ST. PERPETUA CHURCH

CELEBRATING OUR FAITH  •  ENRICHING OUR COMMUNITY  •  SHARING OUR GIFTS

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

The Most Holy Body and Blood of Christ

Jesus said, “This is my blood of the covenant, which will be shed for many. Amen, I say to you, I shall not drink again the fruit of the vine until the day when I drink it new in the kingdom of God.”
Mark 14:24-25

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www.stperpetua.org

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

On this Feast of the Body and Blood of Christ (Corpus Christi) the focus has usually been on the Eucharistic elements – the bread and wine shared in Holy Communion. If we listen to St. Paul’s affirmation in his First Letter to the Corinthians (12:27) we hear a different emphasis to today’s feast. Paul writes: *All of you together are Christ’s body, and each of you is a part of it.* We could properly say that this feast is a celebration of all of us. Through our Baptism we form the Body of Christ. So to all of you: Happy Feast Day!

I want to acknowledge a few members of the Body of Christ here at St. Perpetua Parish and offer them our congratulations and blessing. Sr. Peggy Dwyer, CSF, is celebrating the 60th Anniversary of her first profession of vows as a religious and member of the Sisters of St. Joseph of Carondelet. In the early years of her career Sr. Peggy taught Middle School and Junior High in the Los Angeles area where she also served as principal of St Ferdinand School in San Fernando, and then as a teacher in Tucson, Arizona. After obtaining a Masters Degree in Counseling from St. Mary’s College, Peggy served as a spiritual director at San Damiano Retreat Center, and since 1990, as a licensed psychotherapist in Lafayette where she has supported many people in crisis, as well as in personal and spiritual growth. We are grateful for the support she brings to members of our parish.

Last weekend I was privileged to attend the graduation ceremony at the Franciscan School of Theology in Oceanside, CA. During the ceremony one of our longtime parishioners, Dr. Karl Pister, received an honorary doctorate for his many years of service as a member of the Board of Directors of FST. Karl is held in high esteem by the Franciscan community, and this distinguished honor is added to a long list of Karl’s achievements during his five decades of service to higher education. He began his career in education as Assistant Professor in the Department of Civil Engineering at U.C. Berkeley. He served as Chairman of the Division of Structural Engineering and Structural Mechanics before his appointment as Dean of the College of Engineering in 1980, a position he held for ten years. From 1991-1996, he served as Chancellor, U.C. Santa Cruz. In 2005, Dr. Pister was appointed Senior Associate to the Chancellor at Berkeley to oversee the planning and construction of the Student Athlete High Performance Center and the seismic upgrading and rehabilitation of California Memorial Stadium. His accolades and awards, too many to mention here, are a testimony to his dedication to higher education. We’re fortunate to share his humble presence as a member of our faith community.

Lastly, I want to acknowledge the 50th Anniversary of Ordination of Fr. Jan Olowin. Jan is the brother of Dr. Ron Olowin, a longtime parishioner who died a year ago. Fr. Jan has been a frequent visitor to our parish and a presider at our liturgies. He feels very much at home among us and is grateful for the celebration of his anniversary two weeks ago, including the “champagne and cake” reception following the 9:30 Mass. Ordained in 1968 for the Diocese of Erie, Pennsylvania, Fr. Jan’s diverse ministry background includes teaching, as well as campus and parish ministry. In 1971 he founded “Mission of Friendship” between the Archdiocese of Yucatan, Mexico and the Diocese of Erie, PA, which brought members of that U.S. Diocese to serve the Maya Indians. Jan also served as a chaplain in the Federal Bureau of Prisons, receiving numerous awards for Outstanding Pastoral Care to Staff and Inmates – the first Catholic priest to be honored by the Bureau of Prisons. We are honored to have Fr. Jan as a guest and a friend to our community. Blessings and congratulations to these wonderful members of the Body of Christ.

Father John Kasper, OSFS
Teens and Parents of Teens!
If you are in High School, we have a lot going on for you at St. Perpetua Catholic Church. Stay tuned here during the summer to learn about what is happening for teens at St. Perpetua. According to the National Study of Youth and Religion, the decline in religious practice among young people isn’t the result of negative experiences in church or even lack of belief. One study revealed that the number one reason adolescents become less religious is that they get “too busy,” citing school, work, extracurricular activities, and friends as examples of things that leave less time for religious participation and devotion during the teen years. At St. Perpetua we do our best to address the revelation above and teens who participate find their experience inspiring, heartfelt, and impactful (Leah).

Come join us for youth group, service opportunities, liturgies, and to prepare for the Sacrament of Confirmation. After a year of Sacrament preparation one teen, Leah, remarked that doing confirmation is life changing. It changes your thoughts on everything in the world and makes you more grateful for everything in your life. It allows you to really and actually grow in faith.

Registration begins in late July for next year. In the mean time a review of this year’s program from teens is on the Youth Ministry Home Page. Check our website for updates or send Gary, the Youth Minister/Director of High School Youth Ministry, an e-mail at gguerrero@stperpetua.org for more information. Gary

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. 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.

Mass on the Grass
We are happy to announce that we will be celebrating Mass on the Grass due to our construction beginning June 16/17 through mid-August. The Parish Staff and the Liturgy Committee are working to make the liturgical experience both prayerful and enjoyable. Over the past few years, we have had numerous occasions when Mass was celebrated outdoors under St. Perpetua Pavilion on the upper field. We have ample parking on the upper lot and shade.

Contra Costa County Fire Department is requiring that we add sprinklers to our church building. This is a fire safety requirement and an important one. The installation of the sprinkler system will require that the church be closed for several weeks during the summer. At this time we will also complete utility trenching throughout the construction area making access to the church impossible. While it will be an inconvenience, summertime is the best possible time for this part of the project to happen. More details to follow.

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

Harrison Stephen Clark
son of Stephen & Jennifer Clark

Emma Grace Martin
daughter of Matt & Jenny Martin

May our community embrace Harrison & Emma 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!

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 min 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.

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/

The Timely Perpetuan is a monthly e-newsletter that keeps you informed about the many things happening at St. Perpetua. If you don’t receive it please go to http://www.stperpetua.org and click on sign up to receive our newsletter.
Solemnity of the Most Holy Body and Blood of Christ

Every once in a while I take inventory of the body God gave me, and on this great feast day I encourage you to do the same. I’ve decided to get over myself and stop rueing the inevitable ravages of age. As I survey what’s left of the body God gave me (after taking into account all the scars, which are considerable) I am astonished at how kind my body has been to me.

I still have all my limbs, two of every organ you’re supposed to have a spare for, a functioning heart and lungs, and if I lose my keys at least I know what the keys are for, so I’m good. I can ambulate from here to there and, best of all, grab my nieces and nephews and wrest hugs from them that feel better than any marathon run.

How about you? Can you muster up an attitude of gratitude for eyes that see, ears that hear, and hearts that love? That’s what this feast of the Body and Blood of Christ is all about. After the Romans destroyed the body of Jesus, our God—whose very existence is about bringing life from death—raised it up, and ascended it to glory.

We who eat his body and drink his blood share in this transformation all throughout our lives. Yes, our hearing may dim with age. But the ears of our hearts will, over time, learn to discern the things that matter, the things that bring us good and not evil all the days of our lives.

In what ways is your body still serving you beautifully? No worries. Christ’s Body in you will do more than you can ask or imagine.

For what spiritual maturities are you thankful for today?
Kathy McGovern ©2018 www.thestoryandyou.com
Congratulations to our 2018 St. Perpetua School Graduates!

Bridget Aguilera
Ryan Aiken
Sofia Alessandrini
Alex Ayers
Lauren Bashant-Coon
Paige Binney
Sam Carlson
Donovan Castilla-Liu
Sebastian Diaz
Liv Drey
Maggie Hawkins
Jay Hawkins
Carly Hoskins
Peter Jensen
Z.K. Jerge
Pierre Jolin
Emilia Jonsson
Caroline Kemner
Mike Kostolansky
Delaney Maloney
Chloe Mansour
Will Monkshus
Declan Nagel
Ryan O'Neill
Liam O'Shea
Anna Painter
Vinnie Paonessa
Olivia Roberts
Owen Van Stralen
Kate Swain
Francesca Vasconi
Thomas Welch