIMONY: Six months advance notice required. Please call the parish office.

WEDDING COORDINATOR: Mel Speed
(510) 909-9334 or melspeed@live.com

FUNERALS: Please contact the funeral home of your choice and then the parish office.

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION: Director, Patrice Ballinger
(510) 537-1502 or TransfigCCD@aol.com

RCIA: Rite of Christian Initiation for Adults
Director, Martin Mijalski. Please call the parish office.

MUSIC MINISTRY: Director, Alexander Katsman
(510) 538-7941, Ext. 302 or Transfig_Music@sbcglobal.net

LITURGICAL MINISTRY:

Liturgy Coordinator, Sean Cooper
Eucharistic Ministers, Stephen and Carina Kowalewski
Lectors, Barbara Mehan
Altar Servers, Alicia Antonio
Youth Liturgy, Michelle Gilman

FINANCE COUNCIL: Chairman, Mark Zaleski

PARISH ORGANIZATIONS: Catholic Youth Organization (CYO), 60 Plus or Minus Club, Hospitality Committee

SAINT VINCENT de PAUL SOCIETY: (510) 274-0830
Serving our community.

SICK & HOMEBOUND MINISTRY:
Claudia Paquette, (510) 537-8986

STEWARDSHIP: Chairperson, Ed Coelho, (510) 881-5705

WINGS "Women in God's Spirit": Bobbie Blackard, 510-581-4149
HALL MANAGER: Pat Ballinger, (510) 537-1502

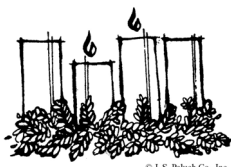
HALL RENTAL MANAGER: Ann McAusland, 510-239-7941

YOUTH MINISTRY: Sean Cooper, (510) 581-5870 or
Transfig_Youth@sbcglobal.net

PARISH OFFICE:

Phone: (510) 538-7941 **Fax:** (510) 538-7983
Hours: 8:00 a.m. — 4:30 p.m., Monday-Thursday
(Closed between 12:00 & 1:00 p.m.)
Friday, 9:00 a.m. — 12:00 Noon - Saturday & Sunday—Closed
Secretary, Gloria Meeker
Secretary/Bookkeeper, Phyllis Moore

Transfiguration Catholic Church



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Second Sunday of Advent

December 6, 2015

God has commanded
that every lofty mountain be made low.

— Baruch 5:7



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Mass Intentions (December 5-12, 2015)

Sat.	4:00p.m.	Elvira Gomes
Sun.	7:30a.m.	Bob Ferguson
	9:00a.m.	For the People
	11:00a.m.	Special Intention for Charles & Catherine Eduru
Mon.	8:00a.m.	Eduina & Augusto Silva and Antonio Freitas & Family
Tues.	8:00a.m.	For the People
	7:30p.m.	For the People
Wed.	8:00a.m.	Luiz Capela
Thurs.	8:00a.m.	Elvira Gomes
Fri.	8:00a.m.	Geri Dotson
Sat.	4:00p.m.	Special Intention for Manuel Silva & Family



Dear Parishioners,

A Message from the Pastor

December 8, 2015 will begin our Holy Year of Mercy until November 20, 2016. Pope Francis has called us to heal the wounds of division and hatred. He has called us to walk the way of forgiveness, reconciliation and Mercy.

People have asked me; what are “The Works of Mercy”? They are divided into two groups; Corporal and Spiritual.

The Corporal Works of Mercy are:

- To Feed the Hungry
- To Give Drink to the Thirsty
- To Clothe the Naked
- To Shelter the Homeless
- To Care for the Sick
- To Visit the Imprisoned
- To Bury the Dead

The Spiritual Works of Mercy are:

- To Convert Sinners
- To Instruct the Ignorant
- To Advise the Doubtful
- To Comfort the Sorrowful
- To Bear Wrongs Patiently
- To Forgive Injuries
- To Pray for the Living and Dead

This will indeed be a time for all of us to Heal, to Help and to Forgive. A time for us to put into practice the Golden Rule: DO UNTO OTHERS, AS YOU WOULD HAVE THEM DO UNTO YOU.

Blessings Upon All,
Fr. Mario Borges

The Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary
Tuesday, December 8th—Holy Day of Obligation
Mass at 8:00a.m. & 7:30p.m.

Coffee and Donuts



Craig & Martha Sihner will be hosting coffee and donuts this Sunday after the 9:00a.m. Mass. Stop by and enjoy the fellowship.

Transfiguration Parish Goal Update

Our goal here at Transfiguration Parish for the “**Reclaiming Christ’s Mission Together**” campaign is **\$549,431.11**. So far, we have raised **\$316,547.68 (57.61% of our goal)**. **We still have \$232,883.43 to be raised.** Let’s keep going to reach our goal! If you have not yet responded, please consider doing so soon. Remember, our parish will receive 25% of all monies collected up to our goal and 50% of funds raised above our goal. Thank you for your support!

Adult Bible Study



Monday evening, December 7, 2015 in the Marian Room of the Parish Hall, 7:00-8:30p.m. No sign-up required, just drop in. Free will offering.



Christmas Flower Collection

This weekend we will have a collection for flowers to decorate our Church for Christmas. Envelopes are available in the pews.

Christmas Concert

Dear Parishioners,
The Music Ministry of the Church of the Transfiguration and Director Alexander Katsman would like to invite you to our annual Christmas Concert. The concert will be held on Sunday, December 6th at 3:00p.m. Come hear our Children, Youth, and Adult Choirs and soloists singing carols and contemporary Christmas music accompanied by a Chamber Orchestra. Free-will donation.

We hope to see you there!

Stewardship Corner

The collection total for the weekend of:

November 21st & 22nd—\$9,368.00

November 28th & 29th—\$8,231.00

(compared to \$12,000 average weekly stewardship goal)

St. Vincent de Paul—\$5,493.00

Thank you for continuing in your stewardship role of providing for the upkeep of our parish community.

Remember Transfiguration in your Will and Living Trust

~~Religious Education~~

C.C.D.

CULTIVATING. CATHOLIC. DISCIPLES.




Classes, as usual, this week. This Wednesday evening three members of our Parish AOK class will receive the Sacrament of Baptism!

Congratulations to:

Austin Sequeira, Taylor Perri, Tristan Perri

Confirmation

Class, this week is a C/S—that is a Candidate Sponsor night, 7:30-9:30—Thursday. We look forward to seeing all of our sponsors partnered with our students. Thank you for being role models of Faith. 

Lit. Service: We thank our *Peace* and *Love* classes for participating in our 9:00 Liturgy today serving as Greeters, Lectors, Ushers and Gift Bearers.

Lit. Reminder: *Faithfulness* and *Self Control* will be serving in two weeks. Practice is THIS Thursday 7:00 in the church — Please be on time!

PGO News: Thank you to our Gingerbread Person bakers and our Coat collectors ... you are making winter a lot more bearable for a large number of people.

You truly swim against the tide!

Collection for Retirement Fund for Religious

Next weekend we will have a collection to help aging sisters, brothers and religious order priests. Each year the need to provide for our elderly becomes more pressing. Your donation helps provide necessities such as prescription medications and nursing care. Please give to those who have given a lifetime.

St. Vincent de Paul Christmas Food Drive

St. Vincent de Paul will be collecting non-perishable food items the weekend of December 12 and 13. Collected food will be distributed to poor families in our parish before Christmas. Our Thanksgiving Food Drive helped 76 children and 65 adults for a total of 141 very grateful people. Thanks for your generous donations. We hope to help a similar number of the needy for Christmas. There will be a bin in the entrance of the Church where you can place your items. Please no expired dates. Your support will be greatly appreciated by the families we serve.

Christmas Pageant And C.C.D. Open House! In the Church NEXT MONDAY NIGHT December 14 at 7:30p.m.

We invite the ENTIRE PARISH to gather with us to see and hear our children present the story of the very first Christmas! We hope you can join us...We have cookies!

Holy Family Guild Christmas Luncheon

Wednesday, December 9, 2015—12 Noon

Church of the Transfiguration
4000 East Castro Valley Blvd., CV

Door Prizes/Raffle—\$15.00 per person

For tickets, call Barbara Coelho at (510) 881-5705 or Jo Green at (510) 889-9140.



Baptism Class

There will be no class in December.

The next Baptism class will be Tuesday, January 12, 2016. Please call the Parish Office to register.

One Warm Coat

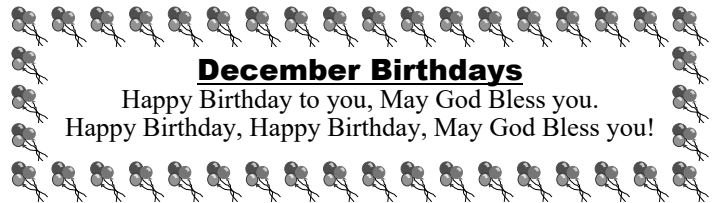
Our confirmation class is at it again ... they are hosting a coat drive for *One Warm Coat*. Coats collected during this drive will be distributed to Saint Vincent de Paul of Alameda County. Please bring in new or gently used coats. Coats for All ages in All sizes are Welcome. Collection bins will be in the vestibule of the church November 15 to December 6 only. The coats will be distributed on Dec. 6. Thank you for helping to keep one person warm and dry this rainy winter.

THANK YOU

To the Best Church Cleaning Crew
in Transfiguration History!



A big thank you to Steve Kowalewski, Marie and George Hall, Phyllis Moore, Nanette Franceschini, Dorothy Giammona, Ann McAusland, and Emily Darcey for working so hard to clean the church furnace rooms, bride's room, and library. It was a very big project, and couldn't have been completed without a big team effort by these wonderful people! Thank you!!!



December Birthdays

Happy Birthday to you, May God Bless you.

Happy Birthday, Happy Birthday, May God Bless you!

Note: There will be no Liturgy meeting in December.

Please Help Spread Some Christmas Love



Transfiguration has again adopted local families that need our help. We are asking for all to help by taking something off the "Giving Tree" in the vestibule of the church. Please return the wrapped gift with the tag attached by December 13th.

Your Prayers Are Requested for the Repose of the Souls of:

Dolores Durante

William B. Davie, III

(Brother of Linda Davie Korycinski)



Advent Penance Services

Church of the Transfiguration—December 17th, 7:30p.m.

Our Lady of Grace—Adoration & Confessions:

December 10, 17—7:00-8:00p.m.



CRAB CORNER

RAFFLE PRIZES NEEDED

Our Parish Crab Feed (our largest single fundraiser) is in February.

We are in need of raffle prize donations.

Does the company you work for donate?

CARS??? TRIPS??? or smaller things???

Do you have some other connection with a business owner or friend who might donate items or services???

Did you get a "really nice" gift from your cousin last Christmas which just doesn't "suit your needs"???

Well...Bring them up to the Parish Office and we will add them to our OUTSTANDING Raffle Baskets!

WE APPRECIATE YOUR DONATION!AND

Please join us for our next planning meeting on

Tuesday, December 8 at 6:30p.m.

LETTER FROM POPE FRANCIS
THE “JOY OF THE GOSPEL” CONTINUED...

The Church’s Missionary Transformation—#110

THE PROCLAMATION OF THE GOSPEL

After having considered some of the challenges of the present, I would now like to speak of the task which bears upon us in every age and place, for “there can be no true evangelization without the explicit proclamation of Jesus as Lord”, and without “the primacy of the proclamation of Jesus Christ in all evangelizing work”. Acknowledging the concerns of the Asian bishops, John Paul II told them that if the Church “is to fulfil its providential destiny, evangelization as the joyful, patient and progressive preaching of the saving death and resurrection of Jesus Christ must be your absolute priority.” These words hold true for all of us.

I. The entire people of God proclaims the Gospel.

Fr. Terry’s Remarks— Sometimes most of us feel overwhelmed, even despairing when we see so much wrong in our world or in ourselves. These are the moments we forget or don’t appreciate who God is. Of course we claim we believe in Jesus but sometimes we have our doubts and that undermines us in so many ways. It weakens our Faith conviction and causes us to put more faith in ourselves or in those who think or feel like myself. We have to return to the Resurrected Christ. Again and again, we rejoice in the Salvation won for everyone by the Risen Christ. We have to listen and take to heart that we live in God’s creation, that we are created in His Image and that we are all brothers and sisters of Jesus. All the terrible things in our world that revolt and appall us, when matched against the love and power of God, are put in some perspective. In season and all the time we must believe in and trust in the love of God for each and every one of us.

TODAY’S READINGS

First Reading: Baruch 5:1-9

Second Reading: Philippians 1:4-6, 8-11

Psalm 126—Gospel: Luke 3:1-6

READINGS FOR THE WEEK

Monday:	Is 35:1-10; Ps 85:9-14; Lk 5:17-26
Tuesday:	Gn 3:9-15, 20; Ps 98:1-4; Eph 1:3-6, 11-12; Lk 1:26-38
Wednesday:	Is 40:25-31; Ps 103:1-4, 8, 10; Mt 11:28-30
Thursday:	Is 41:13-20; Ps 145:1, 9-13ab; Mt 11:11-15
Friday:	Is 48:17-19; Ps 1:1-4, 6; Mt 11:16-19
Saturday:	Zec 2:14-17 or Rv 11:19a; 12:1-6a, 10ab; Jdt 13:18bcde, 19; Lk 1:26-38 or Lk 1:39-47
Sunday:	Zep 3:14-18a; Is 12:2-3, 4, 5-6; Phil 4:4-7; Lk 3:10-18