

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.

August 27, 2023

<u>Mass intentions during August 28th - Sept. 3rd</u>		
Mon.	8:00	Matthew Grala (L) Michael Rilko, Mary Moore Grala, Evelyn Pedroni
Tues.	8:00	Ignacio Oseguera
Wed.	8:00	David Covarrubias (L) Dave and Jennifer Ramirez and Family (L) Rosario Gomez
Thur.	8:00	Elizabeth P. (L)
Fri.	8:00	The Alcaraz Family (L), Jodi Fitzgerald (L) Joe Fitzgerald, Holy Souls
Sat.	8:00	Rose Collins (L), Gerardo Sanchez (L)
	5:00	Mark Kostielney, Dan Longaker
	7:00	Pro Populo
Sun.	7:30	Joao and Margarida Galego
	9:00	Lindy Borges, Robert and Ellen Holden Felisbina and Antonio Pardal, Judy Perry
	10:30	Anthony and Patricia Krietich (L), Bob Dean (L) Connie Dean
	12:00	Juan Andres Avalos (L) Abraham and Jose Luis Avalos, Katy Gomez Jose Manuel Lopez, Isaura Rico Garcia

21st Sunday in Ordinary Time

Isn't it a bit weird that Catholics call the Pope "papa," father? This Sunday provides us with essential Scriptural background on the papacy, the petrine office. Jesus gives Peter the "keys to the kingdom of heaven," after witnessing to the special grace Peter has to know Jesus' true identity. Many have pointed out that the "keys" refer back to the figure of Eliakim, King David's prime minister. True enough. But notice this is not mere authority or power. It's a family relationship. The Lord says to Eliakim, "He shall be a father to the inhabitants of Jerusalem" (Isaiah 22:21). David's prime minister was a spiritual father to the family of Israel. Peter, and his successors, will be spiritual fathers in the family of the Church.

This means we have a serious obligation to not only recognize the Pope's authority, but also to love him with the affection of children for their papa. We should never speak about him with disrespect or rancor. We should listen to him with trusting hearts, and ignore the slander thrown at him in various media. When we show the world we are loving and obedient to our Holy Papa, perhaps they'll see more clearly that the Church is indeed God's beloved family.

— Father John Muir
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Dear Fellow Parishioners,



The coming week contains the feast day – August 28th – of one of the most notable and important saints in the history of the Church: St. Augustine of Hippo. ("Hippo" is not a reference to the pachyderm, but to Hippo Regius, where he served as bishop, the modern-day Annaba, the third-largest city in Algeria). Among other things, he is the namesake of St. Augustine, Florida, the oldest continuously-inhabited American city of European origin, founded in 1565. It was founded by Pedro Menendez de Aviles, and named after St. Augustine because it was on his feast day, August 28, 1565, that the explorers first sighted the Florida coast from their ships.

Interestingly, despite the countless places in California that were named after saints – including his mother, St. Monica – there is no place of any note in our state named after St. Augustine. While one cannot be certain as to why, I suspect it might be because California was first settled by Franciscan, and not Augustinian, friars.

St. Augustine made an indelible contribution to the Church in a number of ways. First, several major works of his survive as classics of spirituality, including "The City of God", "Confessions", "On Christian Doctrine" and "On the Trinity". The Christian historian Diarmaid MacCullough wrote that "Augustine's impact on Western Christian thought can hardly be overstated; only his beloved example, Paul of Tarsus, has been more influential, and Westerners have generally seen Paul through Augustine's eyes". What made that accomplishment even more remarkable is that, due to a physically abusive schoolmaster, he refused to study Greek, the language of the New Testament.

The areas of Augustine's influence include, but are not limited to, Church teaching on the Holy Trinity, Original Sin, Infant Baptism, Christian anthropology, Ecclesiology, Mariology, the theory of Just War, and opposition to slavery. He is the patron of brewers, printers, philosophers, theologians and sore eyes – the latter no doubt due to long hours of reading!

Before his conversion, he lived a dissolute life, and is known for his famously insincere prayer, "Grant me chastity and continence, but not yet". He fathered a son, Adeodatus, out of wedlock, who lived to the age of 16. For years, Augustine was the despair of his mother, St. Monica, a devout Christian who prayed ceaselessly for his conversion. (It is not surprising that St. Monica is the patroness of, among other things, "disappointing children"). Though he left behind countless nuggets of wisdom, three of my favorites are: "He who denies the existence of God, has some reason for wishing He does not exist", "God has promised forgiveness to your repentance, but He has not promised tomorrow to your procrastination", and, "Trust the past to the mercy of God, the present to His love, and the future to His providence".

**Blessings,
Fr. Bill Donahue**

READINGS FOR THE WEEK OF AUGUST 28TH - SEPT. 3RD



Monday: 1 Thes 1:1-5, 8b-10/Ps 149:1b-2, 3-4, 5-6a and 9b/
Mt 23:13-22

Tuesday: 1 Thes 2:1-8/Ps 139:1-3, 4-6/Mk 6:17-29

Wednesday: 1 Thes 2:9-13/Ps 139:7-8, 9-10, 11-12ab/Mt 23:27-32

Thursday: 1 Thes 3:7-13/Ps 90:3-5a, 12-13, 14 and 17/
Mt 24:42-51

Friday: 1 Thes 4:1-8/Ps 97:1 and 2b, 5-6, 10, 11-12/
Mt 25:1-13

Saturday: 1 Thes 4:9-11/Ps 98:1, 7-8, 9/Mt 25:14-30

Sunday: Jer 20:7-9/Ps 63:2, 3-4, 5-6, 8-9 (2b)/Rom 12:1-2/
Mt 16:21-27

ST. VINCENT'S RELIGIOUS EDUCATION PROGRAM 2023-2024

Registrations for the English Pre-K - 5th grade Religious Education Programs will be held Aug. 1st - 31st. Pick up these registration forms at the church entrance, in the bell room, or on the rectory porch. You can also pick them up in the plaza before or after the masses on Saturday, Aug. 26th and Sunday, Aug. 27th.

The last in-person registrations for English and Spanish Religious Education, Confirmation and Spanish RCIA will be the next Saturday: Sept. 2nd, from 9:00 am to 11:50 am in the parish hall, or return the completed form and fee in a sealed envelope to the office rectory, attention: Carmen Aanenson. For more information, please call 707-762-4278 ext. 14.

ALL parent's who are registering their child for second year First Communion and Confirmation MUST bring a copy of their child's baptismal certificate, if not baptized at St. Vincent's Church.

Welcome to a new Year of Faith Formation.

THANK YOU! We thank the volunteer catechists who assist in bringing us all to the fullness of our faith, and we acknowledge their stewardship through their time and talent. If you are interested in volunteering your time, please call Carmen Aanenson at 707-762-4278 x14.

Are you interested in being a Catholic? Have you ever thought about it? Are you being called deeper into a relationship with Jesus Christ and His Church? Now is the time to come and see what's next! Please call Carmen Aanenson for an interview and application at 707-762-4278 x14.

ALTAR SERVERS NEEDED: St. Vincent's Church is in need of Altar Servers. The children must be at least 9 years old and in 4th grade or higher, and have received their First Communion. For information or to pick up an application, please call the parish office at 707-762-4278.

OUR SYMPATHIES go out to the family of Evelyn M. Pedroni who passed away August 12th, and James Lee Mendoza who passed away August 17th. May the souls of the faithful departed, through the mercy of God, rest in peace.

WINE WOMEN AND WORD Thursday, Sept. 21st at 6 pm at St. Vincent Parish Hall. Our theme will be "Challenges of Service In Our Faith." Please join us if you are interested in learning more about membership or volunteering, come to a "Get to Know the Village" monthly for an evening of fellowship and faith sharing. Bring a friend! For more information, please contact Joanne Ferris at, jferripetaluma@gmail.com or call 707-481-6431.

PARISH FINANCIAL INFORMATION:

Last Sunday's offering:
 Sunday Basket \$8,081
 On-Line Giving 1,558
 Total \$9,639

Thank you for your generosity.

There will be a second collection this weekend for the Maintenance Fund

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'S HIGH SCHOOL NEWS

Save the date for the 2023 St. Vincent de Paul Open House - Sunday, **October 22, 2023!**

Faith, Service, Leadership: Find out how we are successfully supporting students in a traditional Catholic College Prep environment while ensuring they are building the skills needed to be successful in the 21st century.

Email: Admissions@svhs-pet.org to be added to our Open House invitation list.

Host an International Mustang

St. Vincent de Paul High School is looking for families who want to welcome one of three international students into their homes this fall. This is a unique opportunity to add to your family's knowledge and experience another's culture.

Host families are asked to provide:
 a bed/bedroom
 3 meals per day
 transportation assistance

Hosts receive a \$1,000 monthly stipend to help with these needs. The student has his/her own money and insurance and is responsible for any school, sport, entertainment, toiletry expenses, etc.

If you or someone you know might be interested in hosting email Kerry at: kpetersen@svhs-pet.org.

PLEASE PRAY FOR - Quintin Ponce, Jr., Pete Fauser, Juan de Dios Tinoco, Carolyn Maestri, Roberta Guerra, Estela Anguiano, Martha Ponce, Lucelia Fish, Frank Solar, Jr., and Dominic Ortiz.

THE DIOCESE OF SANTA ROSA invites everyone to attend the annual Santa Rosa Religious Education Congress on Saturday, September 23, 2023. This event is free. This year's theme is "Liturgy, Devotion, and the Most Holy Eucharist." Workshops are in English and Spanish. Come hear great speakers.

For more information, check out the diocesan website at www.srdiocese.org

STRESS IN YOUR MARRIAGE? - Retrouvaille is a program for married couples that feel bored, disillusioned, frustrated, or angry in their marriage. Some experience coldness. Others experience conflict in their relationship. Most don't know how to change the situation or even communicate with their spouse about it. Retrouvaille has helped so many couples who are experiencing difficulties in their marriage. For confidential information about or to register for the September 15-17 Retrouvaille weekend in San Jose, call 408-605-4998 or email: SanJose@RetroCA.com. And please or visit our website at www.HelpOurMarriage.org.