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.

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
St. Perpetua Parish Finance Council
2018 Spring Progress Report

2018 total revenues are lower than expected due to significantly weaker than anticipated Easter Sunday donations. We continue to manage expenses as best we can, but personnel and facilities costs continue to escalate. With the slower summer months upon us, please consider signing up for e-Giving or increasing your existing credit card or EFT contributions. With the Community Center construction making good progress and Fr. John’s recent communication about extending our Capital Campaign, please do whatever you can to support the financial needs of the St. Perpetua faith community.

Bishop’s Appeal
Our Bishop’s Appeal goal of $46,400 has been met through pledges and donations. Thank you to all for your generous response to the Appeal.

Financial Highlights
Through the end of May, total revenues are 4% below our 2018 budget. More importantly, total 2018 revenues are 12% lower than our 2017 year-to-date revenues. This is not a good trend. Please revisit your current giving levels - whether using our e-giving programs, Sunday envelopes, or simply putting cash in the basket – to further help St. Perpetua.

We continue to aggressively manage discretionary spending. However, rising payroll expenses and maintenance costs continue to put upward pressure on total expenses.

E-Giving Programs and Tax Efficient Strategies for Giving
There are a number of ways to provide financial support to St. Perpetua. You can donate through our various credit card and EFT e-giving options available on the St. Perpetua website or call Arlene at the Parish Office for assistance with setting up online giving. Consider giving appreciated mutual funds or stocks to fund your donations or pledge. You should pay no capital gains taxes (if you have owned the security for over a year) and be able to deduct the full current value of the mutual funds or stocks, and St. Perpetua keeps the full value to fund your donation.

This is a great and tax efficient way to give but check with your financial advisor and call the Parish Office to coordinate the process.

New Parish Center and Capital Campaign Extension
Fr. John recently communicated the need to continue to raise additional funding in order to complete our new Community Center. More specific information and ways you can help will be communicated in the fall. Because of the additional site work required by the City of Lafayette and Contra Costa County, the need to re-build the Church access roadway, and overall skyrocketing cost of new construction – we will need to raise an additional $2.0M in order to provide the state-of-the-art facility that will serve St. Perpetua faith community for the next 50 years!

Thank you for your support.

Fr. John and the Finance Council wish to thank each and every member of our Parish community for their continued stewardship and support in making St. Perpetua the welcoming faith community it is today.
Teens and Parents of Teens!

In this Sunday's Gospel, we learn about the birth of John the Baptist, a man who will go on to prepare people for the ministry of Jesus by preaching a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins. John’s life offers two lessons. First, awareness comes in stages. When Jesus appeared in a violent and miserly world, not many people would have found him without help. John was the help God offered. John’s preaching inspired metanoia, a word that means both “repentance” and “transformation of the mind.” This transformation centered on the belief that compassion was stronger than hate. The nation of Israel may have vexed God with their sins, but God was ready to overlook them and move on. Similarly, sins by neighbor against neighbor might have hardened people’s hearts to one another; but just as God was ready to ignore Israel’s sins, so the time had come for the Israelites to do the same. John successfully inspired this transformation, and in so doing, prepared Israel for Jesus’ more radical instruction to love one’s enemy. In discipleship today, we must never forget the value of such “in between” stages that lead toward Gospel holiness.

In Youth Ministry at St. Perpetua teens have the opportunity to look at the different stages of faith and figure out where they stand. Look for details about Youth Ministry (Youth Group, Confirmation, Liturgies, and Service) at St. Perpetua in the coming weeks with registration in mid-July for next year. In Youth Ministry at St. Perpetua we focus on coming to see God in our life, in the various ways God reveals his presence. Teens, especially incoming 9th graders, join us to stay connected to your faith and understand God’s presence in your life when we start up again in early September with Confirmation, and Youth Group to begin in mid-September.

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.

June Food Basket

Thanks to Virginia and Al LaFaille for delivering 18 bags of vegetable oil, powdered milk and masa harina to the St. Vincent de Paul Food Pantry at St. Francis of Assisi in Concord.

St Perpetua parishioners are very generous when shopping each month for the monthly food basket collection. This has been a monthly occurrence for a long time. Currently with our inability to offer the monthly Shelter Meal and the rise in people needing food assistance, these monthly collections become even more important.

Next collection: July 14/15 - Macaroni & Cheese, Rice

Thank you again for your continued support and remembering to put some items in your basket for those in need.

Outreach Agency Distributions

We were able to send $2,000.00 ($500.00 each), because of your continuing generosity for the Outreach committee, to the following agencies within Contra Costa County: Winter Nights, Youth Homes, Bay Area Crisis Nursery, and Bay Area Rescue Mission.

Thank you again for remembering those whose lives have been impacted in so many ways by being so generous.

The next 5th Sunday collection for 2018 will be July 29th. Your ongoing support of these collections is greatly appreciated!

Monthly Shelter Meal Update

St. Perpetua’s participation in the monthly shelter meal, which has taken place on the first Thursday of each month for many years, has been curtailed until our new hall and kitchen are completed and in service. Because of County Health Department regulations, the meals must be prepared in a certified commercial kitchen by certified food handlers. This will be an easy process when the time comes to resume these meals. Meanwhile, the meal service to the shelters are being handled by those groups that have access to certified commercial kitchens and the County Jail.
Exploring Social Justice

Christian service to the poor and vulnerable is built on the two pillars of charity and social justice. Our very generous parish has been deeply committed to charity. Now we have an opportunity to explore together how social justice can be a more vibrant part of our parish life and the way in which we live out our faith together.

Please join us on Thursday, June 28 at 7:00 PM in the RRC (Religious Resource Center) to consider the place of social justice in our faith community. Bring your thoughts and ideas to share in this open forum.

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 child care 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.

Don’t Let Your Donations Go on Vacation

Summer is almost here! Sign up for electronic giving to ensure your support of our community. You can manage your electronic giving online with improved security, convenience and communication. If you are not using online giving to make your church donations, please consider it. Visit www.stperpetua.org and click on “Give Online”. If you have any questions, please contact Arlene Connors at aconnors@stperpetua.org or 925-283-0272, ext. 201.

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, Al Swimmer and George Kalvass.

Mass Intentions

June 23, 2018—July 1, 2018

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<tr>
<th>Day</th>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Intention</th>
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<tr>
<td>Saturday</td>
<td>5:00 pm</td>
<td>Mary Beaver 🙏</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sunday</td>
<td>8:00 am</td>
<td>Russ Bruzzone 🙏</td>
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<td></td>
<td>9:30 am</td>
<td>Harvey Kamian 🙏</td>
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<tr>
<td>Saturday</td>
<td>5:00 pm</td>
<td>Russ Bruzzone 🙏</td>
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<td>Sunday</td>
<td>8:00 am</td>
<td>Mass for the People</td>
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<td></td>
<td>9:30 am</td>
<td>Thomas Bond 🙏</td>
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What would Perpetua think?

I couldn’t help a giggle.

Something ironic, and a bit ironic, that our third century patroness would find her name in black spray paint on the side of twenty first century construction framing.

Could her legacy really span all these centuries, in something more than figurehead statue sainthood — as if sainthood isn’t enough?

Would she be giggling, too, to think her name, sans the title, would be spray paint present in a singular construction project, in one community church in the far flung Western world?

As the “perpetua” posts, beams and trusses are set, she becomes the bones of our Church. More than the name on the door or the face on a banner, she becomes that which binds us, holds us upright and strong. Like a secret keystone, her name in paint will be covered by drywall and other construction material.

But I smile, knowing it will be there in perpetuity. She will be part of the next generation Church, the one I will likely enjoy for far fewer seasons than they...

Even as I know that I may never fully benefit from the full potential of what this construction project will yield, I can only celebrate those who will, even with a twinge of envy. I am not a school parent or grandparent. I am not a deeply rooted “Lamorindan”. No children to be married or baptized in this new space.

But I feel a commitment to make certain that Perpetua’s legacy continues — to remind her community that powerful women can shore up a Church that needs help. So many missions yet to fulfill, so many people to touch.

And most of all, to remind that “All are Welcome” in this place.

Marlene Matsuoka
Parishioner