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

Behold, the wages you withheld from the workers who harvested your fields are crying aloud; and the cries of the harvesters have reached the ears of the Lord of hosts.
~ James 5:4
Dear Friends,

Thursday, October 4th, marks the Feast of St. Francis Assisi. Renewed interest in this beloved saint is due to the fact that our Holy Father chose his name and patronage for his papacy – the first pope to ever take the name “Francis.” Most people are familiar with St. Francis through the words of the prayer attributed to him – the “Peace Prayer.”

**Lord, make me an instrument of your peace:** Like that of Christ, our mission on earth is to bring to others God’s peace—God’s state of “perfect well-being” and completeness. *Shalom* is the Hebrew word for this rich concept of “peace.” Often used as a greeting of peace, *Shalom* is a wish that those so greeted will find healing and fullness of life. St. Francis saw this as his mission, too. In Chapter 3 of his Rule of 1223, he advised his followers that in going about the world “they should not be quarrelsome or take part in disputes with words…or criticize others; but they should be gentle, peaceful and unassuming, courteous and humble, speaking respectfully to everyone….Whatever house they enter, they should first say, ‘Peace to this house’” (Cf. Luke 10:5). Surely, Francis was an instrument of peace.

**Where there is hatred, let me sow love:** In his 9th Admonition, called *Charity*, St. Francis tells his followers, “Our Lord says in the Gospel, *Love your enemies* (Matthew 5: 44). A man really loves his enemy when he is not offended by the injury done to himself, but for love of God feels burning sorrow for the sin his enemy has brought on his own soul, and proves his love in a practical way.”

**Where there is injury, pardon:** During the violence-ridden Crusades, St. Francis discovered a path of peace, pardon and non-violence. The “little poor man” went to Egypt to engage in a peaceful dialogue with the sultan (head of the Muslim forces), a meeting in which a spirit of forgiveness, respect and understanding prevailed. Francis would have the same message for those in our times who are so quick to see violence as the only cure for terrorism.

**Where there is doubt, faith:** When, as a young man, Francis found himself in a fog of doubt as to the nature of God’s care for him, he sought the face of God through prayer in solitary places. God opened Francis’ eyes of faith. The saint saw a vision of Christ gazing at him from the Cross with such a look of love that Francis’ “soul melted,” to use the words of his biographer, St. Bonaventure. The fog of doubt lifted for Francis, and he went through the world setting others free from their own burdens of doubt.

**Where there is despair, hope** / **Where there is darkness, light:** Think of St. Francis embracing lepers and lovingly washing their sores. Surely, many of those suffering souls felt an inner surge of hope and human dignity when they experienced Francis’ care.

**And where there is sadness, joy:** The secret of St. Francis’ joyful spirit was his vibrant belief in a God of overflowing goodness and love. St. Francis was so in love with God that at times he would pick up two sticks from the ground, tuck one under his chin like a violin and move the other over it like a bow. Then, in an ecstasy of joy, he would sing in French songs of love and praise to God. Francis used to say that he wanted his followers to go about the world like strolling minstrels, “to inspire the hearts of people and stir them to spiritual joy.” They give us an example to follow in our own day!

**O Divine Master, grant that I may not so much seek to be consoled as to console, to be understood as to understand, to be loved as to love, for it is in giving that we receive, it is in pardoning that we are pardoned ,and it is in dying that we are born to eternal life.**

Francis of Assisi may not have *written* the words of the prayer attributed to him, but he certainly *lived* them. Everyone who is able to read and understand these words, moreover, readily sees that they communicate the heart of the Gospels and capture what is most essential in the world’s great religions. So, the Peace Prayer of St. Francis is a deep well of spiritual wisdom. We are wise to visit this well often.

*Fr. John Kasper, OSFS*
Teens and Parents of Teens at St. Perpetua - Confirmation gathers on Sunday, September 30 in the Chapel in the upper parking lot where Candidates take a look at the many choices in life we have to make, and how we can use our faith to guide us in making those choices. We lay the foundation for our year together learning that life is about saying yes to the things that help you become the best-version of-yourself, and no to the things that do not. Choices matter. The Confirmation Alpha Group gathers from 4:30 pm to 6:00 pm, and the Confirmation Omega Group gathers from 6:30 pm to 8:00 pm.

Youth Group gathers on Monday, October 1 in the RRC from 7:30 to 8:45 pm. At this gathering we focus on St. Francis of Assisi. St. Francis is the patron saint of animals, the earth and environment, and peace. The Church celebrates his Feast Day on October 4. At Youth Group we cover this great Saint in the Catholic tradition.

The first Service Opportunity for teens is cleaning up after the Parish Carnival. Clean up starts at 4:30 and concludes at 6:00 pm. Look for Sign-Up Genius to sign up to help out.

Nursery/Child Care During 9:30 Mass
We’re currently looking for people who’d like to assist with a Nursery/Child Care program. Time commitment would be about 90 minutes on Sundays. This is a paid position ideal for high school and college students or parents whose children are grown. Please contact Christoph at the Parish Office if interested.

Coffee & Donuts are Back
Isn’t it wonderful to have a delicious cup of coffee and a donut waiting for you at Café Perpetua after the 9:30 Mass? This is only possible thanks to some wonderful and dedicated volunteers. Most of them have done it for many years. In order for this wonderful tradition to continue we need your help. Here is what you’d be doing: pick up donuts at Safeway, set up, make coffee & lemonade and clean up after. You can do it once a month or less often, whatever your busy schedule allows. Please contact Christoph at the parish office if you’re willing to assist.

Carondelet High School
Carondelet High School's Open House for interested 6th, 7th and 8th grade girls and their parents/guardians, will be held on Sunday, November 4 from 2 p.m. until 4 pm at 1133 Winton Drive (corner of Treat Blvd.) in Concord. To register for this event, please visit www.carondeleths.org/admissions.

October Food Basket
Next collection: October 13th-14th Canned or Dried Beans – Refried, Pinto, Black, Kidney, Pork & Beans, Baked

Outreach Agency Distributions
The next 5th Sunday collection for 2018 will be September 29/30. Your ongoing support of these collections is appreciated!

Friendly Manor Monthly Lunch -
If you are interested in finding out more about the 4th Friday lunch and possibly volunteering, please contact Karen Rose Kalvass at 925.285.4669 for more information. They would be delighted to have a new face in the group once in a while.

Weekend of October 13 & 14th
“Share the Warmth”
Blue Barrel Collection
St. Perpetua Outreach committee is hosting a "Share the Warmth" event the weekend of October 13 & 14th. The collection will be for all warm winter things: coats, hats, mittens, scarves, sox, sweatshirts, boots, blankets, comforters, sleeping bags. Sizes needed are from infant to adult.

Some of the organizations that will benefit from these warm items are: the women at Friendly Manor in Oakland, Hillcrest Community Church clothes closet in Pleasant Hill, White Pony Express, Winter Nights, St Vincent de Paul and others. Any questions, please call Karen Rose Kalvass at 925.284.8130.

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. 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 complete the training by December 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.
St. Perpetua Children’s Choir
Welcome to the new school year! I hope everyone had a restful summer. My name is Lisa Holmes and I am the St. Perpetua School music teacher. I am starting a children’s choir this year comprised of 4th - 8th grade students for all parish children in our church community. We will have fun sharing our voices and our fellowship! If your child enjoys singing, even if they have had no formal training, I would like to invite them to join me on Monday afternoons from 3:30 (or ASAP after school) - 5:00 p.m. in the RRC through April 15th. We will focus on learning songs to share/perform at the 9:30 Rise and Shine Masses throughout the school year. If your child is interested in joining the group even after we have started, please let me know. We will always make room! Please contact me if your child is interested at lholmes@csdo.org

Twenty-sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time
I’ve been thinking lately about the kind of radical surgery I might need in order to be a happier person. It’s possible I might need to finally admit that I am powerless over potato chips. They have caused me to sin too many times. Why don’t I just throw them all in the fires of Gehenna and be done with them?

There are many character flaws I would be much happier without. Instead of just working around them, why don’t I just starve them all until they wither and, mercifully, die? Imagine being free of any of the deadly sins that make us miserable. Imagine just cutting them out of our lives. My offenses, surely I know them, says the psalmist. Well, that’s half the battle right there.

I suspect that if we live long enough we’ll have the chance to review every selfish act, every gossipy conversation, every thoughtless lifestyle. That’s a gift, to live long enough to truly know our sins, and then to see how much everyone around us has been forgiving us all these years, without our even realizing it.

It would be helpful if sin came with a pain, like a bee sting. We’d swat that sin away from ourselves immediately, and apply a healing salve. But sin usually comforts in the beginning, and stings in the end. Lies are uncovered, embezzlements come to light. As we’re seeing in this excruciating moment in the Church, what may have seemed like a lesser evil—keeping sin hidden so as not to give scandal—has become the sin itself.

Maybe there’s no such thing as moderation. Maybe we just need to excise the sins that are killing us anyway.

What character flaw are you willing to jettison in order to be happier?
Kathy McGovern ©2018 www.thestoryandyou.com

This Week at St. Perpetua
September 30—October 7
Twenty-sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time
The law of the LORD is perfect, refreshing the soul; the decree of the LORD is trustworthy, giving wisdom to the simple.

Sunday
Children’s Liturgy of the Word, 9:30 Mass
Faith Formation, 10:30 am, RRC/School
Teen/Family/Youth Mass, 11:30 am
Confirmation, 4:30 pm, Chapel
Faith Formation Class & Team, 6:00 pm, Church
Confirmation, 6:30 pm, Chapel

Monday
Children’s Choir, 3:30 pm, RRC
Centering Prayer, 7:15 pm, Chapel
Facilities Policies Cmte, 7:30 pm, Conference Room
Youth Group, 7:30 pm, RRC

Tuesday
Faith Formation, 5:30 pm, RRC/School
RCIA, 7:00 pm, Dining Room
Outreach Cmte., 7:30 pm, Conference Room

Thursday
Construction Meeting, 9:15 am, RRC
Knights of Columbus, 7:00 pm, RRC

Sunday
Children’s Liturgy of the Word, 9:30
Oktoberfest, 12:30 pm, Upper Lot

Mass Intentions
September 29, 2018—October 7, 2018

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<tr>
<th>Day</th>
<th>Time</th>
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<tr>
<td>Saturday</td>
<td>5:00 pm</td>
<td>Gene Fela †</td>
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<td>Sunday</td>
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<td>For the Community</td>
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<td>9:30 am</td>
<td>Bill Gardner †</td>
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<td>Monday</td>
<td>8:30 am</td>
<td>Arthur Connolly †</td>
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<td>Tuesday</td>
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<td>Lindsay Kimmel - Spl. Int.</td>
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<td>Friday</td>
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<td>John Dodd †</td>
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<td>Saturday</td>
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<td>Bryan Inderrieden, Jr. †</td>
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<td>Sunday</td>
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<td>Rob O’Rourke †</td>
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<td>9:30 am</td>
<td>Gardner Family †</td>
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<td>11:30 am</td>
<td>For the Community</td>
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TOGETHER WE PRAY FOR THE SICK
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 Smuda, 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, Hamilton Coke, Maureen Graf, Al Swimmer, George Kalvass, Lesley Kirchman, Hope Ramponi and Michael Gilson.
Willkommen zum St. Perpetua Oktoberfest 2018!

Please join us next Sunday, October 7, 12:30—4:30 pm
• Great food and drink! Authentic German Brats & Sauerkraut
  • Homemade Pretzels & Pulled Pork
• This year again on the lawn by the pavilion in the upper lot
  • Carnival Games for young and old, new this year:
    • Tiki Toss, Lawn Darts and Yard Pong!
    • Live Music by WrokDay
• Shady Beer Garden & Sports lounge for adults (watch the 49er & Raider games)
• Raffle – 1\textsuperscript{st} prize: Kaanapali Beach, Maui 11/19-26, 2018 (Thanksgiving week) $2100 value (flight not included)
  • 2\textsuperscript{nd} prize: One week in Twain Harte $800 value
  • 3\textsuperscript{rd} prize: Bike $500 value
  • Silent Auction - always a hit!

We still Need Your Help!

• silent auction, a few suggestions are gift certificates to local restaurants and stores, vacation homes or donate CASH and we’ll assemble one for you
• Raffle ticket sales are down! Buy raffle tickets after Mass, take them to work and sell them there, need not be present to win
  • Staff a booth (either from 2:15-4:30 or 3:30-5:30)
    • Cookies/brownies or candy bags
    • Donate wine for the wine toss

Stop by the table outside Church to purchase your raffle tickets or sign up
You can also sign-up on our Website

Thanks for your support!