

**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 29, 2024**

<u>Mass intentions during September 30th - October 6th</u>			<b>26th Sunday in Ordinary Time</b>
Mon.	8:00	Estela Anguiano (L), Liliana Beatriz (L), The Valle Family (L) Ronald Anthony Ruffo	<p>Maggots, grubs, worms. When I imagine one or many of these nasty slimy buggers living inside my body — unseen, feeding off my flesh, slowly rotting me out — I feel deeply disgusted. If I knew I had a worm, I would do anything to remove the alien invader, and fast. But what if I couldn't ever get it out?</p> <p>This is precisely the image Jesus uses to describe those who cause others to sin and fail to cut out what leads them to sin. He contrasts the kingdom of God with Gehenna, "where the worm does not die." If we can stomach it for a moment, there is much wisdom in this nauseating metaphor. First, sin is always parasitic. It feeds on what is good like a worm in a host. It's not symbiotic or additive, as virtue and love always are. Sin invades, devours, and damages the sinner. Second, sin is always social. No matter how hidden, it quietly eats away at others — usually the most poor and vulnerable, the "little ones," as the Lord says. How healthy it is for us to acknowledge this! Our gossiping, greed, over-indulgence, lying, pride, laziness, lust for power and reputation, and so on ... they do not add anything to life. They are worms eating away at others and ourselves. We cut out these filthy parasites through genuine repentance and bold action. Imagine the peace and relief that follows the removal of a sickening worm from your body. How much greater is the peace we enjoy when the spiritual worms are gone for good. We'd never wait to act against physical parasites. Neither should we with the worms of sin.</p> <p align="right">— Father John Muir ©LPi</p>
Tues.	8:00	Estela Anguiano (L) Gerardo Enriquez, Paula Louise Moore, Joe Piasta	
Wed.	8:00	Estela Anguiano (L), The Ibarra Family (L) Kathy Halverson (L), Paula Louise Moore, Linden Crossman	
Thur.	8:00	Claire Gibson and Family (L), Tim and Lori Nelson (L) Paula Louise Moore, Ed Donate	
Fri.	8:00	The Alcaraz Family (L), Sylvia Samija and Family (L) Maria Lopez, Marciel Tinoco and Family (L), Alex Ruiz (L) Paula Louise Moore	
Sat.	8:00	For the Reparation to the Sacred Heart of Jesus and the Immaculate Heart of Mary Rose Collins, Jerry Kennedy, Paula Louise Moore	
	5:00	Angela Castro (L), Mark Kostielney, Lester Rundle John Pedroni, Ann Kingsbury	
	7:00	Eliazar Cardenas, Teresa Robles De Caro, Beatriz Alcaraz Carlos Enrique Verdugo Cruz	
Sun.	7:30	Mark Windish (L), Georgia Cort, Dora Sherwood Norbert and Pauline Andres	
	9:00	Edward Anacleto, Harold Nelson, Paula Louise Moore Manuel and Francelina Lopes	
	10:30	Pro Populo	
	12:00	The Jimenez Garcia Family (L), Tania Alvarez (L) Abraham Avalos, Jose Maria Lopez Francisco Javier Ruiz Barbosa	

**Dear Fellow Parishioners,**

This week we release the annual finance report for SV Parish for Fiscal Year 2023-24.

I want to thank you for your generous contributions this past year. This is very much appreciated, as our parish is entirely dependent on your support for our operations.

Budgets and financial reports are not self-interpreting, but require explanation and context to be understood. This past fiscal year ending June 30, 2024, ended with a positive balance of \$98,130. This was totally due to two large one-time contributions to our Maintenance Account, totaling over \$200,000. These two contributions, while most welcome, are both restricted to maintenance costs, and (most likely) likely non-recurring. While proceeds from our monthly Maintenance Fund have been gradually rising, they do not nearly cover the total cost of maintenance, materials and labor for work normally done within a particular year. Maintenance is done on a "need-to-do", not a "nice to do", basis.

Our Budget forecast for July 2024-June 2025 projects a loss of approximately \$156,000. We have limited reserves, but if this continues for long, we will be out of money. This is because, while expenses continue to rise, our parish income has been flat for several years. When I arrived at SV over 7 years ago, I said that I would reduce parish expenses before I asked for money and— except for one appeal during the depths of COVID— I have kept that promise. This is because our core mission is to build up the Body of Christ, educate the young, minister to the sick, bury the dead, and to provide daily and reverent worship by the People of God.

The hard reality of parish finance is that the vast majority of our expenses come from four or five categories over which we have very limited control: salaries, liability insurance, medical benefits, and utilities. All have risen far faster than both the rate of inflation and parish income. This is a national phenomenon we must deal with.

In California for 2024, the minimum wage for exempt employees under California law was/is \$66,560. When you add diocesan benefits, it's now well over \$75,000. In June, we were hit with an 18% increase in liability insurance. Utilities are going up, as you too well know.

This is intended as an introduction to our annual financial report, and as an indicator of where we are and what we must do. In my view, I am facing my greatest administrative challenge in my nearly 40 years as a priest. Please review our parish finance report, and refer any questions you may have to me or to a member of the Parish Finance Committee.

As always, I am most grateful for your support of our parish, and hope to rely upon it in the future.

**Fr. Bill Donahue**

**READINGS FOR THE WEEK OF SEPT. 30TH - OCT. 6TH**



Monday: Jb 1:6-22/Ps 17:1bcd, 2-3, 6-7/Lk 9:46-50  
 Tuesday: Jb 3:1-3, 11-17, 20-23/Ps 88:2-3, 4-5, 6, 7-8/  
 Lk 9:51-56  
 Wednesday: Jb 9:1-12, 14-16/Ps 88:10bc-11, 12-13,  
 14-15/Mt 18:1-5, 10  
 Thursday: Jb 19:21-27/Ps 27:7-8a, 8b-9abc, 13-14/  
 Lk 10:1-12  
 Friday: Jb 38:1, 12-21; 40:3-5/Ps 139:1-3, 7-8, 9-10,  
 13-14ab/Lk 10:13-16  
 Saturday: Jb 42:1-3, 5-6, 12-17/Ps 119:66, 71, 75, 91,  
 125, 130/Lk 10:17-24  
 Sunday: Gn 2:18-24/Ps 128:1-2, 3, 4-5, 6 (see 5)/  
 Heb 2:9-11/Mk 10:2-16 or 10:2-12

**ST. VINCENT'S USHERS:** The official mass attendance for the Diocese of Santa Rosa will be taken at ALL masses during the month of October 2024.

**DIOCESAN BLUE MASS:** The Most Reverend Robert Vasa



extends this year's invitation to the annual Diocesan Blue Mass on October 13th, 2024 at 10:30 am at St. Eugene's Cathedral. For 90 years, Catholics have celebrated a Blue Mass to honor service, and offer special intentions and petitions for the safety of Police Officers, and subsequently Fire Fighters, Paramedics, and even Military Service Personnel. This is an opportunity for us to be reminded of the sacrifices involved in serving others, and the challenges to our safety and liberties that so many men and women of our own communities rise up to meet.

**CONGRATULATIONS** - to Camila Memphis Castillo, Isabella Marie Merkelbach, and Xavier Andrew Richardson who received the Sacrament of Baptism.



**OUR SYMPATHIES** go out to the family of Max Allen Mickelson who passed away September 7th. May the soul of the faithful departed, through the mercy of God, rest in peace.

**PLEASE PRAY FOR** - Toñita Ortiz, Alexis Daniel Solis, Elo Carrillo, George Klavin, John Davis, Tom Reeder, Jim Doolittle, Salvador Ochoa, Quintin Ponce Jr., Consuelo Alvarez, and Ev Woodruff.



**ADORATION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT** - is held after weekday mass on Thursday for one hour. All are welcomed!

**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 October will be on Saturday, Oct 5th. For more information, please call Lilian Dubow at 510-205-3712 or Lilian.Dubow@gmail.com or go to www.CommunalFirstSaturdays.org.

**OPENING DAY - DIA DE LOS MUERTOS CELEBRATION AND HEALTH FAIR** - Sunday, October 6th from



10:30 to 3:00 pm at St. Vincent's Plaza. There will be music, delicious tacos, pupusas, chalupas, etc; Taekwondo exhibition, Aztec Dancers, the Ballet Folklorico Paquiyollotzin, and many more fun activities for the whole family. Health clinics and organizations will be giving out free health information. For more information, or if you can help, please text your name to 707-293-6811.

**PARISH FINANCIAL INFORMATION:**

Last Sunday's offering:	
Sunday Basket	\$7,584
On-Line Giving	1,448
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$9,032</b>

The second collection last weekend for the Maintenance Fund was \$3,854.

**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 to the St. Vincent de Paul Society 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.



**ST. VINCENT DE PAUL ELEMENTARY NEWS**

If you want your child to learn in a community that builds them up — not just as a student but as a person — Catholic school is an excellent choice. At SVES, we 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 also provide a SAFE Environment for our students. Our campus is enclosed with security gate and fencing that spans the entire campus. We are able to offer a truly SAFE place for all of our students.

If you are interested in exploring options for students TK-8th grade, please contact the main office at 707-762-6426 or email Mrs. Rynning, Admissions Coordinator, via email at [rynning@svelem.org](mailto:rynning@svelem.org)

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



**EUCHARISTIC MIRACLES EXHIBIT:** The beautiful and inspiring Eucharistic Miracles exhibit produced by Blessed Carlo Acutis will be on display at St. Joan of Arc parish hall, 6404 Washington St, Yountville, October 5th - 20th, open daily from 9 am-9 pm. Please come, bring family and friends, to be inspired and informed by these amazing, documented Eucharistic miracles throughout the history of the Church. Display is in English and Spanish. No charge.

