

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 28, 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

CONFESIONS

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.

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

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

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. 8, 2026
9:00 a.m.—11:30 a.m.

Speaker: Fr. Dave Matz

Topic: Belovedness Gift: Received and Given

For further information or, if you would like to attend, please contact: Rose Anne Ryken

RARYKEN39@gmail.com

(PRACTICING) CATHOLIC - RECOGNIZE GOD IN YOUR ORDINARY MOMENTS

By Colleen Jurkiewicz Dorman

Mini-reflection: If any four-word sentence encapsulates what we can expect from the Christian life, it is this: God had other plans.

Other Plans

I don't know exactly what kind of life Mary and Joseph envisioned when they were first betrothed — back in those simple times when they were just like any other couple who had hopes, dreams and no angels telling them what to do.

Whatever their plans were, I think it's safe to say that the future God had in store for Mary and Joseph was not one either of them expected. I would imagine they both anticipated something a little quieter. A little more stable (no pun intended). A little less tumultuous.

It exhausts me simply to read through the chaos of their movements in today's Gospel. Flee to Egypt, return to Israel (but not Judea! Herod's son is there! Divert to Galilee! Divert!). Settle in Nazareth (let me remind you, this is all happening with a baby in tow, and without the aid of a minivan). Take a deep breath, but don't get too comfortable — now it's almost time to lose your kid in Jerusalem. Then you'll have about 20 years off before he starts raising people from the dead, and that's when things start to get really crazy.

The story of the Holy Family is the ultimate example of the phrase "God had other plans." If any four-word sentence encapsulates what we can expect from the Christian life, it is this.

I thought I was meant for that job, but God had other plans. I thought I would live in this place, but God had other plans. I thought I was supposed to become this person, but God had other plans.

We can do all the right things. We can make all the right choices. We can say, over and over again until our voice wears out, "Thy will be done." But all we can know for sure is that God has other plans.

©LPI

December 28, 2025

The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph

Matthew 2:13-15, 19-23

When I was ten, my dad gathered our family around the table in small-town Vermont and told us we were moving to the big desert city of Phoenix, Arizona. We were leaving behind family, friends, and everything familiar. None of us knew what to expect.

But something beautiful happened. As we made the move together, our family grew closer. In retrospect, I'm amazed at my parents' courage to go on that adventure. Even as a kid I realized our family found, in that challenge, a deeper unity and mutual love.

In today's Gospel, Joseph is told: "Rise, take the child and his mother, and flee..." (Matthew 2:13, 20). First to Egypt, then later to Israel. The Holy Family is frequently challenged to move and change, to adapt to God's will for them, in order to find safety in the midst of threat. It's not just an idiosyncratic story about survival. It's a spiritual pattern for all of us. Every Christian family is called to be a kind of sanctuary, especially in a world full of noise, busyness, and fear.

May I make a practical application for us? The Lord's Day, Sunday, is perhaps the most practical way we imitate this dynamic we see in Joseph and his family. Sunday is not meant to be just like every other day, filled with errands and stress. It's meant to be a day set apart; a holy "escape" into rest, worship, joy, and peace. A day to rise, take your family, and flee, into God's presence.

— Father John Muir

©LPI

Stewardship Corner

The collection total for the weekends of

Dec. 13th thru Dec. 14th — \$21,425.68

Bishop's Ministries Appeal: \$28,346.00 84.36%

(compared to \$12,000 average weekly stewardship goal)
Thank you for continuing in your stewardship role of providing for the upkeep of our parish community.

Your Prayers Are Requested for the Repose of:

Sandra Louise Craven

(Funeral Mass: Friday Jan. 9 11am)

GIVING TUESDAY

Transfiguration Parish

MINISTRIES of HOPE

2025 BISHOP'S MINISTRIES APPEAL

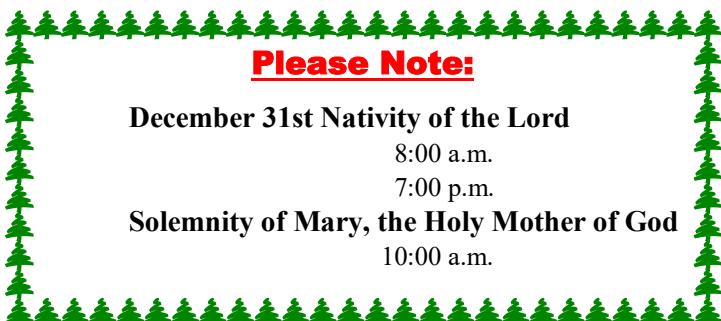


December 2, 2025

This #GivingTuesday, extend Christ's love to those who need it most. Your gift to the Bishop's Ministries Appeal supports over 70 programs bringing hope, comfort, and guidance to communities across our diocese.



[Give Today](#)



Please Note:

December 31st Nativity of the Lord

8:00 a.m.

7:00 p.m.

Solemnity of Mary, the Holy Mother of God

10:00 a.m.



Coffee and Donuts

Mario & Lili Fabian will be hosting coffee and donuts this Sunday after the 9:00 a.m. Mass. Stop by and enjoy the fellowship.

Dress A Girl Ministry

Come join us to cut, iron, accessorize or sew simple sundresses. No experience required. Supplies provided. For further information contact Yolanda Arredondo at 510 303-4023. Hope you can join.

Extraordinary Ministers of the Eucharist Needed!!!

Our Eucharistic Ministry is looking for volunteers to serve in our weekend Mass celebrations. If this is the opportunity you are looking for in your prayer life, please send email to Elmer Serrano at eserrano76@gmail.com. Thank you.

TODAY'S READINGS

First Reading — Sirach 3:2-6, 12-14

Psalm — 128

Second Reading — Colossians 3:12-21

Gospel — Matthew 2:13-15, 19-23

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 27, 2025—Jan 2, 2026)

Sat.	4:00 p.m.	Magie Simeons
Sun.	7:30 a.m.	For The People
	9:00 a.m.	Ed Bosch
	11:00 a.m.	Spcl Int Prasad and Albert Lim
Mon.	8:00 a.m.	Agustin Soto, Magdalena Soto and Ernesto Bucio
Tues.	8:00 a.m.	Amparo Pozos, Marcelino Pozos and Isaias Rosale
Wed.	8:00 a.m.	Brendan Dolan and Mary Hallinann
	7:00 p.m.	Clarence Vaz
Thur.	10:00 a.m.	Stan, Alice & Steve Dresen
Fri.	9:30 a.m.	Benedict Patrao

Please Note:

Friday, January 2, 2026 is 1st Friday. Our Mass schedule is at 9:30am. Thank you!

Please Note

Our Monday Bible Class will be on holiday off for the month of December. Our class will resume in January 2026.

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year to all!!!

Lectors Needed

We need lectors for weekday and weekend masses. No experience necessary and training will be provided. If you feel the Lord is calling you to this ministry, please contact Mike Dresen: Weekday@TransfigCV.org or Barb Mehan Weekend@TransfigCV.org.

Thank you.

**Thank you for advertising in our bulletin.
We appreciate your support!**