

# Church of the Transfiguration

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

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February 23, 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](http://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](mailto:ReligiousEd@TransfigCV.org)

### **SICK & HOMEBOUND MINISTRY:**

Mary Kay Kelder, (510) 582-7253

### **LITURGICAL MINISTRIES**

#### **Eucharistic Ministers**

Coordinators: Elmer & Puri Serrano

[eserrano76@gmail.com](mailto:eserrano76@gmail.com)

#### **Lectors for Weekend Masses**

Coordinator: Barbara Mehan

[Lector.Weekend@TransfigCV.org](mailto:Lector.Weekend@TransfigCV.org)

#### **Lectors for Weekday Masses**

Coordinator: Mike Dresen

[Lector.Weekday@TransfigCV.org](mailto:Lector.Weekday@TransfigCV.org)

#### **Altar Servers**

Coordinator: Vivian Zaleski

[Altar.Server@TransfigCV.org](mailto:Altar.Server@TransfigCV.org)

### **MUSIC MINISTRY**

Director: Alexander Katsman

(510) 538-7941, Ext. 302 [Music@TransfigCV.org](mailto: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](mailto:Rectory.Office@TransfigCV.org)

Bookkeeper, Phyllis Moore - [Rectory.Office@TransfigCV.org](mailto: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: It saddens me that Christians have somehow gained this reputation as a people who judge, who condemn. Today's Gospel is an invitation for us to consider how we engage with people who disagree with us — or maybe even actively dislike us.

Judgment and Love

"Oh, well. I'm going to hell anyway, right?"

I have a few family members and friends who are not practicing Catholics who say this to me from time to time. It's always spoken in a teasing manner, with a wink and a shoulder shrug, usually to explain away some sort of minor misbehavior they feel guilty about.

It saddens me that Christians have somehow gained this reputation as a people who judge, who condemn. I think in part it stems from a misunderstanding on the part of unchurched people (and lots of churchd ones, too) regarding what constitutes "judging." It is absolutely not "judging" someone to disagree with a personal decision, whatever that decision may be, or to decline from participating in that decision. We all have functioning consciences; we are all supposed to discern the moral goodness of any action before we take it.

But it is judging someone if we allow their decisions to impact how we treat them.

Today's Gospel is an invitation for us to consider how we engage with people who disagree with us — or maybe even actively dislike us. Much is said these days of the "culture wars." I certainly don't disagree that it can often feel like you're fighting a war when you're trying to live as the Church teaches. The forces against you often seem overwhelming and nefarious. And guess what? They are.

But we need to remember who the enemy really is. The enemy is not other children of God, even if they are children of God who are actively promoting ideas that are wrong. Perhaps these people are misguided and mistaken. Perhaps they are misled by the devil. Have we not all been misled by him at some point?

We must interact lovingly with people who think differently and live differently from us. The Christian life absolutely demands it.

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Will and Living Trust

### Notice

There will be **NO** Adult Bible Study on February 24, 2025. We will resume on March 10, 2024. Thank You!

### Stewardship Corner

The collections total from last weekend will be reported in the March 9th bulletin



February 23, 2025

Dear Brothers and Sisters in the Lord,

One of the characteristics we are invited to embrace as members of the household of God and by Bishop Barber here in the Diocese of Oakland is to embody Missionary Discipleship. My friends as members of the household of God, the Church, each of us are called to know and live our faith and confidently share the Gospel.

Along with Pope Francis we can ask: Where does Jesus send us? There are no borders, no limits: he sends us to everyone. The Gospel is for everyone, not just for some. It is not only for those who seem closer to us, more receptive, more welcoming. It is for everyone. So, do not be afraid to bring Christ into every area of life, to the fringes of society, even to those who seem farthest away, most indifferent. The Lord desires that we share our experience of the faith with all people. My friends, we become missionary disciples when we take our encounter with Jesus Christ out into the world. Pope Francis and, in turn, Bishop Barber uses the term missionary discipleship often. Pope Francis offers a clear picture of the term. He reminds us that all the baptized are called to be missionary disciples and that effective evangelization does not always require formal education or lengthy training. In virtue of baptism, all the members of the People of God have become missionary disciples. All the baptized, whatever their position in the Church or their level of instruction in the faith, are co-workers with the Lord in the work of evangelization. It is important that the work of evangelization is carried out by all of the faithful. None of us should be taking a passive role when it comes to missionary discipleship. Missionary Discipleship calls for personal involvement on the part of each and every one who is baptized.

My friends, each of us is challenged to be actively engaged in living out the Gospel Message. Anyone who has truly experienced God's saving love does not need much time or lengthy training to go out and proclaim that love, to join in the work of salvation, renewing the face of the earth. Consider for a moment to what extent have you encountered Church. Then, share that encounter with others. This is what missionary discipleship is all about. The Mass is essential to nourish and form us as missionary disciples. When we hear the words, "Go forth, the Mass is ended," our work as disciples begins. With these words, we share in the mission of Christ. We then bring his message to the world. The Catechism of the Catholic Church explains that "the liturgy in which the mystery of salvation is accomplished concludes with the sending forth of the faithful, so that they may fulfill God's will in their daily lives". The dismissal at Mass invites us to respond to the Lord's command to "go and make disciples" by the faithful witness of our lives. Be enthusiastic in living out the faith in ministry in the Church. Be a missionary disciple to give glory to God and for the good of our Church.

Fr. Raphael



**AVAILABLE NOW!**  
**PRINT & DIGITAL AD SPACES**

**The Support of Your Business is Greatly Appreciated**

**Donna Touros** from LPI, our bulletin printer, will be securing new ads for our church in the coming weeks. It is the support of the business community that helps to make our church thrive. Please consider purchasing a print and/or digital ad as your participation makes our bulletin successful, and you attract customers!

**Church bulletin advertising** is a cost-effective way to advertise 52 times per year and show support for your local community; in turn, parishioners will support you!

**Digital advertising** allows your business to be front and center to anyone who visits a church profile page on [ParishesOnline.com](http://ParishesOnline.com) — that's approximately 500,000 page views per month!

**Donna Touros**  
916-284-4438  
[Dtouros@4lpi.com](mailto:Dtouros@4lpi.com)

**LPI**



**February 23, 2025**  
**7th Sunday in Ordinary Time**  
**Luke 6:27-38**

One of my favorite new singers/songwriters is Noah Kahan. I'm a little biased because, like me, he is originally from Vermont. In a fine song entitled "Stick Season," he sings of his hope to "cancel out the darkness I inherited from dad." This lyric articulates his painful recognition of a dark spiritual "inheritance" from his father, and his hope to be free of it. We all inherit some degree of evil from our earthly forebears. It's easy to feel doomed to repeat their darknesses.

But we're not so doomed, thank God. This week's Gospel proclaims this. Whatever good or bad we received from our parents, we have a more definitive and perfect inheritance in God. Jesus commands us, "Be merciful just as your Father is merciful" (Luke 6:36). We have a perfect Father in heaven and are destined to inherit and reflect that perfect and merciful love. We have an inheritance of light, not darkness, and thus a whole new possibility of magnanimous love. Like any inheritance, this is a free gift to us.

What are we destined to repeat? Not the darkness of our earthly parents. We are destined to be a reflection of God's life. Jesus liberates us from the inevitability of repeating whatever evils and imperfections are in our familial or cultural upbringings. It's time to claim that perfect inheritance.

— Father John Muir  
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**Bulletin Deadline**

The deadline for items in the bulletin is Monday, 4:30pm.  
Thank you for your support!

**TODAY'S READINGS**

**First Reading** — 1 Samuel 26:2, 7-9, 12-13, 22-23

**Psalm** — 103

**Second Reading** — 1 Corinthians 15:45-49

**Gospel** — Luke 6:27-38

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 (Feb. 22, 2025—Feb. 28, 2025)**

Sat.	4:00 p.m.	Maria Luisa Enriquez
Sun.	7:30 a.m.	Helen Lalonde
	9:00 a.m.	For The People
	11:00 a.m.	Eleanor Moran
Mon.	8:00 a.m.	Mariano Rialina
Tues.	8:00 a.m.	Spcl Int Celco de Jesus
Wed.	8:00 a.m.	Larry Maynard
Thur.	8:00 a.m.	Manuel, Antonio,
		Belmira Freitas and
		All Souls
Fri.	8:00 a.m.	Spcl Int Lucas Santos

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

**Richard Leyton**

Funeral Mass to be scheduled.

**Coffee and Donuts**



Sunita D'Costa 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, Mar. 6, 2025**  
**9:00 a.m.—11:30 a.m.**

**Speaker: Father Aiden McAleenan**  
**Topic: TBA**

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



We extend a warm welcome to new parishioners. Please pick up a registration form at the vestibule of the church and return it to the Parish Office. This helps us to serve you better.