

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.

January 26, 2025

		<u>Mass intentions during January 27th - February 2nd</u>
Mon.	8:00	Olga Dart, Frances Catherine Moore, Jesus Palomera Placida Angel, Jose Antonio Ocana, Ricardo Hernandez
Tues.	8:00	Joseph Hromek (L), A.J. Hromek, Jesus Palomera Frances Catherine Moore, Placida Angel
Wed.	8:00	Jeannette Valle (L), Frances Catherine Moore Jesus Palomera, Placida Angel, Maria del Socorro Muñoz
Thur.	8:00	Cristina Ruiz and Family (L), Vicki Aguilar and Family (L) Francis Catherine Moore, Jim Rohlfing
Fri.	8:00	Vicki Aguilar (L), Lili Alcaraz and Family (L) Carolina Magaña and Family (L) Vicki Farr, Fitzhugh William Moore
Sat.	8:00	In Reparation for the Immaculate Heart of Mary, Erika Merrick Fitzhugh William Moore
	5:00	Chuck Thompson (L)
	7:00	Pro Populo
Sun.	7:30	Mr. and Mrs. F. Marcucci, Raymond Skippp
	9:00	Kathy Doolittle (L), Jodi Fitzgerald (L), John and Rosa Amaral Edward Anacleto, Fitzhugh William Moore
	10:30	For the Apostolate of Christ the Priest, King (L)
	12:00	Sebastian Dooley (L), Alba Sanchez (L), Linden Crossman Juan Andres Avalos and Family (L), The Gonzalez Alvarez Family (L) Mario Herrera, Jose Luis Avalos

3rd Sunday of Ordinary Time
Luke 1:1-4, 4:14-21

A young couple in my parish told me they were expecting their second child, a baby boy. I knew that their five-year old only child Emma had been desperately wanting to be a big sister for years, so I said, "Emma must have been so happy when you told her the news." "Actually," they said, "she burst into tears. She wanted a baby sister!" How often in life God wonderfully fulfills our desires and we are sad because we don't approve of the way he does it. We want to control the gift and the delivery method.

The same thing occurs in the Gospel this week when Jesus announces in his hometown that the promise of an Anointed One bringing glad tidings to the poor is "fulfilled in your hearing" (Luke 4:21). After a moment of elation, his fellow townsfolk realize this man is the way God is fulfilling his promises, and they erupt into a violent outburst. So Jesus departs. How sad for them.

Every single Sunday at Mass, including this one, some version of this happens to many of us. God's word announces the fulfillment of God's promises in Christ, and we easily overlook or disdain it. His way is almost never according to our narrow expectations. What's required of us is to set these aside, and to embrace a new openness to God's gifts, no matter how he wishes to give them. God is fulfilling his promises the way He likes — why be sad? — Father John Muir ©LPi

Dear Fellow Parishioners,

After several months of planning (and frankly, waiting months for service) the parish rectory now has a new telephone system. The former system was developing more and more problems, and at least one extension (mine) went dead months ago. That apparently was because some living creature got into the outdoor telephone utility box and chewed or otherwise disconnected the wires to my phone. It was an inconvenience to me and perhaps to some of you, since to reach me, it was necessary to leave phone message with Noelia or Cristina in the main office.

But we're not quite up to speed yet. Yesterday, all office staff had an in-person tutorial on how to use the new system. I am easily the least technologically sophisticated member of our staff. Even something as simple as "call waiting" – when a second party calls, when I'm already on the line with someone else – completely baffles me. That feature has been available in one form or another for decades, and I can remember only one time I actually made it work without hanging up on both parties simultaneously. By the time I master this new system, I will be as old as Jimmy Carter. (I could always get a third-grader from our elementary school to explain it all to me.) I almost long for the old days of Ma Bell, when the most complicated feature of our office phone was a neat little row of light up buttons, with the red HOLD button on the far left, with the other buttons were either unlit (line free), lit up (line engaged) or blinking (on hold). In those days, it wasn't impossible to imagine the officious and sassy Miss Ernestine Tomlin of the old comedy skits, sitting at her switchboard and counting off, "One ringy-dingy, two ringy-dingies..." and answering with, "Is this the party to whom I am speaking?" Now, it's fiber optics, phones with data screens too small to see and dozens of minuscule buttons too small to push.

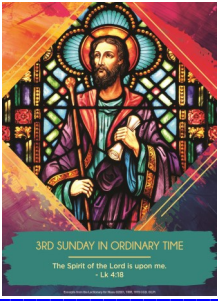
Which brings me to parish communications in general. Not so long ago, we had the telephone and the parish bulletin, period. Now, the means of communication have multiplied, so that we also have email, streaming video, texting, the parish website, the Riso-graph machine (a modern version of the mimeograph machine), and the photocopy machine. There is also the pulpit announcement (for Mass intentions and parish events) and at times, the speediest of all, the word-of-mouth "grapevine." We use all of these, and it can be a challenge to keep up with it all.

None of this is bad in and of itself – quite the contrary. We were able to stay much closer as a parish community all through COVID, thanks to our ability to provide Mass via the internet. There are other sacramental moments that cannot be experienced, except in person. At Vatican II, at least one bishop suggested that confessions might be heard over the telephone. After some discussion, it was decided that sacraments could only be administered directly through the direct and unmediated means of one's bodily senses, in person. Though we are in an age that prizes convenience over nearly all else, that makes sense, because sacraments also have their communal dimension. And if sacramental actions can be transmitted electronically, what would stop a person from placing bread and wine in front of his computer and letting the remote priest consecrate it for reception at home? It's not my intent to be irreverent, but to point out the need to think things through to their natural and supernatural conclusions.

At last Sunday's Mass, we heard this from the Letter to the Hebrews: "For the word of God is alive and active. Sharper than any double-edged sword, it penetrates even to dividing soul and spirit, joints and marrow; it judges the thoughts and attitudes of the heart." (Hebrews 4:12) What matters, then, is not the means of communication, but the message and the Messenger.

Blessings, Fr. Bill Donahue

READINGS FOR THE WEEK OF JANUARY 27TH - FEBRUARY 2ND



Monday: Heb 9:15, 24-28/Ps 98:1, 2-3ab, 3cd-4, 5-6/
Mk 3:22-30
Tuesday: Heb 10:1-10/Ps 40:2 and 4ab, 7-8a, 10, 11/
Mk 3:31-35
Wednesday: Heb 10:11-18/Ps 110:1, 2, 3, 4/Mk 4:1-20
Thursday: Heb 10:19-25/Ps 24:1-2, 3-4ab, 5-6/
Mk 4:21-25
Friday: Heb 10:32-39/Ps 37:3-4, 5-6, 23-24, 39-40/
Mk 4:26-34
Saturday: Heb 11:1-2, 8-19/Lk 1:69-70, 71-72, 73-75/
Mk 4:35-41
Sunday: Mal 3:1-4/Heb 2:14-18/Ps 24:7, 8, 9, 10/
Lk 2:22-40 or 2:22-32

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 is 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 (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.

PLEASE PRAY FOR — Lucelia Fish, Chris Gonella, Bob Souza, Thomas Masticola, Michelle Paskal, Douglas Smith, William Bullard, Consuelo Alvarez, and Ev Woodruff.

PRO-LIFE PRAYER GROUP invites you to come pray the rosary on Tuesday afternoons at 2:00 pm at St. Vincent's church. If you have any questions, please contact Irene Carnazola at (707) 762-6115.

WALK FOR LIFE PRAYER VIGIL will be Friday, January 24, 2025 at St. Dominic's Catholic Church, 2390 Bush St., San Francisco. Vespers begin at 5 pm followed by Mass at 5:30 pm. More information can be found on the bulletin board at the entrance of the church.

THE 21ST ANNUAL WALK FOR LIFE will be held on Saturday, January 25, 2025 at Civic Center Plaza, San Francisco. The Walk begins at the Civic Center Plaza at 12:30 pm and after the Rally, will proceed down Market street to Embarcadero Plaza. For more information or to register, call 415-658-7193 or email: info@WalkforLifeWC.com.

DIOCESAN SURVEY: Help Us Improve Communication Across the Diocese! To help us improve communication across the Diocese, we invite you to complete a brief survey. Your feedback will guide us in enhancing our communication strategies to better serve everyone. Simply scan the QR code or visit www.srdioocese.org to complete the brief survey. Thank you for your input!

AGING GRACEFULLY: The third annual four-week lecture series with practical guidance on Death and Dying will be held at the Petaluma Community Center, 320 N McDowell Blvd. The series will run on Wednesdays in February from 1-2 pm: Feb. 5 - End of Life Doulas: Holistic Support for Life's Final Act; Feb. 12 - Home Funerals, Natural Death Care, and Green Burials; Feb. 19 - Medical Aid in Dying; Feb. 26 - Hospice and Natural Home Death. To register by phone: 707-241-4110.

PARISH FINANCIAL INFORMATION:

Last Sunday's offering:
Sunday Basket \$9,322
On-Line Giving 1,711
Total \$11,033

Thank you for your generosity.

There will be a second collection this weekend for the Maintenance Fund.

ONLINE GIVING AT ST. VINCENT - We are happy to announce that PayPal, GPay, Venmo and Apple Pay are now available as payment options for Online Giving. These additions are part of our ongoing commitment to providing you with best-in-class giving solutions. To sign up for online giving, go to <https://www.svdppetaluma.org> and look for the red "Donate" button on the upper right of the front page. Once there, follow the prompts to create a new account or to make any changes to your account. You can also use this QR code to take you directly to the website. For more information, please contact Noelia or Sally in the rectory at 707-762-4278.



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? We have registration forms in the bell room to the right at the entrance of the church. Please call the parish office for more information: 707-762-4278.

ST. VINCENT DE PAUL ELEMENTARY NEWS

You're Invited to Our Catholic School Open House!

We are excited to invite you to our TK-8th grade School-Wide Open House at St. Vincent de Paul Elementary School! Come explore our vibrant learning community, meet our dedicated faculty and staff, and discover the values and education that make our school a special place for students to grow spiritually, academically, and socially.

**Event Details:
Sunday, January 26th
10:30am-12:00pm**

**St. Vincent de Paul Elementary School,
246 Howard Street, Petaluma**

Whether you're considering enrollment for your child or just want to learn more about our school, this is a wonderful opportunity to get to know us! Tours of the campus will be available, and you'll have a chance to ask questions and hear about our faith-based curriculum and extracurricular programs.

We look forward to welcoming you and your family to our school community!

All are welcome!

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

