

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 11, 2022

Mass intentions during September 12th - 18th

Mon.	8:00	Nelson Family (L), Elodia Grajeda Esteban and David Ochoa, Ramiro Mora Juan Enrique Tinoco
Tues.	8:00	Esteban and David Ochoa, Elodia Grajeda, Ramiro Mora
Wed.	8:00	Esteban and David Ochoa, Ramiro Mora Elodia Grajeda
Thurs.	8:00	Maureen Nelson and Family (L) Esteban and David Ochoa Ramiro Mora, Elodia Grajeda
Fri.	8:00	Esteban and David Ochoa, Ramiro Mora
Sat.	8:00	Marguerite Weiss
	5:00	Margie Brown
	7:00	Eloisa Gutierrez, Porfirio Sandoval Esteban and David Ochoa, Ramiro Mora
Sun.	7:30	Catherine Cerrone, Helena and Frederico Rodriguez
	9:00	Lindy Borges, Ashraf Changizi Esperanza Paz, Carlos Tinoco Edward Anacleto
	10:30	Heidi Jeanne Ostroff

Twenty-fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time

RELYING ON GOD'S LOVE

Imagine being among those who heard Jesus address the Pharisees and scribes in the encounter we hear in today's Gospel: "What man among you having a hundred sheep and losing one of them would not leave the ninety-nine in the desert and go after the lost one until he finds it?" Would you leave ninety-nine in the desert in order to find one lost sheep? In the parable, Jesus is showing us the depths of God's love, the illogical, incredible love God has for each of us. Moses counted on this loving mercy as he spoke for the wandering people; Saint Paul acknowledges his reliance on it in his letter to Timothy. God desires to draw you close, seeking you when you are lost. Are you ready to be drawn into God's loving embrace?

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Dear Fellow Parishioners,

The parable of the Prodigal Son (Luke 15:11-32) speaks deeply to two realities of human life which are outside of God's positive will: It is not God's will that anyone be lost. It is not God's will that anyone be alone.

The parable is also mysterious, as there is an element of mystery in all families, If I've learned one thing in life, it's that no one can fully understand what goes on in someone else's family. Conflict in families is older than the scriptures themselves.

The father acted in a way that few responsible fathers would act—he allowed the irresponsible son to dissipate the family's substance. This father must surely have known that the younger son would get himself into trouble.

Why does God give freedom to people when God knows that the freedom will be misused? Because freedom is essential to our humanity, and the correct use of our freedom is the cornerstone of our own consciousness.

There is no greater sadness for parents than to have children who will not break bread together. There is no greater sadness for parents than for children who will not speak to them, or to one another. There is no greater sadness for children than to have parents who are at war with one another, or who are "missing in action" - physically or emotionally.

This parable reminds us that things in families can go badly wrong. Sometimes these things cannot be completely fixed. But we have a duty to do all we reasonably can to promote peace in our families and to minimize the hurt. That usually requires some form of generosity or forgiveness.

Sometimes it means showing empathy, making peace, forgiving a debt, or pitching in again and again to do more than our fair share. Sometimes it means asking ourselves, "How can I help?" rather than "What's in it for me?" Sometimes it means accepting hardship as a pathway to peace, minding our tongue and our own business.

Many of us have a clear eye when it comes to other people's families. However, when it comes to our own families, we expect them to be well-run kindergartens in which everyone gets the same number of Oreos, the same number of toys, the same amount of playtime, the same amount of attention, and the same grade. Real families are more about togetherness than they are about fairness. If the brothers were not able to forgive one another, they would never be at peace with their father. They would pass on their enmity to their future wives, their children and grandchildren, and poison all their lives. We also have a duty to not pass on our strife to others. Two wrongs don't make a right, but they do make a good excuse.

The Parable of the Prodigal Son teaches us that sometimes it is more important to be together than to have our own way. Sometimes it is more important to be together than to be right.

Blessings,

Fr. Bill Donahue

READINGS FOR THE WEEK OF SEPTEMBER 12th—18th



Monday: 1 Cor 11:17-26, 33; Ps 40:7-10, 17; Lk 7:1-10
Tuesday: 1 Cor 12:12-14, 27-31a; Ps 100:1-5; Lk 7:11-17
Wednesday: Nm 21:4b-9; Ps 78:1bc-2, 34-38; Phil 2:6-11; Jn 3:13-17
Thursday: 1 Cor 15:1-11; Ps 118:1b-2, 16ab-17, 28; Jn 19:25-27 or Lk 2:33-35
Friday: 1 Cor 15:12-20; Ps 17:1bcd, 6-8b, 15; Lk 8:1-3
Saturday: 1 Cor 15:35-37, 42-49; Ps 56:10c-14; Lk 8:4-15
Sunday: Am 8:4-7; Ps 113:1-2, 4-8; 1 Tm 2:1-8; Lk 16:1-13 [10-13]

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION NEWS

Would you like to help us as a Catechist assistant in our Religious Education Program? We'll have a meeting with the current and new catechists this coming Tuesday, September 13th at 6:30 pm in the parish hall. Ask a friend if she/he would like to volunteer. Registrations for Rel. Ed. programs will be open until Friday, September 16. Most classes are in person.



PRE-KINDERGARTEN, KINDERGARTEN AND ELEMENTARY CLASSES through fifth grade start the week-end of September 17th and 18th.

CLASSES PRE-K – 1ST

will be held on Sunday mornings in the Parish Hall from 9:00 to 10:10 am.

2nd Year First Communion, 1st Year First Communion for older children:

Wednesday, 3:30 – 4:45 pm.

Grades 3/4/5 (who have received their First Communion:

Wednesday, 3:30 – 4:45 pm.

Fees

1st Child \$90 + 2nd Child \$70 + 3rd \$40. Payment is due at the time of registration

CONFIRMATION CLASSES

\$90 per student.

First year: Tuesdays, 7 to 8 pm by zoom

Second year: Wednesday, 7 to 8 pm in parish hall (please note changes in time and place)

Note: 1st Year First Communion and Confirmation registrations MUST have a COPY of their baptismal certificate attached, if not baptized at St. Vincent's. If you have any questions, please call Abraham Solar at 762-4278 ext. 20.

THE DIOCESE OF SANTA ROSA - We invite you to attend the two-day event of the Santa Rosa Religious Education Congress.

Friday, September 23, 2022: Again this year, our Catholic Schools will work jointly with the Department of Religious Education and offer an event on Friday, September 23, 2022, with a gathering of Educators and Catechists. This event is mainly for our educators and catechists in our diocese. The event will open with Holy Mass. A variety of workshops and keynotes are available throughout the day.



Saturday, September 24, 2022: Saturday's event is open to all adults and includes Liturgy, presentations, exhibits, and much more. This event is free.

We encourage educators to join us on both days. For more info, check out the diocesan website @ www.srdioocese.org

Camino de Sonoma & Santa Rosa Diocese invite you Sunday, September 18, to a short 4 mile pilgrimage around St. Eugene's, and along the Santa Rosa Creek into downtown. We begin at the Cathedral's 10:30 am Mass followed by a blessing from Bishop Vasa. We'll reflect and pray along the route while learning the history of Santa Rosa and the Camino de Sonoma. RSVP and Info: Stephen Morris email: dsryouth@srdioocese.org

PARISH FINANCIAL INFORMATION:

Last Sunday's offering:

Sunday Basket	\$8,067
On-Line Giving	4,116
Total	\$12,183

The second collection for the Diocesan Seminarians was \$3,292

There will be a second collection this weekend for Religious Education

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 DE PAUL SCHOOLS NEWS THE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

We began the 2022-2023 school year, as we do every year, with a schoolwide mass lead by Father Bill. It was a blessing to see the church full with both returning families and many new families. Our school population is at a 10 year high and we are so thankful for the support of our families. Our Junior High is at capacity and we have a waitlist for both 7th and 8th grade. The faculty and staff have been working to enrich the Junior High experience on campus. We provide an academically motivated environment where the students can focus on their studies and prepare for high school. We are proud to announce Mrs. Heather Almond as our 8th grade teacher. She has been teaching at SVES for 5 years, as our 6th grade teacher. Mrs. Almond is embracing her new role and will be such a benefit in providing students with a balance of academic rigor, community involvement and a good understanding of high school expectations. The faculty and staff at SVES are always preparing our students for what comes next. From kindergarten all the way to eighth grade, we provide the right tools for our students to succeed in all aspects of their lives. If you are interested in finding out more about our Kindergarten-Eighth Grade programs, please contact our Admission Director Mrs. Rynning at rynnings@svalem.org or call the office at (707) 762-6426.

THE SVBTO (St. Vincent Better Together Organization) presents... The Big Event: A Night Under the Big Top. Join us for dinner, dancing, entertainment and a live and silent auction!



When: Saturday, October 22, 2022 at 5:30 pm

Where: St. Vincent de Paul High School

Tickets will go on sale in October!

This fundraiser supports the Elementary and High School communities. Contact the event chairs at svbigevent@svhs-pet.org with any questions.

PRO-LIFE PRAYER GROUP is meeting again on Tuesday afternoons at 2:00 pm outside St. Vincent's church by the bench. If you have any questions, please contact Irene Carnazola at (707) 762-6115.

PLEASE PRAY FOR - Erin Mullan, Jim Young, Quintin Ponce Jr., Rose Wooley, Mercedes Vargas, Blas Calvillo, Lucelia Fish, Judy Spencer, Kim Williams, Flor Maria Naal, Maria Ponce, Melody Packett-Souza, Bethany Pham, Rick Facendini, Clemencia Barreto, Dominic Ortiz, and Kaeli Sammon.