

**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.**

September 17, 2023

<u>Mass intentions during September 18th - 24th</u>			<u>24th Sunday in Ordinary Time</u>
Mon.	8:00	SVDP Rosary Group (L) Lorenzo Ortegon Vela	<p>When I was in second grade, my prized possession was a metal Star Wars-themed lunch box. After school one day, another student ripped it from my hands. I helplessly watched in horror as my classmate threw it to the ground and violently stomped it into an unrecognizable heap of junk. I came home covered in tears of shame and rage. After a few months, I never thought about it again ... until I was almost thirty years old and on a retreat to prepare for ordination to the priesthood.</p> <p>That childhood memory — and the attendant outrage — came back afresh. My spiritual director helped me in the process of acknowledging that I was angry because that kid owed me my lunch box. Then she helped me, through the grace of Jesus, to forgive the debt. Almost immediately I felt a new peace. I was amazed that I hadn't forgotten what I had lost, even from years before. Aren't we human beings simply amazing at remembering what people owe us?</p> <p>We see this week in Jesus' parable a servant who is forgiven much but then commands another servant: "Pay back what you owe!" He can't forget or let go of how he was wronged. He remembers — and he becomes a monster because of it. If only he had remembered not only the debts owed to him, but also his greater debt owed to — and forgiven by — his master. It's natural for us to remember what others owe us. But when we contextualize those offenses in Jesus' mercy toward us and them, we're free to be merciful like the Master and less like a monster who never forgets.</p> <p align="right">— Father John Muir ©LPi</p>
Tues.	8:00	Doria Medina (L), Jorge Calderon (L) Adrena Gianini, Teodoro Calderon Celia de Calderon	
Wed.	8:00	Jane and Roger Manning (L)	
Thur.	8:00	Jodi Fitzgerald (L) Joe Fitzgerald, Francis and Fitzhugh Moore Evelyn Pedroni	
Fri.	8:00	Mario Gongora	
Sat.	8:00	Roger Nagy	
	5:00	Dan Longaker	
	7:00	Familia Romo Gonzalez (L) Antonino Gomez, Nicanor Perez Pedro Najar y Rosa Elena Ortega de Najar	
Sun.	7:30	Dottie Pomfret, Harold Mazza	
	9:00	Dan Longaker, Johnny Melo, Gino Paieri	
	10:30	Pro Populo	
	12:00	Juan Andres Avalos (L) Abraham and Jose Luis Avalos Jose Maria Lopez, Isaura Rico Garcia Ramon Ochoa Diaz, Agripina Bravo Santos	

**Dear Fellow Parishioners,**

As I walked to my car after a school meeting at about 8:30 pm last Wednesday, I could feel the slight chill of Fall approaching, my favorite season of the year. The feasts of the Church reflect the bittersweet impending Fall with a mix of liturgical memorials: The Triumph of the Cross (9/14); Our Lady of Sorrows (9/15); Korean Martyrs Andrew Tae-Gon and Companions (9/20); St. Padre Pio of Pietrelcina (9/23); and St. Vincent de Paul, our patronal saint (9/27).

I try to keep "From the Pastor's Desk" light but informative. This week, there is a couple of serious matters I want to bring to your attention and explain.

As most of you know, the Diocese of Santa Rosa has sought, and received, relief from the Federal Bankruptcy Court, along with other northern California dioceses. It is Chapter 11 bankruptcy protection. The word to remember is "protection" as it provides a path forward for the diocese to continue its ministries while resolving legal claims as equitably as possible. This is a complex process, but in the interest of transparency, I will tell you what I believe is most essential to know.

The process establishes a cut-off date for any further lawsuits, but only after widespread notice is given to potential claimants. This widespread notice includes sending a small card giving notice to every parishioner or person for whom we have contact information. That is also the reason for the insert in the bulletin this weekend – to give notice of the "bar date," that is, the cut-off date after which no further claims or suits will be accepted. This is being done in every parish in the diocese. The insert will appear in our bulletin, as required, several times before the October 24, 2023 bar date. Notice will also be posted in the vestibule.

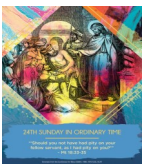
I encourage you to pray – for victims and their families, for the People of God, for priests, deacons and lay ministers, and all others affected by abuse of children and young people. I will keep you updated as events develop.

The second matter I'd like to address is SV High School and the exit of its principal. In addition to my pastoral role, I have a fiduciary responsibility for our parish and schools which I take with utmost seriousness. His departure from SVHS has been covered in the local media and beyond. Rash use of social media and the internet has spread false rumors and poured gasoline on the fire.

Some personal judgments of me have been harsh and, in my view, ill-informed. Investigations are now being conducted by the appropriate authorities, both within and independently of the Diocese. There is not much more I can say, even in self-defense, other than, "No comment." As an alumnus of both of our schools, I cede to no one first place in my devotion to all three of our parish ministries.

**Blessings,  
Fr. Bill Donahue**

### READINGS FOR THE WEEK OF SEPTEMBER 18TH - 24TH



Monday: 1 Tm 2:1-8/Ps 28:2, 7, 8-9/Lk 7:1-10  
Tuesday: 1 Tm 3:1-13/Ps 101:1b-2ab, 2cd-3ab, 5, 6/Lk 7:11-17  
Wednesday: 1 Tm 3:14-16/Ps 111:1-2, 3-4, 5-6/Lk 7:31-35  
Thursday: Eph 4:1-7, 11-13/Ps 19:2-3, 4-5/Mt 9:9-13  
Friday: 1 Tm 6:2c-12/Ps 49:6-7, 8-10, 17-18, 19-20/Lk 8:1-3  
Saturday: 1 Tm 6:13-16/Ps 100:1b-2, 3, 4, 5/Lk 8:4-15  
Sunday: Is 55:6-9/Ps 145:2-3, 8-9, 17-18 (18a)/Phil 1:20c-24, 27a/Mt 20:1-16a

### ST. VINCENT'S RELIGIOUS EDUCATION 2023-2024

English religious education has begun. Seats are still available. The programs available are Pre-K & K on Sunday at 9 am. We also offer after school religious education on Wednesdays. This includes children preparing for 1st Communion. If you wish to register your child with one of our programs, please pick up a registration form from the office and turn it to the office in a sealed envelope attention Carmen. For addition information, please contact 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.

**ST. VINCENT'S USHERS:** The official mass attendance count for the Diocese of Santa Rosa will be taken at ALL masses during the month of October 2023.

**CONFESSIONS** are held in the church on Saturdays at 3:30 pm. Masks are encouraged. You can also call the rectory office at 707-762-4278 and ask for a priest to schedule an appointment during the week.

**CONGRATULATIONS** - to Leo Spencer Gouveia, Austin Jess Kruit, Aliana Patricia and Alessandro Zarate-Calderon who received the Sacrament of Baptism.

**PLEASE PRAY FOR**—Rosie Greeott, Rick Williams, Jilberto Porras, 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.

**OUR SYMPATHIES** go out to the family of Ruth Edith Rousseau who passed away on August 16th and Stella Marie Corda who passed away September 12th. May the souls of the faithful departed, through the mercy of God, rest in peace.

**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. Please come hear the speakers. For more information, check out the diocesan website at [www.srdioocese.org](http://www.srdioocese.org)

**SOCIETY OF ST. VINCENT DE PAUL** District Council of Sonoma County is hosting a retreat: Journey Together Towards Holiness. All are welcome to join us, Tuesday, September 26th at Holy Spirit Church, 1244 St. Francis Rd, Santa Rosa, from 10 am - 2 pm. For more information contact: [jimandchrisnanman@gmail.com](mailto:jimandchrisnanman@gmail.com) or call 650-274-9941.

### PARISH FINANCIAL INFORMATION:

Last Sunday's offering:

Sunday Basket	\$7,894
On-Line Giving	2,078
Total	\$9,972

The second collection last weekend for the Religious Education Fund was \$2,580.

**Thank you for your generosity.**

There will be a second collection next 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.

**ARE YOU NEW TO THE COMMUNITY?** Do you live in Petaluma and want to register and receive Sunday offering envelopes or sign-up online for electronic giving? For more information, call the rectory at 707-762-4278.

### ST. VINCENT DE PAUL ELEMENTARY NEWS



We are very fortunate to have such a supportive community of parents. It is a true partnership between our faculty & staff and our parents. At St. Vincent de Paul Elementary School, we offer an educational experience that has become increasingly difficult to find, educating the whole child in a top-level academic program integrated with Catholic values.

If you are interested in touring our campus, please contact our Admissions Director, Mrs. Rynning, at [rynnings@svelem.org](mailto:rynnings@svelem.org) or call our office at (707) 762-6426.

### 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](mailto: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 school, sport, entertainment, toiletry expenses, etc.

If you or someone you know might be interested in hosting, email Kerry at: [kpetersen@svhs-pet.org](mailto:kpetersen@svhs-pet.org).

**WINE WOMEN AND WORD** Thursday, Sept. 21st at 6 pm in St. Vincent's Parish Hall. Our theme will be "Challenges of Service In Our Faith." Bring a friend! For more information, please contact Joanne Ferris at [jferrispetaluma@gmail.com](mailto:jferrispetaluma@gmail.com) or call 707-481-6431.

