

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

January 5, 2025

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

(PRACTICING) CATHOLIC - RECOGNIZE GOD IN YOUR ORDINARY MOMENTS

By Colleen Jurkiewicz Dorman

Mini Reflection: The journey of the magi would have been treacherous and uncomfortable. Imagine the peace in their hearts as they approached the young Messiah and fell to their knees. The new, vibrant awareness of what their own purpose was. It was an epiphany for them. It can be the same for us.

The Answer

Have you ever had an epiphany?

I'll confess that I've never spent much time reflecting on the term "epiphany." In my head, there has always been a strict separation of church and state when it comes to this word. I think of the religious feast of the Epiphany, when we celebrate the magi's encounter with the Christ Child, as totally distinct from our modern understanding of the ancient Greek word *epipháneia*, which means "manifestation" or "appearance."

"I've had an epiphany," I have said many times before, and what I mean is that I have come to a long-awaited realization. I have received the answer to a question which has perplexed me, perhaps troubled me. I now know what course of action I must take.

"Today is the Epiphany," I say to my children when we make a king cake and bring the little magi figures to our Nativity beneath the Christmas tree (which will, after today, be put back into storage, for the Christmas season has come to its fulfillment).

And I've always thought I meant I was saying two very different things.

But today, I ponder the journey of the magi, one that must have often been treacherous and uncomfortable. I think about their meeting with Herod, a situation that certainly was fraught with tension and fear. And I imagine the feeling in their hearts as they approached the young Messiah and fell to their knees. I think of the peace they must have felt. The new, vibrant awareness of what their own purpose was.

It was an epiphany for them — a discovery of truth. An answer.

It should be the same for us.

©LPi

Stewardship Corner

The collection total for the weekends of:

Dec. 7th thru Dec. 8th — \$5,737.00
Religious Retirement — \$995.00

Dec. 14th thru Dec. 15th — \$9,586.00
Flowers — \$602.00

Dec. 21st thru Dec. 22nd — \$11,726.00

Bishop's Appeal — \$22,316.32 66.42% of Goal
(compared to \$12,000 average weekly stewardship goal)

A Message



**from the
Pastor**

© J. S. Paluch Co., Inc.

January 5, 2025

Dear Sisters and Brothers in Christ,

The Celebration of the Epiphany is celebrated this Sunday. Jesus, today, is revealed as the light of the nations as we celebrate the adoration of the Christ Child by the Magi. Today, not taking away our focus from the New-Born King, the Church recognizes the Coming of the Magi, The Three Kings. The Epiphany honors and recognizes the three wise men making their journey from the East to find Jesus and worship Him.

When the Magi found the place where the Christ Child was, they rejoiced exceedingly and knelt before Jesus and worshiped him. It was an appropriate response as they found themselves in the presence of the King of Kings. Then they opened their treasures and presented gifts to Jesus. The three gifts were gold, frankincense, and myrrh. These were not random gifts. They were each significant at the time and have important meanings for us today. The gold points to Jesus' royalty, the frankincense to his divinity, and the myrrh to his humanity. These gifts tell the story of how God Himself came down from Heaven as our King (gold) to fulfill his priestly duties (frankincense) and eventually die for our sins (myrrh). Through these gifts, the Magi "preached" the gospel in a very real and tangible way.

As we celebrate The Epiphany, we ought to consider our journeys from our homes to come here to Transfiguration Church to bow down and worship the Lord. How important it is for us to make this journey each week for the Celebration of the Eucharist. Our presence, gathered together at the Table of the Lord, listening to the Word of God and receiving The Eucharist, gives witness that the Lord manifests Himself and we have come before Him offering to Him the gifts of ourselves. Along with our physical presence at the Table of the Lord, as the Three Wise Men brought their gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh, what gifts are bringing to the Lord? The Church asks us to be stewards in the House of the Lord. We are asked to share of our time, talent and treasure. These are all precious commodities with all that is taking place in our lives but they are indeed worthy offerings to the Lord. Then, strengthened in our faith through our participation in the Eucharist, as participating members of the Church here at Transfiguration, we make our way back to our homes, our workplaces, our daily activities. Each of us in our own way then, like the Magi, are preaching the Gospel.

My brothers and sister in Christ, in imitation of the Three Wise Men, come let us bow down and worship.

Fr. Raphael

January 5, 2025
The Epiphany of the Lord
Matthew 2:1-12

Have you ever wondered why the magi had gold, frankincense, and myrrh? Matthew's Gospel tells us, "Then they opened their treasures and offered him gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh" (Matt. 2:11). Why are these things their "treasures"? One possible answer is they were magicians and astrologers, and these three items were the tools of their questionable trade. In offering them to Christ, they demonstrate that they will cease using such items to predict or control life. They place this baby-king, the God of Israel, at the center of their lives, and not their own devices of control, manipulation and prediction.

Isn't that what we need to do, too? Consider, for example, the magical power of money, symbolized by the magi's gold. Seemingly whatever we ask of money, it does. It wields a god-like power over the world. It can predict the future by guaranteeing better outcomes for us — which is why it is such a tempting alternative to trusting in God. The problem is such absolute trust in money enslaves us to the economic forces that make money so powerful. In paying homage to Jesus with "gold" (i.e., tithing), we participate in his authority over (and therefore freedom from) the magical sway of money.

What things in your life do you use to predict or control your future? What in your life seems to give you power over the world? Those are your treasures. Are you tired of feeling enslaved to them? Find a way to open them and give them to Christ, and you will be freer.

— Father John Muir

©LPi

Coffee and Donuts



JV & Tess Bernas will be hosting coffee and donuts this Sunday after the 9:00 a.m. Mass. Stop by and enjoy the fellowship.

WINGS (Women in God's Spirit?)

WINGS is a faith enhancement group that encourages Spiritual growth through prayer, scripture study, Catechesis, life sharing and community.

Our meeting will be at the Transfiguration Church Hall.

Next Meeting: Thursday, Jan. 16, 2025
9:00 a.m.—11:30 a.m.

Speaker: Sister Patricia Bruno OP
Topic: "Cultivating Peace in a Chaotic World"

For further information or, if you would like to attend, please contact: Rose Anne Ryken
 RARYKEN39@gmail.com

TODAY'S READINGS

First Reading — Isaiah 60:1-6

Psalm — 72

Second Reading — Ephesians 3:2-3a, 5-6

Gospel — Matthew 2:1-12

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 (Jan. 4, 2025—Jan. 10, 2025)

Sat.	4:00 p.m.	Brian Sells
Sun.	7:30 a.m.	Serafim Vargas
	9:00 a.m.	For The People
	11:00 a.m.	C.V. Joseph
Mon.	8:00 a.m.	Benedict Patrao
Tues.	8:00 a.m.	Benedict Patrao
Wed.	8:00 a.m.	Luis Capela
Thur.	8:00 a.m.	Augusto & Eduina and Joe Silva & All Souls
Fri.	8:00 a.m.	Joe Silva, Augusto and Eduina & All Souls

January Birthdays

Happy Birthday to you, May God Bless you.
 Happy Birthday, Happy Birthday,
 May God Bless You!

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

Zella Pena

(Wife of the late Robert Pena)

Thank You Thank You Thank you

The Music Ministry of Transfiguration Church would like to thank all who came and supported us at our Christmas Concert. Your presence and donations filled our hearts with joy and exuberance.

"Under the Sea"
Crab Feed: January 25th

Crab feed tickets are on sale.

Ticket Price: \$70

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).

LDJJ Sell Homes

Your East Bay Realtors
lauradaniellesellhomes.com (415) 827-7788
Laura, Danielle, Jeffrey and Julia

WINKLER
REAL ESTATE GROUP

DRE #01322466



PETE'S HARDWARE

2569 Castro Valley Blvd.
581-7633 581-7669
Castro Valley, CA

DEERCREEK FUNERAL

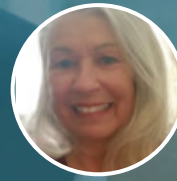
& CREMATION SERVICES

Jay Spencer

Director

(510) 317-7890

DeerCreek2965@gmail.com



LET'S GROW YOUR BUSINESS

Place Your Ad Here
and Support Our Parish!

CONTACT ME
Donna Touros

dtouros@4LPi.com • (800) 950-9952 x2610

SUPPORT OUR ADVERTISERS!



READY TO START YOUR HOME REMODEL?
Specializing in Kitchen and Bathroom Remodels
510.304.8378

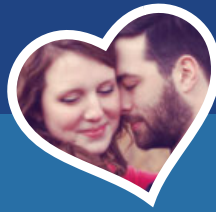
www.newgenbuilder.com | moreno39ng@outlook.com

CSLB# 1000571

BUILDING FOR THE FUTURE SINCE 2006

Castro Valley, CA

catholicmatch® California



CatholicMatch.com/CA

WE'RE HIRING!

AD SALES EXECUTIVES

BE YOURSELF.
BRING YOUR PASSION.
WORK WITH PURPOSE.

- Paid training
- Some travel
- Work-life balance
- Full-Time with benefits
- Serve your community



Contact us at
careers@4lpi.com or
www.4lpi.com/careers

DOES YOUR NONPROFIT ORGANIZATION NEED A NEWSLETTER?

Engaging, ad-supported
print and digital newsletters
to reach your community.

Visit lpicommunities.com



ADT-Monitored Home Security

Get 24-Hour Protection From a Name You Can Trust

- Burglary
- Fire Safety
- Flood Detection
- Carbon Monoxide



Authorized
Provider

SafeStreets

833-287-3502

Place Your Ad Here and Support our Parish!

Instantly create and
purchase an ad with

AD CREATOR STUDIO



4lpi.com/adcreator

IF YOU LIVE ALONE

MDMedAlert!™ STARTING AT

✓ Ambulance ✓ Police/Fire **\$19⁹⁵**

✓ Family/Friends ✓ GPS & Fall Alert /mo.

CALL NOW! 800.809.3570 md-medalert.com



SUPPORT
OUR PARISH



Crematory on Site

"We Invite
Price
Comparison"

Dignified & Considerate Service
Advanced Planning Made Easy
510-581-9133 (Call 24 Hours)
spencermortuary.com

21228 Redwood Rd., Castro Valley 94546

Lic # FD 1168
Lic # CR -49

Homewatch CareGivers®



LIFE IS BETTER when everyone feels
connected, engaged, and appreciated

- Home care services for the elderly and all ages
- Care services available from a few hours to 24/7
- Person-centered care plans and caregiver matching
- Caregivers background-checked and trained

Let our family care
for yours.™



Now hiring Caregivers (FT/PT)

Start with an evaluation today.
hwcg.com/castro-valley • 510-803-6030



For ad info. call 1-800-950-9952 • www.4lpi.com

Transfiguration Church, Castro Valley, CA

A 4C 05-4164