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

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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
(Last week we began a transcript of Pope Francis’ recent TED talk: “Why the only future worth building includes everyone.” In our present contentious political climate, it does us all well to hear the reasoned and inspiring voice of the Holy Father whose vision reflects that of Jesus in the Gospels and whose own leadership models for the world a contrast to a “me-first” and an “us-only” attitude so prevalent today.)

“And this brings me to my second message. How wonderful would it be if the growth of scientific and technological innovation would come along with more equality and social inclusion. How wonderful would it be, while we discover faraway planets, to rediscover the needs of the brothers and sisters orbiting around us. “How wonderful would it be if solidarity, this beautiful and, at times, inconvenient word, were not simply reduced to social work, and became, instead, the default attitude in political, economic and scientific choices, as well as in the relationships among individuals, peoples and countries.

“Only by educating people to a true solidarity will we be able to overcome the “culture of waste,” which doesn’t concern only food and goods but, first and foremost, the people who are cast aside by our techno-economic systems which, without even realizing it, are now putting products at their core, instead of people. “Solidarity” is a term that many wish to erase from the dictionary. Solidarity, however, is not an automatic mechanism. It cannot be programmed or controlled. It is a free response born from the heart of each and everyone. Yes, a free response!

“When one realizes that life, even in the middle of so many contradictions, is a gift, that love is the source and the meaning of life, how can they withhold their urge to do good to another fellow being? “In order to do good, we need memory, we need courage and we need creativity. And I know that TED gathers many creative minds. Yes, love does require a creative, concrete and ingenious attitude. Good intentions and conventional formulas, so often used to appease our conscience, are not enough. Let us help each other, all together, to remember that the other is not a statistic or a number. The other has a face. The “you” is always a real presence, a person to take care of.

“There is a parable Jesus told to help us understand the difference between those who’d rather not be bothered and those who take care of the other. I am sure you have heard it before. It is the Parable of the Good Samaritan. “When Jesus was asked: “Who is my neighbor?” namely, “Who should I take care of?” he told this story, the story of a man who had been assaulted, robbed, beaten and abandoned along a dirt road. Upon seeing him, a priest and a Levite, two very influential people of the time, walked past him without stopping to help. After a while, a Samaritan, a very much despised ethnicity at the time, walked by. Seeing the injured man lying on the ground, he did not ignore him as if he weren’t even there. “Instead, he felt compassion for this man, which compelled him to act in a very concrete manner. He poured oil and wine on the wounds of the helpless man, brought him to a hostel and paid out of his pocket for him to be assisted.

+ Pope Francis, Bishop of Rome
May 11th-21st is Affordable Housing Week 2017!
Get ready for a week of grand openings, panel discussions, community events, tours, workshops, and more.

Please join us for Exploring New Options In Affordable Housing
May 17 at 10 am—12 noon
Bortin Hall, Mt. Diablo Unitarian Universalist Church

Have more space than you really need? Want to reduce your housing costs? Learn how the new Junior Accessory Dwelling Unit (JADU) legislation and code changes make sharing your home more feasible. Dynamic speakers include: Andrew Smith, Senior Planner and Code Enforcement Office, Walnut Creek, Nelda Braver, Owner, Braver Designs, Angelica Vivet, Mortgage Loan Originator, Annette Balter, MPH, Director Senior Resources, Suzanne Llewellyn, Immigration Advocate. More information: Contact Mary Fenelon at 202-257-5223 or maryefenelon@gmail.com. This is an East Bay Housing Organizations Affordable Housing Week presentation sponsored by the Multifaith Action Coalition and co-sponsored by the MDUUC Social Justice Council and the League of Women Voters Diablo Valley.

Reflection by a Parishioner
I Only Sing in Church

I only sing in Church. And if pressed to admit, occasionally in my car, alone. But regularly at Church. I have a barely adequate singing voice. As a child, I always wanted to sing and play piano. After twelve years of classical training on the latter, I became extremely proficient in reading music -- but I had no real gift to play. Self conscious enough about my voice, I would never participate in karaoke events, no matter how much alcohol was involved. Clearly, music was not one of my God given gifts.

But here in a pew, I am courageous enough to sing. Maybe because I hear a mix of choir-capable sopranos, some less than perfect baritones, my husband's quiet tenor and a rare midwestern alto all singing with me. Maybe because the music is prayer. Maybe because I know that collective voices are stronger, better together, so much more than one imperfect voice.

The Church can be my concert hall. The voice filled sanctuary can be what gives me inspiration each week. As challenging as the world can be, the melodies familiar can bring peace. Only with the power of the community around me, can I sing with all my heart!

So this Easter season, raise your voice in song to the Lord! It doesn't so much matter if you can't carry a tune. It only matters that the song come from your heart. No one in the pews around you will fault you or judge you...because in that moment, we all want to be singers and want our voices heard, together.

FAITH FORMATION

Our Faith Formation season concluded with the First Eucharist Masses for 95 students from our Faith Formation program and Parish School.
We look forward to our classes beginning in September.
First Eucharist preparation begins in 1st grade and is a two year program.
Our registration materials will be emailed to all families currently enrolled and also on our website by late July.
If you would like to add your name to our list please email kristine@stperpetua.org

Welcome into the Catholic Community

Congratulations! This weekend we welcome the following children into our parish community through the waters of Baptism:

Hudson McCormick Gummow
son of George & Kathrine Gummow

Liam Christopher O’Keefe
son of Patrick & Lori O’Keefe

May our community embrace Hudson & Liam and may our word and example be a reflection of God's love for them. Let us offer our joy-filled prayers and congratulations as a sign of our support and welcome!

Update on our Refugee Family

Our Iranian family has settled in with brother Afshin and is doing well. Thanks to the generosity of parishioners the family has the essentials needed for the time being. They are currently busily occupied with meeting necessary appointments (social security, health screening, social services and DMV). Support for transportation remains an important need for the family. Equally important will be enrollment in English as a Second Language Courses and elementary school enrollment for daughter Rojin.

The Library has a Farsi story time which can provide a link for the family. It would be very helpful for socialization of the family if Satareh and Rojin could be introduced to mothers with seven-year old daughters. Farsi would be a real plus, but Satareh does have a very limited grasp of English. We have assessed the family’s financial situation and recognize that some financial help will be needed to help them reach self-sufficiency. If you can help with a one time donation or monthly support, please let us know.

Checks may be made out to St. Perpetua with a notation on the memo line designating the funds for “Refugee Family Support”. Your support is appreciated and will make a difference in the lives of this family.

If you can assist with transportation needs or host a social visit of mother and daughter, Please contact Christoph Nauer at chnauer@stperpetua.org or 283-0272, ext. 203.
**Fourth Sunday of Easter**

If you saw me driving around these days you’d probably worry about my mental health. That’s because I’m listening to Charles Dickens’ third and funniest novel, *The Life and Adventures of Nicholas Nickleby*. Parts of this book are so hilarious I’m laughing out loud, all alone in the car.

There are, of course, terrible, cruel adults oppressing innocent, orphaned children. But, oh, how luminous are the adults in the book who model Jesus’ words in today’s gospel: “Whoever believes in me will do the works that I do.”

In a world of greedy, greasy sociopaths stalking the streets of London, we meet the Cheeryble brothers, a pair of middle-aged, millionaire businessmen who inhabit every gift of the Holy Spirit, and spend their lives cheerfully (note their onomatopoeic surname) carrying out the corporal works of mercy.

It’s so healing to observe their kindness and thoughtfulness toward each other. These two brothers cherish each other. They abound in gratitude for their business acumen, which has brought them a fortune that they delight in sharing with everyone who comes their way.

Somehow they are still shocked and outraged that any child would ever be hurt in their beloved city. No hungry person is ever met with anything but the warmest friendship. Jobs are found, apartments are found, food and fireplaces and new clothes are found.

Dickens allows us to imagine a world where everyone behaves with outrageous, passionate love, doing the works that Jesus did. The two brothers prefigure, I suspect, his later immortal character Ebenezer Scrooge, who wakes up just in time to learn that humankind was supposed to be his business. That’s our business too, of course. So, how’s business?

*In this Easter season, how are you doing the works that Jesus did?*

Kathy McGovern ©2017 www.thestoryandyou.com

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**Youth Ministry at St. Perpetua has concluded for the year. Look for bulletin updates regularly throughout the summer with notes for teens on living their faith in 2017.**

**Altar Care is Needed**

St. Perpetua is in need of someone to do Altar Care for the months of June and July. If you would like to participate in this ministry please contact Katherine Korsak at the Parish Office at 283-0272 or email kkorsak@stperpetua.org.

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**This Week at St. Perpetua**

**May 14, 2017—May 21, 2017**

**Second Collection Catholic Communications**

- **Sunday**
  - Children’s Liturgy of the Word
  - During the 9:30 am Mass
- **Monday**
  - RCIA, 8 am Conference Room
  - Centering Prayer, 7:15 pm Chapel
- **Wednesday**
  - Choir, 7:00 pm, Church
- **Thursday**
  - Bible Study, 7:30 pm, Chapel
  - Children’s Liturgy of the Word
  - During the 9:30 am Mass

**Readings for the Week**

- **Monday**: Acts 14:5-18; Ps 115:1-4, 15-16; Jn 14:21-26
- **Tuesday**: Acts 14:19-28; Ps 145:10-13ab, 21; Jn 14:27-31a
- **Wednesday**: Acts 15:1-6; Ps 122:1-5; Jn 15:1-8
- **Thursday**: Acts 15:7-21; Ps 96:1-3, 10; Jn 15:9-11
- **Friday**: Acts 15:22-31; Ps 57:8-10, 12; Jn 15:12-17
- **Saturday**: Acts 16:1-10; Ps 100:1b-3, 5; Jn 15:18-21
- **Sunday**: Acts 8:5-8, 14-17; Ps 66:1-7, 16, 20; 1 Pt 3:15-18 or 1 Pt 4:13-16; Jn 14:15-21 or Jn 17:1-11a

**Mass Intentions**

**May 13, 2017—May 21, 2017**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Day</th>
<th>Time</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Saturday</td>
<td>5:00</td>
<td>John McGhee</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sunday</td>
<td>8:00</td>
<td>Louise Silvano</td>
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<td>9:30</td>
<td>Vita Hofman</td>
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<td>Tuesday</td>
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<td>John McGhee</td>
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<td>Saturday</td>
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<td>Eileen Worner</td>
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<td>Sunday</td>
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<td>Dan &amp; Ellie Spillane</td>
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<td>9:30</td>
<td>Danny DeSimoni</td>
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<td>11:30</td>
<td>For the Community</td>
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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.
First Communicants

The following children of St. Perpetua Parish were welcomed to the Lord’s table in April and May:

Paul Bacon
Donovan Bintiique
Michela Barbano
Brady Beeman
Jefferson Bieber
Ezra Bishop
Noah Blackhart
Jackson Boselli
Olivia Britton
Olivia Charnucci
Grant Condry
Ryan Crane
Elizabeth Culbertson
James Casumano
Emily Damhezel
Lucy Delaplane
Dustin DeWitt
Jenika DeWitt
Daniel DeFranco
Amelia Easley
Thomas Einich
Arden Ellis
Grace Eppinger
Wilson Firestone
Sergio Alex Fon
Eloise Gafni
David Gallagher
Jackson Gallaway
Grant Gehardt
Matthew Gillette
Read Goodwin
Luke Griffith
Andrea Camacho
Ethan Haas
Connor Harley
Evan Hawkins
Justice Hembrador
Aislinn Hetke
Brandon Host
Eden Hoff
Logan Houston
Megan Ingham
Piper James
Emilia Jonsson
Joaquin Jonsson
Raymond Karol
Chloe Keely
Nola Keyes
Elijah Korsak
Kendall Lee
Bryce Mansour
Jonah Mateu
Mark McLoughlin
Estella Markey
Margaret Marusich
Gillian Massey
Liam McKeown
Madden McSorley
Valentina Mendoza
Jude Middleton
Brooks Mifnes
Deryn Murphy
Samantha Murphy
Madalena Obertello
Emma O’Connor
Cade O’Hare
Reece Ojeda
Chase O’Keefe
Colin O’Keefe
William Parks
Aidan Parnell
Kyle Parnell
Olivia Parnell
Franklin Polichio
Isabella Polson Flanagin
Noelle Rios
Lemie Rogensack
Leonard Rossivich
Hunter Sabarse
Kayla Schaffer
Stefano Severo
Harrison Sheffer
Rocco Stassi
Jacob Stephen
Taryn Stevenson
Aldrik Suko
Gage Svoboda
Morrice Thomas
Charlotte Tschan
Durham Vail
Addison VanVeen
Tess Veronda
Byer Watermaker
Matthew Wisehn
Ava Wooler
Lillian Yung

Please pray for our children as they continue to grow in faith.