

**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, May 15, 2022**

Mass intentions during May 16th - May 22nd

Mon.	8:00	SVDP Priests and Staff (L) William Dallas Henry, III
Tues.	8:00	Maria De Lima
Wed.	8:00	Raymond Harold Mitchell, James Albertoni
Thurs.	8:00	Eloia Munguia (L), Don and Sylvia Chicoine Kathy and Ed Stocker
Fri.	8:00	Sheila O'Grady (L), Hilda Sickles
Sat.	8:00	-
	5:00	Mr. and Mrs. Eugene Ross, Bill Crowley
	7:00	Eloisa Gutierrez, Porfirio Sandoval Ramon Arechiga, Elena Vazquez Souls of the Purgatory
Sun.	7:30	Lindy Borges, John Galego
	9:00	Pro Populo
	10:30	Donald Keohane
	12:00	Martinez-Uricoechea (L & D) Martinez-Borrero (L & D) Franco-Martinez (L & D)

**May 15, 2022 Fifth Sunday of Easter**

**MAKING ALL THINGS NEW**

Although we are five full weeks into the celebration of Easter, today's readings focus on newness. Our Easter food leftovers may be long gone, but the readings insist on every moment's freshness in the risen Jesus. The Acts of the Apostles depicts Paul and Barnabas reflecting on all the innovative work that God has done with them. They have traveled hundreds of miles, introducing faith in Jesus Christ to all who listen, even Gentiles. For the dutiful Jewish scholar Paul, preaching to Gentiles is a completely unique development. Jesus calls Paul, and us, not to be afraid of new challenges: as John the Evangelist reports in Revelation, Jesus promises to "make all things new." In the Gospel reading, Jesus even gives us a new commandment. The Hebrew Scriptures overflow with commandments, but Jesus knows we need one more, perfect mission: "love one another."

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**Dear Fellow Parishioners,**

Some years ago, I joined the tens of millions of Americans who have GPS navigation systems in their cars. Within a month, I didn't know how I ever survived without it. It's the perfect "back-seat driver:" silent (if you turn off the audio), nearly invisible, and gives directions without critique. Before long, I learned that it isn't infallible. It can send a driver on a wild goose chase to somewhere, or nowhere.

When I was in Arizona a few years ago, I decided to drive the historic Catalina Highway to the top of Mt. Lemmon. This 27-mile highway took 17 years to complete. On the way to the 9,157-foot summit, it is a virtual biological and ecological tour from Mexico to Canada, with a 40-degree change in temperature. I entered the destination into my GPS, and set out. It took me on a real adventure. The route chosen by the GPS wasn't the Catalina Highway, but the AAA map showed it as an adequate gravel road to the same summit.

After several miles of serviceable gravel road (and great scenery) the road narrowed to one lane, but the surface was still adequate. A couple of miles later, a big yellow sign read, "Unmaintained Road Next 3 Miles," "4-Wheel Drive Recommended"; "Passenger Cars Not Recommended." By this time I thought I'd gone way too far to turn back, and thought I could ease my car over 3 short miles of rough road. Big mistake.

This un-maintained road went on not for 3, but for 20 more miles, and kept getting rougher and rougher. I moved at a crawl. Several times, I had to get out to clear rocks from the roadway. The road became nothing more than a single-lane ledge with a stories-high rock wall on the passenger side, and a huge drop-off (with nauseatingly vertiginous views, and no guardrail) on the driver's side – and no place to turn around. I was inching over rocks and fording occasional creek beds for hours. There was a real danger that I'd blow a tire, damage my car, or otherwise have to spend all night on the side of this mountain where rattlesnakes and bears abound. Around each bend I hoped to see the summit, but never did. The sun set behind the mountains. Shadows were long, and the air grew colder.

More than three-and-a-half hours after starting, I met two people on foot. They said the summit was a quarter-mile up the road. My surprise and relief were enormous as I arrived at the paved highway and the summit which I could not see even as I was climbing toward it. This misadventure taught me a couple of larger life-lessons. First, I should not rely completely on any earthly person or device to set my direction, especially when heading into the unknown. Second, there are times in life when it's impossible to turn back, even when the ultimate goal is not yet in view. At those times the Lord, whom even the wind and seas obey, is the only true Navigator.

**Blessings,**

**Fr. Bill Donahue**

**READINGS FOR THE WEEK OF MAY 16TH – MAY 22ND**

Monday: Acts 14:5-18; Ps 115:1-4, 15-16; Jn 14:21-26  
 Tuesday: Acts 14:19-28; Ps 145:10-13ab, 21; Jn 14:27-31a  
 Wednesday: Acts 15:1-6; Ps 122:1-5; Jn 15:1-8  
 Thursday: Acts 15:7-21; Ps 96:1-3, 10; Jn 15:9-11  
 Friday: Acts 15:22-31; Ps 57:8-10, 12; Jn 15:12-17  
 Saturday: Acts 16:1-10; Ps 100:1b-3, 5; Jn 15:18-21  
 Sunday: Acts 15:1-2, 22-29; Ps 67:2-3, 5-6, 8; Rv 21:10-14, 22-23; Jn 14:23-29

**PLEASE PRAY FOR** - Judy Spencer, Pete Fauser, Kim Williams, Joyce Souza, Flor Maria Naal, Maria Ponce, Melody Packett-Souza, Bethany Pham, Rick Facendini, Clemencia Barreto and Lucille Batemon.



**CONGRATULATIONS** - to Adrian Anthony Bello, III who received the Sacrament of Baptism.

**ST. VINCENT DE PAUL CHURCH** - is looking for a Religious Wedding Coordinator. You will be conducting the wedding rehearsals and coordinating the ceremony on the day of the wedding. If you're interested, please call the office at 707-762-4278 for more details.



**ST. VINCENT DE PAUL CHURCH** is open from 8:00 am to 12:00 pm, Monday through Friday. Weekday Mass is at 8:00 am and Rosary from 8:30 to 9:00 am. All are welcome.

**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.

**IL POVERELLO FRATERNITY**

Your local Secular Franciscan Fraternity, Il Poverello, is presenting as a ministry a Day of Reflection "Ways to Pray the Bible.... "Learn 7 different ways of praying as found in the Bible. We will reflect on these unique prayer styles, and share how St. Francis gave us example of prayer in his own life. Presented by Fr. Franklin Fong, OFM, currently residing at the St. Elizabeth Friary in Oakland, offering mass for the Chinese Catholic Community of St. Leander Parish, San Leandro. Blessed with artistic skills in calligraphy that he shares, he will be presenting a meditation booklet he created using the 7 bible verses in calligraphy, which participants will use during private time in reflection. Gathering at St. James Community Center, Petaluma, CA on Saturday, May 28th from 9:00 am to 3:00 pm. Registration at 8:30 am, followed by Eucharistic Adoration at 9:00 am before presentations, small group sharing, and personal reflection. Midday pot-luck luncheon break followed by further discussion concluding with an afternoon Mass. Presentation and discussion will be offered via Zoom link for those who are not able to attend in person. Contact for further information: Mark Kroncke, OFS: mark-kroncke@comcast.net, 415-250-7362 or Edd Ringlein, OFS: ejringlein.ofs@gmail.com or 707-246-5311.

**PILGRIMAGE** on Saturday, May 21st at St. Eugene's. It starts with Mass at 8:00 am and ends at 11:30 am. Stephen Morris will lead a 4 mile pilgrimage walk on a section of the Camino de Sonoma in a celebration of Santa Rosa history, Coastal Miwok and Pomo settlements, early church communities, and the missions. RSVP/information: [dsryouth@srdiocese.org](mailto:dsryouth@srdiocese.org)/310-849-2342.

**PARISH FINANCIAL INFORMATION:**

Last Sunday's offering:

Sunday Basket	\$7,846
On-Line Giving	<u>3,393</u>
Total	\$11,239

Thank you for all your financial support.

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.

**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.

**ST. VINCENT ELEMENTARY SCHOOL**

At St. Vincent de Paul Elementary School, we offer an educational experience that has become increasingly difficult to find: educating the whole child in a top-level academic program integrated with Catholic values. We are currently enrolling students for the 2022-2023 school year. If you are interested in a tour of our campus, please call our office (707) 762-6426 or visit our website at [www.svelem.org](http://www.svelem.org).



**CONGRATULATIONS** - to our SVES students on receiving the blessed Sacrament of First Holy Communion. May God guide you and protect you as you continue to grow in your faith!



*Luca Della Santina, Colin Duncan, Reagan Glynn, Stryker Googins, Sullivan Hackett, Isabel Honigsberg, Grayden King, Scarlett King, Alexandra Letsch, Luke Loogman, Nico Luksiich, Marco Montalvo, Eleanor Neves, Matthias Qudsich, Tobin Reynolds, Avery Rynning, Madeline Silva, Mary Telucci and Cash Terzain.*

**WINE, WOMEN AND WORD IS BACK!** We are gathering on Wednesday, May 25th from 6:30 to 8:30 pm in the Parish Hall. We invite women of faith for a social night of fun and fellowship. Come with your friends, sisters, mothers and godmothers. For more information, please contact Joanne Ferris 707-481-6431 [jferrispetaluma@gmail.com](mailto:jferrispetaluma@gmail.com).

**ITALIAN CATHOLIC FEDERATION** - cordially invites you to join us for our polenta and chicken cacciato-re dinner on Saturday, May 21st at 6:30 pm, St. James Hall, 125 Sonoma Mountain Pkwy, Petaluma. Includes antipasto, salad and dessert. Cost is \$25 (\$20 takeout). Tickets must be purchased in advance. For reservations and further information, please call Lucy at 707-769-1245.

