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.

Men of Galilee, why are you
standing there looking up at the sky?
This Jesus who has been taken up from you into heaven
will return in the same way.
Acts 1:11

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 Parishioners,

Great feast that Easter is, one day is insufficient to celebrate the fullness of the mystery of the resurrection. So, as Christians, we keep a fifty-day-long festival, punctuated by the Solemnity of the Ascension of our Lord—the fortieth day of Easter. The Feast of the Ascension was moved several years ago to the Sunday before Pentecost (instead of its traditional “Ascension Thursday”) so that more of the faithful could share in its commemoration and prayer.

The Feast of the Ascension, like a prism, helps us focus the wondrous colors of the Easter spectrum. These images from the Ascension liturgy give us a sense of the hope and joy that color this feast: “Christ’s ascension is our glory and hope.” “The joy of the resurrection and the ascension renews the whole world.” “Where Christ has gone, we hope to follow.” “Christ has passed beyond our sight, not to abandon us, but to be our hope.” “Christ was taken up to heaven to claim for us a share in his divine life.”

If we have been united with Christ through baptism in his death and resurrection, we are surely united with him in the transformation and redemption of his humanity. What we celebrate, however, is not only a past or future event. We are given glimpses of our glorious destiny even now. So, feet firmly planted on earth, the community gathers to rejoice in the life we share with the risen Lord. The grace of our liturgical feasts and the Eucharist only find their full effect when we put our faith into action. This time that draws us towards Pentecost should motivate us to be people alive in the Spirit, willing to put our values and beliefs on the line, released from the hesitation and fear that prevent us from acting boldly to make a difference in this world. Timid apostles became daring pioneers; may we follow suit as we open ourselves to the fire of the Holy Spirit.

Father John Kasper, OSFS

A Blessing for Mother’s Day

May Jesus and Mary bless and protect your home
And all who receive your tender care
May you be praised on this day of your own
May the sun shine brightly and the sky be fair

May you rejoice in your power to give life
And nourish with love those who clung to your breasts
May you protect them from anger and strife
And teach them that God’s way is always the best

And may God who is mother as well as father
Bless you
The Father who gives life
The Son who nourishes
And the Spirit who cares
Youth Ministry at St. Perpetua concludes this week. Our final Youth Group is Wednesday, May 16. Come for a game, a final Thorn, Rose, and Bud Sharing, and Prayer. Confirmation for St. Perpetua Candidates is this Saturday, May 19 at the Cathedral of Christ the Light. Keep all the teens of our Parish in your prayers as they move on to new adventures. Information and Registration for the Fall 2018 Youth Ministry starts in late July. Gary

Welcome into the Catholic Community
Congratulations! This weekend we welcome the following child into our parish community through the waters of Baptism:

Frances Elizabeth Toben
daughter of Ryan & Elizabeth Toben

May our community embrace Frances and may our word and example be a reflection of God’s love for her. Let us offer our joy-filled prayers and congratulations as a sign of our support and welcome!

Catholic Charities of the East Bay Annual Collection next weekend May 19/20
We are called by Pope Francis “to go to the margins” and help our brothers and sisters, near and far. Every year, we are invited by our Church’s charitable arm, Catholic Charities of the East Bay, to “make all things possible” for those on the margins. Your gift makes it possible for our Church to help people facing difficult circumstances so that they can move forward in life with greater independence. This includes our children who face pervasive violence at school, home, or on the streets; families or seniors facing homelessness; and people fleeing violence in their homelands. Please give generously to this appeal next weekend.

The Poor People Campaign
A National Call for Moral Revival is uniting tens of thousands of people across the country to challenge the evils of systemic racism, poverty, the war economy, ecological devastation and the nation’s distorted morality. To learn more please visit https://www.poorpeoplescampaign.org/index.php/audit/

Nursery/Child Care During 9:30 Mass
It is not in the nature of toddlers to sit still during Mass. As such, we’d like to offer childcare for youngsters 4 years or younger. We’re currently looking for people who’d like to assist with this program. Time commitment would be about 90 minutes on Sundays. This is ideal for high school and college students or parents whose children are grown. Please contact Christoph at the Parish Office if interested.

PRAYER FOR THE COMING OF THE SPIRIT AT PENTECOST
Spirit of God, Lord and Giver of Life, moving between us and around us, like wind or water or fire; breathe into us your freshness that we may awake;
cleanse our vision that we may see more clearly;
kindle our senses that we may feel more sharply;
and give us the courage to live as you would have us live, through Christ our Lord. Amen!

Safe Environment
Protecting God’s Children
Safe Environment training for adults, children and youth is a concrete way we as a church can recognize situations of potential abuse and give our children the tools they need to stay safe and protect themselves from those who would do them harm. Working together we create a culture of protection and healing. Every time a victim is heard, or a survivor flourishes in spite of devastation, we participate in creating an environment that proclaims “never again.” All children in faith formation, youth ministry and Catholic schools are required to train annually in Safe Environment. Diocesan policy requires Safe Environment training every three years for every adult engaged in ministry, and fingerprinting for those who have direct, ongoing contact with children. All other volunteers (those not required to fingerprint) are screened through Megan’s law annually. If you have trained on Virtus you will be notified by email when to recertify. If you have not trained on Virtus you must train beginning July 1, 2018 and have completed the certification no later than October 1, 2018. Please go online to www.virtus.org and follow the instructions for Safe Environment training. For more information, contact Diana Bitz at 510-267-8315 or dbitz@oakdiocese.org or Arlene Connors at 925-283-0272 or aconnors@stperpetua.org.

Food Basket
Monthly food collection. Please bring oatmeal, other cereal (unsweetened if possible). Please note drop off locations during construction:
1. by School office door
2. by Parish Office door NOT at Church!
MANY THANKS to all parishioners who have participated in the monthly food collections to the St. P. Food Basket. Your contributions over the past years have been such a blessing to individuals and families serviced by two caring agencies: Monument Crisis Center and Food Pantry at St. Francis of Assisi (sponsored by St. Vincent de Paul).
**The Ascension of the Lord**

Okay, Church. It’s time for our annual Pentecost novena. You may have already started yours last Thursday (on the official Ascension, which most of us now celebrate on the Sunday before Pentecost). Either way, now is the time for all of us to engage in a full-court press to pray for the needs of our families, our cities, our country and our world. Let’s start by praying for all of our mothers, living and dead.

Speaking of mothers, recall that Mary and the disciples kept the first Pentecost novena. They stayed in Jerusalem for the eight days between the Ascension and the day of Pentecost, praying for the descent of the Spirit. After that event, the strength to persevere in prayer was given to all of us. Each year provides more and more opportunities for us to partner with the Holy Spirit in renewing the face of the earth.

What are you storming heaven for during this novena? I had a pretty good list made up, all around our domestic problems of gun violence, advocacy for those with mental illness, the degrading culture of sexual profligacy that leads to unwanted pregnancies that then lead to abortion. I was moving on to list the diseases for which I’m praying for cures when I thought to google “world’s worst diseases.” That’s a grim google search, but I recommend it on the off chance that your list is too short.

There are human rights abuses around the world that cry out for justice and relief. This is just a starter list. Grab a prayer partner and pound on heaven’s door. Pray for God’s kingdom, and for the grace to work toward making that kingdom come.

*What will be the top three prayers in your Pentecost novena?*

Kathy McGovern ©2018 www.thestoryandyou.com

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**Exuberant Advocacy:**

**Voicing Your Support for Housing For All**

**Monday, May 14, 6:45 – 8:45 pm**

Walnut Creek Library, 1666 North Broadway
Oak View Room

Panel: How Can Advocates Best Support Elected Leaders in Obtaining Housing for All

Presentation: How to be a More Effective Advocate
Free admission; Light Refreshments Provided

For more information: Contact Mary Fenelon at maryefenelon@gmail.com or 925.705.7756
This is an East Bay Housing Organizations’ Affordable Housing Week event.

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**The Story and You**

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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, Orlando Portillo, Alex McLin, Fabricio Mendoza, Anne Lagache, Karl Smida, Bruce Wood, Pat McGinnis, Mary Beth Metz, Steve Luna, Chris Bruzzone, Carol Farrell Raffa, Terry Osburn, Dylan Cazin, Bryan Inderrieden, Sr., Chris Clogher, Irwin Mettler, Catherine Lomasney, Hamilton Coke, Maureen Graf and Sharon Flower.

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**THIS WEEK AT ST. PERPETUA**

**MAY 13—MAY 20**

**Second Collection May 13**

**Catholic Communications**

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

**Monday**
Task Force Meeting, 12:00 noon, Parish Office
Centering Prayer, 7:15 pm, Chapel

**Tuesday**
Confirmation Discernment Interviews, 7:00 pm, Church

**Wednesday**
Choir, 7:00 pm, Church
RCIA, 7:00 pm, Parish Office
Youth Group, 7:30 pm, RRC

**Thursday**
Construction Meeting, 9:15 am, RRC
Confirmation Discernment Interviews, 7:00 pm, Church

**Saturday**
Confirmation, 10:00 am, Christ the Light, Oakland

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

**Second Collection May 20**

**Catholic Charities**

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**Mass Intentions**

**May 12, 2018—May 20, 2018**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Day</th>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Name</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Saturday</td>
<td>5:00 pm</td>
<td>Art Lachman †</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sunday</td>
<td>8:00 am</td>
<td>Louise Silvano †</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>9:30 am</td>
<td>Nancy Burnside †</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>11:30 am</td>
<td>For the Community</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Monday</td>
<td>8:30 am</td>
<td>Mike Murphy †</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tuesday</td>
<td>8:30 am</td>
<td>Fred Jacob Byrod †</td>
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<tr>
<td>Saturday</td>
<td>5:00 pm</td>
<td>Kit Wiggins †</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sunday</td>
<td>8:00 am</td>
<td>Bryan Vierengel †</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>9:30 am</td>
<td>Michael &amp; Kathy Roche †</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>11:30 am</td>
<td>For the Community</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
First Communicants

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

Julian Alessandri
Callie Baise
Quinn Baker
Alexa Batlouque
Francesca Barbano
Alex Bellusa
Travis Berry
Lauren Brelke
Ian Brown
Stella Caneles
James Ceridono
Luke Childers
Ellie Cook
Camden Dean
Beatrice Deignan
Ava De la Cruz
Julian Deutsch Stella
Dylan DeWeese
Rafael Domingo
Jack Dorward
Luca Dazio
Kyle Gleason-Dick
John Greenaway
Claire Griffin
Kelsey Gunderson
Colin Hale
Estelle Hall
Stella Hamilton
Libby Hanover
Brayden Hannersley
Claire Hawkins
Phoebe Higgins
Henry Hilton
Xavier Jones
Jonathan Judson
Ian Kelly
Caleb Khalil
Cade Korpita
Jack LaPlante
Stella Lauber
Matthew Lee
Delilah Maloney
Elisabeth McCormick
Eva McGinley
Darie McSorley
Jack Meinbress
Lena Moggan
Owen Moggan
Jake O’Brien
Jack Patel
Ella Pierce
Elena Portillo
Philip Repa
Mikala Reynolds
Owen Riley
Axa Rojas
Brady Salvane
Jacob Santros-Rikli
Bianca Satterley
Anxia Sena
Liam St. John
Annabelle Stack
Nicolas Storz
Sawyer Strottman
Cael Suku
Carter Swen
Thomas Terrien
Owen Thayer
Emma Thomas
Gabriella Tibbals
Popy Tomich
Audrey Tugade
Daxon Vail
Santino Volattorni
Ethan Ward
Hunter Ward
Elise Warren
Jack Warren
Sophie Wedel
Colton Whalen-Schlosser
Joseph Wilson
Cade Winter
Clare Wolpert
Amelia Won
Henry Woolway

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