Working on putting “Faith in Action”
7 of our teens and 3 of our adults gathered with local parishes for a Youth Ministry leadership retreat

“We’ve got to connect with everyone, make them feel like this is family, try to make it so they look forward to coming here every week,” Santa Maria’s Faith In Action Team of Youth Ministry leaders summed up at the end of their retreat last Sunday. From 10am to 6pm, 30 teens and adults from three parishes gathered to talk about putting their faith in action by ministering to their peers and parish community in their Youth Ministry programs.

Merging fun with faith and introspection is generally a strong point of Santa Maria, St. Charles Borromeo (Livermore) and St. Michael (Livermore) parishes, and they delivered in spades at the day retreat. Starting with icebreakers, praise and worship, and time to meet each other, the day quickly turned to serious tasks like taking an honest look at our prayer lives, examining the gifts we have for evangelization, and recognizing the strengths we have that we can add to the leadership team.

Each Youth Minister led a session: one on witnessing to our faith with our lives, one on helping people recognize and share their stories of God in small groups, and one on working together with each other and with the Lord toward the goal of being with Christ. The day ended with parish break-outs where each team planned their individual and team goals for the year.

Teens Livi de Paschalis, Kaitlin Miller, Nick Acevedo, Jacob Brewster, Julia Lang, Chantal Hummel, and Miranda Schnier and adults Debbie Berndt, Theresa Gonzales, and Catherine Akazawa are looking forward to filling in the rest of the team who couldn’t attend—old and new—on the details!

Interested in FIAT leadership? Contact Megan at megan@smparish.org!
Join us for the Parish Oktoberfest!

Date: Saturday, Oct. 6  
Time: After 5pm Mass from 6:00 - 10:00 pm  
Where: Parish Hall  
RSVP: gasmith4@pacbell.net

Mark your calendars and plan to enjoy our annual Oktoberfest on Saturday evening, Oct. 6, right after the 5 p.m. Mass. This evening of German food, drink and entertainment has become a parish favorite since the sponsoring Knights of Columbus put together the first one six years ago. At $20 per head (kids free), it is a great way to enjoy a relaxing and fun evening with your fellow parishioners (and guests are welcome). Show up, have fun, a guten abend!

RSVP to Greg Smith at gasmith4@pacbell.net.

Santa Maria Children’s Choir

The choir will begin practicing on October 1st with our First Children’s Mass on the 21st of October. This is a great way for the children to learn about our weekly communal worship, their rightful role as ministers in this worship and - it nurtures deeper appreciation for the Eucharist.

For further information please contact Tony Millette at 254-2426 x303 or tmillette@smparish.org.

R.C.I.A. Process Begins

When: Tuesday, October 2  
Time: 7:00 pm to 8:30 pm

We currently have one new inquirer starting the program. If you know of someone who may be interested in inquiring about the Catholic faith, please contact Tony Millette at tmillette@smparish.org or Margaret Govednik at mwgovednik@comcast.net

Play golf, help kids in crisis

The Orinda Knights of Columbus’ Charity Golf Tournament is Monday, September 24  
Join the Santa Maria Knights of Columbus for an afternoon of fun at their 2nd Annual Charity Golf Tournament on Monday, September 24 at the Moraga Country Club! All proceeds benefit the Bay Area Crisis Nursery, which provides free service for families in crisis.

For more details or to register, visit www.kocannualcharitygolftournament.com.

The Knights of Columbus of Santa Maria Council #16453 is a 501(c)8, non-profit organization, tax ID 81-3255973.

Celebrating Our Faith from the Islands to the Mainland

Our Faith, Our Journey, Our Mission

We look forward with gratitude and joy to March 16, 2021, the 500th Anniversary of Philippine Evangelization. In connection to a 4-year preparation for this celebration, the Filipino clergy, religious, and laity of the Diocese of Oakland invites you to its first symposium to be held on September 29, 2018 from 9:00 am - 3:00 pm at the Monsignor Cardelli Activity Center (Gym), St. Isidore Church. The event will be highlighted with the symposium, group dynamics, the Eucharistic celebration and agape.

The theme for this event is: "Rooting, Uprooting and Re-Planting: The Filipino Experience of Moving from Home (Philippines) to Home"
One less thing to remember each Sunday

With the arrival of autumn, we’d like to invite you to join Faith Direct, our parish’s electronic giving program.

Our to-do lists can get lengthy this season, but our eGiving program will give you one less thing to remember each week—no more envelopes to find or checks to write before you go to Mass!

Visit [www.faithdirect.net](http://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.

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**FORMATION MINISTRIES**

**Confirmation Parent Orientation: choose Sunday or Tuesday**

If you will have a family member in our Confirmation program, one parent will need to attend ONE of our Confirmation Parent Orientation sessions with Megan Arteaga, our Confirmation Coordinator, and Father George Mockel, our pastor!

- **Sunday, September 23 from 6-7:30pm** in the Parish Hall
- **Tuesday, September 25 from 7:30-9pm** in the Conference Room

Only one parent needs to attend this mandatory orientation. Teens can stay home and relax.

*Questions? Email Megan Arteaga at megan@smparish.org.*

**Formation Ministry Programs begin this week!**

Our K-12th Grade formation ministry programs (Faith Formation, Youth Group, and Confirmation) will be starting the week of September 23.

It’s not to late to register—there’s a link on our website homepage!

**Catechist Blessing: Sunday, September 23**

Please keep our catechists in your prayers as they prepare for the Faith Formation year! We will be celebrating a blessing of the catechists at the 10:30am Mass Sunday, September 23.

*Are you interested in joining the K-5 Faith Formation ministry team as a catechist or classroom aide? Email Sr. Mary Margaret at srmmphan@smparish.org!*
**TREASURE**

**September 16, 2018**

Plate: $5780.00  
Faith Direct: $3,469.48  
Total: $9,249.48  
Goal: $10,350.00  
Deficit: -$1,100.52

- **Faith Formation:** $10.00  
- **Priest Retirement:** $220.00  
- **Upcoming collection:** September 30—Maintenance

**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)  
  srmmphan@smparish.org; x306
- **Megan Arteaga**  
  Youth Ministry (Grades 6-12),  
  Communications, and CYO  
  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, September 24**  
  Knights Golf Tournament- 9:00 am  
  Parish Staff Meeting- 10:30 am  
  Faith Formation- 2:30 pm  
  Faith Formation- 4:00 pm
- **Tuesday, September 25**  
  12-3 pm - Eucharistic Adoration  
  Chapel  
  7:30-9:30pm Confirmation Parent Orientation
- **Wednesday, September 26**  
  7:00pm Middle School Youth  
  Thursday, September 27  
  Friday, September 28  
  Saturday, September 29

- **8:00 am Marriage and Family Life Conference**  
- **8:00 am**  
  **Communion Service**  
- **4:00 pm**  
  **Sacrament of Reconciliation**

**FOR THE SICK**

Mary Beth Alban, Joan Artermann, Shoaib Aryan, Kristy Blackey-Taylor, Harlon Berg, Cara Bradbury, Maria Carmen, Rosemary Catton, Delores Codde, Lorna Elliott, Michael Elliott, Nora Enriquez, Emidio Fonseca, Liam Foley, Patricia Fox, Bridget Gallagher, Noreen Gillham, Doris Hale, Brian Kelly, Mason Kelly, Aileen Kelly, Jerry Kirk, Lawrence Knapp, Carol Koupus, Rose Mary McPhee, Arsi Orihuella, Deacon Jim Pearce, Kathleen Pelz, Ann Powell, Mark Ricci, Bob Singer, Nancy Thumness

**This Week’s Readings**

First Reading:  
Wisdom 2:12, 17-20  
Psalm  
54:3-4, 5, 6-8

Second Reading:  
James 3:16—4:3  
Gospel:  
Mark 9:30-37

Donuts and Coffee this weekend are hosted by:

Barbara & Jim after the 8:30am  
Mass  
Fairbourn Family after the 10:30am Mass

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

CONFIRMATION PARENT ORIENTATION

MANDATORY FOR EVERY FAMILY WITH A TEEN ENROLLED IN CONFIRMATION 1 OR 2

SUN, SEPT 23 | 6PM IN THE HALL
- OR -
TUES, SEPT 25 | 7:30PM IN THE CUMMINS CONFERENCE ROOM

FOR MORE INFO: EMAIL MEGAN@SMPARISH.ORG