

**WE ARE A EUCHARIST CENTERED PEOPLE WHO, AS THE BODY OF CHRIST, LIVE OUR FAITH IN WORD AND DEED BY SHARING OUR TIME, TALENT, AND TREASURE TO SUPPORT ONE ANOTHER AND SERVE THOSE IN NEED.**

**Sunday, September 26, 2021**

**Mass intentions during September 27th - October 3rd**

Mon.	8:00	Kathy Walker
Tues.	8:00	Naal Family (L)
Wed.	8:00	Kathy Hooper (L)
Thurs.	8:00	Bonifacio Gonzalez (L), Danielle Flores (L) Flores-Guzman Family (L)
Fri.	8:00	Jodi Fitzgerald (L), Maximiliano Alcaraz and Familia (L), Joe Fitzgerald, Holy Souls
Sat.	8:00	Ed Cardoza
	5:00	Brian Gallagher, Lester Rundle Manuel V. and Francelina Lopes
	7:30	David Ochoa, Ramiro Mora, Jil Cesar Carreno
Sun.	7:30	Albert Cerrone, Sr., Esmeralda Lopes
	9:00	Tim and Lori Nelson (L)
	10:30	Pam MacCormick
	12:00	Ignacio and Emma Gonzalez y Familia (L) David Ochoa, Ramiro Mora Moises Velazquez Cabrera Esther Figueroa Barcenas

**September 26, 2021 - Twenty-sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time**

**PROCLAIM THE WONDER OF GOD**

The gift of the Spirit is given freely, not according to human expectations, but according to the generosity of God. Joshua wants Moses to stop Eldad and Medad from prophesying in the camp, when they were not with the others as the spirit was bestowed on them. Moses, so close to God's mind in the matter, wishes everyone could possess the spirit of God and proclaim it to the nations.

Psalm 19 celebrates the perfection of God's law, and how it brings joy and delight. It is better than the finest gold or the sweetest honey. Moreover, God gives the wisdom of the prophets to everyone, especially the simple and lowly ones, even to children. It is the "little ones" who proclaim the wonder of God to all.

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**Dear Fellow Parishioners,**

I plan to resume my "tour" of the Mass within the next couple of weeks, but first would like to mention a few other important items:

**Farewell, Fr. Andrew Pacheco.** On Sunday, October 3, we will have a final opportunity to bid farewell to Fr. Andrew Pacheco before he leaves for Our Lady of Good Counsel Parish in Fort Bragg. The Knights of Columbus will provide coffee and pastries in the piazza after all English-language Masses that morning. I encourage you to stop by even if you already attended the Saturday evening Mass to say good-bye and thank Fr. Pacheco for his generous ministry here at SV. While there is a general shortage of pastors in the Church, what is far rarer still is an associate of Fr. Pacheco's ability and dedication.

**Welcome Fr. Thomas Stuart.** Within the next few weeks, we will also have an official welcoming of our new "parochial vicar"—that's the official term used for what we informally call "associate pastor". Fr. Thomas Stuart joined our parish staff for lunch on September 22, and is beginning the process of moving in. I look forward to his presence in our parish and schools. He will begin offering Sunday Masses here on the weekend of October 9-10. I believe Deacon Jim Carr will be returning that weekend as well.

**Kimberly Williams**, our office manager and bookkeeper, continues to make excellent progress recovering from a stroke several weeks ago. She has visited the office a few times, and will continue to do so. Your continued prayers and expressions of concern and support have been an important part of her ongoing recovery.

**The Parish Financial Report** is completed by Kim Williams. Thanks to her traditional efficiency, this report was substantially complete at the onset of her illness. This annual report is made to you, our parishioners, regarding the state of parish finance.

Until I can provide this report in final form, I will share some basic and very encouraging information regarding the fiscal year July 1, 2020 to June 30, 2021.

Thanks to your generosity, the hard work of many people, and careful parish management, St. Vincent de Paul Church has navigated the waters of COVID-19 exceptionally well.

Because of COVID, we expected and budgeted a loss for this past year of \$110,630. This would have left the parish in perilous financial condition. Instead, we turned a profit of \$48,902 - - - a positive difference of \$159,532. This positive result occurred because we benefited from a PPP loan (about \$100,000), and because our Special Donations exceeded our budget by \$71,800. This was largely due to your generous response to my letter last fall making a rare (for me) appeal for funds. Also, the fact that our office always remained open, daily and Sunday Masses were available via the Internet, and outdoor Masses offered as soon as it was possible to do so were all major factors in attending to the needs of our parish.

Two other factors are responsible for this happy result. So many faithful parishioners continued to drop off or mail in their donations every week, often in collection envelopes. Also, SV began encouraging parishioners to use electronic giving long before COVID struck. While other parishes were scrambling to start their electronic giving, we were already enjoying its benefits. (In fact, Kim Williams was invited to another parish to teach them how to start their own electronic giving programs.)

**A word of caution:** Another reason our program costs were lower was due to reduced activity. This year, we are busy playing "catch-up," and program costs will rise accordingly.

We have finally entered the fall season, perhaps the most beautiful of the year. While two of Earth's basic elements—fire and water—are a cause for concern this fall, there is also a lot of beauty to experience and enjoy.

**Blessings,**

**Fr. Bill Donahue**

**READINGS FOR THE WEEK OF SEPTEMBER 27TH – OCTOBER 3RD**

Monday: Zec 8:1-8; Ps 102:16-21, 29, 22-23; Lk 9:46-50  
Tuesday: Zec 8:20-23; Ps 87:1b-7; Lk 9:51-56  
Wednesday: Dn 7:9-10, 13-14 or Rv 12:7-12a; Ps 138:1-5; Jn 1:47-51  
Thursday: Neh 8:1-4a, 5-6, 7b-12; Ps 19:8-11; Lk 10:1-12  
Friday: Bar 1:15-22; Ps 79:1b-5, 8-9; Lk 10:13-16  
Saturday: Bar 4:5-12, 27-29; Ps 69:33-37; Mt 18:1-5, 10  
Sunday: Gn 2:18-24; Ps 128:1-6; Heb 2:9-11; Mk 10:2-16 [2-12]



**IMPORTANT RELIGIOUS EDUCATION NEWS**

All classes begin as follows at the Parish Hall: This Sunday, September 26<sup>th</sup> at 9:00 am, doors open at 8:45 am for Pre-Kindergarten (4 years old), Kindergarten, and First Year First Communion for 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup>, and 3<sup>rd</sup> grade students; Wednesday, September 29<sup>th</sup> at 3:30 pm for Second Year First Communion class for 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> grades, First Communion class for 4<sup>th</sup>, 5<sup>th</sup>, and 6<sup>th</sup> grades and the class for students in the 3<sup>rd</sup>, 4<sup>th</sup>, and 5<sup>th</sup> grades who have received their sacrament. The First Communion class for 7<sup>th</sup>, 8<sup>th</sup>, and 9<sup>th</sup> grade students will be held on Wednesday or Thursday afternoons, the day and time to be determined according to need and availability (you will be called). All registered families, please check your computer regularly for our emails.



**CONFIRMATION CLASSES**

will be conducted via Zoom beginning Tuesday, September 28<sup>th</sup> at 4:30 or 7:00 pm for First Year. Second Year classes begin on Wednesday, September 29<sup>th</sup> at 4:30 or 7:00 pm. Registered students, please look for an email with all the pertinent information for your class.



**REMEMBER THE FOLLOWING**

All Catechists and students are expected to wear masks as they enter the building and throughout the entire class. All classes will reflect the current Covid-19 requirements. First communion and Confirmation classes are a two-year process. Second Year Communion and Confirmation students MUST have a copy of their Baptismal Certificate on file with their registration forms. If you have questions, contact Rose Marie at 762-4278 ext. 14.

**PARISH FINANCIAL INFORMATION:**

Last Sunday's offering:

Sunday Basket:	\$5,632.50
On-Line Giving	1,731
Total	\$7,363.50

The second collection for the Missionary Collection was \$2,520.

This weekend there will be a second collection for the Maintenance Fund.

**ONLINE GIVING** - To sign up for online giving with a debit card, credit card, or a check, go to <http://www.svdppetaluma.org> and look for the red "Donate" button on the upper right of the front page. Once you get there, follow the prompts to create a new account.



**ARE YOU NEW TO THE COMMUNITY?** Do you live in Petaluma and want to register and receive Sunday offering envelopes or sign-up online for Electronic Giving? We have registration forms on the front porch of the rectory. For more information, please call the rectory at 762-4278.



**From Fr. Thomas Stuart**



I grew up in Occidental, CA and received my religious education at St. Philip's parish in town. During high school, I went through a reversion to the Catholic faith and began to feel a call to the priesthood again that I had felt as a child. I was invited to begin seminary training for the diocese of Santa Rosa by Fr. Raul Lemus, then pastor at St. Sebastian's in Sebastopol. After 8 years of study and training, I was ordained a priest on March 7<sup>th</sup>, 2020 and served at St. Eugene's Cathedral parish until I received my new assignment to St. Vincent de Paul. I look forward to joining and serving the Catholic community in Petaluma.



**CONGRATULATIONS** - to Charlie Rossow who received the Sacrament of Baptism.

**PLEASE PRAY FOR** - Bonifacio Gonzalez, Kim Williams, Sylvia Samija, Lucille Batemon, Robert Virgin and Tessa Rae Finkbohner.

**OUR SYMPATHIES** go out to the family of Therese Mulhall who passed away. May her soul of the faithful departed, through the mercy of God, rest in peace.

**ADORATION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT -**



Thursday Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament will be held after weekday mass at 8:45 am, with Benediction starting at 9:45 am and ending at 10 am.

**BIRTHRIGHT OF PETALUMA** helps families with diapers, clothes, and other baby/toddler related items at no cost. They are located at 1330 Commerce Street Suite C, Petaluma 94954. For more information, please call 707-763-9888.

**KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS MEMBERS** - On the week-end of October 9<sup>th</sup> and 10<sup>th</sup>, the Knights of Columbus members will be conducting a campaign for People with Intellectual Disabilities. This has been an extremely successful campaign for the Knights across the country, providing people with intellectual and physical disabilities more resources to live a happy life. Your generous donation will be greatly appreciated! Just look for the Knights of Columbus members in yellow vests at the back of the church after mass.



**THE SANTA ROSA DIOCESAN COUNCIL** of Catholic Women is offering The Consecration to St. Joseph via Zoom, beginning September 30th. This six week series will be offered on Thursdays at 10:30 am and at 6:30 pm. Free books will be provided by SRDCCW. To register, please contact Char at 707 331-3126 or [SantaRosaDCCW@gmail.com](mailto:SantaRosaDCCW@gmail.com). A Memorial Mass will be held for deceased members of SRDCCW on October 16th at 11:00 am at St. Eugene's Cathedral. A simple reception in the Becker Center will follow. More details will be forthcoming.

