Congratulations to our seniors and graduates!

Pentecost and the Class of 2020

Pictured: University students join in a virtual graduation ceremony from home dressed in their regalia

Pentecost Sunday
May 31, 2020

I see two big differences between the disciples at Pentecost and the Class of 2020's graduation - excluding contemporary fashion and technology, of course.

The first is that the author of Acts tells us they were "all in one place together" (Acts 2:1), presumably in "the upper room where they were staying" in Jerusalem (Acts 1:13). By contrast, the Class of 2020 is spread out into LOTS of places, rather than being together on the football field, in the auditorium, or wherever graduation would usually be taking place this weekend.

The second difference is that they were not simply told about a gift (the Holy Spirit), but instead they experienced it in a way that was a sort of spiritual kick in the pants - they were (literally) on fire with this gift and went out immediately to put it to good use speaking to everyone of the mighty acts of God in every language conceivable at the time. The Class of 2020, on the other hand, missed out on the usual inspirational Commencement Address that generally gives them a secular version of that message - to go out and put your education to good use in the world.

Despite these two differences, though, the similarity stands stronger: at both events, we are sent out to make the world a better place using the gifts we've been given.

This is a message not only our graduating seniors need to hear - we all need to hear and remember it, too! We're called to change individual lives as we feed the hungry, give drink to the thirsty, look after the sick, and
visit the imprisoned; to reframe the world’s view on human relations by loving our enemies and blessing those who curse us; to speak the good news of truth by "always [being] ready to give an explanation to anyone who asks you for a reason for your hope;" and to be the salt and light that gives meaning and flavor to life.

Although we're physically isolated and probably won't be seeing tongues of fire on our heads this Pentecost/Graduation weekend, remember that the mission we're called to is still the same: as Mary asked us, simply "Do what He tells you."

Megan Arteaga
Youth Minister

**Weekend Worship Opportunities**
**May 31, 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.

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**There are still masks available**

Gail Gabriel, co-chair of the Social Justice Committee, still has masks available! She has been making face coverings to contribute to Social Justice's outreach endeavors.

She asks for a $10 donation which will go toward upcoming Social Justice projects. If you are interested in getting a mask, please [contact Gail directly](#).

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**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 new weekday offerings this week:

**Monday Prayer Hour at Noon with Megan**

[Join Zoom Meeting by clicking here](#)
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 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
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Mirna Wong
Administrative Assistant

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
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 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.