Eucharist
Daily Mass
Mon-Thurs, 8:30 am (in Chapel)

Weekend Liturgies
Saturday 5:00 pm
Sunday 8:00, 9:30 & 11:30 am
Holy Days
8:30 am, 7:00 pm

Reconciliation
Saturday 4:00-4:30 pm
or by appointment

Baptism
Contact the Parish Office for
Sacramental Preparation and
Baptismal date.

Marriage
Contact the Parish Office at least
six months prior
to anticipated wedding date
for sacramental preparation.

Homebound, ill or Infirm
Contact the Parish Office if you,
a family member or neighbor
desires to receive communion
or the Anointing of the Sick
at home or in the hospital.

Newcomers
Contact the Parish Office
to register. Newcomers can
receive a call from a member
of the Welcoming Committee.

Assisted listening devices
available

3454 Hamlin Road, Lafayette, CA 94549
Phone (925) 283-0272 Fax (925) 283-6534
School Office (925) 284-1640
www.stperpetua.org

Parish Office Hours
Monday—Friday
7:30 am—4:00 pm
Dear Friends,

A parishioner pointed out to me that Pope Francis was recently a presenter on TED Talks. I'm sure most of you are familiar with the popular program, TED (Technology, Entertainment, Design) is a media organization which posts talks online for free distribution, under the slogan “ideas worth spreading.” So that we can all gain wisdom from Pope Francis, I'm including the transcript from Pope Francis’ recent TED talk. It's particularly relevant during the Easter Season as we listen to readings from the Acts of the Apostles at Sunday Mass narrating the formation of the early Christian community and the challenges they faced as they struggled to be “one in mind and heart.”

Good evening – or, good morning, I am not sure what time it is there. Regardless of the hour, I am thrilled to be participating in your conference. I very much like its title – “The Future You” – because, while looking at tomorrow, it invites us to open a dialogue today, to look at the future through a ‘you.’ “The Future You: the future is made of ‘yous’, it is made of encounters, because life flows through our relations with others. Quite a few years of life have strengthened my conviction that each and everyone’s existence is deeply tied to that of others: life is not time merely passing by, life is about interactions.

As I meet, or lend an ear to those who are sick, to the migrants who face terrible hardships in search of a brighter future, to prison inmates who carry a hell of pain inside their hearts, and to those, many of them young, who cannot find a job, I often find myself wondering: “Why them and not me?” I, myself, was born in a family of migrants; my father, my grandparents, like many other Italians, left for Argentina and met the fate of those who are left with nothing. I could have very well ended up among today’s ‘discarded’ people. And that’s why I always ask myself, deep in my heart: “Why them and not me?”

First and foremost, I would love it if this meeting could help to remind us that we all need each other, none of us is an island, an autonomous and independent ‘I,” separated from the other, and we can only build the future by standing together, including everyone. We don’t think about it often, but everything is connected, and we need to restore our connections to a healthy state. Even the harsh judgment I hold in my heart against my brother or my sister, the open wound that was never cured, the offense that was never forgiven, the rancor that is only going to hurt me, are all instances of a fight that I carry within me, a flare deep in my heart that needs to be extinguished before it goes up in flames, leaving only ashes behind.

Many of us, nowadays, seem to believe that a happy future is something impossible to achieve. While such concerns must be taken very seriously, they are not invincible. They can be overcome when we don’t lock our door to the outside world. Happiness can only be discovered as a gift of harmony between the whole and each single component. Even science – and you know it better than I do – points to an understanding of reality as a place where every element connects and interacts with everything else.

(…continued next week)

+ Pope Francis, Bishop of Rome
We are almost there! Through all of your generous donations we have been able to raise $32,450 we are only $4,095 short to make our $36,545 goal. Several parishes in our diocese have already met their goal and we are hoping too as well. Please help us make our target! Any money over our goal comes right back to St. Perpetua.

Take an envelope, donate through our website or go to the Diocese of Oakland's website at www.oakdiocese.org. Make sure to designate that you are from St. Perpetua. Thank you for your support in this effort.

**The “Merry” Month of May is Dedicated to Mary, the Mother of Jesus**

Here is a popular Catholic prayer to Mary, Mother of Our Lord. If you don’t know the prayer or have forgotten it, use this month of May to learn it and to pray it. "Calling on Mary to "remember" (in Latin, “memorare” means to “to remember”) is an act of boldness, but it is boldness justified by tradition. Mary needs no reminder of her role in the realm of salvation. However, we who call upon her do require such reminders, if not specifically then more generally - to remind us of our place as supplicants before the Virgin Mary." Asking Mary to intercede as Advocate does not guarantee that a specific request will be granted, only that divine assistance will be.

**Memorare**

*Remember, O most gracious Virgin Mary, that never was it known that anyone who fled to your protection, implored your help, or sought your intercession, was left unaided.*

*Inspired by this confidence,*

*I fly unto you, O Virgin of virgins, my Mother. To you do I come, before you I stand, sinful and sorrowful.*

*O Mother of the Word Incarnate, despise not my petitions, but in your mercy, hear and answer me.*

*Amen.*

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**Could I be the Woman at the Well?**

My favorite bible stories as a child involved Samaritans. It made me happy to know that someone so despised could be the Good -- the only one to help the injured, the robbed. It made me curious about whether or not I would be given a chance to understand and be understood -- like the Samaritan woman at the well.

I knew I didn't look like everyone else in my school or my Church. As a child, being different was hard. It was easier for me to identify with the outcasts or the underdogs. I celebrated the parables that told of how the unlikely became heroes or enlightened believers. I delighted in thinking that the "chosen" could witness, and perhaps finally embrace, those on the margins, and see that we were capable of good.

So now as an adult, I catch myself when I feel the creep of my own biases or judgements getting in my way. Have I learned to be as tolerant and accepting of opposing viewpoints or contrary people? Of ideas or of people who are different from mine or me? Am I more aware of those who are marginalized, and what am I willing to do to help? Am I part of the problem or part of the solution?

The answers take some work, and a lot of prayer. Maybe you can relate to being a Samaritan, too.

*(reflection by a parishioner)*

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**Senior, Activities, Group, Etc.**

SAGE Bridge will be held in the Hall on Friday, May 12 at 9:30 am. For information call Sharon Clark 283-6463.

**Upcoming Marriage Encounter Retreats**

“Amen, amen, I say to you, whoever believes in me will do the works that I do, …” Let the Lord into your marriage to do his works by attending a Worldwide Marriage Encounter Weekend at [San Damiano Retreat Center](#), Danville on July 14-16 or September 29th-October 1st. Space is limited! Early registration is highly recommended. For more information contact Mike and Jeanne at 925.672.2016 or Joe and Sue at 925.680.7767 or go to [oaklandwwme.org](http://oaklandwwme.org)

**Contra Costa Interfaith Housing**

Interested in helping run a summer day camp for one week? We are currently putting together summer programming for kids that will run from July 10 to August 11. The week-long camps will have mixed ages: K-Middle School. Many of these kids are formerly homeless or very low-income and do not have the resources to attend outside day camps. Volunteers (teens and adults) organize small groups to host different “camps”. These activities take place at our housing sites in Concord (highest need) and Pittsburg. The time frame is flexible between 11 am - 4 pm. You can come out for 3-4 days, Monday-Thursday. All camps are supervised by on-site CCIH staff. Please contact Gloria Bertolozzi at Gloria@ccinterfaithhousing.org if you are interested.
Today's Readings
First Reading — All peoples called by God will receive the gift of the Spirit if they repent and are baptized. (Acts 2:14a, 36-41).
Psalm — The Lord is my shepherd; there is nothing I shall want. (Psalm 23).
Second Reading — Once we were like straying sheep; but now we have been returned to the shepherd, our guardian. (1 Peter 2:20b-25).
Gospel — The shepherd leads the sheep out into pastures of abundant life. (John 10:1-10).

Readings for the Week
Monday: Acts 11:1-18; Ps 42:2-3; 43:3, 4; Jn 10:11-18
Tuesday: Acts 11:19-26; Ps 87:1b-7; Jn 10:22-30
Wednesday: Acts 12:24 — 13:5a; Ps 67:2-3, 5, 6, 8; Jn 12:44-50
Friday: Acts 13:26-33; Ps 2:6-11ab; Jn 14:1-6
Saturday: Acts 13:44-52; Ps 98:1-4; Jn 14:7-14
Sunday: Acts 6:1-7; Ps 33:1-2, 4-5, 18-19; 1 Pt 2:4-9; Jn 14:1-12

Fourth Sunday of Easter
I have come that you might have life, and have it in abundance. Who can resist the One who promises that to each of us? I can’t. I never have been able to resist Jesus, and that grace has brought me nothing but blessing every day of my life. Imagine Jesus, using the language of sheep-tending, trying to draw the Pharisees into the new life that is their inheritance. He reminds them of the sheep-gate, and how the sheep won’t enter until the gate-keeper opens it. The Pharisees just stare at him. Okay, he says, let’s try this: the sheep will only follow the good shepherd. They know the voice of the shepherd who truly cares for their welfare, and they won’t follow the thieves and robbers. The Pharisees look dumbly ahead. They’re just not getting it.

LOOK, says an exasperated Jesus. I AM THE GATE. I AM YOUR LIFE, YOUR HOPE, YOUR SECURITY, YOUR PEACE. He can’t say it more clearly than that. But how can he be the long-awaited Messiah when he has no army, no generals to command, he breaks the laws of the Sabbath, he let that adulteress go free, and he eats and drinks with sinners? Oh, says Jesus, if today you would just hear my voice. I’m calling you—that’s YOU he’s talking to, by the way. Dig deep. Listen with all your heart. Tune out all soul-deadening clamor of the culture. If you seek me, says Jesus, you will find me. If you seek me with all of your heart I will let myself be found by you. Abundant life? Oh, yeah. Call us by name, Good Shepherd. You’re coming in loud and clear.

In what ways are you tuning in to the voice of Jesus?
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TOGETHER WE PRAY FOR THE SICK:
Marie Saroyan, Chris Fliflet, Elizabeth Cox, Jennifer Rosko, Giselle Contreras, Juanita Estrellas, Elisabeth Nauer, Dennis Callahan, George Buonocore, Caroline Bancroft, Charlotte Cairney, Ron Olowin, Judy Russell, Karen Zapotowski, Orlando Portillo, Jenny & Norma Carosella, Alex McLin, Fabricio Mendoza, Anne Lagache, Karl Smida, Roger Gregory, Bruce Wood, Pat McGinnis, Betty Magnoli & Mary Beth Mettz.

MASS INTENTIONS
May 6, 2017—May 14, 2017

Saturday  5:00 pm Rico Ramponi  
Sunday  8:00 am Casey Macnamee  
          9:30 am For the Community  
          11:30 am Josephine Yau  
Wednesday  8:30 am Donald Potter  
Thursday  8:30 am Margaret Murri  
Saturday  5:00 pm John McGhee  
          8:00 am Louise Silvano  
          9:30 am Vita Hoffman  
          11:30 am For the Community
St. Perpetua
2017 Confirmation Group

Confirmed April 29, 2017 at the Cathedral of Christ the Light by Bishop Michael C. Barber

Giorgio “Anthony” Allessandria  * Judy Doyle
Grace Renee Andronico  * Michele McDonagh
Henry Edward “Michael” Bater  * Anne McDermott
Parker Michael Bahl  * Paula Korn
Justin William Bocks  * Deron Bocks
Sarah Anne Bone  * Stephanie O’Toole
Matthew “Cole” Brightbill  * Paul Wickline
Mackenzie Margaret Carlin  * Julia Pugate
Ava “Frances” Charlesworth  * Tommy Harley
Molly McBride “Felicity” Clemmons  * Emily Clemmons
John (Jack) Coulthurst Crowder  * Kevin Fisher
Ryan Patrick Dougherty  * Jimmy Dougherty
Dylan Riley “Joseph” Duque  * Andrew Berkos
Emily Patricia Gebhardt  * Dana Young
Justin Antonio Renaldo “John” Goerss  * Breanna Brown
Mackenzie Maureen Hastings  * Brooklyn Martin
Katherine Tully “Kathleen” Hawkins  * Pamela Burke
Matthew McKillop Healy  * Jon Mccara
Kristin Gabrielle Henderson  * Susan de la Cruz
Anne Colette Hillhouse  * Scott Hillhouse
Madison Baldoza Juni  * Quaroni Douglas
Eleanor Choe Kim  * Rachel Kim
Timothy Haruta Kostobsky  * Joseph Kostobsky
Eric Stehen “Peter” Larson  * Kyle Stern
Sam “Patrick” Lowry  * Vicky Gonzales
Claire Elizabeth Maxwell  * Margaret Lorenz
Caillen Rose “Teresa” McDonagh  * Rhonda Andronico
Rory Thomas Miller  * Joe Dougherty
Charles Dennis Mollman  * Mike Ruane
Maja Elizabeth Moran  * Elise Fornaci
Noah James Nash  * Frank Wiggins
Thomas Gerard “John” Olson  * Martin Olson
Lillian Rose O’Toole  * Judy Tuatagaloa
Kyle James Parnell  * Paul Wszowsky
Brennan Katherine Pittsey  * Morgan Pittsey
Cecilia Connolly Portillo  * Glenda Connolly
Matthew Emilio Raffel  * Emilio Lopez
Bridget Elizabeth Ross  * Anne Hawkins
Christopher Fraser Rogers  * Humberto Arreguin
Taylor Elise Rowlcy  * Jacob Rowlcy
Aimee Michaela “Theresa” Ruane  * Noelle Ruane
Kelly “Ann” Ruane  * Scott Mollahan
Jacqueline Grace Samaniego  * Julia Samaniego
Katherine Amy Schirmer  * Sidney Vranesh
Derek Huston “Jude” Schmitz  * Lou Capponi
Peter Richard Schmitz  * Antonette Capponi
Wilhelm Rheinhardt Schueler  * Max Schueler
Madeline Elizabeth Singh  * Kim Roggenbach
Grace Marie Sterner  * Mary Jane Ward
Jake Taylor Stone  * Bill Stryker
Isabel Juliette Toldi  * Felicita Stromeyer
John Christopher “John Paul” Wachowski  * Steve Wachowski
Gabriella Wilson  * Steven Wilson
Jack William Wickline  * Sten Moran

* = Sponsor
** = To Be Confirmed May 13