

ST. PERPETUA CHURCH

CELEBRATING OUR FAITH ♦ ENRICHING OUR COMMUNITY ♦ SHARING OUR GIFTS

Eucharist

Daily Mass

Mon-Thurs, 8:30 am (in 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
for sacramental preparation.

Homebound, ill or Infirm

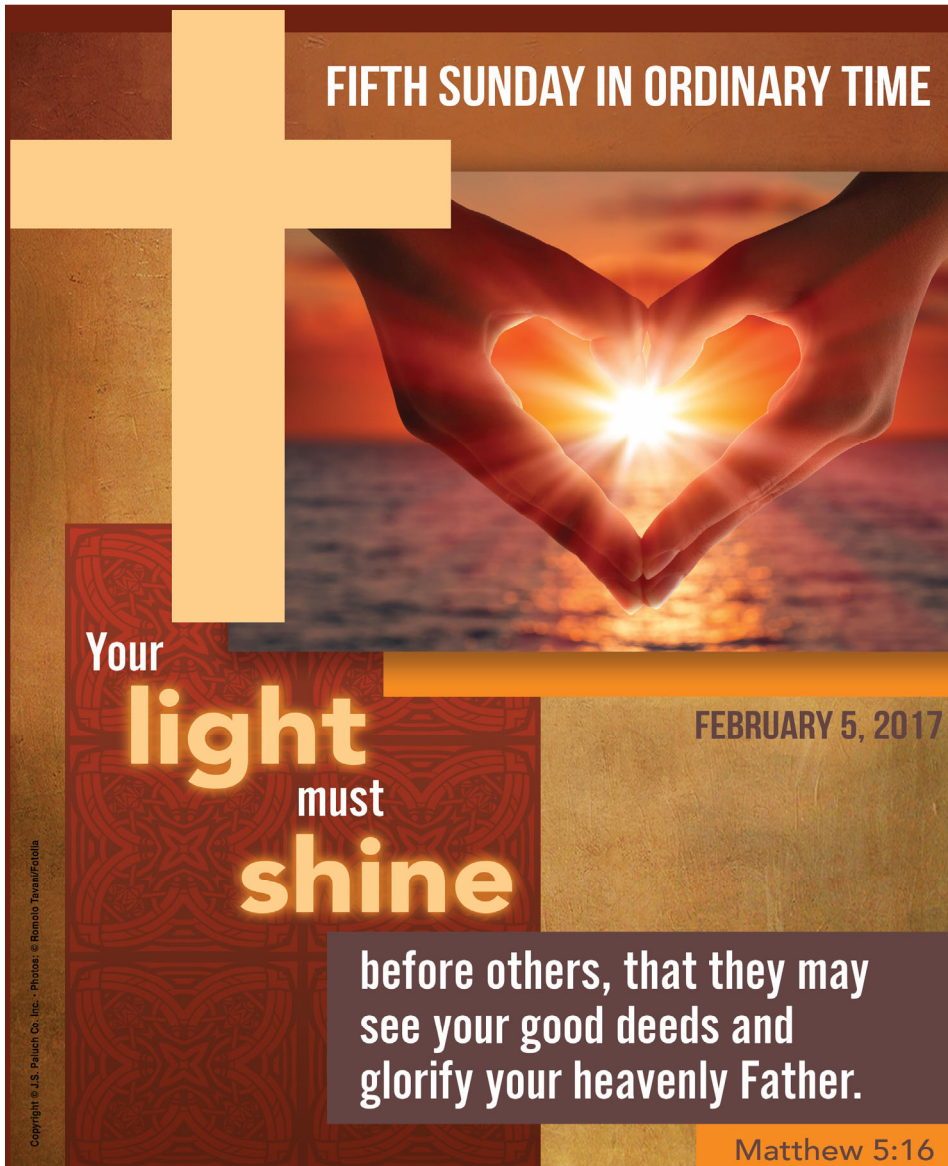
Contact the Parish Office if you,
a family member or neighbor
desires to receive communion
or the Anointing of the Sick
at home or in the hospital.

Newcomers

Contact the Parish Office
to register. Newcomers can
receive a call from a member
of the Welcoming Committee.

**Assisted listening devices
available**

FIFTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME



3454 Hamlin Road, Lafayette, CA 94549

Phone (925) 283-0272 Fax (925) 283-6534

School Office (925) 284-1640

www.stperpetua.org

Parish Office Hours

Monday—Friday

7:30 am—4:00 pm

Parish Staff

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Fr. John's Homilies Available Online
Fr. John's homilies are posted on our website at www.stperpetua.org/homilies

Dear Friends,

For many years Catholic Charities of the East Bay has been successfully settling refugee families, regardless of their religion, who are vulnerable and fleeing persecution. Eighty-three Catholic dioceses out of 196 in the country are involved in resettling refugees in some way, according to the Conference of U.S. Catholic Bishops. Last year Bishop Barber asked all parishes in our Diocese to do whatever we can to support this effort. In an address last October, Pope Francis said: *"It's hypocrisy to call yourself a Christian and chase away a refugee or someone seeking help, someone who is hungry or thirsty, toss out someone who is in need of my help."* In our own deanery both St. Monica Parish in Moraga and Santa Maria Parish in Orinda have been engaged in helping to settle a refugee family. Mary Kuhn, one of our parishioners, works for Catholic Charities and is involved in the Refugee Resettlement Program which meets basic needs and assists families with new school systems, public institutions, housing, healthcare access, and adjusting to American culture. Catholic Charities Refugee Resettlement Program serves refugees from Eritrea, Ethiopia, Burma, Bhutan, Afghanistan, Nepal, Iraq, Iran, Sri Lanka, Mongolia, Congo, Vietnam, Russia, Cuba and other countries. I have asked Mary to help us as a parish community, first of all, to educate ourselves about the reality and needs of refugees, and then by helping us to take whatever specific actions we can to carry out Christ's gospel command: *Whatsoever you do to the least of my brothers and sisters, you do to me.*

Father John Kasper, OSFS

Small Christian Community Sign Up

During the Season of Lent, enrich your spiritual journey by participating in a "Small Christian Community," a group of 6-12 fellow parishioners who meet once a week to share scripture and talk about important matters of faith and daily living.

Lent 2017

(week of March 6 – week of April 10)

Name _____

Phone # _____

E-Mail _____

In order to determine what day and time our Communities will be meeting, please select two day choices and one time choice from the list below:

☐ Mon. ☐ Tues. ☐ Wed. ☐ Thurs. ☐ Fri. ☐ Sat. ☐ a.m. ☐ p.m.

☐ Yes, I would like to host a group at my home

☐ Yes, I would like to be a facilitator (training will be provided)

☐ I'd like to be part of a small Christian Community but can't host or facilitate

Please send the above info to Christoph at the parish office.



February 4/5

Teens - Following up on the teaching of the **Beatitudes**, this Sunday's Gospel Jesus uses the now familiar metaphors of salt and light to describe the life of discipleship. We take salt and light for granted in our society, but these commodities were more precious in ancient cultures. Just as now, salt was used in Jesus' time for flavoring, as a preservative, and as a healing agent. Similarly, the widespread use of electricity in the modern world makes us less aware of the value and importance of light in our lives.

Still, our familiarity with this passage from Matthew's Gospel speaks well to the abiding power of the imagery that Jesus presented. Jesus' call to be salt for the earth and light for the world powerfully states our mission as Church and as Christians. Our commitment to social justice flows from the exhortation that Jesus gives us in today's Gospel. Some of the activities that this commitment leads us to are given more concrete expression as the **Corporal and Spiritual Works of Mercy**. (The Spiritual Works of Mercy are acts of compassion, as listed below, by which we help our neighbors with their emotional and spiritual needs. (1) Instruct; (2) advise; (3) console; (4) comfort; (5) forgive; and (6) bear wrongs patiently. The Corporal Works of Mercy are these kind acts by which we help our neighbors with their material and physical needs. (1) Feed the hungry; (2) shelter the homeless; (3) clothe the naked; (4) visit the sick and imprisoned; (5) bury the dead; and (6) give alms to the poor. When we give of our self through the Spiritual and Corporal Works of Mercy we show ourselves to be the salt of the earth and the light of the world. When we do these things with the community of faith, the Church, we are indeed acting as "a city set on a mountain" that cannot be hidden!

Teens, this week at St. Perpetua

- Sunday, February 5 – St. Perpetua welcomes Confirmation Candidates and their Sponsors for their Rite of Welcome blessing at the 11:30 mass.
- Wednesday, February 8 – Youth Group gathers at 7:30 in the RRC for an evening look at love in preparation for the upcoming Valentine's Day celebration.
- Sunday February 12 or Monday, February 13, Confirmation Candidates gather for an evening on safe environment.

Questions? Drop Gary a note. Teens remember this week that "Before all else, the Gospel invites us to respond to the God of love who saves us, to see God in others and to go forth from ourselves to seek the good of others." (Pope Francis)

Dear Friends at St. Perpetua,
Thanks so much for the warm welcome and generous response to my appeal for the Maya Missions. It was great seeing you all again. I hear the rain has stopped and the warm weather is returning. It's snowing in Michigan and will be about 80 degrees when I return to Mexico next week. But being with you was like being in Paradise.

Gracias,
Padre Bill Auth

Welcome into the Catholic Community

Congratulations! This weekend we welcome the following child into our parish community through the waters of Baptism:

Claire Carol Leyva
daughter of Christopher & Kathleen Leyva

May our community embrace Claire and may our word and example be a reflection of God's love for her. Let us offer our joy-filled prayers and congratulations as a sign of our support and welcome!

Winter Nights Sign Ups

Next weekend, Feb 11th & 12th will be sign ups for Winter Nights jobs. We will again be helping serve at Orinda Community Church - this year's dates are February 28 through March 5th. Any questions, please call Karen Kalvass [925.284.8130](tel:925.284.8130) or Jan Saillard [847.736.0419](tel:847.736.0419).

Altar Server Training

If you're in 4th grade or older and would like to become an altar server, please join us for our next training on **Sunday, Feb. 12 at 12:45**. Be sure to **RSVP to Christoph by Feb. 6** so he can include you in the next schedule.

Senior Activity Group, Etc. (SAGE)

SAGE Bridge will be held at 9:30 on Friday February 10, in the parish hall. For information call Sharon Clark 283-6463.

Our annual **Valentine Luncheon** especially honoring the older members of our parish family will be held on **Monday February 13 at 11 a.m.** in the Parish Hall. The school children will entertain us, SAGE members will provide a delicious lunch and we will conclude the event with a sing-along. For information call Aggie Malanca 283-4477.

Our Spring newsletter was emailed last week. We have a nice variety of activities planned for Spring and hope you will join us. If you did not receive the email or would like a newsletter mailed to you, please call Mary King at 284-9474.



Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Do you feel it, or is it just me? I sense a shift in my world, a fragrant shift of radical kindness, radical goodness, radical awareness of the way our lives can be used in service of the gospel of mercy and grace. It's been happening for a while now, several years I think.

One of the ways I've experienced it is the graciousness that greets me when I travel. I have a slight disability, a hip that's been replaced several times. But the minute I arrive at the airport there seems to be a kind employee ready with a wheelchair, kindly whisking me through security and politely delivering me to the gate. And when I arrive at my destination the airline has called ahead and has another kind porter waiting to whisk me to the handicap-accessible ground transportation.

My endlessly thoughtful husband Ben arranged for a wheelchair for me during our recent fascinating (and disturbing) visit to Alcatraz Island. We were both deeply touched at the number of strangers who jumped in to help push the wheelchair up the steep hills. There is something afoot. I think it's a tsunami of goodness, and its vessels are the human race.

I hope it's not just me. I hope you, too, are sensing this warm wave of intentional kindness that seems to be gaining momentum all around us. Salt of the earth? I'm surrounded by smart, generous people who are giving their energies and experience toward making the world a kinder, gentler place. Light of the world? I need sunglasses, the glare of goodness is so bright.

Love is love is love is love. I hope you're drowning in it.

In what ways are you living in intentional kindness?

Kathy McGovern ©2017 www.thestoryandyou.com



This Week at St. Perpetua February 5, 2017—February 12, 2017 Catholic Schools Week

Sunday

Children's Liturgy of the Word during the 9:30 am Mass
Faith Formation, 10:30 am, RRC/School
Teen Family Youth Mass, 11:30 am

Monday

RCIA, 8 am, Parish Office Conference Room
Centering Prayer, 7:15 pm, Chapel

Tuesday

Faith Formation, 3:00 pm, RRC
Outreach, 7:30 pm, Parish Office Conference Room

Wednesday

Choir, 7:00 pm, Church
Youth Group, 7:30 pm, RRC

Thursday

First Reconciliation, 7:00 pm, Church
Bible Study, 7:30 pm, Chapel

Friday

SAGE Bridge, 9:30 am, Hall

Saturday

School Kindergarten Testing by Apt—Call the school

Sunday—

Knight of Columbus Pancake Breakfast, after the 8 and 9:30 am Masses
Children's Liturgy of the Word During the 9:30 am Mass
Faith Formation, 10:30 am, RRC/School
State of the School, 12:30 pm, Library
Altar Server Training, 12:45 pm, Church
Faith Formation, 6:30 pm, RRC/School
Confirmation, 7:00 pm, Hall

MASS INTENTIONS

February 4, 2017—February 12, 2017

Saturday	5:00 pm	Tim Justice †
Sunday	8:00 am	Luigi Silvano †
	9:00 am	Bob Muench †
	11:30 am	For the Community & Robert Bond †
Monday	8:30 am	Dan & Ellie Spillane †
Sunday	8:00 am	For the Community
	9:30 am	Taylor Kirk †
	11:30 am	Harry Gaffney †

TOGETHER WE PRAY FOR THE SICK:

Marie Saroyan, Chris Fliflet, Elizabeth Cox, Jennifer Rosko, Giselle Contreras, Juanita Estrellas, Elisabeth Nauer, Rico Ramponi, Doug McArthur, Dennis Callahan, George Buonocore, Caroline Bancroft, Charlotte Cairney, Ron Olowin, Judy Russell, Karen Zapotowski, Orlando Portillo, Jenny & Norma Carosella, Alex McLin, Fabricio Mendoza & Anne Lagache.



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KEY PRINCIPLES OF CATHOLIC SOCIAL TEACHING

Human Dignity

In a world warped by materialism and declining respect for human life, the Catholic Church proclaims that human life is sacred and that the dignity of the person is the foundation of a moral vision for society. Our belief in the sanctity of human life and the inherent dignity of the human person is the foundation of all the principles of our social teaching.

Community and the Common Good

In a global culture driven by excessive individualism, our tradition proclaims that the person is not only sacred but also social. How we organize our society -- in economics and politics, in law and policy -- directly affects human dignity and the capacity of individuals to grow in community. Our Church teaches that the role of the government and other institutions is to protect human life and human dignity and promote the common good.

Rights and Responsibilities

Catholic tradition teaches that human dignity can be protected and a healthy community can be achieved only if human rights are protected and responsibilities are met. Therefore, every person has a fundamental right to life and a right to those things required for human decency. Corresponding to these rights are duties and responsibilities -- to one another, to our families, and to the larger society.

Option for the Poor and Vulnerable

Catholic teaching proclaims that a basic moral test is how our most vulnerable members are faring. In a society marred by deepening divisions between rich and poor, our tradition recalls the story of the Last Judgment (Mt. 25) and instructs us to put the needs of the poor and vulnerable first.

Participation

All people have a right to participate in the economic, political, and cultural life of society. It is a fundamental demand of justice and a requirement for human dignity that all people be assured a minimum level of participation in the community. Conversely, it is wrong for a person or a group to be excluded unfairly or to be unable to participate in society. In the words of the U.S. bishops, "The ultimate injustice is for a person or group to be treated actively or abandoned passively as if they were non-members of the human race. To treat people this way is effectively to say they simply do not count as human beings."

Dignity of Work and Rights of Workers

In a marketplace where too often the quarterly bottom line takes precedence over the rights of workers, we believe that the economy must serve people, not the other way around. If the dignity of work is to be protected, then the basic rights of workers must be respected -- the right to productive work, to decent and fair wages, to organize and join unions, to private property and to economic initiative.

Stewardship of Creation

Catholic tradition insists that we show our respect for the Creator by our stewardship of creation. We are called to protect people and the planet, living our faith in relationship with all of God's creation. This environmental challenge has fundamental moral and ethical dimensions which cannot be ignored.

Solidarity

Catholic social teaching proclaims that we are our brothers' and sisters' keepers, wherever they live. We are one human family, whatever our national, racial, ethnic, economic, and ideological differences. Solidarity means that "loving our neighbor" has global dimensions in an interdependent world.

Role of Government

Because we are social beings, the state is natural to the person. Therefore, the state has a positive moral function. It is an instrument to promote human dignity, protect human rights, and build the common good. Its purpose is to assist citizens in fulfilling their responsibility to others in society. Since, in a large and complex society these responsibilities cannot adequately be carried out on a one-to-one basis, citizens need the help of government in fulfilling these responsibilities and promoting the common good. According to the principle of subsidiarity, the functions of government should be performed at the lowest level possible, as long as they can be performed adequately. If they cannot, then a higher level of government should intervene to provide help.

Promotion of Peace

Catholic teaching promotes peace as a positive, action-oriented concept. In the words of Pope John Paul II, "Peace is not just the absence of war. It involves mutual respect and confidence between peoples and nations. It involves collaboration and binding agreements." There is a close relationship in Catholic teaching between peace and justice. Peace is the fruit of justice and is dependent upon right order among human beings.

Catholic Charities Office for Social Justice

60 Plato Blvd # 230, Saint Paul, MN 55107 | osi@cctwincities.org | www.cctwincities.org/advocacy