

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 14, 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

MUSIC MINISTRY

Director: Alexander Katsman

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

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

PARISH OFFICE

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

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

Sharon Sangco, Business & Facilities Manager

Sharon@TransfigCV.org

Honeylet Bautista, Bookkeeper - Rectory.Office@TransfigCV.org

Elmer Serrano, Secretary - 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

Credit, Debit and Electronic Check Offerings

If you would like to make your Sunday offering by credit or debit card or, electronic check, please go to our website: transfigchurch.com and click on the "Donate" tab. Please call the office for further assistance if needed.

Christmas Pageant

Search for children actors, singers and lectors who are able to rehearse with us and participate in the 4:00 pm Mass on Christmas Eve is still open.

Please contact Pat Ballinger or Beth Ballinger or the Rectory Office if interested.

Assistive Listening System Availability

Transfiguration offers assistive listening devices for use during Mass. If you would like to use an assistive listening device with our sound system, please arrive 10 minutes prior to the start of Mass and see the musicians. We have over the ear headphones available for your use, or a t-coil lanyard for parishioners with t-coil equipped hearing aids. You are also welcome to bring your own headphones for use with the assistive listening receiver.

Coffee and Donuts



Clarence & Sheila Decanno will be hosting coffee and donuts this Sunday after the 9:00 a.m. Mass. Stop by and enjoy the fellowship.

Need Prayer?

If so, our St. Vincent de Paul members would love to pray for your intentions. Go to the St. Vincent de Paul Society page on the parish website under "Parish Ministries." Fill out the short form at the bottom of the page, submit your request, and our 20 members will pray for your intentions. If you would like to join us, please contact Mike Dresen (SVPD@TramnsfigCV.org). Prayer is Powerful!

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

Stewardship Corner

The collection total for the previous week will be reported on the bulletin after the holidays.

December 14, 2025 Third Sunday of Advent Matthew 11:2-11

When I was 11, I was riding my bike on a Friday night in Scottsdale, Arizona. I saw giant spotlights swirling in the sky. Something amazing had to be happening. I pedaled after them with excitement. Sweaty and tired, I arrived, only to find a used car lot. Bright lights, flapping banners, inflatable balloon men swaying wildly in the wind. I stood there, heart sinking. All that spectacle, and all my effort ... for this?

As life proceeds, we learn what it is like to pursue promising but fruitless searches. This week we hear Jesus ask the crowds regarding John the Baptist: "What did you go out to the desert to see? A reed swayed by the wind?" (Matthew 11:7). He's not just describing the crowd's mis-aimed pursuit. He's naming our tendency to chase after what's flashy but flimsy.

What are our swaying reeds? For me, it is endless video reels on my phone, worldly pleasures, entertainment in sports, and the good opinion of others. Inflated distractions that bend whichever way the wind blows. But they can't satisfy my soul. What are your flimsy reeds?

John the Baptist wasn't a swaying reed. He was rooted, grounded, unafraid to speak the solid truth. The people went to see him because, deep down, they were starving for something real.

This Advent, the Church asks us to reassess: What are we really looking for? Are we chasing the dazzling but hollow? Or are we seeking what is solid and lasting — that which points to Christ?

— Father John Muir
©LPi

Christmas Giving Tree

Please complete your information, remove tag and place it in the Christmas bag. Gifts must be turned in by this Sunday, Dec. 14th.

Congratulations to the parents of:

Ava Nelise Torkelsen

**were baptized at Transfiguration
on November 7, 2025**

SVdP Meeting Reminder

Our meeting is next Sunday, **December 21, 2025 at 10:00 a.m. at the Rectory Office and via Zoom.** Please contact Mike Dresen (510-274-0830) if you would like to join or to learn more about this ministry.

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

Holy Land Olivewood Crafts

John Ghanem of the Holy Land St. John Group will be displaying olivewood religious carvings from Bethlehem this weekend. These carvings are handmade by Catholic families in Bethlehem who rely on sales for their daily bread.

Please help support our catholic brothers and sisters in Bethlehem.

Thank you for advertising in our bulletin.

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.

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: Week-day@TransfigCV.org or Barb Mehan Week-end@TransfigCV.org.

Thank you.

TODAY'S READINGS

First Reading — Isaiah 35:1-6a, 10

Psalm — 146

Second Reading — James 5:7-10

Gospel — Matthew 11:2-11

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 13, 2025—Dec 19, 2025)

Sat.	4:00 p.m.	Spcl Int John Santos And Family
Sun.	7:30 a.m.	John Leli
	9:00 a.m.	For The People
	11:00 a.m.	Nunzio Parisi
Mon.	8:00 a.m.	Anselmo Lucas
Tues.	8:00 a.m.	Spcl Int Rufino and Rosemarie Nartia
Wed.	8:00 a.m.	Spcl Int Silva Family
Thur.	8:00 a.m.	Antonio O. Chocha
Fri.	8:00 a.m.	Spcl Int Manuel and Maria Costa & Family

Christmas Flower Collection

We will have a collection for flowers to decorate our church for Christmas. Envelopes are available in the vestibule area. 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!!!

Remember Transfiguration Church in your
Will and Living Trust

Retirement Fund for Religious

Please support the retired priests of the Diocese of Oakland by giving to the Priests Retirement Benefits Trust this weekend December 13th & 14th. Your gift, joined with thousands of donations throughout the diocese, helps us ensure that the men who have faithfully served the Church will have the resources to live in tranquility and security. They have done so much for us; now it is our turn to care for them. Please give generously.

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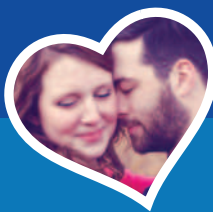
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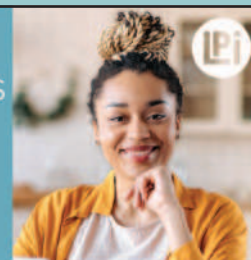
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