



Church of Santa Maria

40 Santa Maria Way | Orinda CA 94563 | 925-254-2426 | www.SantaMariaOrinda.com

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Know Thyself

The Wisdom in Self-Knowledge When Shared with a Team

Pictured: Our victorious (and only) Women's Foursome learned and utilized our strengths over 18 holes in five and a half hours at the KofC Charity Golf Tournament last Monday



The 28th Sunday in Ordinary Time
October 9, 2022

"Ah, Megan? Do you want to look again where your ball is going to land?"

This from **Mirna Wong**, the only regular golfer in our foursome at last Monday's Knights of Columbus Charity Golf Tournament. "Looks like you're aiming straight at that tree."

"Oh, yeah!" I cheerfully replied. "My shots seem to go to the left so I figure if I aim at that tree it's more likely to land on the green."

Well. If you could hear incredulity, the whole of Rossmoor would have had to plug their ears at the sound of my team's response to this latest iteration of Megan Golf Logic.

The thing was, though, even with our quirks, we ended up making a great team! Mirna and her golf gizmos was like our coach, with her exemplary shots and advice to help us make the best shots we could in turn. **Jane Holden's** muscle memory and affinity with drivers made her long game a great boon. My favorite pitching wedge made some great chip shots for our team. And **Theresa Gonzales**, who apparently hadn't played since she was 9, ended up with a killer feel on the putting greens.

"Hinkamp's Holy Rollers" (we were sponsored by parishioner **Bill Hinkamp**, and Knight **TJ Holden** got creative with all the team names) knew our strengths and used them all the way to victory!

The best part is, though, that **knowing your strengths and working as a team translates to your faith life as well.** You already know I'm

a proponent of having a Mass Buddy (or two or three) with whom you can attend, and later chat about the readings, homily, music, and Sunday experience. But having other friends in the faith with their different spiritualities, habits, and strengths can also enrich your own faith life.

In our Thursday Bible Study, for example, I'm great at giving context and history, and generally being a nerdy academic. But another of our members is always on the lookout for connections with Jesus - whether Old Testament prophecies, veiled references in the Psalms, or metaphors in Revelation. Yet another always asks what advice the week's readings have to offer our daily struggle to live as God calls us to. Together we have a much better approach to Scripture than we would individually.

In my Youth Ministry life, it's much the same. I'm the enthusiastic educator, another leader reminds us to pray, another has a knack for drawing Middle Schoolers into deep philosophical discussions, another can connect anything we're doing back to living faith in your real life, and yet another leads the way in asking the questions everyone's thinking about but won't say out loud.

It doesn't matter that we don't have all the strengths ourselves - God wanted us to live, work, grow, and share in community, so to be honest, that "failure" is by design. You probably have friends who are more likely to sit silently in Adoration for one hour than you, who are more eager to dive into God's Word than you, who are readier to jump into service than you, or who have invited more people to church than you - but then in turn they might not be as strong in their prayer life as you, or as committed to daily Mass as you, or as confident in Church teaching as you. As the song goes, "we are many parts, we are all one body - and the gifts we have we are given to share."

Take an honest stock of your strengths and areas for growth, and seek out friends in Christ who have something to offer you - then share and share alike. I guarantee you'll enrich their own faith lives as well - and the victory of eternal life in the love of the Lord is way better than even a victory at a golf tournament.

*Megan Arteaga
Youth Ministry Coordinator*

Weekend Worship Opportunities

The 28th Sunday in Ordinary Time Sunday, October 9, 2022

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

10:30am | Mass in the Church

5:00pm | Youth Mass in the Church

[Read this Sunday's Readings](#)

Masks covering the nose and mouth are required for those who are not fully vaccinated, and are optional for those who are fully vaccinated.

Parish Life

NEW: Ein Prosit! Parish Oktoberfest is October 22!

All Parish families and friends are invited to our annual Oktoberfest, organized by the Santa Maria Knights of Columbus!



Saturday, October 22
5:30-9:30pm
Santa Maria Parish Hall

We'll be serving brats, sauerkraut, chicken, salad, pretzels, strudel - and, of course, German beer in a festive atmosphere with music and Oktoberfest decorations!

Hot dogs and pasta is available for kids, too - it's a family affair!

[RSVP with your headcount to Greg Smith](#); tickets are \$25/Adult, kids come free! Please make checks payable to "Knights of Columbus."

Ein prosit!

NEW: Prayer this Respect Life Month

October is Respect Life Month!

As we continue through October, the bishops of California are inviting all Catholics to engage in prayer and fasting to end abortion and for an outpouring of the Holy Spirit to form the minds and hearts of California citizens to defeat Prop 1.



Feast of San Lorenzo Ruiz This Sunday

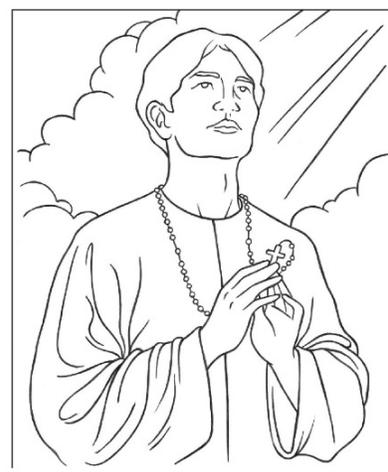
Come and join us in celebrating the feast of the first canonized Filipino Saint, San Lorenzo Ruiz de Manila, this Sunday, October 9, 2022 at the Church of Santa Maria!

The celebration begins with the 10:30am Mass,

followed by hospitality in the Parish Hall.

All are welcome!

The Fil-Am Group of the Church of Santa Maria



Faith Formation

NEW: Do you know anyone interested in becoming Catholic?

Do you have a friend who has questions about the faith?

Are you a spouse captivated by your significant other's faith?

Are you perhaps yourself ready to become Catholic?

A new round of the Rite of Christian Initiation for Adults is starting this fall! Join your fellow questioners through inquiry, catechesis (lessons in the faith), and spiritual development culminating in the three Sacraments of Initiation - Baptism, Confirmation, and Eucharist.

If this message is tugging at your heart, it's the Holy Spirit calling! Call or email Father George in the Parish Office to see if this is for you!

NEW: CLW is on a roll!

Teen Coordinators **Jack Foy** and **Sofia Obnial** have a fan club - their group of school-aged kids who join them for Children's Liturgy of the Word think they're great.

After the opening prayers, they bring their students (last week about 15!) to the CLW room in the Parish Hall and lead them in prayer, walk them through



the Gospel, and engage them with worksheets and activities from themed puzzles to songs.

If you have a little one who squirms during Mass, bring them to the 10:30am Masses! A couple times a month Jack and or Sofia will offer them this great way to engage with the Mass at their own level!



Pastoral Care Ministry

TOMORROW: Anointing of the Sick on Saturday, October 8

Our annual Liturgy of the Word with Anointing of the Sick will take place on Saturday, October 8 at 11am in the church.

All are welcome to join us in praying for those of our community who are ill, in danger of death, or otherwise in need of this Sacrament.

A reception will follow in the Parish Hall.

For more information, email Sr. Magdalene, our Pastoral Care Ministry Coordinator, or call her at 925-254-2426 x309.



Food for Thought

Food for Thought is a selection of articles hand-picked to give you bite-sized information on important goings-on in the world of the Catholic Church.

NEW: This LA convent-turned-maternity-home sets single moms and their babies up for success

A CNA Article by Pablo Kay / Angelus

The Los Angeles County Department of Public Health estimated that some 5,000 women are homeless at some point during their pregnancies in the county. But in the city of Los Angeles, there are reportedly only 70 shelter beds for women who are pregnant and in crisis. And plans from state lawmakers to make California a "sanctuary" for out-of-state women seeking abortions only adds to the urgency.



The 18-bedroom residence is Harvest Home's second in the Los Angeles area and is being leased from the archdiocese for \$100 a month. Two babies have already been born to guest mothers at the house since...

[read more](#)

Meet the therapy dog trained by Mercederian sisters to help the students they serve

A CNA Article by Francesca Pollio Fenton

Students at Sacred Heart of Jesus School in Baton Rouge, Louisiana, are visited twice a week by Gia, an 8-month-old Bernedoodle, and a group of Mercederian Sisters of the Blessed Sacrament.



Gia is a therapy dog who visits classrooms and interacts with the children. Although she is still in training, her warmheartedness and gentle spirit has become the perfect match for the children who attend this Catholic school.

Sister Mary Rosario Vega, who recently celebrated her 50th anniversary of entering the convent, is one of the nuns who trains Gia and takes her to the school each week. In an interview with CNA, she said, "She [Gia] adores children, she's very loyal, very intelligent, very easy to train." ...

[read more](#)

Voting "NO" on Proposition 1

From the California Catholic Conference

Proposition 1 is a worst-case scenario for abortion in California. It is an expensive and misleading ballot measure that allows unlimited late-term abortions - for any reason, at any time, even moments before both, paid for by tax dollars.

California Bishops Oppose CA Constitutional Amendment to Expand Abortion

#NoOnProp1

Sadly, California already has some of the most permissive abortion laws in the nation that would remain in effect without the amendment, including our current limit on late-term abortions that are permitted only for the life and health of the mother. Prop 1 destroys this common-sense limit.

California does not limit state spending on abortion, and with thousands more traveling from other states, the cost will be in the hundreds of millions. Don't hand lawmakers a blank check to pay for abortions, and don't let them make California an "abortion sanctuary."

[Click here to learn more](#)

Good Stewardship

NEW: August Collection Report

Our Finance Council has determined our monthly goal for the Sunday Plate. Here is our total for the month of August:

Goal: \$42,000
Last Month's Total: \$44,740
Surplus: \$2,740



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, October 9

8:30am: Alfred Ferreira

10:30am: Marlene Faustino

5:00pm: Parishioners of Santa Maria, Living and Deceased

Monday, October 10

8:30am: Ernie Cecaci

Tuesday, October 11

8:30am: James Ryan

Wednesday, October 12

8:30am: Alfredo Guzman

Thursday, October 13

8:30am: Holy Souls in Purgatory

Friday, October 14

8:30am: Ernestine Ottino

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

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Deacon Rey Encarnacion

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x301

Deacon James Pearce

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Mirna Wong

Administrative Assistant and Bookkeeper
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Sister Mary Margaret Phan, LHC

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

Prayer Intentions

For the Sick:

Mary Beth Alban, Avery Ann, Joan Artmann, Shoab Aryan, Patricia Bartholomeu, Kristy Blackey-Taylor, Miguel Briseno, Jeff Calder, Maria Carmen, Fred Chavaria, Lorna Elliott, Anne Emery, Nora Enriquez, Anthony Fisher, Emidio Fonseca, Liam Foley, Patricia Fox, Bridget Gallagher, Gregory Ibabao, Brian Kelly, Mason Kelly, Jim Kennedy, Jerry Kirk, Lawrence Knapp, Carol Koupus, 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

Megan Arteaga

Youth Ministry (Grades 6-12),
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Helena Dietrich

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Sister Mary Magdalene Nguyen, LHC

Pastoral Care of the Sick
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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.

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