Getting into the “Spirit of Giving”

Our CYO teams helped bring
Christmas cheer to 149 East Bay families

For the past five straight years, our CYO basketball teams and coaches have taken some time out of their busy holiday season to help make the Christmas spirit bright for families in need through Contra Costa Interfaith Housing’s “Spirit of Giving” program (formerly “Adopt a Family”).

As early as October, teams are invited to sign up to buy and wrap gifts and grocery gift cards for formerly homeless and poverty-impacted families of the East Bay. This year, 400 people from 149 families were given holiday gifts lovingly selected and wrapped just for them. “For some parents,” CCIH wrote on their website, “it will be the first time they experience the joy of seeing their children open new gifts.”

Because more CYO teams signed up to participate than we had families to assign, many teams participated in the St. Vincent de Paul gift drive, selecting gifts and nonperishable food items for local families in need.

CYO teams aren’t only sports teams, but are Christian communities – and as such are called to be of service to each other and to others! This opportunity gives our youth the opportunity to experience the joy of serving others, with a personal connection.

Knowing the ages and hearing some gift suggestions for the family members they buy for (while maintaining each family’s anonymity) helps them focus on someone else, and on what they can do for that person with the gifts they’ve been given in their own lives – and helps them get into the “spirit of giving” during the Christmas season!
PARISH LIFE

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 January starting on Wednesday, January 17th at 7:00pm in the conference room of the school. The second class will be January 24th 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.

Our Parish Crab Feed Coming Soon!

Be sure to sign up soon for our 4th annual Santa Maria Crab Feed, happening on Saturday, Feb. 3, at 6 pm. The crab feed raises funds to support our parish youth programs and is a terrific evening of fun, food and friends.

Our Santa Maria Knights of Columbus are collecting some terrific prizes for the auction and raffle to go along with the delicious food and drink that makes the crab feed so much fun!

The Knights will be taking reservations after Masses the next two weekends, giving you time to put together a table for your group. You can also make reservations by calling the parish office (254 2426) Tickets are $65 per person for all the crab you can eat plus all the fixings.

You can reserve a table for your family and friends or sign up individually.

Faith Sharing Groups

Sign-ups for our five week Lenten Series for small Faith Sharing Groups has started! Don’t miss your opportunity to learn more about your faith, meet fellow parishioners and build community. The first session begins the week of Ash Wednesday, February 14th. Forms are available in the Narthex.

Thank You Fr. Mockel and Santa Maria

We recently received the following from the Orinda Senior Village Catholic Group:

Dear Fr. Mockel,
Thank you ever so much for all that Santa Maria Parish has been doing for Orinda Senior Village. We are not just filled with gratitude but also very hopeful that, indeed, we are on the right path.
To Jesus, through Mary,
OSV Catholic Group

2018 Parish Calendars

Our parish calendars have arrived and are in the Narthex. We ask that you take only one per family. Thank you!

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.

Thank you for your continued help!

MASS INTENTIONS

Monday, January 15
8am: All Souls

Tuesday, January 16
8am: Jack Bevis (D)

Wednesday, January 17
8am: Jack Bevis

Thursday, January 18
8am: Marilyn Capener (D)

Friday, January 19
8am: Deceased Family Members & Benefactors of Holy Cross Sisters

Saturday, January 20
5pm (Vigil): Al Clark (D)

Sunday, January 21
8:30am: Leona & Jule Villard (D)
10:30am: Parishioners of Santa Maria
5pm Holy Souls in Purgatory

L = Living; D = Deceased
To request a Mass Intention, please contact Linda in the Parish Office at x301 or at lanaino@amparish.org.
Christ the King’s Grief Support Workshop

Have you lost someone you love? Are you looking for support? Christ the King’s Grief Support Workshop is a 7-week program that creates a safe and welcoming space for those experiencing the pain that comes with the death of a loved one.

We gather to remember, share and to learn tools that can help you begin to live with your grieving heart. The session will be hosted at Queen of Heaven Cemetery in Lafayette in their beautiful new chapel. The sessions will happen Tuesday nights from 7:00pm-9:00pm. Sessions will be held Tuesday, February 13—Tuesday, March 27. The deadline to register is Tuesday, February 6. For more information and to register contact Kate Neal, 510-267-8339 or katen@cftsOakland.org.

Living Contemplatively

The School of Applied Theology, St. Albert’s Priory, 5890 Birch Ct., Oakland will present a course in Living Contemplatively on Monday-Tuesday, February 26-27, 10:00am-3:00pm.

The course presented by Michael Fish, OSB Cam will have an emphasis on finding one’s true, authentic self in God, this two-part course will offer challenges to one to uncover personal masks and look at life from a new perspective. Participants should bring a pillow and blanket. The cost is $180. For information please call 510-652-1651.

Preparing our Future Priests

The Diocese of Oakland is blessed to have seventeen seminarians preparing for priesthood.

The formation program for a seminarian can be up to nine years long, depending on the seminarian’s prior education.

The cost to the diocese of educating our future priests is substantial and your generosity is needed. The approximate cost per seminarian per year is $43,973; this includes tuition, room and board, medical insurance, books/retreat, and personal living. Please make a personal investment in your future priests by generously contributing to the Seminary.

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!

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 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)  
sisterl@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  
sistermmn@smparish.org x309

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

**Prayer Intentions**

*For the Sick*

Mary Beth Alban, Joan Artmann,  
Shoaib Aryan, Cara Bradbury,  
Jeffrey Baus, Harlon Berg, Maria  
Carmen, Delores Codde, Tom  
Crosby, Lorna Elliott, Michael  
Elliott, Nora Enriquez, Emidio  
Fonseca, Liam Foley, Patricia Fox,  
Bridget Gallagher, Noreen Gillham,  
Phyllis Hassan, Brian Kelly, Mason  
Kelly, Aileen Kelly, Jerry Kirk,  
Lawrence Knapp, Carol Koupus,  
Yal Liu, Mary Lou Mackintosh,  
Rose Mary McPehee, Mike Murphy,  
Deacon Jim Pearce, Kathleen Pelz,  
Ann Powell, Mark Ricci, Pierre  
Schreyer, Bob Singer, Charlene  
Smith and John Wheeler

*For the Deceased*

Br. Dominic Berardelli, FSC  
Peter Althaus

**Week-At-A-Glance**

**Monday, January 15th**  
Martin Luther King Day - Parish Office Closed

**Tuesday, January 16th**  
RCLA  
(7:00pm, Library)

**Wednesday, January 17th**  
Middle School Youth Ministry  
(7:00pm, Youth Room)

Baptism Class 1 of 2  
(7:00pm, Conf Room)

**Friday, January 19th**  
LinC Retreat (1/19-21)  
Aptics

**Saturday, January 20th**  
Communion Service  
(8:00am, Chapel)

Minister of the Word Practice  
(9:00am, Church)

Sacrament of Reconciliation  
(4:00pm, Church)

Rite of Welcome for Baptism  
(5:00pm Mass, Church)

**Sunday, January 21st**  
First Reconciliation Retreat  
(9:00am, Conf Room, Rm 1 & 2)

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

Presentation of 1st Reconciliation  
(10:30am Mass, Church)

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**Treasure**

**January 7, 2018 Actual**

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**Upcoming Collections:**

01/21/18  
Seminary Collection

02/04/18  
Faith Formation

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

Bobbie Richards & Bob Semar after the 8:30am Mass

Holy Cross Sisters after the 10:30am Mass

Thank you for your generosity!
Because Women Deserve Better than Abortion.

WALK FOR LIFE

14TH ANNUAL

SATURDAY, JANUARY 27 • CIVIC CENTER PLAZA • SAN FRANCISCO

CHURCH OF SANTA MARIA

MEET AT ORINDA BART AT 12:00PM
BRING $10 FOR YOUR TICKET!

BARTING BY YOURSELF?
MEET US AT THE CIVIC CENTER
EMAIL MEGAN (MEGAN@SMPARISH.ORG) FOR DETAILS!

WALK FOR LIFE WEST COAST
A NEW TRADITION. A NEW VOICE.

RALLY STARTS AT CIVIC CENTER PLAZA,
WALKING DOWN MARKET STREET (2 MILES).
ENDS AT JUSTIN HERMAN PLAZA/FERRY
BUILDING.
BART STATIONS AT BOTH LOCATIONS. AMPLE PARKING.

REGISTER AND INFO:
415/658-1793 | EMAIL: INFO@WALKFORLIFEWC.COM

WALK FOR LIFE WC.COM