Confirmed in their Faith
Reflecting on a successful Confirmation Mass

In the late afternoon as sunlight poured through the stained glass windows of the church, 38 of our teenagers sat nervously next to their sponsors. It was a little before 5pm, June 10: Confirmation Sunday. Many of the teens were likely running over their lines in their head – “I do,” “Amen,” “And with your spirit,” and “Amen” again – their verbal participation in the Rite of Confirmation. The church buzzed with activity – choir members humming their songs, sponsors double-checking what they should do, parents snapping photos, and family members chatting and praying, all happy to be there celebrating this big step in our young Catholics’ faith lives.

The Mass itself was beautiful – our teen choir led our sung worship, and the piano accompaniment was supplemented by the organ and percussion. Bishop Michael Barber, SJ was intrigued by our teens’ choices of Patron Saints, and Father Alex Castillo, his Master of Ceremonies, was impressed by their eloquence in explaining them and their engagement in the Mass in general. Our Pastor, Father George Mockel, was touched seeing how many teens and sponsors went out of their way to thank both Bishop and himself after Mass for their support and presence.

Santa Maria’s favorite Youth Minister (joking – guess who wrote this!) Megan Arteaga was proud of the group, and their dedication to and engagement with the program. Through prayer, catechesis, service, liturgical ministry, and time reflecting on the intersection of their gifts, their passions, and the needs of the world, these teens not only prepared for Confirmation Sunday but also for the rest of their lives as men and women of faith in the Catholic Church. We can’t wait to see what they’ll do next, and will be here supporting them every step of the way!
Update from Father George on Summer Parish Projects

We have three major projects planned and budgeted for this summer. Two have been completed. You may have noticed the scaffolding erected around both the Rectory and Convent buildings. The exterior of the Rectory was painted last month. It looks very nice. The color matches the Church. We just completed installing new gutters and replacing some of the down spouts on the Convent. The remaining project is the painting of the interior of the Church. No major change in color is contemplated, however we may do a little ‘highlighting” of the area around the window above the choir loft and the baldacchinos above the tabernacle and the statue of Mary. Your regular financial contributions make these other maintenance projects possible.

Daily 8:00am Mass Moving in July

Between Friday July 6 and Friday July 13 the Holy Cross Sisters will hold their annual retreat in the Chapel. The 8:00am Mass will be held in the Church. Keep the Sisters in your prayers during their retreat!

4th of July Mass and Parade!

9:00am Mass in the Church
10:00am Parade Begins

Heard of Peter’s Pence Collection?

In a couple of weeks, we will take the Peter’s Pence Collection, which provides Pope Francis with the funds he needs to carry out his charitable works around the world. The proceeds benefit our brothers and sisters on the margins of society, including victims of war, oppression, and disasters. Please be generous. For more information, visit www.usccb.org/peters-pence.

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

Have you heard of Mental Health First Aid Training?

Are you a parent or caregiver of a teen? Do you work with youth or teens? If so, you’re invited to the next Youth Mental Health First Aid course, coordinated by Catholic Charities of the East Bay, empowering adults to respond compassionately and directly when a youth experiences a mental health or spiritual crisis.

For more information or to see upcoming training dates, visit bit.ly/CCEB-MHFA

Contra Costa Interfaith Housing

Summer Camp Support Needed:
We are currently putting together summer programming for kids (toddler through middle school), and we need your help. Many of these kids are formerly homeless or very low-income. In the past, volunteers (teens and adults) have organized small groups to host different “camps”. These activities take place at our housing sites (Pittsburg & Concord) for a couple hours/day for 4-5 days during the week. Each week has a theme and FUN is always on the agenda. J Feel free to call and discuss ideas or just offer general help to an already formed camp week. All camps are supervised by on-site CCIH staff. Email gloria@ccinterfaithhousing.org for more information.

MASS INTENTIONS

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<tr>
<th>Day</th>
<th>Mass Times</th>
<th>Intentions</th>
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<tr>
<td>Monday, June 25</td>
<td>8am: Father’s Day Novena</td>
<td>8am: Kenneth Berg(d)</td>
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<td>Tuesday, June 26</td>
<td>8am: Dominic Hoang(d)</td>
<td>Friday, June 29 8am: (Int) Phyllis Lee-Leong Family</td>
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<tr>
<td>Wednesday, June 27</td>
<td>8am: (Int) Yvonne Barros</td>
<td>Saturday, June 30 5pm: Jack Bevis(d)</td>
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<td>Thursday, June 28</td>
<td>8am: Kenneth Berg(d)</td>
<td>Sunday, July 1 8:30: Parishioners of Santa Maria</td>
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<td>10:30: Pat Connolly(d)</td>
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<td>5:00: Intentions of the Presider</td>
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L = Living; D = Deceased
To request a Mass Intention, please contact Mirna in the Parish Office at x301 or at mirnawong@smparish.com
Catholic Relief Services response to volcanic eruption in Guatemala

Guatemala experienced an eruption of Volcan de Fuego on June 3. The country’s most violent volcanic eruption in over a century has affected, as of June 14, more than 1.7 million people, forced 12,000 to be evacuated from the area and killed at least 114. Explosions continue to be recorded, causing repeated avalanches of fine ash and other material. Catholic Relief Services staff is on the ground working with Caritas Escuintla to assess immediate needs across the affected communities. The two agencies are distributing water, food and medicine, and the local diocese is operating three shelters in the area. Prayers and financial contributions are needed for the Guatemalans facing this tragedy. For further information, in both English and Spanish, about the disaster, about prayer resources and about how to make a donation, please visit www.crs.org or contact Marc McKimmey, the CRS Diocesan Coordinator at 510.768.3176 or mmckimmey@ceeb.org

Calling All Women!

Magnificat SOTI, a Ministry for Catholic Women, will hold its Summer Prayer Breakfast on June 30, 9:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m., at the Crowne Plaza, 45 John Glenn Drive, Concord. Guest speaker is Susan Potvin, an adoption advocate who will share her oldest son’s battle with drug addiction and how the power of the Lord’s forgiveness can heal broken families. Susan is the leader of Living Praise and Worship team which travels nationally and internationally and has produced six worship CDs.

Men are always welcome to attend! Tickets are $33, with the price going up after May 23. For more information, visit the website or contact Jennifer Rogers at 503.709.8449.

Are We As Parents Helping Our Children Say “Yes to The Lord”?

Marian Conference

A Marian Conference will be hosted by Immaculate Heart of Mary Catholic Church in Brentwood Oct. 12-13. With the theme “With Mary, we say YES to the Lord!”, the Conference will have a special focus on the role of the parents and the youth in building up the Church beginning with their own homes, the domestic church. All Catholics are invited; registration information is available at www.ihmbrentwood.com. For more information, contact Father Quang Minh Dong or Father John Erick Villa at 925.634.4154 or 2018MarianConference@ihmbrentwood.com

You’ll be away for summer vacations—but we won’t!

Support Santa Maria with Faith Direct while you’re away this summer

After graduations and promotions (and, yes, Confirmations!) things get a little quieter around here as parishioners leave for vacations—but our parish still needs your support! Consider enrolling in eGiving through Faith Direct to make sure your gifts reach Santa Maria when you cannot., and our ministries can continue.

Visit www.faithdirect.net and securely enroll using our parish code CA891—or find a paper enrollment form in the Parish Office if you’d prefer.

Thank you for your continued support of our parish family!

If you have any questions, please contact Megan in the Parish Office by phone at 925-254-2426 x308 or by email at megan@smparish.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!

Or register online at www.santamariaorinda.com/registration!

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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

Mirna Wong
Administrative Assistant
mirnawong@smparish.org x301

Tony Millette
Liturgy and Music
tmillette@smparish.org x303

Sister Mary Margaret Phan, LHC
Faith Formation (Grades K-5)
srmmpphan@smparish.org; x306

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

Sister Mary Magdalene Nguyen, LHC
Pastoral Care of the Sick
sistermn@smparish.org x309

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

Week-At-A-Glance

Monday, June 25
Father’s Day Novena
9:30 am Orinda Senior Village Mass

Tuesday, June 26

Wednesday, June 27

Thursday, June 28

Friday, June 29
10:30am Kevin Kennedy Funeral

Saturday, June 30
8:00 am Communion Service (Chapel)
4:00 pm Sacrament of Reconciliation (Church)
5:00 pm Mass (Church)

Eucharistic Ministers

We are in need of four more Eucharistic Ministers at the Saturday, 5:00pm Mass.
If you attend this Mass regularly and are interested, please contact Tony Millette at tmillette@smparish.org.

This Week’s Readings

First Reading:
Isaiah 49:1-6
Psalm 139:1b-3,13-14ab,14c-15
Second Reading:
Gospel:
Luke 1:57-66, 80

TREASURE

June 17, 2018 Actual

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<tr>
<td>Plate</td>
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<tr>
<td>Faith Direct</td>
<td>$3,525.60</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>$9,557.60</strong></td>
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Upcoming Collections:
07/01/18 Faith Formation
07/08/18 Holy Father-Peters Pence

Please note—Faith Direct is our new Electronic Funds Transfer, or EFT, program. The amount listed here each week is the average of that months’ projected giving. For more information or to enroll, see page 3.

Donuts and Coffee this weekend are hosted by:
Bobbie&Bob after the 8:30am Mass
Lisa de Paschal after the 10:30am Mass

Thank you for your generosity!

PRAYER INTENTIONS

For the Sick
Mary Beth Alban, Joan Artmann, Shoaib Aryan, Kristy Blackey-Taylor, Harlon Berg, Cara Bradbury, Maria Carmen, Delores Codde, 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, Kevin Madsen, Rose Mary McPhee, Deacon Jim Pearce, Kathleen Pelz, Ann Powell, Mark Ricci, Pierre Schreyer, Bob Singer

For the Deceased
Congratulations, Confirmandi!