Social Justice and Stewardship

"As each one has received a gift, use it to serve one another as good stewards of God's varied grace" (1 Pt 4:10).

The Social Justice Committee has a variety of responsibilities which include managing the parish's designated stewardship funds generated from 5% of the yearly first collections. This sacrificial tithing represents our parish's gift in gratitude so that we may, as disciples, participate more fully in the Church's mission. The committee evaluates organizations and develops a rationale for its recommendations to the pastor, guided by the principles of Catholic Social Teaching. Funding also includes emergency needs both locally and nationally.

This year our parish has given funds to St. Cornelius Catholic School (tuition assistance), CC Interfaith Housing (homeless shelter), Cathedral Malta Clinic (affordable healthcare), Diocese of Oakland Restorative Justice program (education for offenders, pastoral care for victims of crime, detention ministry), Catholic Charities Claire's House (housing for exploited women) and Walk for Life (Respect Life). Additional funds have been designated to supplement the needs of our sponsored Burmese family. A full accounting of organizations and funding amounts is published yearly in the parish bulletin.

If you are interested in being involved with the Social Justice Committee in this enriching and rewarding process of stewardship giving in our parish, please contact Margaret Govednik at mwgovednik@comcast.net or Diane Arney at dfisharney@yahoo.com.
**PARISH LIFE**

**Restore and Renew Program**

As part of the “Restore and Renew” program for the interior of our church, we are enlarging and remodeling the confessional in the rear of the church. Those of you who celebrate the Sacrament know that the confessional is extremely tiny and were not designed for the option of face-to-face celebration of the Sacrament. A very generous parishioner has offered to pay for a significant portion of this project, for which we are extremely grateful. If you are interested in assisting in a financial way, let Father George know.

On a related subject, we often get the question: “What about the carpets?” The carpets are a disaster - no doubt about it! However, as anyone who has ever done any kind of remodeling project knows, the carpet is the last thing you do. Therefore, these projects have to be done in a logical sequence as resources and money become available; while at the same time attempting to cause the least amount of disruption and access to the church.

**Baptismal Process**

If you have a child that you would like to have baptized over the next two months, the required parent classes will be held in the month of November starting on Wednesday, November 8 at 7:00pm in the conference room of the school. The second class will be November 15th at 7:00pm, also in the conference room. Please contact the parish office, (925) 254-2426 for more information about the baptismal process or if you would like to register.

**Greeter Training**

There will be training for all new greeters on November 11 & 12 after all the Masses in the Church. Even if you are a seasoned greeter you will need to come by for the training and to meet all the new members in this ministry. We will also have training on December 2nd at 10:00am.

**Father Vien Nguyen**

This month, after helping the parish with the weekend Masses for several years, we will say farewell to Fr. Vien. We are very grateful for his engaging ministry here in the parish.

Father Vien, after defending his dissertation this month, will return to Milwaukee, Wisconsin to teach in the seminary. When you see him be sure to say thanks and goodbye.

**Buon Natale**

Ticket sales for our Annual Christmas party on December 1st, 6:30pm will take place this weekend after all Masses; tickets are $50 per person. Don’t miss this great party.

**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!

**MASS INTENTIONS**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Day</th>
<th>Mass Time</th>
<th>Intention</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Monday, November 13</td>
<td>8am</td>
<td>Joseph Tuan Nguyen (D)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tuesday, November 14</td>
<td>8am</td>
<td>All Souls</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wednesday, November 15</td>
<td>8am</td>
<td>Loretta Hale (D)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thursday, November 16</td>
<td>8am</td>
<td>Peace</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Friday, November 17</td>
<td>8am</td>
<td>Special Intention</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Saturday, November 18</td>
<td>5pm</td>
<td>(Vigil): Parishioners of Santa Maria</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
**AROUND THE DIOCESE**

**Orinda Senior Happenings**

Orinda Parks & Recreation announces the Holiday Bazaar on Saturday, November 18th from 1:00pm - 4:00pm at the Orinda Community Center.

This yearly event will have over 50 unique vendors for your holiday shopping. Vendors will include holiday decorations, clothing, books, jewelry, fashion accessories, and much, much more. Free Admission.

**Pasta Dinner**

On Sunday, November 19th from 4:30pm - 6:30pm San Damiano Retreat Center, 710 Highland Dr., Danville will host a Pasta Dinner. Adults cost $15 and children under 12 cost $10. For more information please contact San Damiano.org. Please bring a donation for Contra Costa County Food Bank.

**Christmas Concert**

St. Bonaventure Church, 5562 Clayton Rd., Concord will host “What Sweeter Music”, on December 2nd at 7:30pm.

Come, prepare your hearts for the richness of a Christmas experience by joining us for the story of Christ’s birth, told through scripture lessons and beautiful choral arrangements of carols. Our Youth Minister, Megan Arteaga will be among the instrumentalists playing flute & clarinet. A freewill offering will be collected to help defray the cost of the concert. Your donation will be greatly appreciated. A reception will follow the concert, in the adjoining Hospitality Room.

Questions, contact Janice Anelli at bjanelili@astound.net or (925) 687-4058.

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**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 to bring Christ to all. To know Christ better and to make Him 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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**Name**

**Address**

**Phone**

**Email**
**Pastoral Team**

- Reverend George Mockel
  Pastor
gmockel@smparish.org

- Reverend Joseph Duong Nguyen
  Priest in Residence

- Reverend Michael Amabisco, OP
  Sacramental Assistance

- 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 Margaret Nguyen, LHC
  Pastoral Care of the Sick
sistermm@smparish.org x309

- Sister Magdalena Duong, LHC
  Bookkeeper
sistermagdalena@smparish.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, Lorna Elliott, Michael Elliott, Nora Enriquez, Emidio Fonseca, Liam Foley, Patricia Fox, Bridget Gallagher, Norreen Gillham, Phyllis Hassan, Brian Kelly, Mason Kelly, Aileen Kelly, Jerry Kirk, Lawrence Knapp, Carol Koupus, Jane Kramer, Yal Liu, Mary Lou Mackintosh, Rose Mary McPhee, Mike Murphy, Deacon Jim Pearce, Kathleen Pelz, Ann Powell, Mark Ricci, Pierre Schreyer, Bob Singer, Charlene Smith, John Wheeler

For the Deceased
Jack Bevis

**Week-At-A-Glance**

- **Monday, November 13**
  Orinda Senior Village
  (10:30am, Rosary & Comm. Serv.)

- **Parish Staff Meeting**
  (10:30am, Parish Office)

- **Faith Formation Classes**
  (2:30pm, Church/Classroom)

- **Children’s Choir**
  (3:30pm, Room #1)

- **Faith Formation Classes**
  (4:00pm, Church/Classroom)

- **Tuesday, November 14**
  RCIA
  (7:00pm, Library)

- **Wednesday, November 15**
  Middle School Youth Ministry
  (7:00pm, Youth Room)

- **Baptism Class 2 of 2**
  (7:00pm, Conf Room)

- **Thursday, November 16**
  RCIA Book Group
  (7:00pm, Library)

- **Friday, November 17**
  Stewardship Appreciation Dinner
  (7:00pm, Parish Hall)

- **Saturday, November 18**
  Communion Service
  (8:00am, Chapel)
  Minister of the Word Practice
  (9:00am, Church)
  Kit Wiggins Funeral
  (10:30am, Church)
  Sacrament of Reconciliation
  (4:00pm, Church)

- **Sunday, November 19**
  Children’s Liturgy of the Word
  (During the 10:30am Mass, Church)

**Treasure**

**November 5, 2017 Actual**

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<th>Item</th>
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<td>Goal</td>
<td>$10,350.00</td>
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<tr>
<td>Deficit</td>
<td>($673.73)</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

- **Faith Formation**
  $1,264.00

**Upcoming Collections:**

- 11/19/17 Campaign for Human Development
- 11/23/17 Thanksgiving

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

- Vicki Leutza & Bev Harris after the 8:30am Mass
- Dana Ross family after the 10:30am Mass
9 Ways You(th) Can Practice Stewardship

Our parish is talking about stewardship this and next weekend, and it's easy to think that it's only for the adults. Here are some ways you can get in on the action and find a better understanding of what stewardship actually is in the first place.

#1 Depend on God

Everything you are and all that you have comes from God. Taking the time to remember that, and to live your life dependent on God as the giver of all good things, is a good start to practicing stewardship.

#2 Practice Gratitude

This kind of goes along with #1 — if God gave you everything, shouldn't you take the time to say a simple “thank you”? Super easy!

#3 Give Back

You've been given a lot — a roof over your head, tasty food, a good school, talents, financial security, clean water, etc. Have you ever given back — to your parents, to your community, to your school? Think of how you could help out, and do it!

#4 Respond With Love

God created you because He loves you and thought the world needed one of you. It also means He thought the world needed one of that person who really drives you crazy. Go out of your way to be kind to them.

#5 Give Proportionately

Did your grandmother give you $100 for your birthday? Did you get paid for helping a neighbor? Give some of that to a charity you love, or to the Sunday collection — God won't ever be outdone in generosity.

#6 Hang out With God

Remember #4? It counts with Our Lord, too! Respond with love to the love He showed you by creating you — spend some time in prayer!

#7 Share Talent

Do people tell you you're a good listener? That you have a good voice? That you tell good stories? Think of how those gifts could serve others — maybe tutoring kids, or helping coach, maybe leading VBS, or helping at Confirmation sessions!

#8 Be Accountable

Recognize that someday, God is going to hold you accountable for all that you've done with what He's given you. Don't you want to say you've used those gifts to make the world He created a better place?

#9 Be Counter-Cultural

While society encourages you to continually strive for more and more (higher grades, better colleges, more money), stewardship helps you recognize that you already have more than enough. In fact, you have enough to share — so share what you have generously and often, because it all came from God in the first place!