



# Church of Santa Maria

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## To pray twice

*Our fifth witnessing parishioner seems to agree with St. Augustine: to sing is to pray twice*

*Pictured: The choir's lifting of hearts in song isn't just good for the congregation - but also the ones who sing*



The 20th Sunday in Ordinary Time  
August 14, 2022

*This week we have our fifth parishioner to share their witness/ testimony about their faith - please welcome parishioner **Suzanne Parsons!** I'm still asking for more of you to write your witness down and share it here - a short story or two about where you've seen God in your life, what the Lord has done for you, or how your faith affects your daily life even in the simplest ways. Please use the questions [in this bulletin](#) and even those [on this website](#) for help and inspiration! And now, Suzanne:*

My Sundays growing up until the age of twelve were always going to Church and then Sunday School. Then we moved to California in 1970. The first Church that we went to was at the Chapel at St Mary's College. The building of St. Monica Church was completed a little later, and we moved from the Chapel to St. Monica.

In 1994 I moved to Lafayette and began attending St. Perpetua. I attended Mass there for many years. I always enjoyed singing, and one Saturday evening a woman named Lisa gave a talk on how music and singing at church made her feel. **She said, "Singing to me is another form of prayer." That was it!** What she was saying made me think about joining the choir.

I was not sure if I would fit in, but in the week that followed I found myself at the church for my first choir practice. I thought I was just going to sit quietly and observe to make sure this was something I really wanted to do. Of course I sat there praying and hoping I would get the push I needed to follow through with this. I did - and the choir members

welcomed me. I was a choir member at St. Perpetua for five years.

My husband and I then started to attend Santa Maria. I knew the choir director, Tony, because I knew his parents from St. Perpetua - and after Mass one weekend, he asked me to sing with the choir at Christmas. Without hesitation, I said yes. Then a few weeks later he asked me to sing on Sundays as well. Again, I said yes. That was twelve years ago!

Since then, we not only sang for Sundays and holy days, but also figured out a way to sing during the pandemic at our outdoor Masses! We now sing in small groups so all the Masses can have the experience of listening to us. **We don't sing at church for entertainment purposes, we sing to enhance the experience of the Mass. We sing as another form of prayer.** For me, receiving the music ahead of time and being able to listen to it at my leisure during the week prepares me to focus on the words and how they relate to the readings and Gospel. I thank the Lord for the voice he gave me and it makes me happy to use it every day.

Recently I was fortunate enough to be part of the selection committee to choose our new choir director. I feel we are blessed to have Helena. She brings her many talents of directing, singing and playing the piano and will continue to strengthen us.

**I want to throw out a challenge to each person reading this** I think there are others who have been told they have a great voice or who really want to experience that second form of prayer. Please consider joining our choir. We have a lot of fun doing it.

*Suzanne Parsons  
Parishioner*

## Weekend Worship Opportunities

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

**The 20th Sunday in Ordinary Time**  
**Sunday, August 14, 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 those who are not fully vaccinated, and are optional for those who are fully vaccinated.**

## Music filled the air at gathering for Diocesan music ministers

This past Monday, our Music Director **Helena Dietrich** had invited all the music ministers of the Diocese of Oakland, including all those involved with the National Association of Pastoral Musicians, to gather for a social here at our parish, where music, food, best practices, and a lot of laughter were shared.



Our church rang with the beauty of music well done, shared by over 20 music directors, accompanists, and cantors, including an organist and cellist. In addition to the music, Father George led an opening prayer, and Helena and Megan guided discussions on changes in music ministry, best practices since COVID, recruiting new choir members, and how we spiritually feed ourselves for our ministry, all while participants shared in a casual brunch.

We're so impressed Helena organized, advertised, and made this all happen such a short time after joining us - way to go!

## THEY'RE BACK.

Hospitality Sundays are back - once a month, starting next **Sunday, August 14**, where we'll once again be sharing coffee and donuts after the morning Masses!



Join us on the St. Francis Plaza (in front of the Parish Hall) after the 8:30am and 10:30am Masses Sunday, August 14 and celebrate the reinstatement of this Catholic classic.

## UPDATE: Administrative Assistant Position is STILL Open!

We're still on the lookout for "the face and voice of Santa Maria"!

Do you know anyone with great organizational and inter-personal skills who's looking for a job working with a fantastic staff in a really fun office? (Not that the



editor is biased or anything.)

Send them our way! We're on the lookout for a full time (32.5 hour) Administrative Assistant to work in the Parish Office.

[Click here for more info](#), or [email Mirna for the full job description!](#)

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## Faith Formation

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**NEW: Calling the unqualified - we want your presence!**



Santa Maria! **A new generation of parish leaders is needed!**

Sr. Mary Margaret and Megan are recruiting the unqualified to help in K-5 Faith Formation (Sun/Wed), Middle School Youth Group (Wed), and High School Confirmation (Sun). Catechists, small group hosts, and fun personalities are needed!

Walk with our young people in their faith journey, ask and seek answers to questions, hear and share stories, and spend some really rewarding time helping the community. Be bold - check it out!

K-5 Catechist Training: 8/21; 9:30-10:15am in the Conference Room  
MSYG/Conf Training: over coffee or boba with Megan :)

For K-5, [email Sr. Mary Margaret](#)

For MSYG and Confirmation, [email Megan](#)

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**NEW: CLW is back this Sunday!**

Through CLW, children are able to gather in the parish hall and participate in many engaging activities such as readings, songs, and skits appropriate for about age 4 to grade 3.

Fortunately, we are able to resume the program this upcoming year! We start this **Sunday August 14, during the 10:30 Mass**. Bring your littles to the 10:30am Mass this week so they can check it out!



*For those interested in helping lead CLW, please contact our teen*

**LAST CHANCE:** Register for our K-12 formation programs **TODAY** to save **\$25!**



We're extending the early registration discount - register your family for K-12 formation programs and save \$25 per child through August 15!

Please [click here to register your family](#) for our amazing programs. Our catechists, peer leaders, and catechetical staff have been praying and preparing for you to join us, and we're looking forward to a great year!

**Save \$25 by registering before August 15!**

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## Food for Thought

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**NEW:** **Pius XII - The Pope Who Defied Hitler**

*A The Catholic Thing article by George J. Marlin*

At the end of the Second World War, Pope Pius XII was universally acclaimed for his courageous leadership. The Jewish historian Pinchas Lapide acknowledged that the Church saved the lives of 850,000 Jews



in Slovakia, Croatia, Romania, and Hungary. Rome's chief rabbi, Israel Zolli, converted to Catholicism. To thank and honor Pope Pius XII, he took the name Eugenio, after Eugenio Pacelli, the pope's birth name.

When Pius XII died, Israel's Foreign Minister Golda Meir wrote, "When fearful martyrdom came to our people in the decade of Nazi terror, the voice of the pope was raised for the... [read more](#)

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**Vin Scully, legendary baseball announcer and committed**

## Catholic, dies at 94

A CNA article by Jonah McKeown

Vin Scully, who called Los Angeles Dodgers baseball games for more than two-thirds of a century, died Tuesday at his home at the age of 94.



A gifted orator and storyteller who was dubbed a “poet-philosopher of baseball,” Scully deftly narrated numerous momentous events in baseball during his 67 seasons as a broadcaster. But more importantly — at least to him — Scully was a devout Catholic who found in his faith a source of joy and comfort and sought to share it with others through... [read more](#)

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## Cardinal John O'Connor, Pro-Life Leader

A First Things article by Richard M. Doerflinger

Historians have called George Washington “the indispensable man” in the founding of our nation. When reflecting on the Supreme Court’s Dobbs decision, which reversed that Court’s decision to impose a national regime of abortion on demand for five decades, the question arises: Who was the indispensable person in bringing the nation, especially American Catholics, to this long-awaited result?



A very good candidate for that honor is Cardinal John O’Connor.

My recommendation follows in the footsteps of Rep. Henry Hyde, himself the... [read more](#)

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## Service and Outreach

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### **NEW:** Is a Malta like a milkshake?

On August 5, our Social Justice Committee toured the Order of Malta Clinic of Northern California in Oakland adjacent to our Cathedral,

The tour included a walk-through of the Mobile Breast Cancer Screening Unit (photo to the right). We're looking forward to supporting their endeavors!

[Click here to read more about the Malta Clinic's great work](#)



Last year alone, the clinic saw more than 5,00 patients - and with an estimated 500,000 people in the greater Bay Area living without health insurance, they have their work cut out for them! Their mission, however, is and remains clear: to uphold human dignity and care for people in need.

So is Malta anything like a milkshake? Well, it's rich (in spirit), nourishes the body, comforts, enriches, and quenches thirst. Plus, caring for the poor and the sick is God's command for all of us. It doesn't matter if it's vanilla, chocolate, or strawberry - in the name of Christ, it's all good.

*Judy Shallat  
Social Justice Committee*

## **NEW: The Malta Clinic needs a podiatrist!**

The Malta Clinic is in need of a volunteer podiatrist, as well as anyone else listed here. This is a great way for medical professionals to serve the community!

Works of Mercy Practiced: Caring for the Sick

Volunteer at  
[www.orderofmaltaclinic.com](http://www.orderofmaltaclinic.com).

**CMA, LVN, RN  
NP, PA, DO, MD  
KM, DM, GCM**

**VOLUNTEER HERE**  
[orderofmaltaclinic.com](http://orderofmaltaclinic.com)

THE CATHEDRAL OF  
CHRIST THE LIGHT  
2121 HARRISON  
STREET OAKLAND



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## **We're now at 80.33% - let's get some more momentum!**

Have you given to the annual Bishop's Appeal yet? Each year our parish has a goal amount to reach, and Santa Maria has a track record of exceeding it every year.

But right now we're only at 80%, thanks to

those who have generously donated!

We ask everyone who hasn't yet donated to please consider doing so. We'd not only like to reach our 100%, but also exceed it - in which case, **any funds over and above our goal are returned back to the parish** without being taxed by the Diocese, which we can use for some of our much-needed special projects!

Thank you again for your wonderful generosity.



*“Feed my lambs,  
feed my sheep”*

**2022 BISHOP'S  
MINISTRIES  
APPEAL**

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## Good Stewardship

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**NEW: Welcome,  
Vincentian  
Missionary Fr.  
Bajiu!**



This weekend, we welcome **Fr. Bajiu Antony, V.C.**, a Vincentian Missionary

Priest from India, to our parish this weekend to participate in our Annual Missionary Cooperation Plan. He'll speak at all the Masses this weekend and will make an appeal on behalf of the Vincentian Missions - who need our help to carry out their many missionary, education, and charitable activities in their missions. They also request our financial support for the training of young men studying for the priesthood.

There will be a special collection today to help the missionary work of the Vincentian Missionaries. We urge you to be very generous in your mission offering since these missionaries need our help! Please bring your offering this coming Sunday to all the Masses - there should be a specially marked envelope.

Thank you very much for your prayers and your generous financial support - the Vincentian Missionaries keep us and our parish in their prayers at their Masses as well!

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### **How can I support Santa Maria?**

Thank you so much for thinking about us and supporting our parish! 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 here. Again, we thank you for your planning and your generosity!

## Mass Intentions

### Sunday, August 14

8:30am: Patricia Ann McGuire  
10:30am: Parishioners of Santa Maria, Living and Deceased  
5:00pm: Patricia Ann McGuire

### Monday, August 15

8:30am: Parishioners of Santa Maria, Living and Deceased

### Tuesday, August 16

8:30am: Ernestine Ottino

### Wednesday, August 17

8:30am: *Intention of the Presider*

### Thursday, August 18

8:30am: James Ryan

### Friday, August 19

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.*

## Bulletin Sponsors

### Would you like to become a sponsor for our parish bulletin?

We'll share your advertisement (example below) each week for a year, and feature your business three times a year in a larger column as well!

**All advertising proceeds go directly to Santa Maria.**

[Contact Megan Arteaga for details on how you can sponsor us.](#)



## Pastoral Team

### Reverend George Mockel

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

### Deacon Rey Encarnacion

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

## Prayer Intentions

*For the Sick:*

Mary Beth Alban, Avery Ann, Joan Artmann, Shoaib Aryan, Kylie Bissell, Kristy Blackey-Taylor, Miguel Briseno, Jeff Calder, Maria Carmen, Fred Chavaria, Lorna Elliott, Anne Emery, Nora Enriquez, Anthony Fisher, Emidio

x301

**Deacon James Pearce**

*jpearce@santamariaorinda.com x301*

**Mirna Wong**

Administrative Assistant and Bookkeeper  
*mwong@santamariaorinda.com x301*

**Sister Mary Margaret Phan, LHC**

Faith Formation (Grades K-5)  
*mmphan@santamariaorinda.com x306*

**Megan Arteaga**

Youth Ministry (Grades 6-12),  
Communications, and CYO  
*martega@santamariaorinda.com x308*

**Helena Dietrich**

Music Ministry  
*hdietrich@santamariaorinda.com x307*

**Sister Mary Magdalene Nguyen, LHC**

Pastoral Care of the Sick  
*mmnguyen@santamariaorinda.com x309*

Fonseca, Liam Foley, Patricia Fox, Bridget Gallagher, Gregory Ibabao, Brian Kelly, Mason Kelly, Jim Kennedy, Jerry Kirk, Lawrence Knapp, Carol Koupus, Judy Marquis, 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, Ustrula Simmons, Scott Treter, Steve Turner, Jean Wells, Faye Young

*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.](#)*

*Likewise, thanks be to God for those for whom prayer has been answered! If you would like to be removed from the prayer list with gratitude for answered prayer, please let Megan know that as well.*

**Support Santa  
Maria**

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Facebook**