



# Church of Santa Maria

40 Santa Maria Way | Orinda CA 94563 | 925-254-2426 | [www.SantaMariaOrinda.com](http://www.SantaMariaOrinda.com)

## Quotidian miracles: what we now have time to appreciate

*Renewing a sense of wonder  
and awe in the world God  
created*

*Pictured: Quote "Faith doesn't make sense. It makes  
miracles" is printed over a background of the forest*



13th Sunday in Ordinary Time  
June 28, 2020

I regard faxes as sort of a minor miracle. You dial a phone number, your paper disappears, the fax machine makes a racket, and somehow it magically, instantly, perfectly PRINTS OUT THE SAME THING IN MICHIGAN??

Emails I can make sense of - all kinds of digital data can be communicated through fiber optic cables and satellites and whatnot. But how on earth can something as technologically ancient as an analog phone line reliably send an exact replica of my paper across the world in an instant?

It makes me wonder what other quotidian miracles God has given us that we miss simply because we've seen them so often we take them for granted, with a saddening loss of wonder and awe we're unaware is even gone. Like they say, familiarity breeds indifference.

**Being stuck at home can either lead us to depression and despair, or offer us an opportunity to look more closely at the world with new eyes filled with wonder and awe.** I'm trying to do the latter, so I've started taking an inventory of awesome things I've noticed. Here are just a few:

- [The atmosphere](#) - it's quite remarkable how what looks like absolutely nothing shields us from UV radiation, regulates the planet's temperature, and protects us from space debris.
- [Plants](#) - they purify the air just by growing, and that's ridiculous. People pay money (and use electricity) to purify air when plants do



**all or part, and bring your gardening gloves!**

[Contact Gail Gabriel](#) to sign up.

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### **Volunteer from home**

Become a remote tutor to children in foster care and help support foster and adoptive families! We're gearing up for fall classes now - [click here for details on how you can help!](#)

*Interested? Contact Maggie Reeves [by email](#) or by phone at 925-212-8848.*



### **Backpack drive coordinator: found!**

A big thank-you goes to rising junior **Ethan Berndt** for volunteering to coordinate the back-to-school drive for our parish to work with St. Vincent de Paul!

Keep an eye out for more information on how you can help.

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### **Our monthly collection income goal has been updated**

After discussion among the Finance Council members, **the monthly regular plate collection goal has been determined to be \$42,000.00**. This does not include Second Collections - only the First Collection which supports the general parish fund.



We are grateful to those of you who have continued to support our parish during these trying times. We are greatly appreciative of any help you can provide so we can continue to provide the services you request and need.

Here is a summary plate collection report for the last few months:

**March 2020: \$47,746.76**

**April 2020: \$37,181.40**

**May 2020: \$50,812.90**

To make a donation to Santa Maria, [please click here!](#)

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### **How can I keep supporting Santa Maria?**

Thank you so much for thinking about us and continuing to support our parish during these trying times! We are greatly appreciative of

any help you can provide.

You may drop your collection in the offertory baskets at Parking Lot Masses, mail a check to the Parish Office (40 Santa Maria Way, Orinda CA 94563), or [make a one-time donation using Faith Direct](#), our eGiving service, to make your offering.



If you would like, you can also [sign up for recurring giving through Faith Direct](#) to continue to give to the Sunday plate even though you can't come to the church to drop it in the basket as usual. Again, we thank you for your planning and your generosity!

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## Pastoral Team

### Reverend George Mockel

Pastor

[gmockel@smparish.org](mailto:gmockel@smparish.org)

### Deacon Rey Encarnacion

[dcn.rey@smparish.org](mailto:dcn.rey@smparish.org) x310

### Deacon James Pearce

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### Mirna Wong

Administrative Assistant

[mirnawong@smparish.org](mailto:mirnawong@smparish.org) x301

### Tony Millette

Liturgy and Music

[tmillette@smparish.org](mailto:tmillette@smparish.org)

### Sister Mary Margaret Phan, LHC

Faith Formation (Grades K-5)

[srmphan@smparish.org](mailto:srmmphan@smparish.org) x306

### Megan Arteaga

Youth Ministry (Grades 6-12),

Communications, and CYO

[megan@smparish.org](mailto:megan@smparish.org) x308

### Sister Mary Magdalene Nguyen, LHC

Pastoral Care of the Sick

[sistermn@smparish.org](mailto:sistermn@smparish.org) x309

### Sister Magdalena Duong, LHC

Bookkeeper

[sistermagdalena@smparish.org](mailto:sistermagdalena@smparish.org) x305

## Prayer Intentions

*For the Sick:*

Liduvina Acosta, Sonny Acosta, Mary Beth Alban, Joan Artmann, Shoab Aryan, Kristy Blackey-Taylor, Kathie Brady, Cara Bradbury, Miguel Briseno, Maria Carmen, Fred Chavaria, Jan Coe, Grace Parent DeBoot, Rich Delany, Lorna Elliott, Anne Emery, Nora Enriquez, Emidio Fonseca, Liam Foley, Patricia Fox, Bridget Gallagher, Noreen Gillham, Doris Hale, Florentino Ibabao, Brian Kelly, Mason Kelly, Aileen Kelly, Michael Kelly, Jim Kennedy, Jerry Kirk, Lawrence Knapp, Carol Koupus, Judy Lazarus, Rose Mary McPhee, Robert Nick, Arsi Orihuella, Deacon Jim Pearce, Kathleen Pelz, Ann Powell, Mark Ricci, Ben Richey, Brian Riley, Patrick Sheehy, Jackie Voigt, Jean Wells, Faye Young

*Would you like to add yourself or someone else to the prayer list? Please contact Mirna in the Parish Office at 925-254-2426 or at [mirnawong@smparish.org](mailto:mirnawong@smparish.org).*

## Mass Intentions

**All Mass Intentions during Shelter in Place orders are either postponed or celebrated privately. Mirna is contacting all those who requested the currently scheduled intentions.**

*To request a Mass Intention, please contact Mirna in the Parish Office.*

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