



# Church of Santa Maria

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

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## The Sanctity of a Sacrament, Part II

*On the reverence due to the Lord's greatest gift to His Church*

*Pictured: The Body and Blood, Soul and Divinity of Our Lord Jesus Christ is present in the unassuming form of a small host*



The Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time  
February 6, 2022

In light of some recent incidents, last week I shared with you concerns about the reverence due to Our Lord present in the Blessed Sacrament. This week, I am outlining some steps to address these concerns:

- As you enter or leave the church, genuflect (or, if unable to genuflect, bow) toward the Tabernacle in acknowledgement of Christ's presence
- I again remind you that when you receive Holy Communion in the hand, **step to the side and consume the Eucharist before starting to return to your pew.**
- Parents - review the proper way to approach Communion with your children. For those too young to receive Communion, make sure their arms are folded across their chest so the Minister of Communion knows they wish to receive a blessing.
- On occasion, you may invite or accompany a non-Catholic to Mass. Take the time **before** Mass to explain to them that they are welcome to either stay in their pew for the Communion procession, or to come forward with arms crossed over their chest to receive a blessing. Because they do not share our faith, they are not able to receive Holy Communion - this is a wonderful opportunity to explain our belief in the real presence of Christ in the Eucharist and how the reception of Communion signifies and deepens our union with Christ and His Church.

- Ministers of the Eucharist - stay alert to the posture of the recipient. If a child or adult seems confused or not to appear to know what they are supposed to do, get clarification from them before giving them Holy Communion or a blessing.
- Realizing that language shapes the way we understand reality, I have directed Tony to choose hymns for Mass that use language that accurately conveys the Church's belief in the Eucharist. All of us should avoid language such as "bread" and "wine" when referring to the consecrated Eucharist. "Host," "Chalice," "Cup," "Precious Body," and "Precious Blood" are more appropriate vocabulary.
- We will resume regular Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament beginning on the Feast of Corpus Christi as another way to enhance our worship of Christ present in the Eucharist.

I continue to be heartened by those who attend daily Mass here at Santa Maria, and the many who regularly stop by the church during the day to pray in the presence of Our Lord in the Tabernacle. Your faith is not only edifying, but also brings many graces to all of us.

*Father George Mockel  
Pastor*

## **Weekend Worship Opportunities**

**The Sacrament of Reconciliation**  
**Saturday 4:00-4:30pm** | Church Confessional

**The Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time**  
**Sunday, February 6, 2022**

**8:30am** | Mass in the Church; also [Livestreamed](#) (available all day)

**10:30am** | Mass in the Church

**5:00pm** | Mass in the Church

[Read this Sunday's Readings](#)

No more social distancing is required, so all pews will be available to the congregation. **Masks covering the nose and mouth are required for all while indoors, regardless of vaccination status.**

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## **Service and Outreach**

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### **Big success for St. Cornelius Families**

Parishioners **Bill Caldwell** and **Tina Locke** had their cars chock full of 87 bags of groceries to deliver to St. Cornelius after last Sunday's food drive.

**Sherri Moradi**, former principal at St. Cornelius, and three volunteers warmly greeted Bill and Tina in Richmond. Says Bill, "They could not have been more delighted and grateful for the generosity of Santa Maria." Sherrie exclaimed, "The delivery was absolutely wonderful! The amount of food took our breath away. How good our God is!"

Thank you from the Social Justice Committee to **Theresa Gonzales, Maggie Reeves, Dede Ramsey, Bill,** and **Tina** for staffing the food drive, and to Santa Maria's generous parishioners for kicking off 2022 with this tremendous donation!



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## Prayer and Worship

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### Anointing of the Sick Mass is TOMORROW

The Anointing of the Sick is a beautiful Sacrament offering strength, fortitude, and healing to the sick, ill, and those in danger of death.



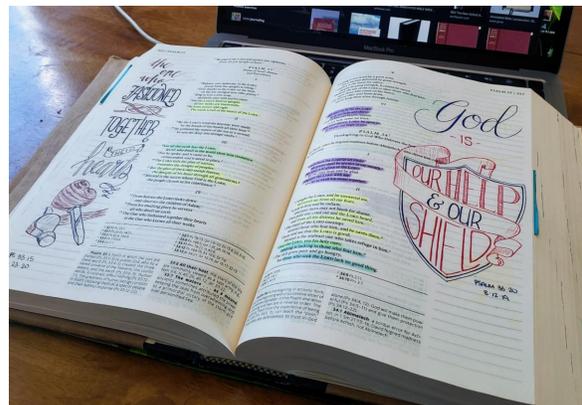
Join us on Saturday, February 5 at 11am in the Church as we celebrate this Sacrament and give thanks to the Lord for His healing and mercy, and unite our suffering to His own at the Holy Mass.

All are welcome; please note that due to the pandemic, there will be no reception following Mass.

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### Have you read the whole Bible? Yeah, neither have we.

But if you're interested in taking on the challenge - or even if you'd just like learning about it without the hassle of \*gasp\* *actually reading it* - join our Thursday morning Bible Study group!



Learn about how the Old and New Testaments relate, hear fun facts you never knew (like how last Sunday, Jesus made approximately 600-900 bottles worth of wine at that wedding!), and get your pressing questions answered!

We meet at 11am at the Parish Office [and on Zoom](#), and we'd love to have you! Whether you want to just drop in or dive in, you'll be glad you came.

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## Parish Life

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### Did you get an email from Virtus?

All volunteers and ministers at our parish must be up-to-date on their Safe Environment training as we continue to provide safe and healthy places for the young and vulnerable among us.



If you receive an email from Virtus requesting that you re-train, this means your training has expired, and need to take another online course in order to continue your ministry here! Courses are linked in that email; follow the instructions to do so. Once you re-train, you're good for another three years.

If you have any questions about Safe Environment program or the training process, please [contact Megan Arteaga, the Safe Environment Coordinator](#).

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### Office Hours extended

Beginning Tuesday, February 1, the Parish Office will be open from 9am to 2pm to better facilitate your needs!

Visit us to request a Mass Intention, pick up a 2022 calendar, have a Sacramental certificate made, or just chat - we're looking forward to seeing you.



## Food for Thought

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**NEW:** California Bishops

# Commit to Working for Better Futures for California's Women, Children, and Families



The approaching 49th anniversary of *Roe v. Wade* comes at a historic moment. The nation stands on the precipice of potentially overturning *Roe v. Wade*. At the same time, the Governor and state legislators have issued calls to make California a "sanctuary" destination for women seeking abortions from in and out of state.

However, asking to increase the number of abortions in California completely... [read more](#)

## Good Stewardship

### How can I support 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 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 if you aren't yet coming to the church to drop it in the basket as usual. Again, we thank you for your planning and your generosity!

### Mass Intentions

#### Sunday, February 6

8:30am: Parishioners of Santa Maria, Living and Deceased  
10:30am: Dick Cummings (D)  
5:00pm: Bonnie Steer (D)

#### Monday, February 7

8:30am: *Intention of the Presider*

#### Tuesday, February 8

8:30am: Ernestine Ottino (D)

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## Wednesday, February 9

8:30am: *Intention of the Presider*

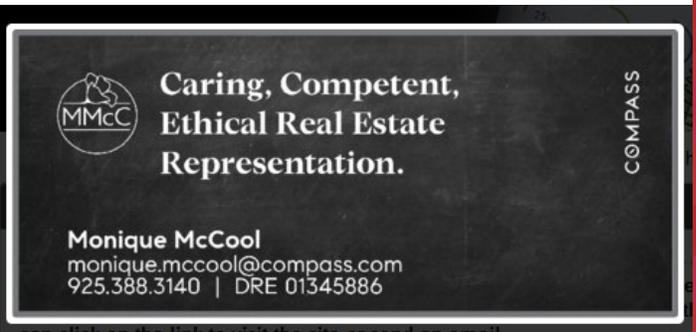
## Thursday, February 10

8:30am: *Intention of the Presider*

## Friday, February 11

8:30am: *Intention of the Presider*

*Mass Intentions are a beautiful way of praying for your intentions or for the souls of our deceased loved ones. To request a Mass Intention, please visit the office during Office Hours*



## Pastoral Team

### Reverend George Mockel

Pastor

[gmockel@santamariaorinda.com](mailto:gmockel@santamariaorinda.com)

### Deacon Rey Encarnacion

[rencarnacion@santamariaorinda.com](mailto:rencarnacion@santamariaorinda.com)  
x310

### Deacon James Pearce

[jpearce@santamariaorinda.com](mailto:jpearce@santamariaorinda.com) x301

### Mirna Wong

Administrative Assistant and Bookkeeper  
[mwong@santamariaorinda.com](mailto:mwong@santamariaorinda.com) x301

### Tony Millette

Liturgy and Music

[tmillette@santamariaorinda.com](mailto:tmillette@santamariaorinda.com) x303

### Sister Mary Margaret Phan, LHC

Faith Formation (Grades K-5)

[mmphan@santamariaorinda.com](mailto:mmphan@santamariaorinda.com) x306

### Megan Arteaga

Youth Ministry (Grades 6-12),  
Communications, and CYO

[marteaga@santamariaorinda.com](mailto:marteaga@santamariaorinda.com) x308

### Sister Mary Magdalene Nguyen, LHC

Pastoral Care of the Sick

[mmnguyen@santamariaorinda.com](mailto:mmnguyen@santamariaorinda.com) x309

## Prayer Intentions

### *For the Sick:*

Sonny Acosta, Mary Beth Alban, Joan Artmann, Shoab Aryan, Kylie Bissell, Kristy Blackey-Taylor, Miguel Briseno, Maria Carmen, Fred Chavaria, Grace Parent DeBoot, Lorna Elliott, Anne Emery, Nora Enriquez, Anthony Fisher, Emidio Fonseca, Liam Foley, Patricia Fox, Bridget Gallagher, Jennifer Gray, Judy Gust, Brian Kelly, Mason Kelly, Aileen Kelly, Jim Kennedy, Jerry Kirk, Lawrence Knapp, Carol Koupus, Patricia McGuire, Rose Mary McPhee, Jim M., Maria Elsa Moya, Robert Nick, Chase O'Keefe, Arsi Orihuella, Deacon Jim Pearce, Melissa Pearce, Kathleen Pelz, Ann Powell, Mark Ricci, Ben Richey, Carl Robinson, Usrula Simmons, Scott Treter, Steve Turner, Jean Wells, Faye Young

### *For the Deceased:*

Patricia Cookson

*Would you like to add yourself or someone else to the prayer list? Please ensure you have their permission, then [contact Megan in the Parish Office.](#)*

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