

**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.**

**November 3, 2024**

**Mass intentions during November 4th - 10th**

Mon.	8:00	Steve Kroeger (L), The Flores Dominguez Family (L) Joe Piasta, Federico Valencia, Holy Souls
Tues.	8:00	Mary Margaret Moore, Maria de Valencia, Carolina Farinha, Joe Fitzgerald, Holy Souls
Wed.	8:00	Jose Dolores Hernandez, Alec Taylor, Holy Souls, Leonardo Guzman Catilio
Thur.	8:00	Gabriela Pacheco (L), Claire Gibson and Family (L), Ernesto Marrafa, Holy Souls
Fri.	8:00	Sylvia Samija and Family (L), St. Joseph's Church Prayer Group The Guzman Family (L), Holy Souls
Sat.	8:00	Mike Curutchet, Holy Souls
	5:00	Anjelica Guzman (L) Lindy Borges, Georgia Cort, Dora Sheerwood, Norbert and Pauline Andres
	7:00	Antonio Salvador Esquivel (L), Jonathan Antonio Ortiz (L), Maximo Alcaraz (L) The Enriquez-Gutierrez Family (L)
Sun.	7:30	Martha Overton, Raymond Skipp, Richard "Rick" Ferris
	9:00	Melissa Tinoco (L), Martha Joan Overton, Francisco Valdez, Maria Isabel Madera
	10:30	Pro Populo
	12:00	Juan Andres Avalos and Family (L) Juana Maldonado, Antonia Ortiz, Jose Luis Avalos, Aurelio Garcia

**Annual Ministries Appeal 2024**

I would like to thank those of you who have already made a gift or pledge. We have placed the AMA envelopes in the church pews. I hope this will help make AMA envelopes more readily available for those who want to help us meet our goal.

**– Fr. Bill Donahue**

**Dear Fellow Parishioners,**

We are heading into that three-day celebration of Hallowe'en, All Saints' and All Souls' Days, perhaps the greatest mixture of Christian spirituality, pagan roots, and past and present custom to be found in the Church calendar. Put somewhat differently, it's not immediately clear what Celtic folklore, carving pumpkins, honoring the saints, praying for the dead, and collecting Snickers bars from your neighbors have to do with one another, but it's somewhat in the nature of customs to be formed out of many different elements.

Like many gray areas between authentic Catholic devotion and pagan superstition, the Day of the Dead requires a much broader discussion than is possible here. The Catholic Church approves (or at least allows) honoring one's ancestors – even with altars, incense, images, etc. – so long as it confers respect and affection that does not rise to the level of "latria," i.e., worship. ("Latria" is the root of the word, "idolatry," forbidden by nothing less than divine law.)

In the 1930's, Pope Pius XI issued a response to an inquiry – and my faulty memory prevents me from naming it here – regarding the Chinese custom of honoring ancestors. To make a long story short, the rescript (in Latin) said that ancestor veneration was fine so long as it was not inconsistent with Christian devotion and did not approach the degree of worship that we owe to God alone. I believe the same principle applies here. At the same time, we must also square any notion of a "Day of the Dead" with Scripture. Jesus said to Martha, "I am the resurrection and the life; the one who believes in Me will live, even if he dies, and everyone who lives and believes in Me will never die." (John 11:25-26). Strictly speaking, in the Risen Christ, for the believer there can only be life, and "life more abundantly" (John 10:10).

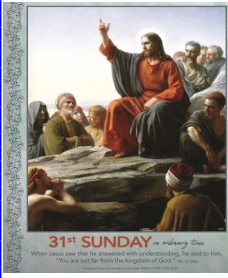
The Solemnity of All Saints acknowledges the whole company of saints that has gone before us in history, and who can intercede and pray for us now. That may sound strange to some ears, but the barriers of time and space, even life and death, do not limit God or his saints. We can ask for their intercession, just as they can pray to God for us.

The Commemoration of the Holy Souls naturally implicates the reality of Purgatory, not as a physical place, but as a process of purification. In Catholic doctrine, Purgatory refers to the final cleansing of those who died in a State of Grace but leaves in them only the holiness necessary to enter the joy of Heaven." (Catechism of the Catholic Church). As a pastoral reality, the notion that we can help our beloved departed by praying for their continued purification, continues to be a powerful reality for us, who remain. This connection to our beloved departed is perhaps most powerful in our experience of their continued presence among us.

The great theologian and Jesuit spiritual master, Karl Rahner, wrote these beautiful and reassuring words: "The great mistake of many people – among them, even pious persons – is to imagine that those whom death has taken, leave us. They do not leave us. They remain! Where are they? In darkness. Oh, no! It is we who are in darkness. We do not see them, but they see us. Their eyes, radiant with glory, are fixed upon our eyes full of tears. Oh, infinite consolation! Though invisible to us, our dead are not absent. I have often reflected on the surest comfort for those who mourn. It is this: a firm faith in the real and continual presence of our loved ones; it is the clear and penetrating conviction that death has not destroyed them or carried them away. They are not even absent, but living near to us, transfigured."

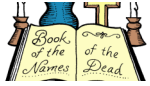
**Blessings,  
Fr. Bill Donahue**

**READINGS FOR THE WEEK OF NOV. 4TH - 10TH**



Monday: Phil 2:1-4/Ps 131:1bcde, 2, 3/Lk 14:12-14  
 Tuesday: Phil 2:5-11/Ps 22:26b-27, 28-30ab, 30c, 31-32/Lk 14:15-24  
 Wednesday: Phil 2:12-18/Ps 27:1, 4, 13-14/ Lk 14:25-33  
 Thursday: Phil 3:3-8a/Ps 105:2-3, 4-5, 6-7/Lk 15:1-10  
 Friday: Phil 3:17-4:1/Ps 122:1-2, 3-4ab, 4cd-5/ Lk 16:1-8  
 Saturday: Ez 47:1-2, 8-9, 12/Ps 46:2-3, 5-6, 8-9/ 1 Cor 3:9c-11, 16-17/Jn 2:13-22  
 Sunday: 1 Kgs 17:10-16/Ps 146:7, 8-9, 9-10 (1b)/ Heb 9:24-28/Mk 12:38-44 or 12:41-44

**ALL SOULS DAY REMEMBRANCE ENVELOPES** are



available at all entrances of the church. You may write the names of your loved ones on them. During the month of November, the Remembrance Book will also be available. We remember our loved ones and honor their memory with great respect as we pray for them.

**ST. VINCENT'S 2025 LECTOR AND VISITING OF THE SICK BOOKS** – are available at the rectory office. If



you haven't picked up your book, please do so. Office hours are Monday through Friday from 8:30 am to 3:30 pm. Lunch hour: 12 to 1 pm. If you have any questions, please call the office at 707-762-4278.

**CONGRATULATIONS** - to Logan Joseph Sturdevant, Colter Michael Farias, Poppy Judith and Lincoln John Pollard who received the Sacrament of Baptism.



**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.



**OUR SYMPATHIES** go out to the families of Antonia Demetria Ortiz who passed away on October 23rd, and Franklin James Duane who passed away October 27th. May the souls of the faithfully departed, through the mercy of God, rest in peace.



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



**PLEASE PRAY FOR** - Salvador Zandejas, Bonifacio Gonzalez, William Bullard, Dani Sarigusa, Estela Anguiano, Salvador Ochoa, Quintin Ponce Jr., Consuelo Alvarez, and Ev Woodruff.



**ST. EUGENE'S CATHEDRAL** has greatly expanded their shop and is carrying many new items. Visit the Cathedral Books and Gifts shop for Catholic books, bibles, rosaries, jewelry, statues, religious gifts, gifts for Baptism, First Communion, Confirmation, and more! Cathedral Books and Gifts shop, 2323 Montgomery Drive, Santa Rosa CA, 95405. For more information, call (707) 542-0250 or email: steugenegiftshop@outlook.com.



**PARISH FINANCIAL INFORMATION:**

Last Sunday's offering:	
Sunday Basket	\$7,443
On-Line Giving	<u>1,556</u>
Total	\$8,999

The second collection last weekend for the Maintenance Fund was \$3,684.

**Thank you for your generosity.**

There will be a second collection next weekend for the Communications and Catholic University Fund.

**ONLINE GIVING** - 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**

All Saints' Day is a time to honor and remember all the saints, both known and unknown. It's a day to help our students reflect on their lives, virtues, and the inspiration all of the saints provide. We celebrate this occasion with a special tradition; attending Mass with St. Vincent de Paul College Prep. It's also a reminder of the universal call to holiness, encouraging us to aspire to live virtuous lives in our everyday actions. Whether through prayer, reflection, or community gatherings, All Saints' Day invites us to connect with the legacy of those who have shaped our faith.

If you are interested in a faith-based education for your child, please be sure to call our office at 707-762-6426 to set up a tour or visit our website ([www.svelem.org](http://www.svelem.org))

- Junior High**
- Parent Tour (adults only) November 14th at 8:45 am
- Open House (parents and students welcome) November 19th from 6 pm-7 pm
- TK/Kindergarten**
- Parent Tour (adults only) November 13th at 8:45 am
- December 2nd at 8:45 am
- Open House (parents and students welcome) December 11th from 4:30 pm-5:30 pm
- January 16th from 4:30 pm-5:30 pm

**INTERFAITH FOOD PANTRY:** Free bags of groceries are provided to low-income families and individuals in Petaluma, through Petaluma Interfaith Pantry, which operates every Thursday evening at 5:00 p.m. No paperwork needed. We serve all in need. We are located at Elim Lutheran Church, 220 Stanley Street. For more information, please call 762-4081.



**BIRTHRIGHT OF PETALUMA** – We have moved; our new office is located at the Church of Christ, 370 Sonoma Mountain Parkway and Castle Drive in Petaluma. Come and see us for your baby's needs. Our office hours are: Monday from 1:30 pm to 3:30 pm and on Tuesdays - Fridays from 10:00 am to 12:00pm. For more information, call (707) 763-9888, 24 hour hotline (800) 550-4900.

