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.

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

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
Dear Friends,

Thanks to everyone who participated in the celebration to mark the opening of our new Community Center last Saturday evening. For many of those in attendance it was a real homecoming. Some former parishioners came from out of town to be a part of the event. They still hold great memories of St. Perpetua. Sisters of St. Joseph of Carondelet, who were instrumental in the foundation of our school and parish, joined us – Srs. Carmella, Joanne and Peggy. To see our new facility being used to its fullest was a real testimony to the careful planning that went into the design. Grand Hall, Foyer, Gallery, Kitchen, Restrooms – all the spaces complemented each other.

The state-of-the-art technology allowed us to view a loop of seventy-five photos of the year-and-a-half construction process on two large screens and two TV monitors. (And the Warriors fanatics were able to watch the close of the game on another screen in the Foyer.) The food provided by Chef Carol Gilliland (“A Loveable Feast”) was delicious with four different food stations offering a variety of options for every palate. Live Music was provided by “Acalanes Jazz Quartet” – parishioner Riley Daggs, Brahm Sassner, Sean McFarland and Dash Fabella. DJ Mikah D! played tunes that got a lot of us on our feet and on the dance floor.

This was the first of many future parish events that will be possible thanks to your generosity and support. There was a lot of behind-the-scenes work in planning and executing an event like Saturday’s. Thanks to Kelly Daggs for overseeing the effort and her husband Ash for the heavy lifting. Also, to Maureen Vierengel for assistance with the necessary rentals. Our parish staff all pitched in to make the event a success: Wendy Levich, Christoph Nauer, Kristine Kvochak and her husband Terry, Arlene Connors and her husband Chris, Garry Guerrero, Karen Goodshaw, Oscar Jovel, Andrew and Elizabeth Berkes, Pat Fela.

We’re grateful to David Bogstad and his associates at LCA Architects in Walnut Creek, Steve Oliver of Oliver Construction and his staff, especially Steve Cetrone, Will Haynes and Doug Moore. Doug has been the site manager throughout the construction project and has been critical to the success of the project. He worked with our parish and school and all the subcontractors to accommodate our needs throughout this massive undertaking and Doug carried out his role with a spirit of kindness, patience and expertise. Parishioner David Dickstein, whose company Decotech installed the A/V technology (speakers, projectors, monitors, screens, microphones), worked to make sure that we would be well-equipped for all the events and programs that will take place in this new space for generations to come.

We owe a debt of gratitude to our parish representatives on the design team – Dan Miskie, Tom Banis and Kevin Fisher. Their attention to detail and expertise in all aspects of construction helped to create a beautiful facility we can all take pride in. In particular, Kevin has been dedicated to the growth and wellbeing of our community for two decades since his three daughters attended St. Perpetua School. Much of our success over the years can be attributed to Kevin’s vision, creativity and determination. His unfailing belief in the capabilities and possibilities of St. Perpetua Church and School has been our guiding light. His has truly been a labor of love, given freely and generously. The Diocese of Oakland has been well-represented by Mr. Alex Hernandez, Director of the Office of Facilities, Planning and Services, who attended all our meetings and offered his many years of experience to our project. Our gratitude is also extended to Paul Bongiovanni, Chief Financial Officer of the Diocese of Oakland and Lisa Oberempt, his assistant, for their support in navigating the financial requirements in funding a project this large. Without the expertise and support of Rod Linhares and Chris Stocker, the professional fundraising consultants we employed to assist us in our two Capital Campaigns, we could not have achieved our goal. Finally, thanks to Tom Gilmore and all the parish volunteers on our Capital Campaign Committee for reaching out to all of you for your financial support. We have all been richly blessed in this grand effort.

Fr. John Kasper, OSFS
Outreach Agency Distributions
Thank you for your continuing generosity on the 5th Sunday Outreach collections as well as some monthly support. Because of that, we were able to distribute $3700.00 to the following agencies located, with one exception, in Contra Costa County: $500.00 each to Friendly Manor/St. Mary’s Center, Hope Conference, Loaves and Fishes, Monument Crisis Center, Options for Women, Project Hope Anka Behavioral Health, and Putnam Clubhouse. $200.00 was sent to CCIC (Contra Costa Interfaith Coalition) to be used to purchase smaller denomination gift cards per their request. These agencies, along with the others we currently work with, are all very thankful for the generosity of the St. Perpetua Community.

The next 5th Sunday Collection for Outreach will be the weekend of June 29/30.

May Food Basket Collection
Al and Virginia LaFaille were delighted to deliver 35 bags of cereal and oatmeal to the St. Vincent de Paul Food Pantry at St. Francis of Assisi Church in Concord, where it will just as quickly be distributed.

Thank you for continuing to remember the monthly request for various items for the two food pantries. Your generosity is a blessing that helps the pantries serve the people for which they exist.

Requested items for the June 08/09 collection:
Powdered Milk, Vegetable Oil and Masa Harina

Heads Up! Coming Soon
Blue Barrel Collection
The Outreach Committee will be sponsoring a Blue Barrel Collection for new backpacks (Please no solid red or blue) on the weekends of June 22/23 and June 29/30. A flyer will be included in an upcoming bulletin with more information. Stay tuned!

Friendly Manor Lunches Ongoing
Volunteer Opportunity
Friendly Manor is a drop-in place of respite serving homeless women. There are showers, laundromat facilities, ability to take a nap, hot coffee and pastries along with the availability of counseling.

On the 4th Friday of each month, a small group of people from St. Perpetua go to Friendly Manor and serve lunch to the women offered by that agency. If you are interested in finding out more about the 4th Friday lunch or are interested in possibly helping out, please contact Karen Kalvass at (925) 284.8130 or krkvolunter@gmail.com.

Social Justice Committee—Housing
Particularly in the Bay Area, housing, shelter and homelessness are well-known national topics and concerns for all of us. From young students looking for a place to live for work or school, long-time residents struggling to stay in their homes, as well as the much-publicized homeless crisis, all these issues impact our lives.

And recently, there has been a shift from the housing shortage as an urban issue to a suburban and rural problem that is rapidly growing.

Committee members are working to educate ourselves and share information about activities taking place in Contra Costa County with agencies and faith groups that are addressing problems and creating solutions to the housing crisis. With this information, we hope to share experiences and what we learn with parish members. An overview video of the homeless in our county, along with agencies providing housing and other services is available at https://vimeo.com320428162

For more information, contact Joan Liston phijoliston@gmail.com. Please join us at our next meeting on Thursday, June 20 at 7:00 p.m. in the Parish Office.

Myths and Facts about Homelessness
Myth #1: Many people who are homeless value their freedom and prefer to live unsheltered.

Fact #1: In Contra Costa County, 95% of people sleeping outside would accept some sort of housing, if available. In 2018 shelter capacity met only 48% of emergency shelter needs and only 30% of any overall shelter need.

Myth #2: Despite recent reports that the problem of homelessness is moving to outlying areas, the majority of persons who are homeless live in cities.

Fact #2: Due to Bay Area growth since 2016, thirty-two per cent of Contra Costa County residents live below the standard self-sufficiency level of income. Several reasons: County housing prices are up 22.5%, rents are up 30%, and building has not kept up with the huge rise in jobs. Many who are homeless or at-risk in our county are not easily visible.
Sixth Sunday of Easter
Decisions. I hate them. I run from them, and put up every kind of smokescreen to keep from making them. That’s hugely frustrating for the people who have to work and live with me, and the truth is I would never decide at all if I weren’t eventually shamed into it.

The earliest Christians engaged in a history-changing discernment in 50 AD. This momentous decision regarded who would be admitted into the emerging Christian community. That was the decision for the ages.

How did they discern what restrictions to lay on those Gentiles who were asking to be admitted to their community? Certainly the Jewish Christians (like Mary, the mother of Jesus!) still considered themselves Jews, observed the kosher laws, and worshipped in the synagogue. But what to do about the burgeoning number of Gentiles who were hearing the Word through the missionary journeys of Paul and Barnabas? Shouldn’t they observe everything the Jews observe, including, for men, circumcision?

St. Paul said, “No!” The more conservative Jews in Jerusalem said, “Yes!” You can imagine the televised debates and internet sniping that would go on today. But the Holy Spirit filled this infant Church with an open heart. A Council was called. The problem was set out. Then experience was called upon. Paul talked about the huge response to the gospel in the Gentile lands. Peter told the remarkable story of the conversion of the family of Cornelius, the Gentile centurion (Acts 10) that changed his mind about who’s in and who’s out.

Experience and compassion ruled the day. The Church spread like wild fire. Imagine a Church without Gentiles like St. Francis of Assisi, and St. Teresa of Calcutta. And you.

What experience have you had that changed a conviction you used to have?

Kathy McGovern ©2019 www.thestoryandyou.com
Celebrate the New Community Center
June 1 & 2

Saturday, June 1 after 5:00 p.m. Mass
Wine & Cheese reception and
tour of new Community Center

Sunday, June 2 after all the Masses
Everyone is invited for a FREE Pancake
Breakfast sponsored by the Knights of
Columbus, **after the 8:00 a.m. and 9:30 a.m. Masses.** Breakfast will be served in the new Community Center. Enjoy the Knights’ breakfast with pancakes, sausages, ham, eggs, cereal, fruit, yogurt, coffee, tea and juice.

**After the 11:30 a.m. Mass,** fruit, yogurt, sandwiches, donuts and refreshments will be served.

*Free will donations will benefit the St. Perpetua Building Fund.*