Church of Santa Maria
Fifth Sunday of Easter
May 19, 2019

Celebrating First Eucharist

Kiley Elizabeth Arroyo
Keagan Barry Baldwin
Billy Daniel Beaver
Caleb Huy Bui
Oliver Huy Bui
Henry Stone Cohen
Rocco Aristide Del Santo
Henry Bowe Diessner
Nicolas Gabriel
Gray Lawrence Gilbert
Bentley Murphy Gilbert
Alexis Grace Gilmore
Connor Preston Goetz
Landon William Gray

Amelia Eden Hass
Elise Katherine Hlavac
Lucy Claire Kerr
Jackson Everett Jacobs
Josephina Anne Martini
Vaughan Isaac Obradovic
Blake Miller Redford
Reed Gibson Shindle
Jack Samuel Sinclitico
Brandon Beal Stemmler
Patrick Ryan Murphy
Lucy Genevieve George
Mason Greene Ross
Peter Alan Zapala

Excited young students at a former year’s First Eucharist line up before Mass.
Reflecting on the “Second Eucharist” on First Communion Weekend

Do you remember your First Eucharist? I remember standing in the hallway at St. Mary Parish learning from Sr. Cabrini how to make my hands into a throne for Our Lord Jesus when receiving the host, buying my dress and veil at the little Catholic store in downtown Sacramento, and taking a photo after Mass with a bunch of other 2nd graders I didn’t know (Years later, I deduced that they were the Catholic school kids whose desks we poked through every Tuesday at CCD.)

What I don’t remember is the actual Mass, or the first time receiving communion.

There are many instances of receiving the Eucharist that do stick out, though, for whatever reason—visiting churches in Italy with confusing communion lines, attending Mass at friends’ parishes, and other Masses that for some reason are glued to my brain.

It reminds me that the important thing really isn’t the First Eucharist.

It’s all the ones that come after.

Proud reception of the Eucharist next Sunday when you come back for “second Eucharist.”

Tearful reception of the Eucharist on the Sunday you’re struggling with family issues.

Joyful reception of the Eucharist when you’re celebrating a new baby in the family.

Disappointed reception of the Eucharist after you’ve failed a test or a performance review.

We’ll receive Eucharist in almost every frame of mind imaginable, and every time we do God will be happy we’ve joined him at His table and participated in the sacrifice.

This weekend, as we celebrate a series of First Eucharists, be reminded that the Eucharist is not a one-time, special-occasion treat or reward—rather, it is a beautiful and essential food for our journey home to the halls of heaven.

Megan Arteaga
Youth Ministry Coordinator

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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– Rebuild My Church – through April 30th. The total raised with cash and pledges is $1,214,924. This represents 40.5% of our goal. This is very encouraging. It is also exciting to say that every parish had at least one donor, meaning that we have 100% participation!

We are so grateful for your support, and that of all the members of the Diocese. May God bless you always!

**FORMATION**

**RCIA: Rite of Christian Initiation for Adults**

Have you been worshiping with us, but never officially took the step to become Catholic?

Have you been a Catholic all your life, but never celebrated all of the Sacraments of Initiation (Baptism, Confirmation, Eucharist)? Have you joined us from a different faith background and would now like to find out more about the Catholic Church?

If any of the above questions apply to you, we would love to join with you on your journey!

Or, if you know of anyone who could answer YES to any of the above questions, perhaps you should extend an invitation to them.

*For more information or to inquire, please contact Tony Millette 925-254-2426 x303 tmillette@smparish.org.*

**Come to the water!**

Baptismal Preparation process for this cycle begin on the last Wednesday of this month!

Join us for classes the evenings of May 29 and June 5, and celebrate the Rite of Welcome at Mass on June 1.

**Refresh your marriage!**

Married Couples: Would you like to relive the excitement, romance and passion from your honeymoon? Rekindle that spark on a Worldwide Marriage Encounter Weekend!

Jun 28-30, 2019 in Danville OR


For more information visit: oaklandwwme.org or contact Chuck and Annie at applications@oaklandwwme.org or by phone at 925-849-5466.

**Spreading the Good News of the Resurrection**

The Lord is risen! As Christ’s disciples, we are called to go forth and spread the good news of His Resurrection. Our parish’s many ministries are examples of how many of you answer that call. Our ministries require not only gifts of time and talent, but also financial help. Please prayerfully consider supporting us with electronic donations through Faith Direct.

Signing up is easy! Visit [www.faithdirect.net](http://www.faithdirect.net) and securely enroll using our parish code CA891—or find a paper form in the Parish Office.

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.*
**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

**Prayer Intentions**

*For the Sick*
Mary Beth Alban, Joan Artmann, Shoaib Aryan, Kristy Blackey-Taylor, Kathie Brady, Cara Bradbury, Mike Buzzell, Maria Carmen, Rosemary Catton, Delores Codde, Lorna Elliott, Nora Enriquez, Emidio Fonseca, Liam Foley, Patricia Fox, Bridget Gallagher, Noreen Gillham, Carol Hardy, 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, Nancy Tierney

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.

**Treasure**

**May 12, 2019**
Plate: $4,174.16
Faith Direct: $3,738.10
**Total:** $7,912.26
Goal: $10,350.00
**Negative** $2,437.74

Upcoming Second Collections:
Catholic Charities May 19

**Donuts and coffee this weekend are hosted by...**
Dave & Joan after the 8:30am Mass
Donna Meyer after the 10:30am Mass

**Week-at-a-Glance**

**Monday, May 20**
Faith Formation - 2:30 & 4:00 pm
Children’s Choir - 3:30 pm

**Tuesday, May 21**
Eucharistic Adoration - Chapel 12-3pm
R.C.I. A - 7:00 pm

**Wednesday, May 22**
Photo Directory Make-Up Day (by appointment only) —Noon-8:30pm—Classroom 1
Bible Reading & Communion- Orinda Care Center 11:00 am
MSYG Lord’s Pilgrimage - 7:00 pm

**Thursday, May 23**
Photo Directory Make-Up Day (by appointment only) —Noon-8:30pm—Classroom 1

**Friday, May 24**

**Saturday, May 25**
Minister of the Word - 9:00 am
Sacrament of Reconciliation- 4:00pm

**Sunday, May 26**
Monday, May 27 - Memorial Day Office Closed

**This Week’s Readings**

First Reading: Acts of the Apostles 14:21-27
Psalm
145:8-9, 10-11, 12-13
Second Reading: Revelation 21:1-5a
Gospel: John 13:31-33a, 34-35
ANNUAL MSYG
LOARD’S PILGRIMAGE
THIS WEDNESDAY!
Meet in the Youth Room | Pick up at Loard’s