

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 8, 2024

Mass intentions during September 9th - 15th

Mon.	8:00	Ivonne Cota Montejano (L), Mercedes Vargas Herrera
Tues.	8:00	The Family of Dawn Carlsen (L), Ronald Anthony Ruffo, Brian Leach
Wed.	8:00	Fidel and Antonio Cornejo, Wilfred and Helen Fatooh
Thur.	8:00	Isabel Steger (L), Lorraine Stevensen, Monserrat Marquez Montejano, Eduardo Corteza Mata
Fri.	8:00	Melisa and Yareli Tinoco (L), Martha Montejano (L), Joan Jimenez, Holy Souls in Purgatory
	8:00	Emanuel Lozano Magana (L), Norm and Jeanne Lubeck
	5:00	Manuel and Franceline Lopes, Margie Brown, Lindy Borges
	7:00	Antonio Salvador Esquivel (L), Jonathan Antonio Ortiz (L), Jovita Recendiz and Family (L), The Enriquez Gutierrez Family (L)
Sun.	7:30	The Jimenez Family (L), Martha Overton, Raymond Skipp, Joan Jimenez
	9:00	George Bordi (L), Thanksgiving for health, Linden Crossman, Gloria Bordi
	10:30	Pro Populo
	12:00	Martha Sumano Ramos (L), Ramon Ochoa Diaz, Daniel Ochoa Ochoa, Abraham Avalos, Jose Maria Lopez

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.

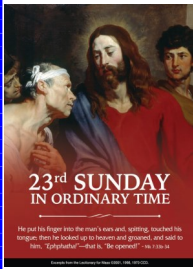
Speaking of pranks, during one of the heatwaves a couple of weeks ago, I left the driver's side window of my car open overnight. During that night, somebody drove by and threw a raw egg into my car, which had to be professionally cleaned and detailed. I've since learned that there are even worse pranksters. 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.

Fr. Bill Donahue

READINGS FOR THE WEEK OF SEPTEMBER 9TH - 15TH



Monday: 1 Cor 5:1-8/Ps 5:5-6, 7, 12/Lk 6:6-11
 Tuesday: 1 Cor 6:1-11/Ps 149:1b-2, 3-4, 5-6a and 9b/
 Lk 6:12-19
 Wednesday: 1 Cor 7:25-31/Ps 45:11-12, 14-15, 16-17/
 Lk 6:20-26
 Thursday: 1 Cor 8:1b-7, 11-13/Ps 139:1b-3, 13-14ab, 23-
 24/
 Lk 6:27-38
 Friday: 1 Cor 9:16-19, 22b-27/Ps 84:3, 4, 5-6, 12/
 Lk 6:39-42
 Saturday: Nm 21:4b-9/Ps 78:1bc-2, 34-35, 36-37, 38/
 Phil 2:6-11/Jn 3:13-17
 Sunday: Is 50:4c-9a/Ps 116:1-2, 3-4, 5-6, 8-9 (9)/
 Jas 2:14-18/Mk 8:27-35



ST. VINCENT DE PAUL CONFIRMATION PROGRAM 2024-2025

The last registration opportunity for the English and Spanish Confirmation program will be held on Saturday, Sept. 7th in the parish hall from 9 - 11:50 am: 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.

ST. VINCENT'S RELIGIOUS EDUCATION PROGRAMS 2024 - 2025

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED: We need more dedicated people willing to spend approximately 2 hours a week to help in our religious education programs. There are openings in our Sunday preschool program, Children's Liturgy at 9:00 am Mass, after-school religious education program, and the OCIA program in the evenings. Other openings are at our seasonal events. You can make a difference by bringing your gifts and talents. Let's meet! Carmen Aanenson at dreaanenson@gmail.com

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 see what's next. Please contact Carmen Aanenson at dreaanenson@gmail.com to meet and register.

ST. VINCENT DE PAUL CHURCH is open from 8:00 am to 3:30 pm, Monday through Friday. Weekday Mass is at 8:00 am and Rosary from 8:30 to 9:00 am. All are welcome.

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.

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

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

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.

PARISH FINANCIAL INFORMATION:

Last Sunday's offering:

Sunday Basket	\$8,528
On-Line Giving	2,996
Total	\$11,524

The second collection last weekend for the Diocesan Seminarians was \$3,514.

Thank you for your generosity.

There will be a second collection this weekend for St. Vincent's Church Religious Education Programs.

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

One of the most critical decisions parents make for their children is where to educate them. Since children spend so many of their waking hours at school, their school can play a significant role in shaping them as a person. The right school will not only teach them core subjects like math, science and English — it will also instill values like teamwork, personal responsibility, compassion and more. Catholic schools are an ideal choice for families who want to invest in their children's education and help them become their best selves. Catholic schools seek to foster a strong and healthy sense of community while helping your child develop as an individual. Being in a positive environment can help your student enjoy school and develop healthy self-esteem and respect for others which is one of many reasons why you may want to choose a Catholic education. At SVES, we pride ourselves on educating the whole child in a faith-filled environment. We are teaching our students to be Catholic Learners who are respectful, kind and helpful. Our goal at SVES is to help our students to develop their skills as caring, compassionate Christians.

If you are interested in learning more about St. Vincent de Paul Elementary School, please contact our office at 707-762-6426 or email Mrs. Rynning, Admissions Coordinator, at rynning@svelem.org.

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.srdioocese.org or contact Carmen Perez Aanenson at 707-566-3366 or dre@srdioocese.org.