

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.



April 30, 2023

Mass intentions during May 1st - 7th

| | | |
|-------|-------|---|
| Mon. | 8:00 | Flor Aguilar (L), Sunny Rush (L) |
| Tues. | 8:00 | Pete and Mary Waldo (L) Alfred Martinoni |
| Wed. | 8:00 | Simon Tolentino (L) |
| Thur. | | Jerry Regan |
| Fri. | 8:00 | The Alcaraz Family (L), Elizabeth Garcia (L) Luis A. Gonzalez, Hilda Sickles, Margaret Bohan Edward Degan |
| Sat. | 8:00 | Luis A. Gonzalez |
| | 5:00 | Mark Kostielney |
| | 7:00 | The Enriquez-Gutierrez Family (L) Olivia Zepeda (L) Familia Sandoval Valencia, Familia Oceguera Solis Eduardo Vargas, Clodomiro Sandoval |
| Sun. | 7:30 | - |
| | 9:00 | - |
| | 10:30 | Pro Populo |
| | 12:00 | Maria Peña, Luis A. Gonzalez, Marcelina Perez Maria Elena Del Castillo, Librada Mendoza |

4th Sunday of Easter

I recently rescued a dog. She's a terrier and rather adorable. And she's crazy about me. She could spend all day with me. But I'm a pastor at a parish and sometimes I leave her at the front desk of the church office. She constantly amazes me by her ability to distinguish between my voice and that of everyone else. If I say one word, even if I'm hidden around a corner, she'll sprint toward me and jump up into my arms.

This week the readings focus our attention to the voice of the risen Jesus Christ. Comparing his disciples to sheep and himself to a shepherd, he says, "They recognize his voice." He speaks to us and wants us to respond. When we hear his voice, we follow. Throughout this coming week, we will experience many interior promptings to receive God's love, and to love Him in return. That's his voice.

Follow it into the safe and tender arms of Christ.

By contrast, some voices we will hear do not convey God's concern and love for us, but rather produce fear, despair, and other harmful mischief. Jesus calls these voices those of robbers. Does an idea or thought make it harder for you to love God? If so, run away. Let it go. It is most likely not the voice of the Risen Lord. Keep waiting for him to speak. You will recognize his voice. Then run to him as fast as you can. — Father John Muir ©LPI

Dear Fellow Parishioners,

At this time of year, I sign hundreds of documents: Baptismal certificates for those receiving other sacraments, First Communion and Confirmation certificates, diplomas from two schools, contracts for teachers and staff from two schools, you name it, all in addition to the usual checks, letters and Mass cards that need to be signed year round. Sometimes I think that for a month, what the parish needs is not so much a pastor as a signature machine, or the character "Thing" from the old Addams Family series – a bare hand that pops up out of a hinged box. However, it's the sheer numbers of life-markers I sign that reminds me of how many young lives the ministry of St. Vincent de Paul parish touches, and attempts to guide, every year.

The names of students on these documents are invariably formal – first, middle and last. Some middle names were originally surnames passed down from an earlier generation. Each diploma represents a young person completing an important step in their education and life's journeys, moving on to new challenges, new friends and new – possibly distant – locations.

Each First Communion certificate marks the day on which a young person is able to receive the Lord under the signs of bread and wine for the first time, and participate in the life of the Church on the same terms as an adult.

Each Confirmation certificate marks the day when a young person chooses his or her own Christian identity in the form of a Confirmation name, is fully initiated into the Church by the ancient sign of anointing with Sacred Chrism, and receives the seven-fold gifts of the Holy Spirit: wisdom, understanding, counsel, fortitude, knowledge, piety and reverence for the Lord.

I don't normally keep up with professional sports. So much of it happens on weekends, when I am not free. However, the statement by Milwaukee Bucks player Giannis Antetokounmpo, when being interviewed on the disappointing end of their season, provided much food for thought, especially for those embarking on a new stage or project in life.

"Do you get a promotion every year, in your job?" Antetokounmpo answered, after a long pause in which he placed his head in his hands. "No, right? So every year you work is a failure? Yes or no. No? Every year you work, you work towards something, towards a goal, which is to get a promotion, to be able to take care of your family, provide a house for them, or take care of your parents. You work towards a goal – it's not a failure. It's steps to success."

"There's always steps to it," Antetokounmpo continued. "Michael Jordan played 15 years, won six championships. The other nine years [were] a failure? That's what you're telling me... why do you ask me that question? It's the wrong question."

"There's no failure in sports. There's good days, bad days. Some days you are able to be successful, some days you're not. Some days it's your turn, some days it's not your turn. And that's what sports is about. You don't always win. Some other people are going to win. And this year, somebody else is going to win. We're going to come back next year and try to be better."

**Blessings,
Fr. Bill Donahue**

READINGS FOR THE WEEK OF APRIL 24TH - 30TH



Monday: Acts 6:8-15/Ps 119:23-24, 26-27, 29-30/Jn 6:22-29
 Tuesday: 1 Pt 5:5b-14/Ps 89:2-3, 6-7, 16-17/Mk 16:15-20
 Wednesday: Acts 8:1b-8/Ps 66:1-3a, 4-5, 6-7a/Jn 6:35-40
 Thursday: Acts 8:26-40/Ps 66:8-9, 16-17, 20/Jn 6:44-51
 Friday: Acts 9:1-20/Ps 117:1bc, 2/Jn 6:52-59
 Saturday: Acts 9:31-42/Ps 116:12-13, 14-15, 16-17/Jn 6:60-69
 Sunday: Acts 2:14a, 36-41/Ps 23:1-3a, 3b-4, 5, 6 (1)/1 Pt 2:20b-25/
 Jn 10:1-10

PARISH FINANCIAL INFORMATION:

| | |
|-------------------------|----------------|
| Last Sunday's offering: | |
| Sunday Basket | \$7,538 |
| On-Line Giving | <u>1,438</u> |
| Total | \$8,976 |

The second collection for the Maintenance Fund was \$3,737

Thank you for your generosity.

ST. VINCENT DE PAUL SOCIETY-will have a second collection this weekend. This is to inform our longtime and new contributors as to what we do with their generous contributions. The 5th Sunday collections, the Poor Box (in the back of the church), Christmas Giving Tree, Thanksgiving donations, plus individual gifts, allow us to distribute gift cards. The gift cards allow Petalumans in need to purchase food and household items (excluding alcohol, tobacco and lottery). Thanks again for your continued support!

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.



FIRST COMMUNION AND CONFIRMATION MASSES

English First Communion for all 2nd year students will be on May 6, 2023 at 12 noon.

Confirmation Celebrations. There will be 2 masses on Sunday May 14, 2023. The English Confirmation Mass will be at 3 pm followed by the Spanish Confirmation Mass at 5 pm. The rehearsal for both masses will be on Wednesday, May 10 at 5:30 pm (for 3 pm celebration) and at 7:00 pm (for 5 pm Spanish mass).



SEÑOR SANTO CRISTO SOCIETY MASS will be celebrated next Sunday, May 6 at 10:30 am by Fr. Manuel Sousa. He will be celebrating the mass in Portuguese.

CONGRATULATIONS - to Braeley James Moreda and Stetson Layne Brasil who received the Sacrament of Baptism.



THE ITALIAN CATHOLIC FEDERATION cordially invites you to join us for our chicken cacciatore dinner to be held at Saint James Hall on Saturday, May 20th. Doors open at 6 pm. The cost is \$25 (takeout available for \$20) to be paid in advance. Please call Lucy on or before May 13th at 707-769-1245 for reservations and further communication.



HIS EXCELLENCY, THE MOST REVEREND ROBERT F. VASA, cordially invites you to attend the ordination to the Order of Diaconate of Mauricio Rodriguez Duran and Christopher Girolo, Friday, June 9, in the year of our Lord 2023, 6 pm at the Cathedral of St. Eugene, 2323 Montgomery Dr, Santa Rosa. Light reception to follow.



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. Social events and some interest groups welcome guests for one session to learn more about becoming a member and/or volunteer in the Village community. 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.



ST. EUGENE'S CATHEDRAL has greatly expanded their shop and is carrying many new items. Visit the Cathedral Books and Gifts shop for Catholic books, bibles, rosaries, jewelry, statues, religious gifts, gifts for Baptism, First Communion, Confirmation, and more! Cathedral Books and Gifts shop, 2323 Montgomery Drive, Santa Rosa CA, 95405. For more information, call (707) 542-0250 or email: steugenegiftshop@outlook.com.



ST. VINCENT DE PAUL ELEMENTARY NEWS

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: rynnning@svelem.org.



ST. VINCENT DE PAUL HIGH SCHOOL NEWS

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 and Performing Arts Department this Spring!

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.



PLEASE PRAY FOR - Vicki Aguilar, Toni Steady-Larsen, Addy Flanagan, Lucelia Fish, Irene Carnazola, Pete Fauser, Frank Solar, Jr., Dominic Ortiz, Bonifacio Gonzalez, and Quintin Ponce, Jr.

BIRTHRIGHT OF PETALUMA helps families with diapers, clothes, and other baby/toddler related items at no cost. They are located at 1330 Commerce Street Suite C, Petaluma 94954. For more information, please call 707-763-9888.