



Church of Santa Maria

40 Santa Maria Way | Orinda CA 94563 | 925-254-2426 | www.SantaMariaOrinda.com

Finding your microclimate within the solitude to thrive

Mother's Day through the eyes of a "Plant Mama"

Pictured: One of about 4 successful houseplant regions in Megan's home (featuring a blooming orchidium and pahiopedium and some awesome greenery)



5th Sunday of Easter
May 10, 2020

I have a confession to make: I killed a plant.

Technically, it was a months-long battle for it to live, "it" being a two-inch long portion of a cordyline (ti leaf) stem I really wanted to propagate. (After all, ti leaves make great lei.) I started with soil-propagation... nada. Then I exhumed it and tried water-propping, which yielded one stringy root and some promising-looking buds which, over the course of the next bazillion months... also did nothing.

Having thought I gave it a fair chance, I sadly stopped refilling its water jar, and now it's a desiccated little stem. I killed it.

Now, seeing as this Sunday is Mother's Day (I know, that was an odd transition!), it got me to thinking: each of my plants has different needs to thrive, and as Plant Mama I've got to figure them out and provide them (sorry I failed you, cordyline). Some merely tolerate what others desperately need, and yet others will flourish anywhere.

It's the same with us humans, and as we're sheltering in place with more time for personal reflection in our solitude (a healthy practice, in my opinion!), we're realizing the same thing our mothers always knew - we're all different, and will be responding differently to the microclimate we find ourselves in.

Some of us are like pothos and succulents, chugging along happily independent, responding to any attention as if they're being overly coddled. The pothos people are doing just fine in the quarantine. Some

like a strict regimen and go downhill if anything changes, like maidenhair fern. The maidenhair people recognize their need for a structure and schedule. Others go along with anything: watering, feeding, not watering, not feeding, like a croton. Because of their easy adaptability, these are great people to have around you to get yourself out on a hike or try out a party on Zoom. And then there are the orchids - who might look like they're thriving and happy, shooting out spikes and flowers, but if you pull them out of the pot, their roots may be disintegrating and papery or their base is silently withering away. Be extra mindful and caring of the orchid people, who hide their struggles by pretending everything is fine.

At their core, mothers (plant or human) help others, especially their own, to own their microclimate and thrive in it - physically, spiritually, emotionally, and mentally. Let's take a cue from our mothers and help others thrive in every way, even as we physically isolate ourselves. Helping others just may be the microclimate you do best in, yourself.

Megan Arteaga
Youth Ministry/Communications

Weekend Worship Opportunities May 10, 2020

8:30am | [Livestreamed Mass](#) (available all day)
10:30am | Parking Lot Benediction

[Download and print the Worship Aid here](#)

Join us again in the parking lot at 10:30am for the Liturgy of the Word and Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament.

Click on the image to open or print this Sunday's worship aid for your convenience. All text in BLACK will be used for Benediction.



Gathering Song
People of God, on the morning you rose
From your sleeping and rest to the north,
Come and meet Christ and see His glory!
A grave that is empty, a promise fulfilled:
God who was with us is here with us still.
He is seated at the right hand of the Father!

Alleluia! Live is alive!
A response to the grave that delivered the night:
Alleluia! Live is alive!
The faith is yours for all.
Your people sing Alleluia!

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

Sprinkling Rite
Springs of water, flows and leads! Give God glory and praise!
Fountain, stream, give God glory and praise!

Glory To God
Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace to people of good will.
We praise you, we bless you, we adore you, we

glorify you, we give you thanks,
for your great glory, Lord God, Most Holy King,
O God, Almighty Father,
Lord Jesus Christ, Only Begotten Son, Lord
God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father,
You take away the sins of the world. Have
mercy on us.
You are seated at the right hand of the Father;
have mercy on us.
For you alone are the Holy One, you alone are
the Lord,
You alone are the Most High, Jesus Christ, with
the Holy Spirit, in the glory of God the Father.
Amen.

First Reading
As the number of people continued to grow, the
Reflections complained against the Hebrews
because their widows were being neglected
in the daily distribution. So the Twelve
called together the community of the
disciples and said, "It is not right for us to
neglect the word of God to serve at table.
Brothers, select from among you seven
reputable men, filled with the Spirit and
wisdom, whom we shall appoint to this task.

"Like" us on Facebook!

To make it easier for you to know when we're live-streaming things like Sunday Mass and Tuesday Adoration, to easily share photos from Parking Lot Benediction, and to connect with other parishioners throughout the week, you can "like" us on Facebook!



Will there be any Baptismal Classes coming up?

Yep! Even as we continue to shelter in place, Baptismal Preparation

RCIA has resumed - online!

The four adults who have been preparing for their initiation into the Catholic Church this past year have resumed their sessions this

Classes will be offered on Zoom for those parents wishing to have their child baptized.

Scheduled classes are May 13 and 20. Please [let Tony know](#) if you would like to attend these sessions!

Please do note, however, that we are unable to schedule your child's baptism until the shelter-in-place order has been lifted.

past Tuesday. Please keep **Adrienne Wong, Tim Reynolds, Tom Balogh, and Anthony Fisher** in your prayers as they, like all of us, wait for the shelter-in-place order to be lifted so they can be welcomed into the life of the Church.

If you are interested in learning more about the Catholic faith and the possibility of becoming Catholic, please [reach out to Tony Millette](#).

Is that a new sign?

You may notice a "For Lease" sign near the school building next to the parking lot. This is due to the fact that our lease agreement with Fountainhead Montessori expires this summer, and our lease negotiations have stalled.



Therefore, we are taking the prudential step of seeking other interested parties, believing this to be the best approach for the good of the parish. If you have any questions or know of any possible interested parties, please let Father George know at 925-254-2426 or gmockel@smparish.org.

High Noon at Santa Maria: Monday through Thursday!

Our Pastoral Team recently subscribed to the Pro version of Zoom, which means we're able to do it for more cool things now. Here are a our new weekday offerings this week:



Monday Prayer Hour at Noon with Megan

[Join Zoom Meeting by clicking here](#)

Meeting ID: 986 6498 4683

Password: 574014

Tuesday Adoration at Noon on Facebook Live

[Click here at or slightly before noon](#)

No account or password needed; simply scroll down to the "Happening Now" section

If you DO have a Facebook account, feel free to comment your prayer intentions and we will add them to ours!

Wednesday Faith Sharing at Noon with Tony

[Join Zoom Meeting by clicking here](#)

Meeting ID: 981 1876 8033

Password: 822861

Thursday Rosary at Noon with Deacon Jim

[Join Zoom Meeting by clicking here](#)

Meeting ID: 984 2873 9419

Password: 361075

How can I keep supporting Santa Maria?

Thank you so much for thinking about us and continuing to support our parish during these trying times! We are greatly appreciative of any help you can provide.



You may mail a check to the Parish Office (40 Santa Maria Way, Orinda CA 94563), or [make a one-time donation using Faith Direct](#), our eGiving service, to make your Easter offering.

If you would like, you can also [sign up for recurring giving through Faith Direct](#) to continue to give to the Sunday plate even though you can't come to the church to drop it in the basket as usual. Again, we thank you for your planning and your generosity!

Pastoral Team

Reverend George Mockel

Pastor

gmockel@smparish.org

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

Sister Mary Margaret Phan, LHC

Faith Formation (Grades K-5)

[srmphan@smparish.org](mailto:srmmphan@smparish.org) x306

Megan Arteaga

Youth Ministry (Grades 6-12),

Prayer Intentions

For the Sick:

Liduvina Acosta, Sonny Acosta, Mary Beth Alban, Joan Artmann, ShoaiB Aryan, Kristy Blackey-Taylor, Kathie Brady, Cara Bradbury, Maria Carmen, Fred Chavaria, Grace Parent DeBoot, Rich Delany, Lorna Elliott, Anne Emery, Nora Enriquez, Emidio Fonseca, Liam Foley, Patricia Fox, Bridget Gallagher, Noreen Gillham, Doris Hale, Florentino Ibabao, Brian Kelly, Mason Kelly, Aileen Kelly, Michael Kelly, Jim Kennedy, Jerry Kirk, Lawrence Knapp, Carol Koupus, Judy Lazarus, Jim Marchetti, Rose Mary McPhee, Robert Nick, Arsi Orihuella, Deacon Jim Pearce, Kathleen Pelz, Ann Powell, Mark Ricci, Ben Richey, Patrick Sheehy, Jean Wells, Faye Young

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 at mirnawong@smparish.org.

Mass Intentions

All Mass Intentions during Shelter in

Communications, and CYO
megan@smparish.org x308

Sister Mary Magdalene Nguyen, LHC

Pastoral Care of the Sick
sisternm@smparish.org x309

Sister Magdalena Duong, LHC

Bookkeeper
sistermagdalena@smparish.org x305

Place orders are either postponed or celebrated privately. Mirna is contacting all those who requested the currently scheduled intentions.

To request a Mass Intention, please contact Mirna in the Parish Office.

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Maria**

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