Do priests go to school?

Father George explains Fall Study Day

Well, yes, we sort of do go to school: we have an example of how we do that on October 12, when some of the priests of the Diocese will be coming here to Santa Maria for their Fall Study Day. Our “schooling” (including Fall Study Day) is called “continuing education,” and in the Diocese of Oakland, priests are required to do 30 hours of Clergy Education per year.

The session to be held here is about the “Encuentro.” The “Encuentro” is an initiative of the United States Bishops to assist in pastoral ministry to Hispanics. A glance at the demographics of the Church in the U.S. reveals that of the 70 million United States Catholics, 32 million are Hispanic—and that is the growing edge of our church in this country. Even though there may not be that many Hispanic families in our parish, someday soon there will be many more. The “Encuentro” is also an opportunity to engage with Catholics around the country in the process of making disciples. The main speakers will be Dr. Hoffman Ospino, a national leader of “Encuentro,” and Armando Cervantes, director of Youth and Young Adult Ministries in the Diocese of Orange.

Just like every other profession, the clergy must keep up with the times. In other words, our study days and continuing education help us keep up with the latest currents, and effectively apply the unchanging principles of the Gospel to a changing culture and world.
**PARISH LIFE**

**Blood Drive**

The Knights of Columbus and Santa Maria will host a Blood Drive on Sunday, October 29, 2017 from 9:00am to 1:00pm.

The Blood Mobile will be parked in the lower church parking lot. To schedule your Life Saving appointment, please visit www.bloodheroes.com and click on "Locate a Blood Drive and enter Sponsor code Santamaria."

If you have any questions, please contact Bob Semar at thebobs2@comcast.net or call 925-283-1348.

When you arrive for your appointment please bring a Photo ID. Please also go online and complete the required questionnaire and bring the printed sheet indicating completion. Please eat and drink plenty of water before donating.

**Children's Choir**

Children’s Choir rehearsals began 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.

**Anointing of the Sick**

All those seriously ill or anticipating surgery and all who suffer from physical or emotional illness are invited to come to celebrate the Liturgy of the Word and to receive the Sacrament of Anointing of the Sick on:

**Saturday, October 28, 2017 at 11:00am in the church**

You are also invited to join us for a reception after the Liturgy in the parish hall.

More information contact Sister Mary Magdalene at 925-254-2426, ext 309.

**Guild Luncheon**

Be our guests for the annual Guild Membership Luncheon at 11:00am, Wednesday, October 18th in the Parish Hall.

Ann Walker Collins, a fellow parishioners and very talented singer and speaker will do a presentation of “Songs of the Slaves” based on spirituals remembered from her childhood. Please sign up on the poster in the Narthex of the Church.

**Santa Maria Guild**

We would like to thank the Santa Maria Guild for their most generous donation of $3,000 to the parish to help with planting on the new terraces next to the church. We are ever grateful for their generosity.

**Pastoral Care Ministries**

The Pastoral Care Ministry of Santa Maria parish focuses on visiting parishioners who are incapacitated by age or illness and are homebound, hospitalized, or are residents of nursing home facilities. Our ministry is focused on individuals who are no longer able to come, worship, and pray with their Church community on a regular basis. Pastoral Care Ministers of Santa Maria, who are trained volunteers, support those entrusted to their care in practical ways such as visits, bringing communion, as well as supplying news of events and parish literature.

If you are interested in sharing your faith with our parishioners who are sick, please do not hesitate to contact Sister Mary Magdalene at 925-254-2426 ext 309, or email sistermn@smparish.org. We are in need of volunteers to be Pastoral Care Minister.

**All Souls Novena**

This weekend we will have envelopes for the All Souls Novena on the table in the Narthex. Write down the names of those you wish to have prayers for during the novena. Place your donation in the envelope and put the envelope in the collection on Sunday. The novena will be from November 2nd thru November 10th. Envelopes will not be mailed to parishioners homes this year.

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**MASS INTENTIONS**

**Monday, October 9**
8am: All Souls

**Tuesday, October 10**
8am: Int: Peggy Clark (L)

**Wednesday, October 11**
8am: —

**Thursday, October 12**
8am: —

**Friday, October 13**
8am: Joseph Nguyen (D)

**Saturday, October 14**
5pm (Vigil): Claire Buich (D)

**Sunday, October 15**
8:30am: Stephen O’Brien (D)
10:30am: Parishioners of Santa Maria
5pm: Donald Palaschak (D)

L = Living; D = Deceased
To request a Mass Intention, please contact Linda in the Parish Office at x301 or email lamino@smparish.org.
Mission Co-op Collection

We received a thank you this week from the Propagation of the Faith at the Diocese of Oakland for our Mission Co-op collection of $5,080.00 to help sustain the preaching, teaching, healing, and life-giving mission of Christ throughout the World. This year’s collection has been earmarked for the Franciscan Friars of CA. Thank you from the parish staff to all those who donated to this collection.

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.

We thank you for your continued generosity!

AROUND THE DIOCESE

Please Pray With Us!

Please prayerfully consider standing for Life in conjunction with other Christians and like-minded people during the 40 Days for Life campaign, set for September 27 through November 5. 40 Days for Life is not a “protest” group. It is a world-wide organization that promotes 40 Days of prayer and fasting for an end to abortion. You are invited to stand and peacefully pray for a one hour period during the 40-day vigil in the public right of way outside the Planned Parenthood in Walnut Creek at 1537 Oakland Blvd. We will be praying from 7 a.m. through 7 p.m., Monday through Saturday, during the 40 Day vigil. Please sign up for an hour or two, and join us! Sign up on the website: 40DaysForLife.com/walnut creek or call Ann Vaccaro (925) 212-7938 with questions. Thank you.

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!
**Pastoral Team**

**Reverend George Mockel**
Pastor
gmockel@sm parish.org

**Reverend Joseph Duong Nguyen**
Priest in Residence

**Reverend Vien Nguyen**
Sacramental Assistance

**Deacon Rey Encarnacion**
den.rey@sm parish.org x310

**Deacon James Pearce**
dcnpearce@sm parish.org x301

**Linda Zunino**
Administrative Assistant
lzunino@sm parish.org x301

**Tony Millette**
Liturgy and Music
tmillette@sm parish.org x303

**Sister Theresa Lan Do, LHC**
Faith Formation (Grades K-5)
sisterla@sm parish.org x306

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

**Sister Mary Magdalene Nguyen, LHC**
Pastoral Care of the Sick
sistermm@sm parish.org x309

**Sister Magdalena Duong, LHC**
Bookkeeper
sistermagdalena@sm parish.org x305

**Prayer Intentions**

**For the Sick**
Mary Beth Alban, Joan Artmann, Shoaib Aryan, Jeffrey Baus, Br. Dominic Berardelli, FSC, Harlon Berg, Maria Carmen, Delores Codde, Tom Crosby, Aida Ding, Lorna Elliott, Michael Elliott, Nora Enriquez, Emidio Fonseca, Liam Foley, Patricia Fox, Bridget Gallagher, Norcen 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**
Deacon Maurice Custodio
Tom Poggi

**TREASURE**

October 1, 2017 Actual

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Faith Formation $1,347.00

**Upcoming Collections:**

10/22/17 Mission Sunday
10/29/17 Maintenance Fund

**Donuts and Coffee this weekend are hosted by:**
Vickie Leutza & Bev Harris after the 8:30am Mass
Katherine Hlavac family after the 10:30am Mass

**Week-At-A-Glance**

**Monday, October 9**
Rosary & Communion Service
(10:30am, Orinda Senior Village)
Faith Formation Classes
(2:30pm, Church/Classroom)
Children’s Choir
(3:30pm, Room #1)
Faith Formation Classes
(4:00pm, Church/Classroom)

**Tuesday, October 10**
RCIA
(7:00pm, Library)

**Wednesday, October 11**
Middle School Youth Ministry
(7:00pm, Youth Room)

**Friday, October 13**
C2 Retreat
(10/13 thru 15, Lafayette)

**Saturday, October 14**
Communion Service
(8:00am, Chapel)
Minister of the Word Practice
(9:00am, Church)
Wedding-Allison Somsin & Jordan Long (10:00am, Church)
Sacrament of Reconciliation
(4:00pm, Church)

**Sunday, October 15**
Children’s Liturgy of the Word
(During the 10:30am Mass, Church)

**Orinda Senior Village**
On October 9th we will have the monthly Rosary and Communion service at 9:30am at the Orinda Senior Village, 20 Irwin Way, Orinda.

We will have Bible Reading at the Convalescent Hospital in Orinda on October 11th at 11:00am. Sr. Mary Magdalene will conduct the Bible Reading.

All are welcome to attend either event.