ST. PERPETUA CHURCH

CELEBRATING OUR FAITH • ENRICHING OUR COMMUNITY • SHARING OUR GIFTS

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**Eucharist**
Daily Mass
Monday–Thursday, 8:30 am
(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, need to receive communion or Anointing of the Sick at home or in the hospital.

**Assisted listening devices available**

**St. Perpetua School**
Contact the school office for enrollment (TK-8) and After School Program.
Tours by appointment call 284-1640 or skozel@csdo.org.

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DARKNESS cannot drive out DARKNESS;
only LIGHT can do that.

HATE cannot drive out HATE;
only LOVE can do that.  MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR.

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

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

Our Bishop, Michael C. Barber, SJ, is joining other local faith leaders in encouraging acts of kindness and peace in response to recent events, including the horrific tragedy that happened in Charlottesville, VA, Aug. 11-12. He has issued the following statement:

Hatred has no place in the hearts and minds of Christians. Our love of Christ compels us to treat people of all races and nationalities as our brothers and sisters, with generous kindness and sincere love. I ask all Catholics in the Diocese of Oakland to join me in praying for those who have been harmed or threatened by the evil ideology of racism. May they be delivered from hatred by our unrelenting embrace of solidarity and unity, and may our children especially be healed from the violence and terrible words and images they have witnessed these days. May the Word of Life replace words of fear and intimidation.

Cardinal Daniel N. DiNardo, of Galveston-Houston, president of the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops, also issued a statement in response to the violent protests in Charlottesville, VA:

“On behalf of the bishops of the United States, I join leaders from around the nation in condemning the violence and hatred that have now led to one death and multiple injuries in Charlottesville, Virginia. We offer our prayers for the family and loved ones of the person who was killed and for all those who have been injured. We join our voices to all those calling for calm.

The abhorrent acts of hatred on display in Charlottesville are an attack on the unity of our nation and therefore summon us all to fervent prayer and peaceful action. The bishops stand with all who are oppressed by evil ideology and entrust all who suffer to the prayers of St. Peter Claver as we approach his feast day. We also stand ready to work with all people of goodwill for an end to racial violence and for the building of peace in our communities.

Last year a Task Force of our Bishops Conference under Archbishop Wilton Gregory proposed prayers and resources to work for unity and harmony in our country and in our Church. I am encouraging the bishops to continue that work especially as the Feast of St. Peter Claver approaches.”

[Peter Claver was a Spanish Jesuit and missionary in the 17th century, who is considered the patron saint of slaves and of ministry to African-Americans. His feast day is Sept. 9.]

Father John Kasper, OSFS
Confirmation Information Meetings

St. Perpetua invites all high school students, who are at least a sophomore in September 2017, to join with their peers for a year of prayer, reflection, community building, community service, liturgical celebrations, and spiritual growth leading to Confirmation in May 2018. Confirmation remains an integral part of Youth Ministry in the life of our Parish and Candidates can expect a full and engaging experience.

Teens interested in Confirmation, and one of their parents, must attend one of five information meetings about the Confirmation preparation:

- Sunday, September 27;
- Monday, September 28;
- Tuesday, September 5;
- Wednesday, September 6; and,
- Thursday, September 7.

The information meetings start at 7:30 pm, are in the RRC, and go for about an hour.

Choose one of the five meetings that work best for you to attend. All five meetings cover the same material. You need attend only one meeting.

Youth Group

At St. Perpetua, we offer a Parish Youth Group as an integral part of our Youth Ministry for all high-school teens. Our goal in Youth Group is to provide teens the tools to fully live our faith, be comfortable with our faith, and to continue to explore our faith and grow in our love of God and neighbor. How? Weekly we take a modern look at our faith (Sacraments, Scripture, the Paschal Mystery, Person of Christ, the Church, Morality, Community, and Prayer) all through a teen’s eyes, and words – and with some fun, and food. Teens sign up for Youth Group. Our first Youth Group is Wednesday, September 13.

Registration forms for Faith Formation and Youth Ministry is on the web, and in the back of the church.

Gary

Becoming Catholic

Are you or someone you know interested in becoming Catholic? Reach out and invite a friend or neighbor to explore membership in the Roman Catholic Church. Our first meeting will be on Wednesday, September 6 at 7:00 pm in the Parish Office. Please contact Christoph for more information.

“Human Trafficking is an open wound on the body of contemporary society, a scourge upon the body of Christ. It is a crime against humanity.” Pope Francis

Are you interested in helping children impacted by human sex trafficking? Would you like to lead the way in spreading awareness in your community about this problem and its solutions? Are you already championing the needs of CSEC (Commercially Sexually Exploited Children)? Were you one of the 1,000 parishioners who signed up to volunteer at Claire’s House? If so, join us to learn about new developments at Claire’s House and Day Star, our Mentoring and CSEC Education program. You are welcome to attend any of our four upcoming information sessions. We look forward to getting to know you!

Locations and Information Session Dates:

- Wednesday, August 30th, at Our Lady of the Rosary in Union City 7- 9 pm
- Thursday, August 31st, at St. John Vianney in Walnut Creek 7- 9 pm
- Saturday, September 9th, at Catholic Charities of the East Bay: Richmond Office 9- 11 am

August Food Basket

Peanut Butter, Jelly and Crackers – That was the request for this month’s food basket collection. You are a very generous community. Al & Virginia LaFaille delivered 34 bags of the above items to Monument Crisis Center in Concord.

Our thanks to Bill Gardner, our long-standing transporter to Monument Crisis Center, who has had to step away from this task. Al and Virginia LaFaille transport to St Vincent de Paul Food Pantry at St Francis of Assisi every other month and have generously offered to help with deliveries to Monument Crisis Center for the time being.

However, there is a need for someone who might be interested in taking over the transporting of food, every other month, the next being October, to Monument Crisis Center. The bags of food are usually delivered on the Monday morning following the weekend of the collection. If you have any questions, please call Arlene Connors at 925-283-0272.

Requested items for September 9/10: Canned meals – pasta, chili, and stew.

Upcoming Warm Coat Drive

If you are cleaning out your closet and have some warm coats that you don’t wear, we will be having a Warm Coat Drive the weekend of October 14/15. Details to follow.
Twenty-First Sunday in Ordinary Time

It's a good thing Jesus didn't give me the keys to the kingdom. Lord knows where they would show up. In fact, if you happen to come across a little keychain with a red heart that is engraved The Story and You could you shoot me an e-mail? I've looked everywhere.

Although he wasn't speaking literally when he handed the keys to Peter, Jesus was using the language of the household, the family. Here's the keys to the house, he said to Peter. Keep it safe from thieves and marauders. Keep it open for all who seek me. Keep it clean, and let plenty of fresh air and sunshine circulate. And keep the lights on, please. Don't ever let my Church be a place of darkness.

We live in a time when the lights are, literally, going out in churches all over the world. In places of persecution, like Iraq and Syria, Christians have fled in historic numbers. In 1999, I was with a group of pilgrims who visited a Christian family in Bethlehem whose stone mason business had been operating since—imagine this—the time of Jesus. They had lived in the same neighborhood since the time of Christ. Five years later we returned to visit them. They were gone.

On the other hand, in the prosperous communities of the west, the gospel seems to be losing its power to draw people into church buildings. But here's the thing: the buildings are not the church. The Church is the building. And we need to be with each other—to sing, and pray, and hear the scriptures, and be restored by the Eucharist—in order to build the kingdom whose keys will never be lost.

In what ways are you helping to “keep the lights on” in your parish?
Kathy McGovern ©2017 www.thestoryandyou.com
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JOIN US AND CELEBRATE

Oktoberfest

WITH PARISHIONERS, NEIGHBORS, & FRIENDS
SUNDAY, OCTOBER 1st 12:30 - 4:30 p.m.

AN INVITATION

Spend a relaxing afternoon with fellow parishioners and meet new friends
at the annual St. Perpetua Oktoberfest!
Join us at our new shady & cool location on the upper lawn next to the Garden of Learning.
Please come and enjoy delicious food and BBQ featuring authentic German Brats and
sauerkraut from Speisekammer of Alameda. Carnival games for all ages, silent auction, live
music, big dollar raffle, home brew tasting and contest, as well as a private Beer Garden and
Sports Lounge for both the 49’r vs. Cardinal and Raiders vs. Broncos viewing featuring cigars
and beverages. New this year...photo booth and casino games.
Tickets may be purchased at the event by cash, check or credit card.
See you there!

SILENT AUCTION

Silent Auction donations or baskets
are greatly appreciated.
Donations can include vacation get-away
homes, wine, dinner certificates,
sporting events, theatre tickets, food
or hobby theme baskets.
Be sure to complete the donation form
included in this mailing or please contact:
Sandi Gritzer 284.7133

SPONSOR

Please consider supporting the carnival this year
by being an event sponsor.
Sponsor donations help to offset the
cost of our game and food booths.
A donation form is included in this mailing or
please contact: Christoph at 283.0272 or
chnauer@stperpetua.org

RAFFLE

Sell raffles tickets!
Raffle Prizes: $1000 | $500 | $250
Additional tickets are available at the
parish & school offices or in the
back of the church.

VOLUNTEER

The Carnival committee needs you!
Volunteer for a shift the day of the carnival.
Help with set up or clean up.
Donate cookies, brownies or candy bags.
Assemble Silent Auction baskets.
To volunteer please go to our parish website.

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