First Eucharist

With 50 plus young students preparing for Holy Eucharist, the team offered the students and their families the opportunity to receive their 1st Communion at the Mass they usually attend with their families.

Our dear and vivacious students have done a lot of work to prepare to receive Jesus in this most sacred way! “Dearness” was expressed in attentiveness to learning and to asking their questions along the way as they discovered the real presence of Jesus. Their vivacity was expressed in short attention spans that challenged us teachers to couple activities with words, and use a small group design to provide students the attention they deserved and needed.

That is the human perspective of the long process of forming the next generation of Catholics. And all hard works were paid off when the congregation watched the First Communicants come forward. Gladness replaced concerns. Joy took over tiredness. More importantly, how would God have looked down on us as the children came forward to receive the Body and Blood of His Only Begotten Son? How would Jesus Himself have felt as these youngsters welcomed Him into their body? Would the cherubic choir have sung as joyfully as the Santa Maria choir did?

Now as the Faith Community, we are commissioned to pray for these young Catholics, along with our new members, received at Easter. Their Faith and Hope today will shape their Faith and Hope tomorrow.

Thank you, students! Thank you, our beloved priests! Thank you, the pastoral team! Thank you, parents and the entire congregation!

Faith Formation Team
**Children’s Liturgy**

**On Mother’s Day**

All are invited to the last Children’s Liturgy of the year next Sunday, May 14th at 10:30a. The Children’s Choir will be there singing with the Adult Choir and the children will be involved with the liturgy as ministers of the word and presenters of the gifts. Mothers will also be recognized at this mass with a special gift!

**Bishop’s Appeal**

Congratulations Santa Maria! Our parish has gone over goal for the annual Bishop’s Appeal. Thank you to the 100 or so of you who made either a pledge or outright gift. As of about a week ago we were at about 111% of our goal. Your generosity will be of immense help in assisting so many ministries throughout the diocese. Thank you as well to Mark Roberts for being so generous in speaking at all the Masses inaugurating the Appeal.

**Reflecting on the Gospel**

*Liturgy of the Hours: Week III of the Psalter*

There is only one true Shepherd. We know the true Shepherd from strangers or “thieves and robbers” by the sound of his voice calling each of us by name. The Pharisees refused to listen, refused to be driven to fulfill their true mission to God’s people. Unlike the Pharisees, we are to heed our Shepherd’s voice driving each of us out personally to continue his saving mission, his voice guiding and leading each of us personally to abundant Life.

-Living Liturgy™, Fourth Sunday of Easter 2017

**Mass Intentions**

**Monday, May 8**
8am: Int: Bonnie Buzzell Lee

**Tuesday, May 9**
8am: Elsie Lindquist (D)

**Wednesday, May 10**
8am: Loyd McCormick (D)

**Thursday, May 11**
8am: Theodore/Theodora Kraus (D)

**Friday, May 12**
8am: Dorothy Harrington (D)

**Saturday, May 13**
5pm (Vigil): Norma Don (D)

**Sunday, May 14**
8:30am: Holy Souls in Purgatory
10:30am: Parishioners of Santa Maria
5pm: Mother’s Day Novena

*L = Living; D = Deceased
To request a Mass Intention, please contact Linda in the Parish Office at x301 or at lzonino@smparish.org.

**Outreach**

**Weekly Food Collection**

1st/2nd Weekends: St. Cornelius School (fruit cups, crackers, granola bars, juice, water, chips, Cup-O-Noodles, macaroni and cheese, sugar, rice, beans, cereal, and cooking oil)

3rd/4th Weekends: St. Peter Martyr Church Pantry (canned meats like Vienna sausage, chicken, and tuna, cereal, canned vegetables, and canned fruit)

All items can be put in the barrel in the Narthex.

**A Friendly Place**

Please remember to bring items for *A Friendly Place*, a daytime shelter for homeless women in Oakland. Needed are: socks, antacids, cold remedies, bingo prizes, small bottles of shampoo, conditioner and deodorant. Place them in the outreach closet to the left as you enter the church.

**PARISH LIFE**

**Reflecting on the Gospel**

*Living Liturgy™, Fourth Sunday of Easter 2017*
Are you new to Santa Maria?

We’re glad you’re here!

The Church of Santa Maria is a vibrant community of faith who believes and professes the Gospel of Jesus Christ in the living tradition of the Roman Catholic Church. We provide the Sacraments and Sacramental preparation, pastoral care, opportunities for social outreach, and faith formation for all ages of the Catholic Community of Orinda, CA.

Our mission is that of our Diocese of Oakland: To know Christ better and to make Him better known.

Thank you for joining us this weekend for your worship! If you’re not yet registered in the parish, please cut out and return the portion below to the collection basket or to the Parish Office, and we'll mail you a registration form!

See you next week!

AROUND THE DIOCESE

FACE Gala Tickets

FACE is happy to announce that the online registration for their 2017 FACE Gala is now open. This year the Gala will be held at the Blackhawk Auto Museum, 3700 Blackhawk Cr., Danville on Saturday, May 20th, beginning at 5:00pm. Many fun and exciting events have been planned for the evening.

Please purchase your table of 10 or individual tickets online at www.faceofoakland.org.

Prayer & Song Retreat

On Saturday, May 20, St. John the Baptist Church in El Cerrito will host a youth retreat for 5th - 12th graders from 1:00pm - 9:00pm. The agenda will include talks and games with LA Youth Day speakers Sarah Hart and Jesse Manibusan. Registration is $25, which includes snack, dinner and admission to the Sarah Hart and Jesse Manibusan Concert. Registration is online PrayerAndSongRetreat.org.

WELCOME, NEW MEMBERS!

We encourage you to register in the parish so that you can receive regular communication via both email and regular mail. Please fill out this form and place it in the collection basket, and we will mail you a Parish Registration Form!

Name

Address

Phone    Email

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TREASURES FROM OUR TRADITION

The fact that many monastic churches do not have a prominent tabernacle shapes the patterns of liturgical prayer. Monastic communities often protect the ancient value of “receiving from the same sacrifice,” meaning that the communicants are assured that what they eat and drink in the Holy Mysteries actually comes from the same celebration. It surprises many to learn that the Church does not foresee, nor does it provide for, Communion of the faithful from the reserved Sacrament. Liturgical laws have long defended your right to receive from the same sacrifice, the same Mass, that you attend.

At one time, of course, the bread for the Eucharist was the ordinary bread of the day, except unleavened, probably prepared at home. It was broken and distributed to the faithful. Early on the loaf itself was referred to as the hostia in Latin, meaning the “sacrifice,” the same word for the sacrificial animal in Jewish worship, and for Jesus as the Lamb of God. By giving his life on the cross, Jesus became the hostia for us. To this day in the Greek Church, one of the tasks of the priest’s wife is to bake the bread for the Divine Liturgy, sometimes in a bakery oven dedicated to that purpose and called a “Bethlehem.”

Today’s familiar individual hosts first appeared in the eleventh century at about the time when tabernacles were coming into use. The turn away from “bready” bread allowed the hosts to be reserved since they did not spoil like regular bread, and made the annual “Easter duty” counts easier.

—Rev. James Field, Copyright © J. S. Paluch Co.
**Week-At-A-Glance**

**Monday, May 8**
Liturgical Team Meeting  
(7:00pm, Library)

**Wednesday, May 10**
Social Justice  
(4:00pm, Library)

**Saturday, May 13**
Communion Service  
(8:00am, Chapel)  
Minister of the Word Practice  
(9:00am, Church)  
Sacrament of Reconciliation  
(4:00pm, Church)

For a full version of the Parish Calendar, please visit the website at [www.SantaMariaOrinda.org](http://www.SantaMariaOrinda.org) and click on the “Events Calendar” at the top of the page.

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**Catholic Community of Pleasanton**

Celebrating 21 years of musical excellence, The Choral Project’s programming is broad and diverse, including early music, world music, contemporary works, gospel, spirituals and jazz. Hailed by the San Jose Mercury News as “a Bay Area jewel,” stating that “there is nothing subtle about why this is one of the best choirs you will ever hear,” this 50-voice mixed choir has received top awards from some of the world’s most celebrated choral festivals.

The choir will present a concert on May 20, 7:30pm at St. Augustine Church, 3999 Bernal Ave., Pleasanton. Concert donation is $20 at the door.

For more information contact CatholicsOfPleasanton.org or ChoralProject.org.

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**PRAYER INTENTIONS**

**For the Sick**
Mary Beth Alban, Joan Artmann, Shoaib Aryan, Jeffrey Baus, Harlon Berg, Maria Carmen, Blanca Christie, Delores Codde, Tom Crosby, Deacon Maurice Custodio, Lorna Elliott, Michael Elliott, Nora Enriquez, Emidio Fonseca, Liam Foley, Patricia Fox, Bridget Gallagher, Noreen Gillham, Brian Kelly, Mason Kelly, Aileen Kelly, Jerry Kirk, Lawrence Knapp, Carol Koupus, Jane Kramer, Yal Liu, Rose Mary McPhee, Deacon Jim Pearce, Kathleen Pelz, Ann Powell, Mark Ricci, Tricia Rosso, Pierre Schreyer, Bob Singer, John Wheeler, and Margaret Wiegand

**For the Deceased**
Beverly Parent

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**TREASURE**

**April 30, 2017 Actual**
- Plate $7,145.00
- EFT $1,108.10
- Credit $1,596.48
- **Total** $9,849.58
- Goal $10,350.00
- Deficit $500.42

Maintenance Fund $2,373.00

**Upcoming Collections:**
- 05/07/17  Faith Formation
- 05/14/17  Catholic Charities

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**PASTORAL TEAM**

**Reverend George Mockel**  
Pastor  
gmockel@smparish.org

**Reverend Joseph Duong Nguyen**  
Priest in Residence

**Reverend Vien Nguyen**  
Sacramental Assistance

**Deacon Maurice Custodio**  
(Retired)  
smoffice@smparish.org x301

**Deacon Rey Encarnacion**  
dcn.rey@smparish.org x310

**Deacon James Pearce**  
dcnpearce@smparish.org x301

**Linda Zunino**  
Administrative Assistant  
lzunino@smparish.org x301

**Tony Millette**  
Liturgy and Music  
tmillette@smparish.org x303

**Sister Theresa Lan Do, LHC**  
Faith Formation (Grades K-5)  
sistertd@smparish.org x306

**Megan Arteaga**  
Youth Ministry (Grades 6-12) and CYO Parish Liaison  
megan@smparish.org x308

**Sister Pauline Hoang, LHC**  
Pastoral Care of the Sick  
sisterpauline@smparish.org x309

**Sister Magdalena Duong, LHC**  
Bookkeeper  
sistermagdalena@smparish.org x302

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**For the Sick**

**Week-At-A-Glance**

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The choir will present a concert on May 20, 7:30pm at St. Augustine Church, 3999 Bernal Ave., Pleasanton. Concert donation is $20 at the door.

For more information contact CatholicsOfPleasanton.org or ChoralProject.org.
THREE MORE WEEKS LEFT