

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 5, 2023

<u>Mass intentions during March 6th — 12th</u>			2 nd Sunday of Lent
Mon.	8:00	Irene Carnazola (L) Parishioners who prayed for Blais Calvillo (L) Mercedes Vargas	<p>As a kid I remember looking at my sister and thinking, “No man is ever going to marry her. She is way too...my <i>sister!</i>” I couldn’t see her as anything except my goofy, emotional, cooties-laden sister. Years later, on her wedding day, I remember seeing how her husband looked at her, he was totally in love with her, his watery eyes full of overwhelmed joy, drinking in her beauty and grace. He was the one who actually saw her. Blinded by familiarity, I had not been able to see her until now. She was glorious. I finally saw how beautiful my sister really was.</p> <p>Jesus is transfigured before Peter, James, and John. His face shone like the sun and his clothes dazzle with heavenly light. If it’s a miracle, it is so related to the apostles’ perception of the glory of Jesus. The physical spectacle reveals how the Father perceives the Son, so to speak: “This is my beloved Son, with whom I am well-pleased; listen to him.” The Son is <i>always</i> bathed in the Father’s love. It’s only just now that they finally perceive it.</p> <p>Who could possibly give his or her heart totally to Jesus? If we perceive him to be just another teacher, symbol, or moral example, we can’t. But if the Holy Spirit gives us eyes to see that he is the Beloved Son of God, who makes our humanity not just pleasing to God but filled with glory ... then who can resist him? Perhaps only the lovers are the ones who properly see.</p> <p>— <i>Father John Muir</i> ©LPi</p>
Tues.	8:00	Honni Marie Cabergas (L), Flori Cabergas (L) Mercedes Vargas	
Wed.	8:00	Pat Doherty, Mercedes Vargas Evangelina de Vasquez	
Thurs.	8:00	Robert Camozzi III (L), Mario Gongora Wifred and Helen Fatooh, Mercedes Vargas	
Fri.	8:00	Frances and Fitzhugh Moore, Mercedes Vargas Celia Sandoval Ortiz, Ruth and Ernest Moore Vincent and Ellen Carrao	
Sat.	8:00	Mercedes Vargas	
	5:00	Paul Bonardi, Eric Myer, Greg Bono	
	7:00	Enriquez-Gutierrez Family (L) Luis J, and Francisco Tapia (L) Maria Trinidad Ocegüera Adolfo and Moises Figueroa	
Sun.	7:30	Lindy Borges, Brandon Castinado Sr. Mary Louise Williams	
	9:00	Luis J. and Francisco Tapia (L) Maria Farinha	
	10:30	-	
	12:00	Mercedes Vargas, Obdulia Gonzalez, Dylan Jewel	

Dear Fellow Parishioners,

What is the attraction of Ash Wednesday for so many, even those who attend church only a few times a year? Part of the appeal is its universality, as any living person from the Pope on down can receive ashes. I’m almost certain that our attendance at SV was noticeably larger this year than it has been in recent years.

Unlike Confession, which requires an Act of Contrition, penitence on Ash Wednesday is presumed in the very act of receiving the public sign of ashes. It is the one time in which all people stand simultaneously as equals before God on this earth. Part of the appeal is also deeply personal. Except in rare cases, everyone has a deep but diffuse intuition regarding the spiritual and moral character of their own lives. It’s diffuse, and the distractions of this world do everything possible to silence it, but it’s clear to those who take the time, effort, and prayer to discover and understand it. That is one of the main purposes of Ash Wednesday and Lenten observance.

The 40 days of Lent mirror the 40 days and nights that Jesus spent in the desert tempted by the Evil One. The desert, far from being empty, is full of stars and shadows that come to life. Jesus, the Son of God, returns to the desert where monotheism was revealed.

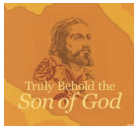
The forms of private penance prescribed by Jesus in the Gospel for Ash Wednesday – almsgiving, prayer and fasting – are a specific spiritual remedy, targeting the nexus of body, mind and spirit which to this day no one fully understands. But Jesus is not asking our understanding of penance, only our obedience, evidenced by the repetitive use of “when,” rather than “if,” e.g., “When you pray...” and not “If you pray...” We may not know how it works, just that it works.

Lenten fasting and abstinence, historically, were undertaken in much harsher circumstances. In agricultural societies, and before refrigeration, Lent coincided with the “hungry gap,” the time in spring when little to no fresh produce was available. This was especially the case for those who lived in colder climates. People had to rely on dwindling and aging stocks of stored food, beans and wheat. Salted meat was either used up or gone rancid. Salted fish was available for some, but was more difficult to find away from the ocean. For many, Lent meant truly subsistence living.

On a much lighter note, Catholic abstinence from meat on Fridays was partly responsible for one of the most popular fast-food items ever. In 1962, Lou Groen, a McDonald’s franchise owner in a heavily Catholic area of Cincinnati, noticed that burger sales were always way down on Fridays. So he invented the Filet-O-Fish sandwich for 25 cents. Now, 60 years later, 200 million are sold annually, and 25% of those are sold during Lent.

**Blessings,
Fr. Bill Donahue**

READINGS FOR THE WEEK OF MARCH 6TH — 12TH



Monday: Dn 9:4b-10/Ps 79:8, 9, 11 and 13/Lk 6:36-38
 Tuesday: Is 1:10, 16-20/Ps 50:8-9, 16bc-17, 21 and 23/Mt 23:1-12
 Wednesday: Jer 18:18-20/Ps 31:5-6, 14, 15-16/Mt 20:17-28
 Thursday: Jer 17:5-10/Ps 1:1-2, 3, 4 and 6/Lk 16:19-31
 Friday: Gn 37:3-4, 12-13a, 17b-28a/Ps 105:16-17, 18-19, 20-21/Mt 21:33-43, 45-46
 Saturday: Mi 7:14-15, 18-20/Ps 103:1-2, 3-4, 9-10, 11-12/Lk 15:1-3, 11-32
 Sunday: Ex 17:3-7/Ps 95:1-2, 6-7, 8-9 (8)/Rom 5:1-2, 5-8/Jn 4:5-42 or 4:5-15, 19b-26, 39a, 40-42

LENTE RECONCILIATION SERVICE: There will be a Lente Reconciliation Service on 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



CONGRATULATIONS to Amelia Melania Beatrice 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.



OUR SYMPATHIES go out to the family of Geraldine Anne Connell who passed away on February 2nd. May her soul, of the faithfully departed, through the mercy of God, rest in peace.

ST. VINCENT DE PAUL CHURCH is open from 8:00 am to 1:00 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 - 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 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.



PARISH FINANCIAL INFORMATION:

Last Sunday's offering:	
Sunday Basket	\$8,813
On-Line Giving	<u>1,473</u>
Total	\$10,286

The second collection for the Maintenance Fund was \$4,001.

Thank you for your generosity.

There will be a second collection next 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

We are currently accepting applications for the 2023-2024 school year. SVES is dedicated to providing a challenging academic environment for students from Kindergarten – Eighth Grade. At SVES we provide a safe and nurturing place for our students to really focus on faith, service and academics. If you are interested in learning more about our school, contact our Admissions Director, Mrs. Rynning, at rynning@svelem.org or call the office @ 762-6426.



ST. VINCENT DE PAUL HIGH SCHOOL NEWS

ST. VINCENT'S HIGH SCHOOL is in need of two host families. Raisa and Blanche, two French students, need a host family from Petaluma or Novato. They will be in the 10th grade at SVHS and are looking for a host family from 3/11/23 - 6/11/23 (approx.) Stipend of \$700/month per family. Please DM Marni at marni@marnicunha.com or call 707-338-2085.



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.**



EUREKA HOMELESS MISSION: Teens this summer are once again coming from all across Northern California to our Eureka Homeless Mission Outreach July 16 - 21st and our Leadership Training July 6th - 8th. More info and register via email: Stephen Morris at StephenMorrisrdsryouth@srdiocese.org.



Are you looking for a few extra hours of work? The Diocese is looking for part-time bookkeepers. Please contact Lori Norcia lnorcia@srdiocese.org or call 707-566-3322 for more information. Thank you.

