It was truly “A Wonderful Life” at the 2018 Christmas Party

Drinks, caroling, dining, and dancing together

You should always save the first Friday of December on your calendar for the Santa Maria Parish Christmas Party!

This year’s fest, “It’s a Wonderful Life: a 1940s Christmas” was so popular, we actually sold out tickets far before the event—and the new addition of online ticket sales was a big hit.

As guests arrived in the Hall, they were greeted by garlands, trees, festive music, and the hit 40s movie “It’s A Wonderful Life” screened on the ceiling, surprising many. As we got our drinks and finished our appetizers, our music director Tony Millette led us in Christmas caroling together, followed by our piano accompanist Jesse Micek gifting us with beautiful live piano Christmas music in the background ranging from traditional carols to pieces from “A Charlie Brown Christmas.”

We ate a meal “just like my grandmother would have cooked,” according to one parishioner, and ended with dancing and relaxing together.

Special thanks to the amazing decorating committee Tony Millette, Suzanne and Mike Parsons, Jessica Smith, Nancy Moody, Vickie Nakamura, Claire Bevis, Ursula Gordon, Hilma Johnsen, Mary Passeri, Ernie Cecaci and to our wonderful servers, Gunnar, Malia, and Jocelyn!
Special Collection for Fire Relief Dec. 23rd

We will be taking a special collection to support those who have been affected by the devastating wildfires in our state. This collection will be taken for Catholic Charities USA, who will be sending 100% of contributions to those suffering from the California wildfires.

Give online anytime by visiting our website and clicking on the link to “Support Fire Relief,” Second collection basket will be for fire relief.

Advent Reconciliation and Reception

Join us as we gather Wednesday, December 19 at 7:30pm for our annual Advent Communal Reconciliation service. The service will be followed by a reception in the Hall, hosted by the Knights of Columbus.

2019 calendars are here!

Pick up your 2019 wall calendars this weekend, so you’ll always know when your appointments are (and on which Saint’s feast day they’re celebrated!).

Mark your Calendars: there’s a Holy Day of Obligation coming!

New Year’s Day is the Solemnity of Mary, the Holy Mother of God, and we’ll be celebrating here at 10:00am in the Church. This is the only Mass here at Santa Maria that fulfills this obligation. We’re looking forward to seeing you there!

Can’t make it? Check out www.masstimes.org for other Masses!

CHRISTMAS EVENTS

Christmas Eve Youth Mass Ministers Needed!

If you’ll be around Christmas Eve at 4pm, or know someone returning from college on break, think about ministering at the 4:00pm Youth Mas in the Hall! We need lectors, ushers, and choir members!

Contact Megan Arteaga at megan@smparish.org.

Christmas Flower envelopes are available

If you’d like to make a donation for our Christmas flowers in memory of a loved one or in someone’s name, please pick up an envelope in the narthex and drop it in the collection basket sometime before Christmas.

Christmas Caroling is cancelled at Orinda Senior Village

Unfortunately, Christmas caroling at Orinda Senior Village and Orinda Care Center has been cancelled this year. We apologize, and look forward to singing with you next year!

OUTREACH

Food Collection

1st/2nd Weekends: St.

MASS INTENTIONS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Day</th>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Intention</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Monday, December 17</td>
<td>8:00am</td>
<td>Tom Cunningham (D)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tuesday, December 18</td>
<td>8:00am</td>
<td>Gene Kraus (D)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wednesday, December 19</td>
<td>8:00am</td>
<td>Intention of the Presider</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thursday, December 20</td>
<td>8:00am</td>
<td>Intention of the Presider</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Friday, December 21</td>
<td>8:00am</td>
<td>Intention of the Presider</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Saturday, December 22</td>
<td>5:00pm</td>
<td>Parishioners of Santa Maria</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sunday, December 23</td>
<td>8:30am</td>
<td>Dorothy Mein (D)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>10:30am</td>
<td>Christopher Lloyd (D)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>5:00pm</td>
<td>Carol Worthington &amp; Charley Camperilli</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

L = Living; D = Deceased

To request a Mass Intention, please contact Mirna in the Parish Office or email mirnawong@smparish.org
Have you thought of your end-of-year giving yet?

December is one of the biggest months for charitable giving—maybe it’s the holiday season that makes people think of others! This December, consider supporting Santa Maria through Faith Direct.

Using Faith Direct helps us more easily keep accurate records, keep costs down by reducing the number of envelopes we mail, and lets Sister Magdalena do her job more efficiently.

If you’d like to enroll, 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. Registration information is essential for responding to request to be sponsors/godparents and other ministries.

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!

Name

Address

Phone   Email

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.
TREASURE

December 9, 2018
Plate: $4,559.00
Faith Direct: $3,469.48
Total: $8,028.48
Goal: $10,350.00
Negative: -$2,321.52
Religious Retirement: $2,668.30

Got: $2,321.52
December 23 Fire Victim Relief

For the Sick
Mary Beth Alban, Joan Artmann, Shoaib Aryan, Kristy Blackey-Taylor, Cara Bradbury, Maria Carmen, Rosemary Catton, Delores Codde, Lorna 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, Edward Millpointer, Arsi Orihuella, Deacon Jim Pearce, Kathleen Pelz, Ann Powell, Mark Ricci, Patrick Sheehy, Hector Santiago

For the Deceased
Bob Singer, Orval Millette

Would you like to add yourself or someone else to the prayer list?
Please contact Mirna in the Parish Office at 925-254-2426 or mirnawong@smparish.org.

PASTORAL TEAM

Reverend George Mockel
Pastor
gmockel@smparish.org

Reverend Joseph Duong Nguyen
Priest in Residence

Reverend Michael Amabisco,
OP
Sacramental Assistance

Reverend Christopher Fadok,
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

This Week’s Readings

First Reading:
Zephaniah 3:14-18a

Psalm
Isaiah 12:2-3, 4, 5-6

Second Reading:
Philippians 4:4-7

Gospel:
Luke 3:10-18

WEEK-AT-A-GLANCE

Monday, December 17
Mass - OSV & OCH - 9:30 am
Faith Formation - 2:30 & 4:00 pm
Children’s Choir - 3:30 pm
R.C.I.A.– 7:00 pm

Tuesday, December 18
Eucharistic Adoration - Chapel
12:00 - 3:00 pm
Adult Choir Practice - 7:00 pm

Wednesday, December 19
Bible Reading & Communion Service
at OCC - 11:00 am - 12:00 pm
Advent Communal Reconciliation
Service - 7:30-8:30pm
Reconciliation Reception - 8:30-
9:30pm

Thursday, December 20
Advent Bible Study for Parents -
11:00 am
Adult Choir Practice - 7:00 pm

Friday, December 21

Saturday, December 22
Adult Choir Practice - 10:00 am
Children’s Christmas Mass Rehearsal
2:30-4:00 pm
Sacrament of Reconciliation- 4:00pm

Sunday, December 23
Children’s Christmas Mass Rehearsal
12:00 to 1:30 pm
Comfort, comfort my people, says your God.

~Isaiah 40:1

Advent Communal Reconciliation Service

Wednesday, December 19, 7:30pm