YM’s new “Faith in Action Team” commissioned at retreat

“We’re all unqualified—but we have our experiences”

This was the comforting and challenging advice given at a retreat for Santa Maria’s new Faith in Action Team (FIAT), a group of teens and adults who will be journeying with our Middle School Youth Group and Confirmation students.

On a hot Sunday at the end of August, FIAT members gathered for a retreat guided by their counterpart at St. Charles Borromeo, Livermore. “Fearless leader” Megan Arteaga, the Youth Ministry Coordinator at Santa Maria, commissioned the group with their mission for the year: to prompt the youth and teens to honestly examine their own current experiences and begin to recognize the loving presence of the Lord “who is alive, and moving among us today.” Sessions throughout the day given by the St. Charles teen FIAT focused on Christian leadership and different gifts we’re given, articulating our personal faith journeys and how we understand God and the Church in our lives, and understanding the reasons we give witness talks and have small group time—and ending by celebrating Mass together.

One of the common threads throughout each of the sessions was that nobody on FIAT has (or needs!) formal qualifications or prerequisites—there are no degrees in theology or ministry, no leadership certificates. What FIAT members bring to the table is our witness to God, our questions to spark curiosity, our presence to encourage and support, and our life experiences—and the beauty of that is, of course, how the “many parts make up one body,” one body aimed at inviting our young people closer and closer to the God who saves.
PARISH LIFE

Summer Project Update

The planned summer capital projects are all on schedule so far. The exterior of the church has been painted and dry rot repairs have been made. Most of the electrical repairs have been accomplished with the exception of the low voltage lighting on the stairs to the lower parking lot. The terrace stone wall on half of the hill beneath the church has been installed (isn’t it a work of art?) Carpets in the Cummins Conference Room, youth room and classrooms have been shampooed. In October new rain gutters are scheduled to be installed on the School building and the Rectory. After the gutters are installed on the school building and associated scaffolding removed, we hope to do the landscaping with a manzanita ground cover. Some of these projects required that we dip into our capital reserves. We can do that on occasion and in emergencies; however, it is not a bottomless well. Your regular weekly contributions help make these repairs possible. Thank you for your continued generosity.

Are you a new volunteer here? Make sure you get your Safe Environment training done!

As a community of faith, we believe that the prevention of child sexual abuse begins with each person: increased awareness and a willingness to take action are steps for every person to take to eradicate abuse.

To that end, all those who minister in any capacity (as lector, Eucharistic Minister, catechist, choir member, staff, clergy, etc.) in the Diocese of Oakland are to be educated about the nature of child sexual abuse, how it is perpetrated, how to report it, and strategies for prevention. Training is mandatory for all who minister, first before starting work or volunteering, and then every 3 years after.

The Diocese has moved to VIRTUS, a nationally recognized company, to provide our online and on-site training. To register, go to www.virtusonline.org and sign up as a First Time Registrant. From there, you can either sign up for the ONLINE version of the “Protecting God’s Children for Adults” course, or an ON-SITE training of the same course. Each takes approximately 2-3 hours.

Upcoming On-Site Trainings:

St. Theresa Parish, Oakland:
Wednesday, September 13, 6:30pm
St. Joseph Parish, Pinole: Thursday, September 21, 7:00pm
St. Felixitas Parish, San Leandro: Thursday, October 19, 7:00pm

Questions? Contact Megan Arteaga (megan@smparish.org) for help!

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.

MASS INTENTIONS

Monday, September 11
8am: Int: Aaron Marley
Tuesday, September 12
8am: Earle Cunha (D)
Wednesday, September 13
8am: Loyd McCormick (D)
Thursday, September 14
8am: —
Friday, September 15
8am: Int: Charles Michael Buzzell
Saturday, September 16
5pm (Vigil): Marina Lopina (D)

Sunday, September 17
8:30am: James Russell Burns (D)
10:30am: Parishioners of Santa Maria
5pm: Alexander Nemeth (D)

L = Living; D = Deceased
To request a Mass Intention, please contact Linda in the Parish Office at x301 or at lizavina@smparish.org.
Wine Tasting at Santa Maria

Come join us!
The parish will again have a wine tasting of Bishop’s Vineyard wines on Saturday, September 30, 6:15pm-8:00pm in the Santa Maria Plaza. If you haven’t tasted their wines, you are in for a treat!

We ask you to support the Santa Maria Music Ministry and Catholic Education.

Tickets are $25 per person or $30 at the door. You must be 21 years of age or older to purchase a ticket; IDs will be checked at the door.

Tickets will go on sale this weekend after all the Masses in the front of the church.

Youth Band

Our Youth Mass will begin again on October 1st at the Sunday 5:00pm Mass. Our Youth Band will accompany the music at this Mass. If you play an instrument and are interested in joining them or have questions, please contact Tony Millette at tmillette@smparish.org.

Children’s Choir

We will begin Children’s Choir rehearsals on October 2nd at 3:30pm in classroom 1. If your child is interested in participating, please contact Tony Millette at (925) 254-2426, ext 303 or email him at tmillette@smparish.org.

Orinda Senior Village

On September 11 there will be a Rosary and Communion Service at 10:30am at the Orinda Senior Village, 20 Irwin Way, Orinda. All are welcome to attend this rosary and communion service. Questions please contact Sr. Mary Magdalene at 254-2426, ext 309.

RCIA
The Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults

On September 19th at 7:00pm three people will begin a journey of faith for those inquiring about becoming a Catholic and those who were baptized in the Catholic Church but have not celebrated the sacraments of Confirmation and/or Eucharist.

If you are also interested or know someone who is, Come and see! Contact the parish office at (925) 254-2426, ext 303.

Faith Formation and Confirmation

Early registration for Faith Formation and Confirmation is complete.

Enrollment continues for children in K-5 Faith Formation; forms are available on our web site or in the parish office. Confirmation forms are available on the parish web site. Youth Ministry fees are now $225 and registration for Confirmation is now $350.

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!

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**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!

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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)  
smaoffice@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)  
sisterld@smparish.org x306

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

Sister Mary Magdalene Nguyen, LHC  
Pastoral Care of the Sick  
925-254-2426, x309

Sister Magdalena Duong, LHC  
Bookkeeper  
sistermagdalena@smparish.org x305

**Prayer Intentions**

*For the Sick*

Mary Beth Alban, Joan Artmann,  
Sheaib Aryan, Jeffrey Baus, Harlon  
Berg, Br. Dominic Berardelli, FSC,  
Maria Carmen, Delores Codde, Tom  
Crosby, Deacon Maurice Custodio,  
Lorna Elliott, Michael Elliott, Nora  
Enriquez, Emidio Fonsca, Liam  
Foley, Patricia Fox, Bridget  
Gallagher, Norcon Gillham, Brian  
Kelly, Mason Kelly, Aileen Kelly,  
Jerry Kirk, Lawrence Knapp, Carol  
Koupus, Jane Kramer, Yal Liu, Mary  
Lou Mackintosh, Rose Mary  
McPhee, Deacon Jim Pearce,  
Kathleen Pelz, Ann Powell, Mark  
Ricci, Fr. Tim Ryan, Pierre Schreyer,  
Bob Singer, John Wheeler, and  
Margaret Wiegand

*For the Deceased*

**Week-At-A-Glance**

**Monday, September 11**  
Rosary & Communion Service  
(10:30am, Orinda Senior Village)

**Wednesday, September 13**  
Social Justice Meeting  
(4:00pm, Library)

**Saturday, September 16**  
Communion Service  
(8:00am, Chapel)  
Minister of the Word Practice  
(9:00am, Church)  
Sacrament of Reconciliation  
(4:00pm, Church)

**Sunday, September 17**  
Faith Formation Parent Orientation  
(9:15am, Conference Room, School)  
Catechetical Sunday-blessing of  
parents  
(10:30am Mass, Church)

**Treasure**

**September 3, 2017 Actual**

- **Plate**: $5,392.00
- **EPT**: $1,108.10
- **Credit**: $1,596.48
- **Total**: $8,096.58
- **Goal**: $10,350.00
- **Deficit**: ($2,253.42)

Faith Formation: $1,350.08

**Upcoming Collections:**

- **09/10/17**: Diocesan Priest Retirement
- **09/17/17**: Hurricane Relief Collection

**Donuts and Coffee this weekend are hosted by:**

Vicki Loutza & Bey Harris after the 8:30am Mass

Katherine Hlavac after the 10:30am Mass

**Hurricane Harvey**

In light of the recent hurricane in the Galveston/Houston Texas area and the extent of the damage and hardship which it brought upon the people of the surrounding areas, the US Bishops’ Conference has decided to have a second collection in the parishes during September to allow people to express their support concretely. Santa Maria will have our collection on the weekend of September 16/17.

This emergency collection will be used by Catholic Charities USA to support the humanitarian and recovery efforts and to provide pastoral and rebuilding support to impacted dioceses through the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops.

Please be as generous as you are able.
onFire
NORCAL JAM 2017

Featuring / Participación Estelar De:

Sarah Hart
Jesse Manibusan
Steve Angrisano
Joe Melendrez

CeCe, Jay and The Holy Fire Choir
Cecilia Flores
Fr. Joseph Espaillat

Six Flags
Discovery Kingdom

Saturday, September 16, 2017
9AM-9PM

Six Flags Discovery Kingdom - Vallejo, CA

Co-Sponsored By / Co-Patrocinado Por:
The Roman Catholic Dioceses of Fresno, Monterey, Oakland, Reno, Sacramento, Santa Rosa, Stockton, and The Archdiocese of San Francisco.

Tickets and Info / Boletos y Más Informes
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