

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 19, 2023

Mass intentions during March 20th — 26th

| | | |
|--------|-------|--|
| Mon. | 8:00 | Bob and Lisa Dietlin (L) Lily Alcaraz and Family (L) Mercedes Vargas, Denis Orantes, Jesus Fernandez |
| Tues. | 8:00 | Jim McCaffrey, Mercedes Vargas, Denis Orantes Jesus Fernandez |
| Wed. | 8:00 | Jose Luis Flores (L), Mercedes Vargas Denis Orantes Jesus Fernandez |
| Thurs. | 8:00 | Marie Arnold, Mercedes Vargas, Denis Orantes Jesus Fernandez |
| Fri. | 8:00 | Ed and Rosie Greeott (L), The Greeott Family (L) Mercedes Vargas, Denis Orantes, Jesus Fernandez |
| Sat. | 8:00 | Ernesto and Flor Aguilar (L), Mercedes Vargas Denis Orantes, Jesus Fernandez |
| | 5:00 | Stephani Petersen (L), The Lavio-Manni Family |
| | 7:00 | Luis J. and Francisco Tapia (L), Tomas Benavides Amalia Fernandez, Eduardo Vargas |
| Sun. | 7:30 | Kim Williams (L), Henry "Hank" Schoenlein Keith Mathey |
| | 9:00 | Maria Farinha, Frederic Holden, Jerry Dixon Felisbina and Antonio Pardal |
| | 10:30 | Pro Populo |
| | 12:00 | Mercedes Vargas, Denis Orantes, Jesus Fernandez Dylan Jewel, Hermila Vargas Barajas |

4th Sunday of Lent

God asks a rhetorical and slightly sarcastic question to Samuel, the prophet: "How long will you grieve for Saul, whom I have rejected as king of Israel?" Like us, Samuel is depressed that the old king failed. It's painful to admit that the old regime is done. But God won't let us wallow in our pity-party forever. "I am sending you to Jesse of Bethlehem," announces the Lord, "for I have chosen my king from among his sons." Samuel finally goes and anoints the young David as the new king. And his kingdom is glorious; it's the golden age of Israel's earthly history.

How discouraging to see that my own selfish ego is no longer in charge! How long will I grieve that money, power, pleasure, and reputation have been rejected as the ruler of my life? How wonderful that God has a new future in store for you and me. He is sending us to Bethlehem to anoint the new David as our king. His kingdom won't fail us. He'll slay our goliaths, unite our dispersed energies, and build a Temple where God himself will dwell.

So how long will you grieve? How long?

— Father John Muir

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Dear Fellow Parishioners,



Last Monday night, SV hosted our Lenten Reconciliation Service. After a handful of years of COVID-suppressed demand, this service attracted more people than I have ever seen. We had 9 priests and began hearing confessions shortly after 7 p.m. and I didn't finish until about 9:45 p.m.

I understand that many people left when the long lines caused them to lose heart. I can only imagine the frustration that may have caused, and I apologize. It caught me by surprise as well. While I am gratified that so many were "led by the Spirit" to avail themselves of the Sacrament of Reconciliation, we need to find additional ways to make it available to those who wish to receive it.

For those who came but were not able to confess, I recommend a sincere Act of Contrition, and that you apply the time and effort spent in attending as your penance. I will add confession capacity and times between now and Holy Thursday for those who still wish to go to confession.

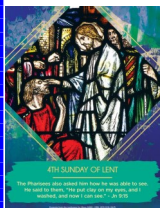
We are approaching the Fourth Sunday of Lent – Laetare Sunday, which means "Rejoice". It's a sign, first of all, that our Lenten journey is well underway. It's slightly past the mid-point of Lent, and the reason for rejoicing is the anticipation of Christ's resurrection at Easter. The prayers of the Mass take on a distinct note of anticipation, preparation and hope, and Easter is three weeks away. Make no mistake: the authenticity of Christian belief is dependent on the power and truth of His resurrection, His conquest over sin and death.

This Sunday's gospel of the Man Born Blind is taken from the beginning of the gospel of John, chapter 9. It is especially pointed in its descriptions of different forms of sin and blindness, physical and figurative, and in its description of Jesus ministering personally to someone who had been written off as beyond anyone's power to heal. It is no surprise that this Gospel has been read at the Sunday Eucharistic liturgy every year during Lent since the 1st century.

Blessings,

Fr. Bill Donahue

READINGS FOR THE WEEK OF MARCH 20TH — 26TH

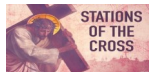


Monday: 2 Sm 7:4-5a, 12-14a, 16/Ps 89:2-3, 4-5, 27 and 29/Rom 4:13, 16-18, 22/Mt 1:16, 18-21, 24a or Lk 2:41-51a
 Tuesday: Ez 47:1-9, 12/Ps 46:2-3, 5-6, 8-9/Jn 5:1-16
 Wednesday: Is 49:8-15/Ps 145:8-9, 13cd-14, 17-18/Jn 5:17-30
 Thursday: Ex 32:7-14/Ps 106:19-20, 21-22, 23/Jn 5:31-47
 Friday: Wis 2:1a, 12-22/Ps 34:17-18, 19-20, 21 and 23/Jn 7:1-2, 10, 25-30
 Saturday: Is 7:10-14; 8:10/Ps 40:7-8a, 8b-9, 10, 11/Heb 10:4-10/Lk 1:26-38
 Sunday: Ez 37:12-14/Ps 130:1-2, 3-4, 5-6, 7-8 (7)/Rom 8:8-11/Jn 11:1-45 or 11:3-7, 17, 20-27, 33b-45

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 crsricebowl.org

CONGRATULATIONS - to Nico Salvador Serrano Preciado and Levi Matthew Moniz who received the Sacrament of Baptism.



PLEASE PRAY FOR - 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.



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.

VILLAGE NETWORK OF PETALUMA - PROGRAMS

Online calendar at <https://petaluma.helpfulvillage.com/events>. Most of our programs and interest groups are designed for members and active volunteers. If you are interested in learning more about membership or volunteering, come to a "Get to Know the Village" monthly info meeting or contact us at info@VillageNetworkofPetaluma.org or 707-776-6055.



PARISH FINANCIAL INFORMATION:

| | |
|-------------------------|-----------------|
| Last Sunday's offering: | |
| Sunday Basket | \$7,816 |
| On-Line Giving | <u>6,778</u> |
| Total | \$14,594 |

The second collection for the Catholic Relief Services & Catholic Campaign for Human Development was \$3,246.

Thank you for your generosity.

There will be a second collection next weekend for the Maintenance Fund.

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: rynnng@svelem.org.

ST. VINCENT DE PAUL HIGH SCHOOL NEWS

International Students

Welcome a visiting French exchange student into your home. St. Vincent de Paul High School will once again host a group of visiting students and educators from our sister schools in France this year. We are in need of housing for them during their stay from April 5-26th. If you are able to host a student or two, please contact Julia Mayne at jmayne@svhs-pet.org or Pascal Ledermann at pledermann@svhs-pet.org.



Admissions Department News

Have you heard about the unique program we have at St. Vincent de Paul? We are successfully giving students the opportunity to build 21st century skills in a traditional Catholic college prep curriculum. Our Arts and Athletics departments thrive while our Campus Ministry includes us all daily. Email Mrs. Pedersen at Admissions@svhs-pet.org to find out how your high school aged child can benefit. It's not too late for Fall 2023!

Mustang Athletic Club Golf Tournament

Save the date! June 9, 2023 - play in our golf tournament or just join the celebratory dinner event in DeCarli Gymnasium. For more information, email MACatsvhs-pet.org. All proceeds benefit our Mustang Student-Athletes!

Check out our Visual & Performing Arts Department this Spring!

See CLUE-high school edition presented by the SVHS Drama Department on April 20th or 21st at 6pm in Tillman Hall. Or, visit Gallery One in downtown Petaluma from April 27th - May 5th for the annual SVHS Student Art Show.

Summer Sports Camps

Registration is now open for our Camp of Champions. Each week June 12th - August 6th, different sports and skills building opportunities are offered. Camps are open to boys and girls in 3rd through 9th grades.