Our parish is getting creative in online ministry!

Using our resources wisely for remote community

You may have noticed that our online presence has gone up – more Constant Contact emails are going out to stay connected with you; Masses and other resources are being streamed online; our Facebook account is coming back to life; and things previously found on paper or in a building are now on our website, like the bulletin.

We’re looking to continue to expand our presence in ministry to you, our parishioners! Pictured above is our latest Wednesday Middle School Youth Group, hosted on Zoom – an online video conferencing service – and using another online resource, Kahoot!, which lets users create and participate in quizzes (last Wednesday our topics were “COVID-19” and “Jesus Heals”).

We’re going to start offering Zoom prayer hours, faith sharing, and rosary with you at noon on Mondays, Wednesdays, and Thursdays, respectively, and streaming Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament at noon on Tuesdays through Facebook Live (where our Masses are streamed). Different members of the Pastoral Team will be hosting each session, so you’ll get to see and interact with many of us from the safety of your homes.

More details will be found in your emails this week, and on our parish website! We’re really looking forward to gathering online with you, and feeling that strong sense of community again as a parish.
“Can I watch Facebook livestreams without a Facebook account?”

We assure you – you do not need a Facebook account to watch our livestreamed Masses!

Here are two options for when you can watch our Sunday Masses:

Watch it live at 8:30am:

1. Open your internet browser anytime after 8:20am and type in www.facebook.com/santamariaorinda/live
2. If we are streaming, you will see a “Happening Now” section with our video, and hear music. If not, keep refreshing the page until we do start.
3. If a popup window comes up asking you to sign up for Facebook, scroll to the bottom and click “Not Now”

Watch it after it’s ended:

1. Open your internet browser and type in www.facebook.com/santamariaorinda/live
2. SCROLL DOWN to the “Past Live Videos” section. Click on the video you want to watch.
3. If a popup window comes up asking you to sign up for Facebook, scroll to the bottom and click “Not Now”

If you still can’t get it to work, please contact Mirna in the Parish Office. She can walk you through it. 925-254-2426 or mirnawong@smparish.org

Are you in “Constant Contact” with us?

Are you receiving our parish emails? At least once a week, usually more as we shelter in place, our Pastoral Team members send out email messages including information about upcoming Masses online, reflections from Father George, and other announcements.

If you’re not receiving these emails, please call or email Mirna in the Parish Office: 925-254-2426 or mirnawong@smparish.org. Thank you!

People still need food and other donations!

During this pandemic, so many people in our communities are in need of food. Please stop by the church between 9am and 5pm during the week to bring nonperishable food items (NOT packed in glass containers) for those less fortunate than us. We would love for the barrels to be running over with food items to deliver!

Also, if you could drop off toiletries that the St. Mary’s Center (formerly Friendly Manor) could use, that would also be a great help. You can drop off items in a bag and place them on the shelves in the closet room on the left as
you enter the church. Their needs include: feminine products, soap, shampoo, deodorant, socks, underwear, etc.

Thank you for your generosity!

**FAITH FORMATION**

“Will we still celebrate First Eucharist and Confirmation?”

Unfortunately, we don’t know. We will continue to follow the appropriate civil authorities’ instructions regarding sheltering in place and avoiding gatherings, and hope that the restrictions will be lifted or loosened soon so we can celebrate the Sacraments!

Of course we’ll keep you updated as to whatever our course of action is!

In the meantime, First Eucharist and Confirmation classes are being held on Zoom, and Sister and Megan are keeping involved families updated regularly.

“What about RCIA?”

You may have noticed our RCIA candidates and catechumens were not initiated at the Easter Vigil – that is because the only “essential” business churches currently have is providing remote worship services, not celebrating in person.

RCIA courses will switch to Zoom until Initiation Sunday, hopefully on Pentecost!
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We are one... in your love.
We are one... in your love.
We are one... in your love.
Jesus our companion, walking with disciples,
Sharing word and story of God’s saving love.
Open eyes to see you, open ears to hear you;
We will be your presence in the world today.

Sign of the Cross
In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

Sprinkling Rite
Springs of water: bless the Lord! Give God glory and praise
Forever, forever, give God glory and praise

Glory To God
Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace to people of good will.

First Reading
Then Peter stood up with the Eleven, raised his voice, and proclaimed: “You who are Jews, indeed all of you staying in Jerusalem. Let this be known to you, and listen to my words.
You who are Israelites, hear these words.
Jesus the Nazarene was a man commended to you by God with mighty deeds, wonders, and signs, which God worked through him in your midst, as you yourselves know.
This man, delivered up by the set plan and foreknowledge of God, you killed, using lawless men to crucify him. But God raised him up, releasing him from the throes of death, because it was impossible for him to be held by it.

For David says of him:

I saw the Lord ever before me, with him at my right hand I shall not be disturbed.

Therefore my heart has been glad and my tongue has exulted; my flesh, too, will dwell in hope, because you will not abandon my soul to the netherworld, nor will you suffer your holy one to see corruption.

You have made known to me the paths of life; you will fill me with joy in your presence.’

“My brothers, one can confidently say to you about the patriarch David that he died and was buried, and his tomb is in our midst to this day. But since he was a prophet and knew that God had sworn an oath to him that he would set one of his descendants upon his throne, he foresaw and spoke of the resurrection of the Christ, that neither was he abandoned to the netherworld nor did his flesh see corruption.

God raised this Jesus; of this we are all witnesses. Exalted at the right hand of God, he received the promise of the Holy Spirit from the Father and poured him forth, as you see and hear.”

Responsorial Psalm

Lord, you will show us the path of life.
Psalm 16

Second Reading

Beloved:

If you invoke as Father him who judges impartially according to each one’s works,

conduct yourselves with reverence during the time of your sojournings, realizing that you were ransomed from your futile conduct, handed on by your ancestors, not with perishable things like silver or gold but with the precious blood of Christ as of a spotless unblemished lamb.

He was known before the foundation of the world but revealed in the final time for you, who through him believe in God who raised him from the dead and gave him glory, so that your faith and hope are in God.

Gospel

That very day, the first day of the week, two of Jesus’ disciples were going to a village seven miles from Jerusalem called Emmaus, and they were conversing about all the things that had occurred. And it happened that while they were conversing and debating, Jesus himself drew near and walked with them, but their eyes were prevented from recognizing him.

He asked them, “What are you discussing as you walk along?”

They stopped, looking downcast. One of them, named Cleopas, said to him in reply, “Are you the only visitor to Jerusalem who does not know of the things that have taken place there in these days?”

And he replied to them, “What sort of things?”

They said to him, “The things that happened to Jesus the Nazarene, who was a prophet mighty in deed and word before God and all the people, how our chief priests and rulers both handed him over to a sentence of death and crucified him. But we were hoping that he would be the one to redeem Israel; and besides all this, it is now the third day since this took place.

Some women from our group, however, have astounded us: they were at the tomb early in the morning and did not find his body; they came back and reported that they had indeed
seen a vision of angels who announced that he was alive. Then some of those with us went to the tomb and found things just as the women had described, but him they did not see.”

And he said to them, “Oh, how foolish you are! How slow of heart to believe all that the prophets spoke! Was it not necessary that the Christ should suffer these things and enter into his glory?”

Then beginning with Moses and all the prophets, he interpreted to them what referred to him in all the Scriptures.

As they approached the village to which they were going, he gave the impression that he was going on farther. But they urged him, “Stay with us, for it is nearly evening and the day is almost over.” So he went in to stay with them.

And it happened that, while he was with them at table, he took bread, said the blessing, broke it, and gave it to them.

With that their eyes were opened and they recognized him, but he vanished from their sight.

Then they said to each other, “Were not our hearts burning within us while he spoke to us on the way and opened the Scriptures to us?”

So they set out at once and returned to Jerusalem where they found gathered together the eleven and those with them who were saying, “The Lord has truly been raised and has appeared to Simon!”

Then the two recounted what had taken place on the way and how he was made known to them in the breaking of bread.

**Eucharistic Acclamations**

Holy, holy, holy Lord God of hosts.
Heav’n and earth are full of your glory.
Hosanna! Hosanna in the highest.
Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna! Hosanna in the highest.

When we eat this Bread and drink this Cup, We proclaim your Death, O Lord, Until you come again.

Amen, amen, amen.

Lamb of God, You take away the sins of the world: Have mercy on us.
Lamb of God, You take away the sins of the world: Have mercy on us.
Lamb of God, You take away the sins of the world: Grant us peace.

**The Lord’s Prayer**

**Spiritual Communion**

My Jesus, I believe that You are present in the Most Holy Sacrament.
I love You above all things, and I desire to receive You into my soul.
Since I cannot at this moment receive You sacramentally, come at least spiritually into my heart. I embrace You as if You were already there and unite myself wholly to You. Never permit me to be separated from You. Amen.

**Communion Song**

In the silence of the heart you speak, and your mercy is the air we breathe.
You come to us in whispers and forgiveness sings.
In the silence of the heart you speak; Lord, you speak.

To the quiet of this room you come; we are captivated by Your love.
You light the darkened corners, and we’re overcome.
To the quiet of this room you come; Lord, you come.

**Closing Song**

*Verse 2 and Refrain of Opening Song*