

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, November 21, 2021

Mass intentions during November 22nd - November 28th

Mon.	8:00	George Bordi (L), Marilu Aguilar (L) Douglas Schmude (L)
Tues.	8:00	Marina Alvarez, Unborn Children Richard Schmude (L)
Wed.	8:00	Judy Williams (L), Mary Moore Grala North Bay Post Acute
Thurs.	8:00	Lavio and Manni Families, Unborn Children
Fri.	8:00	Ed and Fr. Paul Vota, Eladia A. Ross Wilfred and Helen Fatooh
Sat.	8:00	-
	5:00	Pro Populo
	7:30	Eloisa Gutierrez, Porfirio Sandoval
Sun.	7:30	Esmeralda Lopes
	9:00	Harrison Houppis, Maria Dolores Macias Gonzalez
	10:30	-
	12:00	Abraham Avalos, Jose Maria Lopes Arroyo Angel Garcia, Petra de la Cruz Maximina Guerta, Jose Luis Avalos Arroyo

November 21, 2021 - Our Lord Jesus Christ, King of the Universe

CHRIST, THE KING

The selection from the book of Daniel presented in today's first reading was part of an attempt to weave a vision of ultimate success for the Jews under persecution. Exactly whom the author had in mind when he refers to "one like a Son of Man" is hotly disputed by scholars today. The fact is, we simply do not know if the author meant anyone in particular or if this is a collective, figurative image of Israel's triumph. What we do know is that the early Christian community seized upon this passage and recognized it as a messianic prophecy, a foretelling of the ultimate triumph of Jesus as the Christ of God. The Lectionary's juxtaposition of this text with today's Gospel narrative of Jesus before Pilate is a wonderful example of how the liturgy "layers" passages with new meaning by inserting them in a particular context.

The celebration of Christ the King allows us to hear these passages with a new depth of meaning in light of our contemporary understanding of how, in Jesus and his resurrection and ascension, we have seen the fulfillment of Daniel's vision of ultimate deliverance. The veiled admission of Jesus before Pilate that he did indeed have a kingdom "not here" takes on new meaning against the cosmic vision of Daniel, who allows us to glimpse the "Ancient One" on his heavenly throne.

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Dear Fellow Parishioners,

This Sunday is the Feast of Christ the King, the 34th and final Sunday in Ordinary Time before the First Sunday of Advent, which is also the beginning of the new liturgical year. This transition point is a good time to cover a few matters regarding the liturgy and related matters, some of it COVID-related.

Nearly every COVID-related issue seems dogged by controversy and disagreement. Everyone is entitled to their own opinions and feelings, but not to their own facts, and sometimes even settled fact is hard to determine and agree on. Except for what is necessary for the administration of this parish, I have no intention of dipping even one pinkie toe into that consuming vortex of irresolvable conflict. Some parishioners have communicated to me their own views on vaccines, participation at liturgy, seating patterns in the church, you name it. Some people believe that the dangers of COVID have largely passed, or were exaggerated from the start. Others are still not quite ready to return to in-person worship because, for them, the risk is still too great.

My approach has been one of reasonable caution for the parish as a whole, so as to make in-person worship possible for the largest number of people with varying medical and ethical considerations. A parish is a voluntary community of believers and, to paraphrase the great philosopher Yogi Berra, "if people don't want to return to Mass, you can't stop them." We will continue to maintain every reasonable precaution (including masks, regardless of vaccination status, as required by law) so as to enable as many of our fellow parishioners as possible to join us in person and with confidence. I am not aware of a single transmission of the virus traceable to any parish activity. You, the people of SV, are to be commended for your charity and concern for one another.

Voluntary mask compliance is less invasive than requiring proof of a person's vaccination status. Current state and county directives still require (with a very few exceptions) those attending indoor events to wear masks, regardless of vaccination status, and require the hosting venue to enforce the requirement. (I do not want to be an enforcer against fellow believers and citizens, and I do not want to plaster our church with signs that shout, "Masks Required.")

Presumably, COVID-19 will be deemed to be endemic, and these restrictions will gradually go away. In the meantime, the patience of our society as a whole has grown very thin. Assertions of personal rights have become more and more personalized and aggressive, while quiet concern for the common good is increasingly rare. While the pandemic has been a serious threat, so is a generalized collapse of public civility and order. Some people, not content even with that, have created a parallel cyberworld of even greater generalized hostility and mendacity. By contrast, Jesus calls us to be "in the world, but not of the world." Yes. "Keep Calm, and Love Thy Neighbor."

The experience of the past many months seems to show that COVID is transmitted by droplets exhaled, rather than by exposed surfaces. This belief informs two small changes.

Missalettes: A new cycle of missalettes becomes available at Advent. After some hesitation on my part, I asked that they be placed in the pews for use during Mass. Those who wish to use them may do so; those who prefer not to use them need not do so.

Congregational singing. According to what I have been able to determine, congregational singing is still deemed to be a higher-risk activity, due to exhalation of droplets. Since our vocalists and choirs at Mass stand a safe distance from the congregation, I have left it to them to decide the manner and amount of singing they do during their particular Mass. (There is no Gloria during Advent, anyway.) So long as people in the pews are wearing masks and are seated every other pew, I will neither encourage or discourage soft congregational singing. (Full-blown operatics will have to wait awhile longer...)

I wish you all a blessed Thanksgiving and beginning of the Advent season.

Fr. Bill Donahue

READINGS FOR THE WEEK OF NOVEMBER 22ND – NOVEMBER 28TH

Monday: Dn 1:1-6, 8-20; Dn 3:52-56; Lk 21:1-4
Tuesday: Dn 2:31-45; Dn 3:57-61; Lk 21:5-11
Wednesday: Dn 5:1-6, 13-14, 16-17, 23-28; Dn 3:62-67; Lk 21:12-19
Thursday: Dn 6:12-28; Dn 3:68-74; Lk 21:20-28
Thanksgiving Day, Sir 50:22-24; Ps 145:2-11; 1 Cor 1:3-9; Lk 17:11-19
Friday: Dn 7:2-14; Dn 3:75-81; Lk 21:29-33
Saturday: Dn 7:15-27; Dn 3:82-87; Lk 21:34-36
Sunday: Jer 33:14-16; Ps 25:4-5, 8-10, 14; 1 Thes 3:12 - 4:2; Lk 21:25-28, 34-36

ALL SOULS DAY REMEMBRANCE ENVELOPES



are available at all entrances of the church. You may write the names of your loved ones on them. During the month of November, the Remembrance Book will also be available. We remember our loved ones and honor their memory with great respect as we pray for them.



THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 25TH, THANKSGIVING DAY, there will be an English 8:00 am and 10:00 am bilingual Mass at St. Vincent de Paul Church.

THE RECTORY OFFICE will be closed on Thursday, November 25th and Friday, November 26th for Thanksgiving Day. Have a good day with your family and friends and lets be thankful for what we have.

MASS TIME CHANGE: Starting on Saturday, November 27th, the Spanish Mass will be celebrated at 7:00 pm.

BLANKET DONATION'S -- Thank you for the blankets donated. Our friends in need truly appreciate them. The rectory staff leave blankets out on the rectory porch and they are gone the same day. Please don't drop off clothes; you can take them to the Alphabet Soup Thrift Store at 203 Western Ave. Petaluma.



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.

PLEASE PRAY FOR - Martin Kute, Doris Vota, Maxim Singer, Kim Williams, Sylvia Samija, Phil Makin, Jeff Tuttle, and Lucille Batemon.



BIRTHRIGHT OF PETALUMA will be selling quilt raffle tickets on Sunday, November 28th at the 9:00 am and 10:30 am masses as a tribute to 49ers and Giants. Raffle tickets are \$1 each. Please support Birthright. If it rains, the raffle will be cancelled.



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.

ADVENT CANDLES AND WREATHS are available at the rectory for \$20.00 a set or sold separately at \$10.00 each. Office hours are 8:30 am to 3:30 pm. We close for lunch from 12 to 1:00 pm. For more information, please call at 707-762-4278.



PARISH FINANCIAL INFORMATION:

Last Sunday's offering:

Sunday Basket:	\$8,188
On-Line Giving	<u>3,323</u>
Total	\$11,511

The second collection for the Communications and Catholic University was \$2,362.

Next 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.

ST. VINCENT'S SCHOOLS NEWS



We are offering tours of our campus. If you are interested in learning more about our K - 8th grade programs, please contact the office at 762-6426 or visit our website (www.svelem.org).

ONLINE APPLICATIONS OPEN!



Don't wait to find out what St. Vincent de Paul can provide for your high school student. Visit our website (svhs-pet.org) to learn more and find out how to apply. Call 707-763-1032 x113 to schedule a tour.

HOST AN INTERNATIONAL STUDENT

We are in need of host families in the area for students from Germany, France and Paraguay who will attend St. Vincent de Paul High School for 3 or 6 months this Spring, beginning January 3, 2022. Host families must provide a bed/bedroom, 3 meals per day, and assist with transportation. The student is responsible for spending money, insurance and is responsible for any school, sport, entertainment, toiletry expenses, etc. The host family will receive a \$700 - 1,000 monthly stipend. Please contact Jessica at JSchuman@edutrav.org to find out more.

UPCOMING CAMPUS EVENTS

- November 17 - Grandparents Day
 - November 18 - Night of the Arts
 - November 20 - Mustang Football Semifinal
 - November 24 - Alumni Basketball Game
 - December 4 - Placement Test for Incoming Students
 - February 26 - MAC Crab Feed Fundraiser
- For more information about any of these announcements, email Kerry Pedersen at kpetersen@svhs-pet.org.



SUPPORT OUR CATHOLIC SCHOOLS! Looking for teachers, teacher aides, and substitutes. Call Lori at 707-566-3322 or email [loria@srdiocese.org](mailto:lوريا@srdiocese.org)

THE PARISH OF ST. PHILIP THE APOSTLE CHURCH, Occidental, and St. Teresa of Avila Mission, Bodega, is looking for a new bookkeeper to start in January 2022. Those who like to volunteer or those who want to be hired for this work may contact Fr. Bala (govindu77@gmail.com) or the parish office (philip.teresa@yahoo.com).