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.

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@esdo.org

Assisted listening devices available

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

Parish Office Hours
Monday—Friday
8:00 a.m.—4:00 p.m.
Dear Friends,

The month of January is filled with commemorations and acknowledgements that can widen our sphere of awareness:

- **January 5-11** is *National Migration Week* reminding us that our Christian relationship toward immigrants is grounded in our shared dignity as human beings, as brothers and sisters in Christ. Today those brothers and sisters are threatened by punitive legislation, fear, and concerns about limited social resources. Our Catholic Bishops are inviting us to learn more about comprehensive immigration reform which respects human rights through their Justice for Immigrants Campaign. You can learn about this campaign of education, prayer, and advocacy at [https://justiceforimmigrants.org](https://justiceforimmigrants.org)

- **January 20** commemorates the *birthday of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.* His legacy of nonviolence and the pursuit of racial harmony is a hallmark in modern American society and his message still needs to be heard and heeded.

- **January 18-25** marks the *Week of Prayer for Christian Unity*, binding us in prayer with all baptized believers who call upon Jesus as their Lord and who seek to fulfill Jesus’ prayer at the Last Supper, “that all might be one.”

- **On January 22**, the American bishops call for a "day of penance and prayer," for violations to the dignity of the human person committed through acts of abortion, and of prayer for the full restoration of the legal guarantee of the right to life."

While the demands of daily living can keep some of the great social and moral issues at a distance from us, our commitment to the Gospel and the example of Jesus beckon us to expand our awareness and to make the needs and concerns of the world our own.

*Father John Kasper, OSFS*
Teens, God’s love transcends divisions and distinctions, but too often we are ready and willing to create a sense of “other.” She looks different than I do. She is “other.” His beliefs are different from mine. He is “other.” We show the partiality that God does not, often without being aware of it. Distinctions, separations, walls based on fear and prejudice and misunderstanding all keep us from the oneness to which we are called. And as Christians we must have a keen awareness of what and who we are called to be.

Part of knowing what and who we are called to be requires the ability to acknowledge, name, and claim our gifts and talents. Perhaps we do not want to sound self-centered or arrogant, but it is easy to downplay our abilities. However, we are called to do the exact opposite. We must reflect on our passions and interests, just as we must recognize the gifts and talents God has blessed us with. This is how we grow in our understanding of vocation.

Too often we think of vocation as a call to priesthood, religious life, married life, or the single life. While these are examples of vocations, the term vocation means much more. Simply put, one’s vocation is how one uses his or her gifts to serve God and the world. We must ask ourselves, then, “What are my gifts?” and “How can I use my gifts to serve God and others?”

In Youth Ministry at St. Perpetua we work together to look at our gifts and how we can use them to spread the Good News through word and deed. Youth Group gathers tonight at 7 pm for a look at the New Year.

Gary

FIRST RECONCILIATION PARENT MEETING

Parents of children 4th grade or higher please plan to attend one of the following meetings:

Tuesday, January 14, 2020
at 7:00 - 8:00 p.m.

OR

Wednesday, January 15, 2020
at 9:30 - 10:30 a.m.

both meetings will be held in the St. Francis Room
in the Community Center

for information contact Kristine
kristine@stperpetua.org

Crab Feed

The Knights of Columbus annual Crab Feed will be held on Saturday, January 18.
Where: St. Perpetua Grand Hall
Time: 6:00 pm No-Host Cocktails 7:30 pm
All-You-Can-Eat Crab
Dinner Price: $60 per person.
In addition to many wonderful Raffle prizes and our Silent Auction, the Knights of Columbus Council #7683 will be holding a Live Auction during the Crab Feed.

You can send a check for $60.00 per person, made payable to the "Knights of Columbus" c/o Mike Arnold
PO Box 863, Orinda, CA 94563-0858
Questions, call Mike Arnold: (415) 254-8437

National Migration Week: January 5 – 12

Catholics are called to stand with immigrants and refugees as our brothers and sisters. This is who the Catholic Church is. This is what we as Catholics do.

“When they had departed, behold, the angel of the Lord appeared to Joseph in a dream and said, “Rise, take the child and his mother, flee to Egypt, and stay there until I tell you. Herod is going to search for the child to destroy him.”” (Mt 2:13)

Pope Francis invites us to be part of a culture of encounter as we welcome, protect, integrate, and promote immigrants and refugees in our midst. Immigration is about real people who are trying to find a better life and a new beginning. It’s about more than statistics, it’s about families. As Pope Francis stated, “Each immigrant has a name, a face and a story.”


The Annual Ruby Slippers Fundraiser needs your help!

Contra Costa Interfaith Housing (CCIH) will hold its annual Ruby Slippers fundraiser February 8th and the St. Perpetua Community has always been very generous donating items for the Silent Auction. We are looking for donations of gift cards to restaurants and stores. You can call Wendy Levich at the church office if you would like to donate an item for the silent auction. Thank you for helping CCIH provide housing and services to over 1400 homeless and struggling families and individuals.
**January Food Basket**
A gentle reminder that the first monthly food basket collection will be held on January on 11/12. Requested items are Hearty Soups and Ramen. MANY THANKS to all parishioners who have participated in the monthly food collections to the St. P. Food Basket. Your contributions over the past years have been such a blessing to individuals and families serviced by two caring agencies: Monument Crisis Center and Food Pantry at St. Francis of Assisi (sponsored by St. Vincent de Paul).

**Important Please Read**
We have heard from several parishes, the email/text gift card scam is underway again. As we have shared before, it is a national scam. You can google “priest scam gift cards” and see how wide spread it is.

The email/text would appear to be from Fr. John asking for your help in purchasing a gift card or sending money. If the requests seems suspicious it probably is. Please contact the Parish Office if you have any questions.

**Shoes that Fit** - Thanks to your ongoing generosity parishioners have been supporting The Outreach Committee's *"Shoes That Fit Program"* which provides new shoes to two elementary schools in Pittsburg - Willow Cove and Los Medanos. We started off our new season with a list that was completed for Willow Cove Elementary School in the fall. Please look for the STF Bulletin Board (Church Entrance Lobby ) which will have shoe size cards posted for the Children of Los Medanos Elementary School.

**Choose a Card**
It is most important that you also fill out ALL the information on the Sign-Up Sheets.
Please indicate the number of your card you have chosen for a child and place your name, phone, e-mail and date on the appropriate line. In case a card is lost, or any other reason we will be able to reach you.

Please return your New, Sturdy, Athletic Shoes (no red) as soon as possible so as not to disappoint the child.
AND place the original bulletin card in with the shoes so we know who purchased the shoes and which student is supposed to receive them. What a great way to start the New Year!!!

As always,
So grateful for your support in this worthy cause.

**Coming Up This Week at St. Perpetua**
**January 5 - January 12**

**Sunday, January 5**
- Children’s Liturgy of the Word, 9:30 am, St. Francis Rm
- Teen/Family Mass, 11:30 am, Church
- Youth Group Gathering, 7:00 pm, St. Francis Rm

**Monday, January 6**
- Centering Prayer, 6:45 pm, Chapel

**Tuesday, January 7**
- Women Walking with Purpose, 9:30 am, Grand Hall East
- Liturgy Committee, 6:30 pm, Dining Room
- Women Walking with Purpose, 7:00 pm, Grand Hall East
- RCIA, 7:00 pm, Lounge
- Outreach Committee, 7:30 pm, Conference Room

**Wednesday, January 8**
- Choir Practice, 6:30 pm, Church

**Thursday, January 9**
- Hospitality Committee, 7:00 pm, Conference Rm

**Friday, January 10**
- Bridge, 9:30 am, Grand Hall East

**Sunday, January 12**
- Children’s Liturgy of the Word, 9:30 am, St. Francis Rm
- Faith Formation, 10:30 am, St. Francis Room
- Teen/Family Mass, 11:30 am, Church
- Faith Formation, 6:00 pm, Community Center
- Confirmation Gathering, 7:30 pm, Community Center

**TOGETHER WE PRAY FOR THE SICK**
Chris Bruzzone, Dylan Cazin, Arelene Fannin, Jimmy Fulton, Tish Reardon, Joseph Farrell, Rich Delaney, Marie Gidre, Tim Hennessy, Bridget Teranen, Vincent Bicomong, Jan Krismon Sunga, Barbara Worsham & Manuel Luna.

Mass Intentions
**January 4, - January 7, 2020**

- **Saturday** 5:00 pm  Maureen Graf ✧
- **Sunday** 8:00 am  For the Community
  9:30 am  Roselinde Russell ✧
- **Tuesday** 8:30 am  Del Lennon ✧
Catholic Social Teaching and Human Rights Today: A Prayer

We pray, moved by the words of our good Pope St. John XXIII,
For the economic and social Human Rights of all,
So every person, created in the image of God,
May live fully, develop and flourish,
And so be able to contribute to building the common good.

We pray for those today who live in urban or rural poverty,
Who are denied the basic rights our Church teaching proclaims;
We witness the scandal of children living in homeless shelters,
The sick going without medical treatment they cannot afford,
The adults who cannot find a job with a living wage, and
So many families without the social services they need
To not only survive but to flourish and live with dignity.

We pray for those today who are detained at our borders,
And for all migrants around this world, often unwelcomed,
Who seek their basic rights, who hunger for food, shelter, and justice,
Who ask to be seen as children of God, our sisters and brothers,
And to be treated with respect, given the opportunity
To live and flourish as a birthright from the Creator.

We pray that we heed the words of Pope Francis, reminding us
That all is connected, that basic economic rights are tied
To political rights that allow us to participate and shape our future,
A future we see more and more is tied to
The integrity of Creation, to the sacred gift of the environment.
As we move forward into this new reality, this united struggle,
We look to the Spirit to guide us in new ways.
As we proclaim we are one human family sharing one earth.

We pray in hope for the flourishing of this family
In a world where healing is possible,
Where all rights, including economic rights,
Are acknowledged and supported.
When we live as we are called to do,
When our voices and our actions
Embody the peace and justice of our faith,
As we work together today and in the days ahead.

Amen

Jane Deren, Ph.D.