

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.



March 12, 2023

Mass intentions during March 13th - 19th			3rd Sunday of Lent
Mon.	8:00	Matthew Grala (L), Mary Moore Grala Michael Rilko, Mercedes Vargas	<p>When I became the pastor of a large parish, I soon found myself, for the first time in my life, riddled with anxiety, headaches, difficulty making decisions, and fatigue. I called a therapist friend and told her my symptoms and asked if she thought I needed a serious medical exam. She said, "How much water do you drink?" I told her, "I haven't had time to drink water lately." She responded, "You're chronically dehydrated. Drink eighty-five ounces a day and call me in a week." I started guzzling water and in a week all my symptoms went away. I felt great.</p> <p>Like me, the people in the Exodus wanderings were dehydrated. But unlike me, they knew it. Their symptoms were bad. They fight with each other. They accuse God of being a monster who wants them and their children to die of thirst. Their thirst drives them to plot the bloody assassination of the man who rescued them. God responds by using Moses to strike a rock from which rivers of living waters flow to quench their thirst for years to come.</p> <p>The Holy Spirit is the living water of love which flows from the pierced side of Jesus, the new Moses. What symptoms in your life suggest you're spiritually dehydrated? Anger at God? Cynicism at your leaders? Bitter rivalry and bickering with others? Don't panic. Of course we have those symptoms. Ask God to provide his water to quench your spiritual thirst, and he will. And all those symptoms will soon disappear.</p> <p>— Father John Muir ©LPi</p>
Tues.	8:00	Leda Sturla (L), Jodi Fitzgerald (L) Mercedes Vargas, Joe and Sam Carrao	
Wed.	8:00	Dominic Ortiz (L), Leda Sturla (L) Mercedes Vargas, Dorothy Marcucci	
Thurs.	8:00	Jodi Fitzgerald (L), Ashley Nelson-Levy (L) Mercedes Vargas, Joe Fitzgerald, Holy Souls	
Fri.	8:00	Jodi Fitzgerald (L), Leonardo Guzman (L) Mercedes Vargas, JoAnn Y. Panida	
Sat.	8:00	RoseAnn Greeott (L), Mercedes Vargas	
	5:00	Irene Carnazola (L) Charlie, Terry and Tim Petersen	
	7:00	Pro Populo	
Sun.	7:30	Henry "Hank" Schoenlein, Raffaelli Bros Darlene Adiego	
	9:00	RoseMarie Woodruff and Family (L) Maria Farinha, Edward Anacleto Jose Dolores Hernandez	
	10:30	-	
	12:00	Mercedes Vargas, Ester Figueroa Barcenas Dylan Jewel, Moises Velazquez Cabrera Alberto Figueroa	

Dear Fellow Parishioners,

I spent a good part of my day off writing this week's "Pastor's Desk" before receiving Bishop Vasa's statement on the diocese's intention to file for bankruptcy protection. His statement is sobering to read, as it provides the frankest and fullest account of events leading up to this bankruptcy filing. Though it is a lot of information to take in, I am grateful to him for his clarity and forthrightness. I am introducing his statement in the Pastor's Desk because I believe you would rather hear directly through your pastor than third-hand through the secular media or another source.

This is uncharted territory for nearly all of us. Sixteen dioceses in the U.S. have filed and emerged from bankruptcy, including two in California—Stockton and San Diego. So have the Boy Scouts of America. This is not a club anyone wants to belong to, but we are not alone, and others will likely follow.

The difficult news is that this process may last two or three years, or possibly longer. The burden will be borne almost exclusively by people, laity and clergy alike, who have done no wrong. The encouraging news is, once this process is properly completed, we will be done, and not subject to further suits arising from past allegations of abuse.

I have worked closely with Bishop Vasa on several projects over the years. While we have different approaches to many things, I consider him a skilled, conscientious and honest administrator. We are fortunate to have his steady hand at this time. We can also be thankful that, after two decades of strong child and youth protection practices, our churches and schools are among the very safest places for children and young people to be.

It is important that we not be consumed by this even as we work toward a just resolution. There are families and businesses in our parish who have gone through bankruptcy, and emerged chastened but able to move on. While I believe the real danger here is emotional and spiritual, this 165-year-old parish, its families and its clergy, have tremendous residual strength.

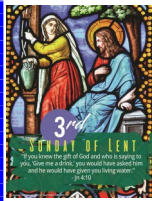
Whatever difficulties we will face, we must face them as people of faith and not lose heart. Some will respond to this with spiteful glee, and many hyped-up, ugly and even false things are certain to be said, in the media and elsewhere. Others will be dismayed yet again, as I am, by the past conduct of some which has harmed so many. There are things at stake far more important than money, or even good reputation. The past sins of others must not become occasions of sin for us now.

Last Monday's Mass reading, from the Letter of St. Paul to the Romans, says, "I am convinced that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor principalities, nor things present, nor things to come, nor powers, nor height, nor depth, nor any other created thing will be able to separate us from the love of God that is in Christ Jesus our Lord."

I will continue to be as open with you as circumstances permit, in the weeks and months to come. I would ask that we dedicate a portion of our Lenten prayer for the healing of victims of abuse whatever the source, and for the spiritual and temporal good of our parish, its people and ministries.

**In Christ, our Lord,
Rev. William P. Donahue,
Pastor**

READINGS FOR THE WEEK OF MARCH 13TH — 19TH



Monday: 2 Kgs 5:1-15ab/Ps 42:2, 3; 43:3, 4/Lk 4:24-30
 Tuesday: Dn 3:25, 34-43/Ps 25:4-5ab, 6 and 7bc, 8-9/Mt 18:21-35
 Wednesday: Dt 4:1, 5-9/Ps 147:12-13, 15-16, 19-20/Mt 5:17-19
 Thursday: Jer 7:23-28/Ps 95:1-2, 6-7, 8-9/Lk 11:14-23
 Friday: Hos 14:2-10/Ps 81:6c-8a, 8bc-9, 10-11ab, 14 and 17/
 Mk 12:28-34
 Saturday: Hos 6:1-6/Ps 51:3-4, 18-19, 20-21ab/Lk 18:9-14
 Sunday: 1 Sm 16:1b, 6-7, 10-13a/Ps 23:1-3a, 3b-4, 5, 6 (1)/
 Eph 5:8-14/ Jn 9:1-41 or 9:1, 6-9, 13-17, 34-38

LENTE RECONCILIATION SERVICE: There will be a Lente Reconciliation Service this Monday, March 13th, at 7 pm. All are welcome to come prepare for the season of Easter.



THE EASTER FLOWER ENVELOPES are available at the entrance of the church. It's a great opportunity to have your loved ones remembered by making a donation to help decorate our beautiful church for the Easter season.



ST. VINCENT'S STATIONS OF THE CROSS - will be held on Fridays at 7:30 pm in church during Lent, February 24th through March 31st. Fr. Stuart or Deacon Jim will lead the Stations of the Cross. All are welcome.



CRS RICE BOWLS - are available at the entrance of the church. Please return your rice bowls on Palm Sunday, April 2nd. For more information, go to crs-ricebowl.org



PLEASE PRAY FOR - Miriam Munayer, Toni Steady-Larsen, Addy Flanagan, Lucelia Fish, Irene Carnazola, Pete Fauser, Leslie Angela Gomez, Frank Solar, Jr., Dominic Ortiz, Bonifacio Gonzalez, and Quintin Ponce, Jr.



OUR SYMPATHIES go out to the family of Vernon John Hansen who passed away on February 21st. May his soul, of the faithfully departed, through the mercy of God, rest in peace.

ADORATION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT is held after weekday mass on Thursdays at 8:45 am, ending at 9:45 am.



CROSS PROCESSION THROUGH PETALUMA: Join the Body of Christ down E. Washington Street, united behind the cross on Good Friday, April 7th. The procession will start at 3 pm at Petaluma United Methodist Church, 410 D St., and end at St. James Catholic Church, 125 Sonoma Mountain Pkwy, at 4:30 pm. For more information, call Sheila Almquist at: 707-775-7973 or email Stephen Morris at: stephenmichaelmorris@gmail.com.



WINE, WOMEN, AND WORD: An evening of fellowship and faith sharing for Catholic women will be held Thursday, April 27 at St. James Parish. We will begin at 6:00 pm with social time. The program starts at 6:30 pm. All are welcome to join in. Questions? Please contact Joanne Ferris at: jferrispetaluma@gmail.com or call 707-481-6431.



Live out your faith through Catholic Charities!



Inspired by the love and teachings of Christ, we serve and advocate for vulnerable people of all cultures and beliefs, prioritizing those experiencing poverty. Donate | Volunteer | Serve on our Staff SRCHARITIES.ORG

PARISH FINANCIAL INFORMATION:

Last Sunday's offering:	
Sunday Basket	\$10,526
On-Line Giving	<u>4,106</u>
Total	\$14,632

Thank you for your generosity.

There is a second collection this weekend for the Catholic Relief Services & Catholic Campaign for Human Development

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 ELEMENTARY NEWS

This is a special time of year at SVES. During the Lenten Season our students are engaged in discussions and conversations with their peers and their teachers about their journey of faith. They are beginning to understand what it means to them as an individual. Our students are discovering new things about their relationship with god every day. It is such a blessing to be a part of this wonderful community. If you are interested in a faith-based education for your student, Kindergarten through Eighth grade, please contact our office at 762-6426 or email our Admission Director, Mrs. Rynning at: rynnings@svelem.org.



ST. VINCENT DE PAUL HIGH SCHOOL NEWS

ST. VINCENT DE PAUL HIGH SCHOOL is offering **CERAMICS FOR ADULTS** – in their brand new ceramics facility — The Linda Gonzalez Art Studio.



Learn the magnificent medium of ceramics with master artist Evan Hobart. In this adult education class, students will learn various hand building and pottery techniques and will be exposed to a number of finishing and firing practices. This course will also expose students to contemporary and historical ceramics through slides and talks.

The course starts March 23rd and ends May 8th. It is an 8 week course that meets once a week on Thursday evenings from 6:00-8:00 pm. The cost of the 8 week course is \$350 and includes most materials. Clay can be purchased from the instructor at \$15 per 25lb bag. More information about this class is located at the entrance of the church on the announcement boards.

THE ITALIAN CATHOLIC FEDERATION is offering scholarships to high school graduates who will be attending college. If you are Catholic, of Italian ancestry and have a cumulative GPA of 3.2 or higher, you are eligible to apply. For an application, see your high school counselor, or check out this web site, <http://www.icf.org/> scholarships or call Reno Iezza at 708-364-1155. **All applications must be received on or before April 1, 2023.**



KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS: Scholarship applications are available now at the parish office. Three \$500 scholarships are awarded yearly. **The final date for filing is April 20, 2023.**

