

Church of the Transfiguration

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

(510) 538-7941 Fax (510) 538-7983 E-mail: Rectory.Office@TransfigCV.org website: www.TransfigChurch.com

December 8, 2024

Mission Statement: "Transfiguring Our Community Through Faith"



Rev. Raphael Zwolenkiewicz, OFM Conv, Pastor

**Fr. Kevin Schindler-McGraw, OFM Conv, Parochial Vicar; Fr. Luke Vu, OFM Conv, Parochial Vicar;
Deacon Martin J. Leach • Deacon John A. Mignano • Deacon Timothy L. Moore • Deacon Burton J. Rigley**

SCHEDULE OF MASSES

Saturdays 4:00 pm

Sundays 7:30 am, 9:00 am, 11:00 am

Mon-Fri 8:00 am (Except First Fridays - 9:30 am)

LIVE STREAM MASS ON

www.Transfigchurch.com and Facebook

CONFESSIONS

Saturdays 3:00 pm - 3:45 pm

BAPTISMS

Please call the Parish Office to register.

MATRIMONY

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

FUNERALS

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

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION, YOUTH MINISTRY & RCIA

Director of Religious Education: Wendy Estrada

(510) 537-1502 ReligiousEd@TransfigCV.org

SICK & HOMEBOUND MINISTRY:

Mary Kay Kelder, (510) 582-7253

LITURGICAL MINISTRIES

Eucharistic Ministers

Coordinators: Elmer & Puri Serrano

eserrano76@gmail.com

Lectors for Weekend Masses

Coordinator: Barbara Mehan

Lector.Weekend@TransfigCV.org

Lectors for Weekday Masses

Coordinator: Mike Dresen

Lector.Weekday@TransfigCV.org

Altar Servers

Coordinator: Vivian Zaleski

Altar.Server@TransfigCV.org

MUSIC MINISTRY

Director: Alexander Katsman

(510) 538-7941, Ext. 302 Music@TransfigCV.org

PARISH OFFICE

Hours: 8:00 am - 4:30 pm, Monday - Wednesday (until further notice)

(Closed for lunch 12:00 pm - 1:00 pm)

Secretary, Elmer Serrano - Rectory.Office@TransfigCV.org

Bookkeeper, Phyllis Moore - Rectory.Office@TransfigCV.org

Saint Vincent de Paul Help Line: 510-274-0830

For Clergy visit during Out of Hours and Emergencies, please call 510-537-0806 Ext. 109

Ways to Give



SCAN HERE
TO GIVE



ONLINE
[oakdiocese.org/
bishops-ministries-appeal](https://oakdiocese.org/bishops-ministries-appeal)



CHECKS
Payable to: Roman Catholic
Bishop of Oakland



CREDIT CARD

We also accept gifts of stock. For more information,
please contact the Office for Mission Advancement
at 510-267-8314.

Payments should be mailed directly to:

Diocese of Oakland
2121 Harrison Street, Suite 100
Oakland, CA 94612

Attention: 2024 Bishop's Ministries Appeal

All contributions to the Bishop's Ministries Appeal are tax
deductible to the full extent of the law.



Transfiguration Christmas Concert

The Music Ministry of the Church of the Transfiguration and Director Alexander Katsman would like to invite you to our annual Christmas Concert on Sunday, **December 8th at 3:00 pm.** Please hear our Choir and Soloists singing carols and contemporary Christmas music. Reception to follow.

Free Will Donation

Precious Blood Distribution

The process is as follows: The Eucharist will only be distributed at the center aisle. Parishioners at the far end pews on both sides will have to walk over to the center aisle to receive communion. Please be considerate in lifting the kneelers for those crossing the pews. The wine ministers will be standing at the right side and left side of the center aisle to receive the Precious Blood. Thank you for your cooperation.

New Socks and Underwear Collection

In collaboration with our Confirmation Candidates, our St Vincent de Paul members will be collecting **NEW** socks and underwear for people in need in our area on Saturday, December 7 and Sunday, December 8 after all the masses. The greatest need is for men in the larger sizes (large, extra large, etc), but women's sizes are needed too. Thank you for helping people in need in our parish!

Girls CYO Basketball

The Girls Winter CYO Basketball Season is coming! Registration began on November 15th for faith formation families and November 22nd for the Parish Boundary, ending on December 20th.

Please see our section on the Parish Website for more details and registration information.

Interested in helping? Our program is looking for board members and coaches, please email [transfigcyogirls @gmail.com](mailto:transfigcyogirls@gmail.com) for more details.

Christmas Boutique

Thank you to all the people who came out and supported the Transfiguration Christmas Holiday Boutique. For all the bakers, for all who donated to the White Elephant Table, for all the workers,

Thank You!!!

We made \$1,604.60

A Message

from the

Pastor

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December 8, 2024

Dear brothers and sisters in Christ,

In this Season of Advent, we celebrate two beautiful feasts in honor of the Blessed Virgin Mary. The first feast is the Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception which is a Holy Day of Obligation. The date of the Celebration this year has been moved to Monday, December 9th because December 8th occurs on the Second Sunday of Advent. The Immaculate Conception celebrates the conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary in the womb of her mother, St. Anne, free from sin, making her the perfect dwelling place for Jesus to be conceived by the overshadowing of the Holy Spirit. Here in the United States, there is a special reason to celebrate the Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception because Mary is The Patroness of the United States. The second feast in honor of the Blessed Virgin Mary is The Feast of Our Lady of Guadalupe, Fiesta en honor de Nuestra Señora de Guadalupe, on December 12th. Our Lady of Guadalupe is celebrated as The Patroness of the Americas. Churches begin this celebration with an early morning celebration entitled **"Mananitas."** The day is filled with songs and dance and devotion to the Blessed Virgin Mary, Our Lady of Guadalupe.

The celebrations of The Solemnity of The Immaculate Conception and The Feast of Our Lady of Guadalupe prepare the way for our celebration of the second half of the Season of Advent. Third Sunday of Advent, known as Gaudete Sunday, Rejoice Sunday. Traditionally, the Third Sunday of the Season of Advent marks the mid-point of Season. The nearness of The Great Celebration of the Birth of Christ is reason for great joy. The readings at Mass for Gaudete Sunday are full of encouragement. They resound with joyful hope as we draw closer to The Birth of Our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ. The Fourth Sunday offers us the events of the Visitation of Mary to her cousin Elizabeth. May Jesus Christ, alive within us, bring great joy to each of us as we prepare to celebrate the Birth of Christ and, like Mary, may we bring Christ, present and active within us, to our family members and friends in the midst of the Church. My friends, continue preparing for Christmas. Rejoice that Jesus is within us and among us already in our hearts and lives.

The Season of Advent provides us some important time during which we can ask for the grace necessary to give joyful witness to the coming of Jesus into the world. So, ask for the graces necessary to bear joyful witness in word and action to the coming of the Lord at Christmas. And, when we celebrate the Solemnity of The Nativity of the Lord we are filled with joy and proclaim joy to the world Prepare for the Birth of The Lord!

Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

Fr. Raphael

Christmas Giving Tree

Once again Transfiguration will be sponsoring the Christmas Giving Tree for the Christmas Holiday Season. Volunteers are needed, please contact Yolanda Arredondo, 510-303-4023.

Other Info: Tree Setup: Friday, November 29, 2024
Ornaments with names available on tree
beginning Saturday, November 30, 2024
thru Sunday December 15, 2024.

Gifts due date: Sunday, December 15, 2024
Distribution date: Saturday, December 21 10am-12pm at
the Marian Room

Please contact Yolanda for questions and or any conflicts.

Yolanda Arredondo
510-303-4023

Dress-A-Girl Meeting Reminder

Next meeting will be this **Wed, December 11, 2024, 10:00am—12:00noon** at the Transfig Church Hall.

SVdP Meeting Reminder

Our meeting is next Sunday, **December 15, 2024 at 10:00 a.m. at the Rectory and via Zoom**. Please contact Mike Dresen (510-274-0830) if you would like to join or to learn more about this ministry.

Pancake Breakfast

Pancake is back on! Join us this Dec. 8th after the 7:30 am and the 9:00 am Masses. Cheapest breakfast in town!



Monday evening, Dec. 9, 2024 in the Marian room, **7:00-8:00 p.m.** Please arrange Zoom connectivity with Mike Dresen at bibles-tudy@transfigcv.org if attending remotely. Free will offering.

"Under the Sea" Crab Feed: January 25th

Crab feed tickets are on sale. Buy them by December 15th to get your early bird discount.

They make wonderful Christmas gifts too!

Ticket Price: \$70

Early Bird Pricing—by Dec. 15th: \$65

50/50 tickets are \$5 each. You don't have to be present to win.

We are accepting cash or in-kind donations for raffle baskets. Please note that in-kind donations have to be new (unused).

Stewardship Corner

The collection total for the weekend of:

Nov. 23rd thru Nov. 24th — \$3,846.00

Human Development — \$170.00

Bishop's Appeal — \$17,448.66 51.93% of Goal

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

TODAY'S READINGS

First Reading — Baruch 5:1-9

Psalm — 126

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

Gospel — Luke 3:1-6

The English translation of the Psalm Responses from the Lectionary for Mass © 1969, 1981, 1997, International Commission on English in the Liturgy Corporation. All rights reserved.

May your words, O Lord, be in my thoughts, on my lips, and in my heart. May they guide my life and keep me near to you.

Mass Intentions (Dec. 7, 2024—Dec. 13, 2024)

Sat.	4:00 p.m.	Eduina & Augusto Silva and All Souls
Sun.	7:30 a.m.	Joe and Mary Santos
	9:00 a.m.	For The People
	11:00 a.m.	Concepcion Lenisen
Mon.	8:00 a.m.	Luis Capel
Tues.	8:00 a.m.	Rena Molinari
Wed.	8:00 a.m.	Spcl Int Lucas Santos
Thur.	11:00 a.m.	Anthony Bettencourt
Fri.	8:00 a.m.	Spcl Int John Santos

December 8, 2024 2nd Sunday of Advent

In the year 1995, in the seventeenth year of my life, when Fife Symington was governor of Arizona, Bill Clinton was president of the United States, Chuck Keiffer was pastor of St. Theresa parish in Phoenix, Arizona, and Ron and Mary were my parents, the word of God came to my youth minister Eric and through him I started to see the salvation of God. Soon, Christ came into my life never to leave. I'm thankful beyond words.

Why am I being so specific, you ask? Because in the Gospel this week we hear the specific names of people holding civic and religious authority in first century Palestine when "the word of God came to John the Baptist:" Tiberius Caesar, Pontius Pilate, Herod, Philip, Lysanias, Annas, Caiaphas, and Zechariah. All this is meant to help us see that God breaks into our history, into real human events. Jesus is no mere myth. He is the Word-which-breaks-in, in concrete moments, you might say. And now we anticipate his coming once again in our specific situations.

Advent challenge: Name as many civic and religious leaders who are in authority currently in your life. Now, name who the potential John the Baptists may be. A spouse? A friend? A podcaster? A work colleague who brings God's word to you? Spend a moment considering that this comprises the concrete, historical setting into which Christ wishes to come. Then, with these specifics in mind, pray: "Come, Lord Jesus. Come."

— Father John Muir

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