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.
Parish Staff
Reverend John Kasper, OSFS
Pastor
jkasper@stperpetua.org
x202

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Sr. Laurel O’Neal, Er. Dio.
Pastoral Assistant
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284-1640

Suzanne Kozel
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skozel@csdo.org, 284-1640

Oscar Jovel
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x214

Lorena Rojas, Housekeeping
irojas@stperpetua.org

Knights of Columbus
Ruben Galindo,
galindojr@yahoo.com

Third Sunday of Lent
“T, THE LORD, AM YOUR GOD”
The Ten Commandments are “apodictic” laws, imposing a command directly. What if today we were to consider the words of Paul and Jesus in today’s readings not merely as guidance, but as apodictic laws?
Paul wants to dispel dissension among the Christians at Corinth and point out the difference between lukewarm believers and “those who are called.” His “laws” from today’s second reading would read:
1. Thou shalt not put human wisdom above God’s wisdom.
2. Thou shalt not demand signs.
3. Thou shalt not put human strength above God’s strength.
4. Thou shalt accept the paradox of the cross.
Can a people who grew up singing “I Did It My Way” embrace the painful paradox of the cross, which demands we “do it his way?” Paul’s “commandments” demand submission, sacrifice, and service. If they were written in stone, would they create more committed Christians or fewer folks in the pews on Sunday? Would they bring us to our knees or send us out the door?

CLEANSING THE TEMPLE
The Gospel adds one more commandment to today’s short list: Thou shalt not use religion for personal gain.
We are to keep our business separate from God’s business. Jesus’ whip of cords leaves no doubt that he means business, and he offers his body on the cross to prove it: “Destroy this temple and in three days I will raise it up” (John 2:19).
But can we accept the paradox of the cross or are we often subtly serving ourselves in the name of Christ? Do we honor human achievement, material success, and personal power more than humility, simplicity, and compassion?
This Lent, as we prepare to welcome new members into our communities, let’s show them that we also “mean business”—that we are a community of people who do it his way, not our way. Let’s live our lives according to all fifteen “commandments,” so that others will say of us, “And they (finally) came to (really) believe the scripture and the word Jesus had spoken.”


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If you have not yet made your pledge to the Annual Bishop’s Appeal you can do so through the Parish Office or directly to the Diocese by going to https://www.oakdiocese.org/giving/bishops-appeal
Thank you.
Teens – Giving something up during Lent is not only about denial. Sacrifice helps us to prepare our hearts to be transformed by clearing away bad habits and negative actions so that our hearts can be ready to receive God’s love. During Lent we try to turn away from idols we have put in God’s place and restore God to his rightful position—above everything else in our lives.

Youth Ministry at St. Perpetua offers teens the opportunities to learn and demonstrate how to turn away from sin and be faithful to the Gospel. We gather twice this week:

**Saturday March 3 – Sunday, March 4** – Confirmation Candidates gather for their “Gifts of the Holy Spirit Retreat”. On the retreat Candidates take a look at their baptismal promise, focus on the Seven Gifts of the Holy Spirit in their lives, and turn to the ritual and actions on Confirmation day – Please keep Candidates in your prayers during this special time of their preparation.

**Monday, March 5 – Youth Group** gathers for a modern look at the Ten Commandments in 2018. Teens, join us at 7:30 in the RRC.

This week think about what obstacles are in your way right now that keep you from a relationship with God, and from living the Gospel message to love one another, and then take steps to turn that around.

**First Eucharist Prayer Buddy Masses**
Saturday, March 17th at 5:00 pm Mass and
Sunday, March 18 at 9:30 am Mass

Please consider being a Prayer Buddy for one of our St. Perpetua Faith Formation and School students who are preparing to receive their First Eucharist in April and May. As a Prayer Buddy you are asked to: Pray daily for your buddy. Write a letter to your buddy welcoming him/her to the Lord’s Table. You can also share why you love belonging to the Catholic Church or a story from your own First Eucharist. At the Masses above the children will receive a blessing by Fr. John and then give their prayer card to parishioners in the pew with raised hands. This is a wonderful way to share your faith with the children of our parish. After Mass all parishioners are invited to meet their Prayer Buddy outside of the Church. Prayer Buddies are also asked to complete the sign up sheet in the back of the church.

**Dear Friends at St. Perpetua,**
Thanks so much for your warm welcome this past weekend. I enjoyed celebrating the liturgies with you and am very grateful for your generous response. You continue to help us serve God’s people in the Yucatán. I experienced again how wonderful the people of St. Perpetua are. Thanks and may God bless you. Paz y Amor. Fr. Bill Auth, osfs.

**Operation Rice Bowl: Third Week of Lent**
**Encounter Safiata**
In Burkina Faso, we encounter Safiata, a mother, grandmother and farmer who relies on the money she makes from her crops to put her children through school. How can our purchases this Lent support farmers and artisans? How can you support those, worldwide, who are forced to flee their homes to find safety or better opportunities? Visit [https://www.crsricebowl.org](https://www.crsricebowl.org) for more.

**500 Years of Reformation and 2000 Years of Reform:**
Protestants and Catholics Striving for God
Thursday, March 8, 7:00 p.m. RRC or Monday, March 12, 9:15 a.m. Chapel

Listen to a presentation by fellow parishioner, Dr. Zach Flanagan, Theology and Religious Studies Instructor at St. Mary’s College. On this 500th Anniversary of Martin Luther and the Protestant Reformation, we will explore how far we have come in mutual understanding, shared beliefs and ecumenical engagement.

**St. P's Food Basket: March 10/11**
Next weekend, March 10/11, please bring Canned Fruit/Vegetables/Hominy. Please drop it off at the Parish or School offices. Thanks for your ongoing support.

**Shelter Meals**
There is a need for more volunteers in the area of food preparation, transport and serving of meals to the shelter. If you have any questions, or would like to volunteer, please contact Monica Chappell at monicachappell@comcast.net.
**Daffodil Sale**
The Annual Daffodil sale will be held next weekend, **March 10/11** for the benefit of Friendly Manor, a day center for homeless women in Oakland. The women in that area go to Friendly Manor to be safe and warm, to wash laundry, take showers and have hot coffee and a nice lunch. A pot of daffodils continues to sell for $12.

**Blue Barrel Collection**
The weekend of March 17/18 please bring NEW underwear for women and men, socks and baby wipes. The items will benefit Friendly Manor, Project Hope and Trinity Center, as well as other needy groups! Please remember to drop off your items at the Church or School Offices.

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**The Story and You**

Those commandments Moses brought down from the mountain have served the world well. There are some cultural commandments that are making us kinder and gentler too. What do you think of this list?

**THOU SHALT RECYCLE:** We’re doing better, but it’s so strange that a culture so enamored with the Nature Channel is still filling the oceans with plastic at a rate of 8 million tons a year.

**THOU SHALT NOT LITTER:** We HAVE done better here! Lady Bird Johnson initiated the Keep America Beautiful movement over fifty years ago, and it caught on. Those of us alive in those days remember that it used to be acceptable to throw receptacles out of cars, or leave picnic trash on the ground. Gross.

**THOU SHALT MAKE PUBLIC PLACES ACCESSIBLE:** This is huge. Dedicated parking spaces for those with disabilities give a daily kindness to those who need a little help. Thank you!

**THOU SHALT BE TOLERANT OF BALD WOMEN:** I bless every brave person—woman or man— who forged this frontier. I live in a city that is filled with merchants who didn’t bat an eye when I walked in their store, bald from chemo. I hope that your city is as gracious as mine.

**THOU SHALT CARE ABOUT THOSE WHO ARE POOR:** Twenty years ago my brother asked us to help a family living in low-income housing. There were four little kids—tragically, the baby drowned after being abducted by her father—and a traumatized mom who didn’t speak English well. Today, thanks to financial aid and brilliant programs set up for children just like them, they (and many of their friends) have all graduated from college and are thriving.

*What “cultural commandments” are creating a kinder environment in your town?*

Kathy McGovern ©2018 www.thestoryandyou.com

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**THIS WEEK AT ST. PERPETUA**

**MARCH 4—PERPETUA**

**Second Collection**

**Children/Youth March 4**

**Sunday**
Children’s Liturgy of the Word, 9:30 am Mass

**Monday**
Centering Prayer, 7:15 pm, Chapel
Youth Group, 7:30 pm, RRC

**Tuesday**
Faith Formation, 5:30 pm, RRC/School
Liturgy Team, 6:00 pm, Parish Office
Small Faith, 7:00 pm, Parish Office
Outreach Cmte., 7:30 pm, Parish Office

**Wednesday**
Choir, 6 pm, RRC
RCIA, 7 pm, Parish Office
Adult Ed., Dr. Zach Flanagin, 7:00 pm, RRC

**Thursday**
Construction Meeting, 9:15 am, RRC

**Saturday**
Small Faith, 10 am, Parish Office

**Sunday**
Children’s Liturgy of the Word, 9:30 am Mass
Faith Formation, 10:30 am, RRC/School
Teen/Family Mass, 11:30 am

**Second Collection**

**Catholic Relief Services March 11**

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**Mass Intentions**

**March 3—March 11**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Day</th>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Mass Intention</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Saturday</td>
<td>5:00 pm</td>
<td>Winnifred Juvik ✝</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sunday</td>
<td>8:00 am</td>
<td>For the Community</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>9:30 am</td>
<td>Olga de Souza ✝</td>
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<td></td>
<td>11:30 am</td>
<td>Carlos Valencia ✝</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tuesday</td>
<td>8:30 am</td>
<td>Jack Courtney ✝</td>
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<tr>
<td>Wednesday</td>
<td>8:30 am</td>
<td>Jeanne Walsh ✝</td>
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<tr>
<td>Thursday</td>
<td>8:30 am</td>
<td>Jeanine Fela ✝</td>
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<td>Saturday</td>
<td>5:00 pm</td>
<td>Robert Cardelli ✝</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sunday</td>
<td>8:00 am</td>
<td>John Gentry ✝</td>
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<td></td>
<td>9:30 am</td>
<td>Rick Tomasco ✝</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>11:30 am</td>
<td>For the Community</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
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**TOGETHER WE PRAY FOR THE SICK**

Chris Fliflet, Elizabeth Cox, Jennifer Rosko, Giselle Contreras, Juanita Estrellas, Dennis Callahan, George Buonocore, Charlotte Cairney, Judy Russell, Karen Zapotowski, Orlando Portillo, Alex McLin, Fabiricio Mendoza, Anne Lagache, Karl Smid, Bruce Wood, Pat McGinnis, Mary Beth Metz, Steve Luna, Chris Bruzzone, Thomas Bond, Betty Magnoli, Carol Farrell Raffa, Terry Osburn, Dylan Cazin, Bryan Inderrieden, Chris Clogher, Irwin Mettler, Catherine Lomasney. Hamilton Coke and Maureen Graf.
St. Patrick’s Day
Corned Beef Dinner

When: March 17, 2018 (Saturday)
Time: 6 pm Social Hour, Dinner at ~7 pm
Where: Santa Maria Parish Hall, 40 Santa Maria Way in Orinda

Jointly Hosted by St. Perpetua and Santa Maria Knights of Columbus

Join us as we celebrate all things Irish!

As St. Perpetua’s parish hall is under construction, the Santa Maria Knights and Parish are graciously co-hosting our St. Patrick’s Day Corned Beef Dinner. You are cordially invited to join the two Parish celebration and feast on a delicious buffet style dinner with corned beef, tatties, cabbage, side dishes and beverages.

Socialize with friends & parishioners starting at 6 pm with a no host bar that includes sodas, water, beer, wine and cocktails. Dinner served about 7pm. Then, you’ll be transported back to Galway with Irish music and dancing with “Celtic Sister” - an award winning Irish Dance Act sure to please.

Don’t miss this special event - Get Your Tickets Now!

Tickets in advance: $25 adult, $15 Teens, Children 12 & under are free!

Please do reserve your spot by calling Dave Tedesco at (925) 256-8534 or by completing the below reservation form, attaching a check and dropping off in the St. Perpetua Parish or School Office during business hours.

Yes! Reserve me ____ Seats at the Corned Beef dinner.

________________________________________
Your Name(s)

________________________________________
Phone Number

________________________________________
Number of Adults, Teens, Children

________________________________________
Email

Return to Church/School Office with check by March 14, or mail to Dave Tedesco, 2834 Shalimar Indian Drive, Walnut Creek, CA 94595, (925) 256-8534