



Church of Santa Maria

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

Embracing the Adventure

How backpacking helped me overcome perfection paralysis in my spiritual life

Pictured: Your very favorite hikers at Pan Toll on Mr. Tam on one of our day hikes



17th Sunday in Ordinary Time
July 25, 2021

One of my friends and I are finally taking the next step in our hiking life: We've decided to go on our first overnight backpacking trip! We're proficient day-hikers, and have covered many local trails and different terrains. We know the difference between, say, poison oak and berry brambles ("Leaves of three, let it be – unless it's hairy; that's a berry!"), and can navigate trails using a map and compass. We're experts at layering our clothes for fickle Bay Area microclimates, and wholeheartedly embrace the "leave no trace" philosophy, taking nothing but pictures and leaving nothing but footsteps.

But for some reason, despite our experience and know-how, we're feeling... [click here for the rest of the article!](#)

This week's article is a Busted Halo original by Youth Minister Megan Arteaga - please feel free to share the link above with your friends, family, and social networks to show Busted Halo that you support her writing!

Weekend Worship Opportunities

Sacrament of Reconciliation

Saturday, 4:00-4:30pm

Church Plaza

Reconciliation also available by appointment

17th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Sunday, July 25, 2021

8:30am | Mass in the Church; also [Livestreamed](#) (available all day)

10:30am | Mass in the Parking Lot

[Click here to open or print the Worship Aid](#)

Turn on your car's Accessory Mode and tune in at 87.9 KGOD!

Join us this Sunday in the Church at 8:30am or in the Parking Lot at 10:30am for Mass! We are blessed to be able to celebrate with you.

If you join us for the 8:30am Indoor Mass, please note: No more social distancing is required, so all pews will be available to the congregation. **Masks are required for those who have not yet been fully vaccinated, and recommended for those who have been fully vaccinated.** The priest and Ministers of Communion will continue to wear a mask during the distribution of Communion as required by the Diocese, regardless of their vaccination status.

If you are unable to physically join us, we will continue to livestream the 8:30am Mass for you to participate from home.

Food for Thought

Pope Francis and the Life Issues

Pope Francis's tendency to use colorful expressions and abrasive adjectives in commenting on ideas, habits, and practices of which he disapproves have puzzled Catholics for over eight years now. Is this how popes talk? From my own study of papal history, I can easily believe that Pope Pius XI had a few choice (even brutal) words to say on occasion. But his verbal smackdowns were always delivered behind closed doors, while many of Pope Francis's most memorably deprecatory locutions have been quite... [Click here to read more!](#)



Service and Outreach

Time to get school supplies for formerly homeless students!

Kickstart the upcoming school year for formerly homeless and low-income students by donating a backpack and school supplies **before TOMORROW, July 24!**



Hope Solutions is working with the Sydney Paige Foundation to deliver 400 backpacks to their students in Contra Costa County. They are at about 50% of their goal!

Over the years, Social Justice has supported Hope Solutions, and many of our parishioners have volunteered with them, including when they were formerly known as Contra Costa Interfaith Housing!

[Help these students get ready for the school by clicking here](#) - your generosity is greatly appreciated!

Summer Food Drives for July and August

As front page news in the San Francisco Chronicle last week, "there is no vaccine for hunger."

The need for food aid is still elevated - even as the pandemic subsides. It was reported that it could take years for folks to regain their financial footing.



In the spirit of giving, we ask that you bring groceries to the remaining two summer food drives:

Sunday, July 25 from 8:00-10:30am

Sunday, August 22 from 8:00-10:30am

Please note the change in hours from usual!

In July we will be supporting the Oakland Catholic Worker. You'll see fellow parishioners on the lower parking lot collecting your food donations. Checks payable to Oakland Catholic Worker are also welcome.

[Click here for a list of suggested groceries!](#)

Away for those Sundays? Feel free to drop off your groceries in the large brown food barrel in the Church Narthex!

Do you have any calla lily bulbs?

If anyone might have some calla lily bulbs in their garden that they would like to donate to the parish, we would be very appreciative!

We're doing some planting in a semi-shaded area behind the

Rectory, and calla lilies would be a nice addition - particularly since our resident deer don't particularly care for them!

You can drop them off at the Parish Office any weekday between 10am and noon, or bring them to the church on the weekend when you come to Mass. We would be most grateful!



Parish Life

Program registration is open!

Attention, families with kids in grades K-12 - registration is open!



We have **Monday Faith**

Formation classes for students in grades K-5, which also includes preparation for Reconciliation and Eucharist in 1st and 2nd grade!

There's the ever-popular **Youth Group** for 6th-8th grade Middle Schoolers on Wednesday nights, too!

High Schoolers have the **Confirmation Program** and **Faith In Action Team leadership**, and some of them have been asking for a High School Youth Group - is this the year? You all decide if you want to make it happen and how!

[Click here to register!](#)

If you have questions on these programs before registration opens, please visit [the Faith Formation page of our website](#) for K-5th grade, or the [MSYG](#) or [Teen Confirmation](#) pages for 6th-12th grade.

June Collection Report

Month of June

Goal: \$42,000

Actual: \$41,361.00

Deficit: \$639.00

Past Six Months

Goal: \$252,000.00

Actual: \$248,167.88

Deficit: \$3,832.12



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 drop your collection in the offertory baskets at Parking Lot Masses, 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!



Mass Intentions

Sunday, July 25

8:30am: George Trimble (D)

10:30am: Parishioners of Santa Maria, Living and Deceased

Monday, July 26

8:30am: Ann Dailey (D)

Wednesday, July 28

8:30am: Mark Biglieri (D)

Friday, July 30

8:30am: Intentions of Kathleen Simms

Mass Intentions are a beautiful way of praying for your intentions or for the

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souls of our deceased loved ones. To request a Mass Intention, please contact Mirna in the Parish Office [by email](#) or at 925-254-2426



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Pastoral Care of the Sick

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Prayer Intentions

For the Sick:

Sonny Acosta, Mary Beth Alban, Joan Artmann, Shoab Aryan, Kristy Blackey-Taylor, Kathie Brady, Miguel Briseno, Maria Carmen, Fred Chavaria, Grace Parent DeBoot, Lorna Elliott, Anne Emery, Nora Enriquez, Alfred Ferreira, Anthony Fisher, Emidio Fonseca, Liam Foley, Patricia Fox, Bridget Gallagher, Noreen Gillham, Jennifer Gray, Judy Gust, Florentino Ibabao, Brian Kelly, Mason Kelly, Aileen Kelly, Michael Kelly, Jim Kennedy, Jerry Kirk, Lawrence Knapp, Carol Koupus, Patricia McGuire, Rose Mary McPhee, Robert Nick, Arsi Orihuella, Deacon Jim Pearce, Kathleen Pelz, Ann Powell, Mark Ricci, Ben Richey, Brian Riley, Mary Sheehy, Patrick Sheehy, Ustrula Simmons, Scott Treter, Steve Turner, Jean Wells, Faye Young

Would you like to add yourself or someone else to the prayer list? Please ensure you have their permission, then [contact Megan in the Parish Office](#).

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