When Jesus saw the vast crowd, his heart was moved with pity for them, for they were like sheep without a shepherd.

Mark 6:34

SIXTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME
July 22, 2018

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

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

Eucharist
Daily Mass
Monday-Thursday, 8:30 am
(Chapel)

Weekend Liturgies
Summer Schedule
Saturday 5:00 pm
Sunday 8:00, 9:30
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.

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.

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.

Assisted listening devices
available
Sixteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

NOT ME!

Harsh words from Jeremiah today. Or more precisely, harsh words from the Lord, spoken through the prophetic mouth of Jeremiah. Lucky for us that these words are directed at somebody else, those “shepherds” who are misleading the sheep of God’s pasture. The shepherds, after all, are those who are in official positions, who hold hierarchical status, or who, at the very least, get paid a salary by the diocese or parish. It is easy enough to point a finger and say that, come to think of it, those shepherds have been misleading the flock lately. But it is perilous to ignore the voice of the Lord on the prophets’ lips. The divine will of which they speak applies to everybody, and contains some truth about all of our lives. No matter what we might think our role or place is within the fold, each of us has some responsibility to be a shepherd in daily living. In the smallest acts of justice, charity, or compassion we are living out the call of our covenant with the Lord: to be God’s voice, God’s presence, God’s caring and guiding hand in the world.

YES, YOU!

The apostle Paul tells us that in Christ we all have access in one Spirit to the Father. With this tremendous and wonderful gift comes the responsibility to make it a gift again for the life of the world. As Christ made peace through the blood of his cross, as he reconciled earth with heaven, we are called to continue that peace making, reconciling work day by day. Each week we gather with Jesus Christ as the apostles do in today’s Gospel. We pray in the Eucharistic Prayer: “May this sacrifice, which has made our peace with you, advance the peace and salvation of all the world.” Each of us, baptized into the one Body of Christ, saved by the blood of his cross that we share in one cup, are chosen and called for the mission of shepherding in his name. If we take but a moment to look around, we can easily see that there are many places where people are like sheep without a shepherd. Are our hearts, filled with the presence of the Good Shepherd, moved with pity for them? More important, are our lives moved to action?

Today’s Readings: Jeremiah 23:1–6; Psalm 23:1–6; Ephesians 2:13–18; Mark 6:30–34

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Teens off to college this Fall – St. Perpetua invites all college-bound students in our parish to attend Mass Saturday, August 11 or Sunday, August 12 for a special “going away” blessing. At the liturgies we will offer our prayers and support to you as you venture in further pursuit of developing your gifts. Families come for the special blessing and to say goodbye to friends met through school and youth ministry here at St. Perpetua.

Sunday evening August 12 we will gather teens going off to college for a special going away youth group and prayer. Look for details in an email and in future bulletins.

For teens in high school, our day-to-day lives can be busy and hectic, and sometimes overwhelming. Juggling family, school, sports, school, community-related organizations (scouts, theater, social clubs), and work can be a huge challenge. Sometimes we just need to slow down and gain some insight about what and who help us grow as a person using our faith as the foundation for the response. Teens have this opportunity during the week at St. Perpetua Youth Group gatherings, and for those who would like to prepare for Confirmation, we gather on Sunday evenings. In both Youth Group and Confirmation gatherings all high school youth have the opportunity to work together to understand our faith, to pray, to learn from each other, to meet other teens, and to have fun!

Why join other teens at St. Perpetua? We take time to understand and practice our faith as a part of the larger community and the Church. Here are a few examples of our focus for the coming year:

- Ways to Celebrate What is Right With The World
- Discovering our Gifts
- Social Justice through feeding and being with the poor
- Understanding the Sacraments
- The Ten Commandments – Updated for today’s teens
- Helping others through community service work – Food Bank

At the end of July go to St. Perpetua’s website for registration forms and the Youth Group and Confirmation calendars. Paper copies will be available in the Parish Office and after Masses. Youth Group starts Wednesday, September 19. For Confirmation, there are four different information nights to choose from on our preparation for the Sacrament: Wednesday September 5, Thursday, September 6, Sunday, September 9, and Monday, September 10 at 7:30 pm in the RRC.

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.

Feast of Saint Ignatius of Loyola
Cathedral of Christ the Light
Bishop Barber cordially invites all the faithful of the Diocese to join him to celebrate the Feast of Saint Ignatius of Loyola, founder of the Jesuits. A solemn Mass will be celebrated at the Cathedral of Christ the Light on Tuesday, July 31 at 5 pm.

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.

Faith Formation and Team
The Faith Formation and Team offices are now closed for summer break. Please check the website for our Fall calendar and curriculum. Registration will be emailed to all currently enrolled families by the end of July. For questions or to be added to the email registration list please contact Kristine at kristine@stperpetua.org. Thank you for a great year of learning and sharing our faith. Happy Summer!

Women Spirituality Retreat Weekend
August 10—12, 4:00 pm - 1:00 pm
At San Damiano Retreat Center
“Journeying in Place”:
A Weekend with St. Clare of Assisi
Presented by Donna Foley, OFS, Dorothy Charbonneau, M.Ed. and Jan Stegner, MTS, MAMC.

Come, experience your life through Clare’s and through the cross; explore your interior journey as you continue your forward journey of life. To make a reservation: Please send a check of $50 deposit to: San Damiano Retreat P. O. Box 767 710 Highland Drive Danville, California 94526-0767 Phone: (925) 837-9141 Fax: (925) 837-0522.
Sixteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

St. Paul sure had a way with words—beautiful, eloquent words. The letter to the church in Ephesus will be read all the way until September, so watch for it every Sunday. It’s the letter about the Church that existed in that earliest Christian century. It’s full of majestic language, and today’s section is some of its loveliest.

The letter touches on issues and themes that would have affected the growing Church AFTER the martyrdom of St. Paul in the mid-sixties. This, along with many other arguments, has convinced many biblical scholars (but not all) that the actual author was probably a secretary of Paul’s, who knew his writing style and the prayerful way he would approach the leadership issues of the late first century.

The letter has always carried Paul’s name, however, because ancient writers had no qualms about naming as author the person who inspired the work.

For the earliest Christians, the gospel was one word: peace. But don’t feel left out because you weren’t alive in those days. Ephesians says, “He came and preached peace to you who were far off and peace to those who were near.”

We are the ones who are “far off.” Did the writers imagine that, nearly two thousand years later, these words would be read in churches around the world in the summer of 2018? The most singular message of Jesus is still this: peace.

Let this be our “save page” for this summer: a thousand brave rescuers from around the world, working together to lead those twelve boys and their coach out of that cave. That’s peace. Can we let that monumental human achievement change us, and elevate us? Of course we can. What touched you the most as you watched the world come together with a common purpose?

Kathy McGovern ©2018 www.thestoryandyou.com

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**Christian Initiation of Adults—Part 3**

The Christian Initiation of Adults is the normal way in which adults and children over the age of 7 become full, active, participating members of the Catholic Church. The Second Step is the *Rite of Acceptance into the Order of Catechumens and the Period of the Catechumenate.*

Some of the inquirers eventually decide that they would like to begin more formal study of the teachings and practices of the Catholic community. To be ready for the next step, the inquirer needs only to have a desire to seek initiation into the church. They become aware of this desire in discussion with initiation team. And they are admitted into that higher level of preparation in a special ceremony in the church, called the Rite of Acceptance into the Order of Catechumens. In this ceremony the Church symbolically claims the inquirers for Christ by signing them with the cross.

This is the first time that the inquirers declare their faith publicly before the parish community. No one likes to do something like that all on his or her own. Some moral support is needed and a sponsor accompanies each inquirer. Sponsors are people who have shared their faith with the inquirers, believe that they are ready to begin formal instruction and are able and willing to stand up and say so in church. After this church ceremony, the inquirers are called catechumens. This name means that they are learning the teachings of the Church and beginning to live as Catholics do.

Any parishioner who is interested in being a sponsor or a part of the initiation team - people who welcome and assist adults who desire to enter the church and be baptized - should call Christoph Nauer at 283-0272, ext. 203.

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**Mass Intentions**

**July 21, 2018—July 28, 2018**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Day</th>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Mass Type</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Saturday</td>
<td>5:00 pm</td>
<td>Bryan Inderrieden, Jr. †</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sunday</td>
<td>8:00 am</td>
<td>Mass for the People</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>9:30 am</td>
<td>Howard Schneider †</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Saturday</td>
<td>5:00 pm</td>
<td>Bryan Inderrieden, Jr. †</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, 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, George Kalvass and Lesley Kirchman.
Enjoying Mass on the Grass

The Grand Hall taking shape!