

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 5, 2025

<u>Mass intentions during January 6th - 12th</u>			The Epiphany of the Lord Matthew 2:1-12
Mon.	8:00	Steve Kroeger (L), Joe Piasta, Mary Catherine Moore Dennise O'Maley, Tom Baker, Vincent Rodriguez	<p>Have you ever wondered why the magi had gold, frankincense, and myrrh? Matthew's Gospel tells us, "Then they opened their treasures and offered him gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh" (Matt. 2:11). Why are these things their "treasures"? One possible answer is they were magicians and astrologers, and these three items were the tools of their questionable trade. In offering them to Christ, they demonstrate that they will cease using such items to predict or control life. They place this baby-king, the God of Israel, at the center of their lives, and not their own devices of control, manipulation and prediction.</p> <p>Isn't that what we need to do, too? Consider, for example, the magical power of money, symbolized by the magi's gold. Seemingly whatever we ask of money, it does. It wields a god-like power over the world. It can predict the future by guaranteeing better outcomes for us — which is why it is such a tempting alternative to trusting in God. The problem is such absolute trust in money enslaves us to the economic forces that make money so powerful. In paying homage to Jesus with "gold" (i.e., tithing), we participate in his authority over (and therefore freedom from) the magical sway of money.</p> <p>What things in your life do you use to predict or control your future? What in your life seems to give you power over the world? Those are your treasures. Are you tired of feeling enslaved to them? Find a way to open them and give them to Christ, and you will be freer. — Father John Muir ©LPi</p>
Tues.	8:00	Sylvia Samija and Family (L), Dennise O'Maley Mary Catherine Moore, Tom Baker	
Wed.	8:00	Jim Young, Mary Catherine Moore, Tom Baker Dennise O'Maley	
Thur.	8:00	Fr. Andrew Pacheco (L), Mary Catherine Moore Tom Baker, Ester Ludeman, Dennise O'Maley	
Fri.	8:00	Ronald Ohlander, Mary Catherine Moore Tom Baker, Dennise O'Maley	
Sat.	8:00	Mary Catherine Moore, Dennise O'Maley, Tom Baker	
	5:00	Sharon Pleiman (L)	
	7:00	Antonio Salvador Esquivel (L), Eliseo Ochoa Corona Jonathan Antonio Ortiz (L), Nicanor Ochoa Baragan	
Sun.	7:30	Dennis Crandall and Family (L), John Adams	
	9:00	George Bordi (L), Jodi Fitzgerald and Family (L) Mary Catherine Moore, Tom Baker, Dennise O'Maley	
	10:30	Pro Populo	
	12:00	The Gonzalez Alvarez Family (L), Julissa Pacheco (L) The Jimenez Garcia Family (L) Antonia Ortiz Carreno, Nicanor Ochoa Barragan	

Dear Fellow Parishioners,



This Feast of the Epiphany will be the last weekend before Deacon Jim's retirement becomes effective on his birthday during the following week. While this may seem sudden to some - including me - who regard any such retirement as far too soon. Deacon Jim reached the official retirement age for deacons five years ago. He generously served for five more years, until now, when he reaches another landmark birthday.

Deacon Jim has served at St. Vincent's for 24 years, roughly as long or longer than any pastor in the history of this parish, except for Fr. Kiely (1915-1968).

As you may know, Deacon Jim's residential parish is St. James across town, but he accepted an assignment to St. Vincent's as his adopted parish. His late wife Pat, however, remained at St. James. They were, each in their own way, guiding spirits of both parishes.

During Deacon Jim's near quarter-century of diaconal ministry, he served at more Masses than any pastor or associate for a comparable period of time. My mind spins at the thought of a quarter-century of Sunday Masses, baptisms, weddings, funerals, Christmas liturgies, Easter Vigils and Reconciliation Services. My mind spins even more at the thought of future such liturgies without his sure, guiding hand. For many years, he has also assumed responsibility for our church's sound system, a bigger and far more difficult job than nearly anyone can appreciate.

Not content with his service to our parish, Deacon Jim has also been a leader in Kairos, ministering to the incarcerated, including at San Quentin. On the rare Saturday afternoons he was absent from at Mass here at SV, he was almost always with his Kairos colleagues.

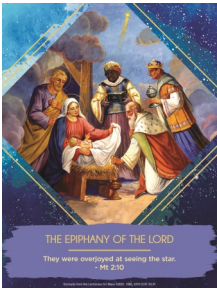
Deacon Jim has also been an active member of Kiwanis International, known for their community-directed service projects. In addition to his participation in their activities, he created tremendous goodwill for our parish simply by being who he is.

Next Sunday, January 12, with the help of the Knights of Columbus, we will be hosting a reception for Deacon Jim as he enters into official retirement. The reception will take place in the parish hall from 11:30 am to 2:30 pm.

Don't be surprised if you still see Deacon Jim from time to time, as he assures me that he will not be disappearing altogether. I will do all I can to hold him to his word.

**Happy New Year!
Fr. Bill Donahue**

READINGS FOR THE WEEK OF JANUARY 6TH - 12TH



Monday: 1 Jn 3:22—4:6/Ps 2:7bc-8, 10-12a/
Mt 4:12-17, 23-25
Tuesday: 1 Jn 4:7-10/Ps 72:1-2, 3-4, 7-8/Mk 6:34-44
Wednesday: 1 Jn 4:11-18/Ps 72:1-2, 10, 12-13/
Mk 6:45-52
Thursday: 1 Jn 4:19—5:4/Ps 72:1-2, 14 and 15bc, 17/
Lk 4:14-22a
Friday: 1 Jn 5:5-13/Ps 147:12-13, 14-15, 19-20/
Lk 5:12-16
Saturday: 1 Jn 5:14-21/Ps 149:1-2, 3-4, 5 and 6a and
9b/Jn 3:22-30
Sunday: Is 40:1-5, 9-11/Ps 104:1b-2, 3-4, 24-25, 27-
28, 29-30 (1)/Ti 2:11-14; 4-7/Lk 3:15-16,
21-22

THE EPIPHANY OF THE LORD
They were overjoyed at seeing the star.
—Mt 2:10

SAVE THE DATE: You are invited to join us in celebrating Deacon Jim Carr's retirement on Sunday, January 12th. The reception will be held at St. Vincent's Parish Hall from 11:30 am — 2:30 pm. All are welcome.



**St. Vincent's Church
Beautiful Christmas Decorations**



are made possible in part by the generous donations of our parishioners in memory of their family members and friends who have died...

Theresa and Henry Morth, Arthur and Marie Barboni, Eugene and Dorothy Williams, Jim Williams, Sandra Shannon Sr., Mary Louise Williams, Charles and Frances DeCarli, Ed Decarli, John and Georgia Terzian, Rose Piezzi, Charles Louis Piezzi, Evelyn D.C. West-O'Rourke, William C. West, Philip and Nina Respini, Bernardine Wong, John Radtkey, Mr. and Mrs. Aladino Marcucci, Mr. and Mrs. Egidio Mancini, Chester and Lois Lee, Arthur Bensen, Jens and Elsie Kolnes, Jerry Kennedy, Harold Nelson, Ray and Jean Johnson, Howie and Kathleen Marie Halverson, David Rogers, Pat Doherty, Dora and Olympio Lanzi, Mary Nunes, Stella Weber, Marlene Stewart, Jerry Dixon, Debbie Dixon, Don Borg, Frederic Holden, and Antonio and Felisbina Parda.

Religious Education Announcements:

A reminder - English Religious Education classes are on Christmas break. Classes will resume on Tuesday, January 7th and Wednesday January 8th, 2025.

BIRTHRIGHT would like to thank you all for your support.



We use gift cards for our families that need help buying food, diapers etc. These help us throughout the year! We appreciate your support of

Birthright of Petaluma — Thank you from the Birthright Volunteers!

THE ST. VINCENT DE PAUL SOCIETY MEMBERS



would like to thank all those Giving Tree supporters who contributed to those in need in our parish. God bless you all and have a Happy New Year!

ANGEL FOOD NETWORK: Dear parishioners, thank you for the generous donations from the Giving Tree at Christmas to our Angel Food Network. We are a group of volunteers who help with funeral receptions, and are thankful for the support.

PLEASE PRAY FOR — Lucelia Fish, Chris Gonella, Bob Souza, Thomas Masticola, Michelle Paskal, Douglas Smith, Salvador Zandejas, Bonifacio Gonzalez, William Bullard, Dani Sarigusa, Estela Anguiano, Salvador Ochoa, Quintin Ponce Jr., Consuelo Alvarez, and Ev Woodruff.

PARISH FINANCIAL INFORMATION:

Last Sunday's offering:
Sunday Basket \$8,579
On-Line Giving 1,835
Total \$10,414

The second collection last weekend for St. Vincent de Paul Society was \$6,721.

The Christmas Collection is at \$31,801.

Thank you for your generosity.

ONLINE GIVING AT ST. VINCENT - We are happy to announce that PayPal, GPay, Venmo and Apple Pay are now available as payment options on 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.



ST. VINCENT DE PAUL ELEMENTARY NEWS

As we approach the celebration of the birth of our Lord and Savior, we want to take this opportunity to wish each of you a blessed and joyful Christmas. This season is a time to reflect on the incredible gift of Christ's love and to give thanks for the many blessings in our lives, especially the gift of faith.

In our school community, we are blessed to provide an education rooted in the teachings of Jesus Christ. Each day, we come together not only to learn but to grow in our faith, strengthen our relationships with God, and live out His message of love, compassion, and service. This is what makes our school truly special—a place where education and faith go hand in hand, shaping the hearts and minds of our students.

The faculty and staff at SVES pray that each of you experiences the joy of Christ's love this Christmas, and that the new year brings continued growth, peace, and grace to our entire St. Vincent's community.

Wishing you and your families a Merry Christmas and a New Year filled with hope and grace!



ANNUAL KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS CRAB FEED: SAVE THE DATE!! St. Vincent's Parish Crab Feed will be on Saturday, January 25, 2025 at St. Vincent's College Prep

in Tillman Hall, 849 Keokuk St., Petaluma. Buy tickets NOW online! The tickets are \$75 and include salad, pasta, bread, dessert, and fresh Dungeness Crab, Crab, Crab! Credit cards are accepted, just visit the website: tinyurl.com/STVCrabFeedJan252025 or scan the QR code.



WINE, WOMEN AND WORD: A night of fellowship and faith sharing will be Thursday, January 16, 2025 at St. James Parish Center. Our theme will be "Bringing the Gospel to Life." Doors open at 6 pm. The program begins at 6:30 pm. For information, please contact Dorothy Suarez: phone 408-828-9204 or e-mail: binkster52@gmail.com.