

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 1, 2024

Mass intentions during September 2nd - 8th

Mon.	8:00	Steve Kroeger (L), Joe Piasta, Calee Johnson, Randall C. Flower, Jomar Lococo
Tues.	8:00	The Siobhhan Evans Family (L), K.T. (L)
Wed.	8:00	Alejandro Ruiz (L), The Overton Family (L), Elodia Grajeda, Martha Overton
Thur.	8:00	Sylvia Samija and Family (L), Addy Navarrete, Lorenzo Ortegon, Holy Souls
Fri.	8:00	The Alcaraz Family (L), The Family of Calee Johnson (L), Melisa and Yareli Tinoco and Family (L), Holy Souls in Purgatory
	8:00	Rose Collins, Norm and Jeanne Lubeck, Reparation to the Sacred Heart of Jesus and the Immaculate Heart of Mary
	5:00	Dennys Cota Montejano (L), Mark Kostielney
	7:00	The Enriquez-Gutierrez Family (L), Alonso Murillo, Ramon Gutierrez, Saul Alejandro Almeida, Eulalio Salinas Torres
Sun.	7:30	Kathy Piasta and Family (L), Joe Piasta, Jeannette Couch
	9:00	Felisbina and Antonio Pardal, Jerry Dixon, Frederic Holden, Edward Anacleto
	10:30	Pro Populo
	12:00	Juan Andres Avalos and Family (L), Jose Luis Cuellar (L), Jose Luis Avalos, Mario Herrera, Angel Ruiz

Dear Fellow Parishioners,

I'm happy to inform you that the re-gilding and re-painting of the facade of the main entrance of the church has been completed. Some time ago, Ruby Newman, the local craftswoman who has been with our interior and exterior church renewal projects for over 3 decades, said that this would be the last project she would complete outside of her studio. (Understandably, as there is a time in life when no one wants to climb on scaffolding a story high.) Applying gold leaf is a dying art, something I knew next to nothing until I saw Ruby at work. The gold leaf comes in little bound tablets, like gold Post-It notes. The pages are pressed with a special tool on the intended surface. The sheets are unbelievably thin, and a tablet of little sheets the size of a 3"x5" index card were enough to complete the entire project. It surprisingly economical due to the relatively small amounts gold used, and the fact that the sheets were bought years ago. If you haven't already done so, take a long look at the main entrance of the church.

The second bit of good news is that the plaza fountain will be reactivated, ideally within the next couple of weeks. It was turned off some time ago due to repeated acts of mischief – i.e., putting detergent in the water and creating cascades of suds. That doesn't sound like a big deal without knowing that the soap is considered an environmental hazard and cannot be hosed off into the gutter and down a storm drain. They must be shoveled by hand off of the plaza and sidewalks, then removed and treated. It's like shoveling fog, and it takes hours. It was happening more and more often until I decided to turn off the fountain for awhile, with the intent of breaking the cycle long enough to send the merry pranksters off to practice their deviltry elsewhere. In the meantime, the drought came, and it seemed sensible to keep it off a bit longer. The waterworks will go on very soon, The underwater fountain lights will take a bit longer, but will be repaired as well.

Speaking of pranks, during one of the heatwaves a couple of weeks ago, I left the driver's side window of my car open overnight. During that night, somebody drove by and threw a raw egg into my car, which had to be professionally cleaned and detailed. I've since learned that there are even worse pranksters. In Ireland, some gangs will drive down busy city streets, pull up alongside a car with an open window, and throw in a live rat.

On the more serious side, our parish finance committee has met during the summer. During that time, we have discovered that due largely to increased expenses, our parish is facing a large and growing budget deficit. A primary culprit is insurance. As you may have noticed in your household budgets, the cost of insurance of all kinds is rising significantly. Because of our large facilities, insurance is already high. Mike Marovich and I had a private meeting with the diocesan financial officer and made a successful argument for a reduced assessment.

Finally, I would like to make an appeal for the 2024-25 Annual Ministries Appeal. This annual appeal is almost entirely for lay ministries at the regional or diocesan levels, that parishes cannot normally afford on their own, such as support offices for diocesan services, insurance and risk management, Safe Environment enforcement, religious education, legal services, etc. These are provided almost entirely by lay people to the laity of the diocese. As you know, I hesitate to appeal for funds, but I am making an exception. Our AMA goal for 2024 is \$51,400. (At \$26,000, we're half-way to our goal.) Any amount earned beyond the goal is refunded to the parish. Any amount by which we fall short of the goal will be billed to the parish, with a 9% markup. This is an especially important year to meet or exceed our goal.

I wish you all a restful and safe Labor Day Weekend.

Fr. Bill Donahue

READINGS FOR THE WEEK OF SEPTEMBER 2ND - 8TH

Monday: 1 Cor 2:1-5/Ps 119:97, 98, 99, 100, 101, 102/Lk 4:16-30
Tuesday: 1 Cor 2:10b-16/Ps 145:8-9, 10-11, 12-13ab, 13cd-14/Lk 4:31-37
Wednesday: 1 Cor 3:1-9/Ps 33:12-13, 14-15, 20-21/Lk 4:38-44
Thursday: 1 Cor 3:18-23/Ps 24:1bc-2, 3-4ab, 5-6/Lk 5:1-11
Friday: 1 Cor 4:1-5/Ps 37:3-4, 5-6, 27-28, 39-40/Lk 5:33-39
Saturday: 1 Cor 4:6b-15/Ps 145:17-18, 19-20, 21/Lk 6:1-5
Sunday: Is 35:4-7a/Ps 146:7, 8-9, 9-10 (1B)/Jas 2:1-5/Mk 7:31-37

**ST. VINCENT'S RELIGIOUS EDUCATION PROGRAMS
2024 - 2025**

The after-school Religious Education classes begin after Labor Day. Because of the volume of students, we have opened two days for classes, Tuesday and Wednesday, 3:30 - 4:45 pm. The first day is Tuesday, September 3rd and Wednesday, September 4th. If you are not sure when your child is scheduled, please contact Carmen Aanenson at 707-762-4278, ext. 14.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED: We need more dedicated people willing to spend 2 - 3 hours a week to help in our religious education programs. There are openings in our Sunday preschool program and Children's Liturgy at 9:00 am Mass, Tues. and Wed. for the Children's after-school religious education program and the OCIA (RCIA) program in the evenings. Other openings are at our seasonal events: registrations, Advent, children's retreats and special masses, Children's Christmas Liturgy, Lent, and Easter. We need teachers, readers, aides, and guides. Help our children grow in their faith, and welcome and support our new members. You can make a difference by bringing your gifts and talents. Let's meet! Carmen Aanenson 707-762-4278 x14.

ARE YOU INTERESTED IN BEING A CATHOLIC? Have you ever thought about it? Are you being called further into a relationship with Jesus Christ and His Church? Now is the time to come and see what's next. Please call Carmen Aanenson at 707-762-4278 x14 to meet and register.

ST. VINCENT DE PAUL CONFIRMATION PROGRAM 2024-2025

Registration for the English and Spanish Confirmation programs will be held on the following Saturdays in the parish hall from 9 - 11:50 am: August 31 and Sept. 7. If you're registering your child for 2nd Year Confirmation, **YOU MUST BRING A COPY OF THEIR BAPTISM CERTIFICATE**, even if they were baptized at St. Vincent's Church. For more information, please call the parish office at 707-762-4278.

THE PARISH OFFICE WILL BE CLOSED this Monday, September 2, 2024 for Labor Day.

CONFESSIONS are held in the church on Thursdays at 6 pm and Saturdays at 3:30 pm, please enter through the confessional side. You can also call the rectory office at 707-762-4278 and ask for a priest to schedule an appointment during the week.

ADORATION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT is held after weekday mass on Thursdays for one hour. All are welcome!

THE COMMUNAL FIRST SATURDAYS: A devotion to Our Lady of Fatima is held every first Saturday of the month before the daily mass at 7:15 am, followed by the mass at 8 am, and concludes with scripture meditation shortly after the mass. The devotion for September will be on Saturday, Sept. 7th. For more information, please call Lilian Dubow at 510-205-3712 or Lilian.Dubow@gmail.com or go to www.CommunalFirstSaturdays.org.

PARISH FINANCIAL INFORMATION:

Last Sunday's offering:
Sunday Basket \$7,061.50
On-Line Giving 1,388.00
Total \$8,449.50

The second collection this weekend for the Maintenance Fund was \$3,762.

Thank you for your generosity.

This weekend there will be a second collection for the Diocesan Seminarians.

ST. VINCENT DE PAUL ELEMENTARY NEWS

This week at SVES we elected our new 2024-2025 Student Council. Our Leadership Advisor, Ms. Penry, guided the students as they put together a campaign and walked them through the election process. This was a great way to show the students at SVES that every vote counts. They learned a lot about the voting process. The Student Council consists of Board member and class representatives. Our students take great pride in our school and it shows. We are so proud of all of our students.

If you are interested in finding out more about our TK-8th grade programs please call the office 707.762.6426 to set up a tour.



CONGRATULATIONS - to Christopher Jaxon Barnett who received the Sacrament of Baptism.

PLEASE PRAY FOR - Tom Reeder, Jim Doolittle, Salvador Ochoa, Lin Crossman, Maria Amador, Quintin Ponce Jr. and Sr., Consuelo Alvarez, and Ev Woodruff.

WINE, WOMEN, AND WORD: Fellowship and Faith sharing for Women from St. James and St. Vincent Parishes (and beyond) will be Thursday, Sept. 19 at St. Vincent Parish Hall, corner of Western and Howard. Doors will open at 6 pm for social time and the program runs from 6:30 pm - 8:30 pm. Our theme for the evening will be "Doers of the Word." For more information, please call Joanne Ferris at 707-481-6431.

THE SOLDIERS OF CHRIST: Calling men ages 18 - 38 in and around Cotati - join us for St. Michael's Lent, beginning September 11th through October 30th, Wednesdays from 7:30 - 8:30 pm at St. Joseph's Church, Cotati. We are a men's fraternity that meets weekly to pray, discuss upcoming Mass readings, and follow a spiritual game plan. Email to join: stephen-michaelmorris@gmail.com, For more information: www.soldiersofchrist.info.

THE DIOCESE OF SANTA ROSA - DEPARTMENT OF RELIGIOUS EDUCATION warmly invites you to attend the 2024 Santa Rosa Congress and experience all that the event has to offer on Sat., September 21, 2024 from 8:30 am - 4:00 pm at Cardinal Newman High School, 4320 Old Redwood Hwy., Santa Rosa. This year's theme will be "Prayer, Our Relationship with God." To register, visit www.srdiocese.org or contact Carmen Perez Aanenson at 707-566-3366 or dre@srdiocese.org.