What could be the impact of a deeper faith life?

Connecting with your faith community here at Santa Maria

We’re glad to have you join us for Mass this Advent and Christmas season! Preparing for and celebrating the birth of Christ gives us the opportunity to think about the impact Jesus has on our lives—whether you think about him one day a year or every day of your life.

If you’ve been considering making your faith a bigger part of your life but aren’t sure where to start, check out these opportunities here at Santa Maria!

Do you like connecting in smaller groups?
Each Lent (usually late winter or early spring), “Faith Sharing Groups,” or FSGs, meet to explore Scripture and what the Lord has to say to them through it. Each FSG is about 6-8 people, so it’s a good way to meet people!

Do you have young family members?
Our parish is blessed with a K-5 Faith Formation program, a Middle School Youth Group, and High School Confirmation and Faith In Action Team. Each group has its own personality, and is tailored to that age group!

Would you like to become Catholic, or receive Confirmation, but aren’t sure where to start?
The Rite of Christian Initiation for Adults gives you the opportunity to learn more about our faith and decide if the Catholic Church is where God wants you to be. Maybe this is the year you take this next step!
Special Collection for Fire Relief this weekend

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

The 2nd Collection basket will be for fire relief, or you can give online anytime by visiting our website and clicking on the link to “Support Fire Relief.”

Follow us on Facebook!

Did you know Santa Maria has a Facebook page? Stay up-to-date with our upcoming events, see our photos, and connect with your fellow parishioners. Search @SantaMariaOrinda or type “Church of Santa Maria”!

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 for this Holy Day!

Teens: the Life in Christ Retreat is coming soon!

If you like the beach, tri-tip, meeting other young Catholics, and Jesus Christ, then the Life in Christ (LinC) Retreat is for you! This year’s theme is “Bringing Christ Home,” and focuses on where we can encounter Christ in Scriptures and service.

Contact Megan Arteaga at megan@smparish.org for details or to sign up.

Christmas Eve Youth Mass Ministers Needed!

We need lectors, ushers, and choir members at the 4:00pm Youth Mass in the Church! Are you home from college and willing to minister?

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.

Food Collection

1st/2nd Weekends: St. Cornelius School (fruit cups, crackers, granola bars, juice,

MASS INTENTIONS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Mass Times</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Monday, December 24</td>
<td>8:00am: James Walsh (D)</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>4:00pm: Joe &amp; Maria Paras (D)</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>4:00pm: John &amp; Eileen Walsh(D)</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>6:00pm: Felimon &amp; Graciana Barbante (D)</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>10:00pm: Parishioners of Santa Maria</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tuesday, December 25</td>
<td>8:30am: Tom &amp; Stephen O’Brien (D)</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>10:30am: Edward &amp; Susan Abinsay (D)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Wednesday, December 26</td>
<td>8:00am: (I) Forde Family</td>
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<tr>
<td>Thursday, December 27</td>
<td>8:00am: Intention of the Presider</td>
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<tr>
<td>Friday, December 28</td>
<td>8:00am: Intention of the Presider</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Saturday, December 29</td>
<td>5:00pm: Helen Foti Moretti (D)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sunday, December 30</td>
<td>8:30am: Intention of the Presider</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>10:30am: Parishioners of Santa Maria</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>5:00pm: Orval Millette (D)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

OUTREACH
Your generosity makes this parish “go”!

Thanks to you, we’re able to provide faith formation programs for 101 children and 84 youth and teens, not to mention being able to support two refugee families and provide RCIA and Baptismal preparation classes.

Your consistent donations make it possible for us to continue these vital ministries.

If you’d like to enroll in Faith Direct for regular financial partnership with your parish, 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.

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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. 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!

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**Food Pantry Needs**

- 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.

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**Christmas Mass Schedule**

**Christmas Eve**

- 4:00pm Children’s Mass (Parish Hall)
- 4:00pm Youth Mass (Church)
- 6:00pm Mass (Church)
- 9:30pm Christmas Carols (Church)
- 10:00pm Mass with Choir (Church)

**Christmas Day**

- 8:30am Mass (Church)
- 10:30am Mass (Church)
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.

Monday, December 24
Office Closed

Tuesday, December 25
Office Closed
Eucharistic Adoration - Chapel Cancelled

Wednesday, December 26
Office Closed

Thursday, December 27

Friday, December 28

Saturday, December 29
Sacrament of Reconciliation - 4:00pm

Sunday, December 30
Just a reminder that the office will be closed New Years Eve and New Years Day.
SIGN UP NOW FOR THE
LINC RETREAT 2018
FOR ALL HIGH SCHOOLERS
JANUARY 18-20, 2019
CAMP ST. FRANCIS, APTOS

THIS YEAR’S THEME:
BRINGING
Christ HOME

EMAIL MEGAN TO SIGN UP