AUGUST 16, 2015
Twentieth Sunday of Ordinary Time

What's Inside...

- Feature Article: More on the Pope’s Encyclical On the Environment
- Year of Encounter Discussions Continue on Thursday
- Last Summer Movie Screening is this Friday
- Change in the Time of the Saturday Morning Mass

WELCOME: If you are new to our parish, please introduce yourself after Mass or contact the Parish Office. We want to know you and serve you. We hope you will join us and make our parish your spiritual home.
Pope Francis’ Encyclical *Laudato Si’*  
A Family’s Response  
To the Pope’s Encyclical on the Environment

**Caring for God’s Creation**  
Through Personal and Community Gardening

**By: Ida Tropiano**

Pope Francis’ encyclical on the environment, *On Care for Our Common Home (Laudato Si’)*, challenges all of us to turn the global issues surrounding environmental degradation into a personal call to action. The pope writes:

“Our goal is not to amass information or to satisfy curiosity, but rather to become painfully aware, to dare to turn what is happening to the world into our own personal suffering and thus to discover what each of us can do about it.”

Over the past several decades, environmental awareness has increased in our local communities. The most visible public examples of this are the widespread practice of recycling and the ban on smoking in most public places. Both of these entail individual actions, which positively impact the greater community. I believe Pope Francis is calling us to something bigger, however. What can we do to have a positive impact on the environment, call communities to action, directly serve those who are poor, and provide a lasting legacy for generations to follow? I have found part of the answer in the simple task of gardening.

I believe personal and community gardening are direct responses to the sentiment in the pope’s encyclical. Gardens literally use our earth to feed people, and environmentally aware gardeners are able to provide earthly sustainability for future generations.

My family immigrated to the United States from Italy when I was 7 years old. In Italy, my dad, like his father before him, maintained a working family farm that produced and sold olive oil and wine. He also grew a wide variety of fruits and nuts and raised small farm animals. This allowed us to be self-sustaining while selling and sharing our surplus.

---Continued. See “Pope Francis” on the next page

**Our Lady’s Pantry:**  
*Food for Those In Need*

Have you hit a rough spot? Do you know someone that is going hungry and cannot afford to put food on the table? Then remember Our Lady’s Pantry. It is a resource here at OLR (located in the trailer next to the gate on “B” street) that can help by providing food for those in need. It is open during the following days and times:

- Tuesdays: 4:00 - 5:00 p.m.
- Wednesdays: 6:00 - 7:00 p.m.
- Thursdays: 6:00 - 7:00 p.m.

Before coming to the trailer, it is best to make an appointment. Call the Parish Office at 510.471.2609 between 11:00 a.m. and 3:00 p.m. on the day that you wish to stop by.

**Every Friday:**  
*A Hot Meal With Warm Friends*

Remember that we have dinners for the needy, elderly and lonely every Friday night at 6:00 p.m. in the Dobrec Room. All are welcome.

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**Sacraments**

- **Marriage:** Please contact the Parish Office six months in advance — 510.471.2609.
- **First Communion:** Enroll through our CCD program in June, July or August — 510.471.7419.
- **Confirmation:** Enrollment in this program takes place annually in September. Please look for special announcements in this Bulletin in August and September.
- **Adult Sacraments — RCIA:** Contact the Parish Office, 510.471.2609.

**Bulletin Submissions**

To place an article in the Parish Bulletin, please submit it by Tuesday at noon so that it can appear in the Bulletin the following Sunday. To submit an article, please do one of the following:

- Mail it to the Parish Office: 703 “C” Street, Union City, CA 94587
- E-mail it to bulletin@olrchurch.org

Inserts and Flyers. Non-profit organizations can have approved flyers included in the Bulletin. Inserts should be printed on two sides — English on one side and Spanish on the other. Flyers are to be delivered to the Parish Office by Thursday morning for inclusion in the Bulletin of the following Sunday. The parish can also print a flyer as a full page in the Bulletin if costs are reimbursed by the organization. Contact the Parish Office by calling 510.471.2609 or e-mail bulletin@olrchurch.org
Pope Francis — Continued from Previous Page

After arriving in the United States, we lived in Brooklyn before my family moved to the Westchester suburbs when I was in my early teens. One of my parents’ first priorities at our new home was to establish a garden. This involved us all working hard, tilling and removing “rocky soil,” and our efforts were worthwhile. My parents’ garden not only nourished and sustained our family of seven, but the extra yield was shared with friends and neighbors. Vegetable gardening was not a common practice in our new neighborhood, and I didn’t fully appreciate my parents’ “labor of love” until I became a parent myself. It was at that point that I planted my own first small garden, which has grown more elaborate with each passing year.

Since it was my desire to feed and nourish our children with healthy food, I urged my husband to join me in participating in food co-ops and supporting local organic gardening, community sponsored agriculture, and the health and wellness movement. As our daughters have moved into their adult lives, my personal interest in helping others with respect to health, healing, and wellness led me enroll in a program to become a certified health coach. Since I have done so, my view of ecological issues regarding climate change has taken on a whole new meaning. I have to admit that it can be challenging and disheartening at times to hear the varying opinions of individuals and political advocacy groups that have different agendas with respect to the environment. I find it difficult to decipher who and what is right, and for these reasons, I keep seeking, praying, and aligning myself with the messages of Pope Francis for guidance.

In recent years, our parish, The Church of the Presentation in Upper Saddle River, New Jersey, has become a “green sanctuary,” inspired by Pope Francis’ stance in the encyclical on the environment. Last fall, a gardening ministry was formed to plan and build a parish garden, and I was privileged and blessed to be on the planning committee. I can proudly say that the efforts of a small dedicated group of garden experts, interested individuals, and volunteer “worker bees” have given birth to “The Presentation Parish Garden.” The primary goal of this beautiful garden is to grow fresh produce which is used to feed the hungry through the efforts of our soup kitchen ministry. However, growing vegetables as a community has also provided lessons for the children and the families of our parish concerning the cycle of nature, from “composting to harvesting,” and our part in the whole cycle of life. Perhaps the most important lesson is the value of true Christian stewardship — our personal and communal responsibility in this miraculous process of God’s creation.

So ask yourself, “What have I done to protect the environment and use the resources God has given to us in a responsible manner? Have I shared the surplus of God’s creation with those who are less fortunate?” Your efforts need not be large in scale — caring for the land, recycling, gardening and sharing with others. The little bit we all do adds up to make a great difference.

This blog appeared in Renew International (www.renewintl.org) and was written by Ida Tropiano

Attention First Responders And Their Families: Participate in Our Diocesan 2015 Blue Mass

Save the date: Friday October 9. At the Cathedral of Christ the Light in Oakland, Bishop Michael Barber will celebrate our annual diocesan Blue Mass, honoring law enforcement officers, firefighters and emergency medical personnel who live and/or serve in Alameda and Contra Costa counties. This interfaith gathering includes prayers, blessings, a Mass, a memorial to honor those who lost their lives in the line of duty in the past year, and fellowship. A luncheon will follow the service (RSVP required). First responders are invited to attend in uniform and participate in the procession.

To sign up for the luncheon visit oakdiocese.org/BlueMass2015. For more information contact Fr. Helmut Richter at 925.382.8186 or at papahelmut@yahoo.com, or Fr. Jayson Landeza at 510.917.0125 or at OPDChaplain@aol.com.

Visit Us And Like Us On Facebook

Please "like" us to receive daily posts of important announcements, parishioner recognition, and spiritual reflections. Every post is in English and Spanish!

STEWARDSHIP CORNER
SACRIFICIAL GIVING REPORT
For Sunday, August 9, 2015 — Nineteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time
Plate Collection (Including EFT) ................................................. $8,923.00
Our budgeted goal for the Plate Collection .................................. 10,700.00
Children’s Envelopes ................................................................. 6.00

Thank you for your support!!!
RCIA: Filling the Hungry with Good Things

In today's Gospel, Mary "proclaims the greatness of the Lord." She speaks of a merciful God that "lifts up the lowly" and "fills the hungry with good things." That, in essence, is the aim of the RCIA program. We know there are many who yearn to know God in a deeper and more meaningful way. They just need someone to "fill them up with good things." We invite you to our table. Come and be filled.

If you or someone you know, over the age of 18, is in need of any of the sacraments to gain full initiation into the Church, or simply want to enhance your/their faith, there will be an RCIA team leader stationed outside of church (in the blue booth) with a sign-up sheet after all masses during the month of August. Or you may contact Joyce Mueller at 510-489-5557 or joycemueller09@comcast.net.

Continuing Next Weekend "Backpacks for Kids" Program

Each year our parish youth accept donations of backpacks and school supplies to help supply students who would not be able to afford the materials they need to start the new school year.

We started collecting items this weekend and will continue to do so next weekend, August 22 and 23.

For a listing of the items you can donate please refer to the special flyer that appears as a page in this Bulletin.

Monetary donations are also accepted — money would be used to purchase items that were not donated in large enough of a quantity to provide all students with a complete set of supplies.

Simply bring the items you wish to donate with you when you come to Mass. Members of our Youth Group will be present in front of the Church to accept your donation.

Thank you very much for your support of this program.

Festival Sign-Up Tables Now in Front of the Church

Sign ups to help in our Parish Festival have begun and you can now sign up at the tables found in front of the church. As our festival relies heavily on the hard work of many people, and since more workers will make it easier for all, please stop by the tables, see if a particular task or role interests you, and sign up! Jobs include working in food booths and game booths, setting up the Festival, tearing it down, working in a ticket booth, and many more. Thank you for thinking about getting involved in the festival this year.

Magnificat Ministry For Catholic Women Invites You to its September Prayer Breakfast

Linda Shubert will be the guest speaker at Magnificat's next monthly prayer breakfast to be held on Saturday, September 26, from 9:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. at the Crowne Plaza Hotel, 45 John Glenn Drive in Concord. Please join us in welcoming Linda. She is an internationally traveled speaker and author. Her book, The Miracle Hour, has sold several million copies in 20 languages!

Join us for Prayer, Praise, and Inspiration!

Reservations are $28.00 and $35.00 after September 12.

Please go to www.magnificatsoti.org for info or reservations, or call 925.550.3016.

Starting in September . . . Change in Time For Saturday Morning Mass

Starting on Saturday, September 5, the Saturday morning Mass that has been celebrated at 9:00 a.m. will be changed to 8:15 a.m. Please make note of this change. This change will be easy to remember as now the Saturday morning Mass will be at the same time as our weekday Masses.

You are Encouraged to Come Discussion on The Year of the Encounter Continues this Thursday

Pope Francis is not only a gift to the Church but for the entire humanity. During the following Thursdays from 7:00 p.m. to 8:30 p.m., we invite you to come together in the church with the rest of the community to walk a journey with Pope Francis.

Summer Movie Nights Are Back!!

Join the OLR Youth Group for summer family movie nights in the Plaza! Show time is at 8:45 p.m. (when the sun goes down) on Fridays. Please bring lawn chairs, blankets and the family! Snacks available as a fundraiser for the youth group. For more information please contact Susana Peinado at 510.579.9877 or Brian Rodriguez at the Parish Office, 510.471.2609.

Movie line-up:
August 21: “Indian in the Cupboard”
August 28: “E.T.”
OLR Youth Group is Sponsoring

Backpacks for Kids

WE NEED YOUR HELP!!

There are many kids in our community who need backpacks and school supplies and can’t afford them. So …

The weekends of August 15 & 16 and August 22 & 23 we will be collecting new backpacks, lunch boxes and school supplies. Just bring anything you can donate to Mass with you and we will see to it that they will go to good use! We will be collecting donations in front of the Church.

Suggestions:
- Backpacks
- Pens (Blue or Black ink)
- Erasers
- Crayons
- Markers
- #2 Pencils
- Glue Sticks
- Rulers
- Calculators
- 8 1/2 x 11 Notebooks

MONETARY DONATIONS ALSO ACCEPTED, which we will use to purchase additional supplies

Thank you very much!
And many blessings!!
TOV Prayer Group Returns to OLR

Do you want to grow in your faith? Talleres de Oración y Vida (TOV), has had a program in Spanish at OLR in the past, and it will be returning on Wednesdays starting in August. The program was developed by Ignacio Larrañaga, a Capuchin Franciscan Priest from Spain who has worked in evangelization for 30 years in Latin America, North America and Europe. TOV dates back to 1984.

The program will run for 15 weeks and started this past Wednesday, August 5. It is held from 4:00 to 6:00 p.m. in the Dobrec Room of the Parish Hall. It is not too late to join.

The program enables participants to learn how to listen, meditate, and speak with God through the Bible, and build a more personal relationship with God. It also enables us to overcome our insecurities and traumas, control our nerves and regain happiness in our lives.

You are most welcome to participate in TOV, the new Evangelization. For more information contact Rosario Martinez at 415.896.4829.

A Word of Thanks To our Volunteer Gardeners

This week we would like to thank our volunteer gardening Team #4 who will be working on Saturday, August 22 at 8:00 a.m.: Alejandro Ibarra, Felipe Molina, Ignacio Torres and Jerry Ortega. We thank them very much for their hard work and dedication.

Should you want to lend a hand, stop by on Saturday. We’ll be working from 8:00 a.m. to Noon. Don’t forget to bring your tools!

A Word of “Thanks” To Our Volunteer Church Cleaners

This week we would like to acknowledge cleaning Team 5, which will be cleaning our Church this Tuesday and Friday at 6:00 p.m. This team is comprised of the members of the Youth Group, led by Susana Peinado. We thank them for their hard work and dedication.

Register Your Child Now For CCD in Grades 1-6

It’s Time to Turn in Your Form!

We are now registering both new and returning students in grades 1–6 for our CCD program.

There will be registration tables in front of the Church after all our weekend Masses in August.

This is what you do:

- If you have not yet done so, take a registration packet and fill out the forms it contains. The packets have been available during the past month on a table in the Main Vestibule of the Church and at the Parish Office. The registration packet includes all of the information you need, including class schedule, program cost, and the office hours for Religious Ed.

- Bring your completed registration form to the registration tables in front of the Church, complete your registration, and pay your tuition.

Now that it is August, the Office of Religious Education is now open. It is open on Saturdays and Sundays, 8:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m. You may stop by the office or call 510.471.7419.

**SPONSORSHIPS FOR THE WEEK**

**HOSTS:** Sponsored by the Ortega Family in loving memory of Esther Ortega

**WINE:** Sponsored by the Ortega Family in loving memory of Esther Ortega

To set up a sponsorship, use the form below. Thank you for your support.

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**Our Lady of the Rosary: SPONSORSHIP OF HOSTS, WINE, CANDLES AND FLOWERS**

I want to sponsor the following: □ on the first available weekend – or – □ on this weekend: □ Hosts ($25.00/week); □ Wine ($35.00/week); □ Candles ($35.00/week); □ Flowers ($125.00/week)

Today’s Date: ____________________________

Name: ____________________________

Address: ____________________________

Envelope/Acct. #: ____________________________

Phone: ____________________________

I would like my gift recognized as follows: (Examples: “The Hosts are sponsored by the Guerrero Family.” “The wine is sponsored by Mary Smith in memory of her mother, Gladys Jones.”)

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* No date guarantees can be made. If a desired week is already taken, the closest weekend will be given.

Please place this in the collection (include this form and donation in an envelope) or bring it to the Parish Office.
When we walk together, we are bigger than cancer.

**Relay For Life of Union City**

August 22-23, 2015
James Logan High School
1800 H Street, Union City, CA

Join us in the fight against cancer!
The American Cancer Society's Relay For Life event is a worldwide movement that raises funds to help people stay well, get well, find cures and fight back. It is the LARGEST not-for-profit event in the world, and our passionate and dedicated Event Leadership Team volunteers are working hard to put on the best Relay ever!

Register today at [www.RelayForLife.org/UnionCityCA](http://www_RELAYFORLIFE.ORG/UNIONCITYCA)
Contact Grace Chang at 925.927.5010 or grace.chang@cancer.org

**Celebrate. Remember. Fight Back.®**

RelayForLife.org | 1.800.227.2345

The official registration and financial information of the American Cancer Society, Inc. may be obtained from the Pennsylvania Department of State by calling toll free, within Pennsylvania, 800.732.0999. Registration does not imply endorsement. Ohio residents may call 717.783.1720.
This Week
At O.L.R.

Tuesday, August 18
Bible Study, English, home of Olive Riley-Stewart, 10:00 a.m.
Rosary, Spanish, 6:00 p.m.
Rosary, English 7:00 p.m.

Wednesday, August 19
Talleres de Oración y Vida (TOV), Eddie Dobrec Room, 4:00 – 6:00 p.m.
Rosary, Spanish, 6:00 p.m.
Zumba®, Parish Hall, 6:30 – 7:30 p.m.
Rosary, English 7:00 p.m.

Thursday, August 20
Rosary, Spanish, 6:00 p.m.
Zumba®, Parish Hall, 6:30 – 7:30 p.m.
Rosary, English 7:00 p.m.

Friday, August 21
Rosary, Spanish, 6:00 p.m.
Dinner for those in need, Eddie Dobrec Room, 6:00 p.m.
Spanish Choir Practice, Church, 7:00 p.m.
Youth Summer Activities, Upper Room, 7:00 – 9:00 p.m.
Summer Movie Night – “Indian in the Cupboard” – 8:15 p.m.

Saturday, August 22
Rosary, Spanish, 6:00 p.m.

Sunday, August 23
Fundraising gift cards and religious articles sold in front of the Church after Mass