

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.

February 16, 2025

<u>Mass intentions during February 17th—23rd</u>			6th Sunday of Ordinary Time Luke 6:17, 20-26
Mon.	8:00	Brad Virgin (L), Noe Contreras Gonzalez, Gerard McCrudden Fitzhugh William Moore	<p>I craved four things as a teenager: success in sports, food, fun and the attention of popular people. However, I noticed that as I acquired them, I was more unsatisfied than before. So, I'd strive even more energetically, achieve more, and the sense of emptiness was greater still. These four things started to feel like burdens or even curses. Soon after, I encountered Christ in my high school youth group. Experiencing his love was totally different than anything those four things previously produced. It produced a lasting happiness.</p> <p>Jesus utters a kind of four-fold curse in this week's Gospel of Saint Luke's "woes": "Woe to you who are rich...who are filled now...who laugh now...who are well-spoken of" (cf. Luke 6:24-26). How marvelous that these correspond perfectly to the four things that obsessed my teenage soul: riches, food, laughter and good reputation. The "woes" the Lord speaks are warnings: when those things are the purpose of your life, you'll be miserable. He is saying, "You'll be happy, or blessed, in the measure that these things do not determine the shape of our lives, and the kingdom of God does."</p> <p>To some degree, we're all spiritual teenagers, addicted to one or more of those four "woes." How splendid that the Lord wants his to bless us — that is, to satisfy us, make us laugh with joy, and in the kingdom of God, offer us what will truly satisfy us. But first let's admit what is causing our "woes."</p> <p align="right">— Father John Muir ©LPi</p>
Tues.	8:00	Fr. Andrew Metcalf, Jacob Smith, Noe Contreras Gonzalez Fitzhugh William Moore, Ruben Sala	
Wed.	8:00	Thanksgiving to Sr. Joseph of Cupertino Fitzhugh William Moore, Joseph Reid	
Thur.	8:00	Lilia Covarrubias and Family (L), Claire Gibson and Family (L) Fitzhugh William Moore, Nora Cunico, Filemon Martinez	
Fri.	8:00	Fitzhugh William Moore, Mary Ellen Higgins Francelina and Manuel Lopes	
Sat.	8:00	Legion of Mary and Auxiliaries (L), Jodi Fitzgerald (L) Lori Nelson (L), Fitzhugh William Moore	
	5:00	Chas Sickles	
	7:00	Familia Enriquez-Gutierrez (L) Gerardo Enriquez, Pedro Ascension Jesus Josefina y Herminio Del Toro, Candido Jorge Quiroz	
Sun.	7:30	The Marian and Pappas Family (L), Fitzhugh William Moore	
	9:00	Pro Populo	
	10:30	Maximiliano y Lily Alcaraz (L)	
	12:00	Familia Gonzalez Alvarez (L) Mario Herrera, Moises Velazquez Cabrera Ester Figueroa Barcenas, Carmen Torres Rodriguez	

Dear Fellow Parishioners,

From time to time a visitor will ask me a question about the church building, the Mass or the Catholic faith. More often than not, those questions lead me to do a bit of research to dig a bit deeper.

Two days ago I celebrated a funeral which drew people from around the Bay Area and beyond. One of the congregants emailed me a question last night: "I have a question for you: to the left of the altar, mounted on the wall, there is a display cabinet with three crystal decanters. Is that sacramental wine from a special set of Masses there?" If he had that question, others surely wondered the same thing.

The display cabinet is called an "ambry," and is used to store and display the three sacred oils consecrated for sacramental use by the bishop on Holy Thursday: the Sacred Chrism (for Ordination, Confirmation and Baptism), the Oil of the Sick (for Anointing of the Sick, what we used to call Last Rites or Extreme Unction) and Oil of the Catechumens (for Baptism and receiving adults into the Church).

A little more research reveals more interesting details. "Ambry" comes from the Latin "armarium," and originally referred to a closet, cupboard or even bookshelf. In fact, "armarium" is a cognate with the French "armoire," those free-standing closets still used in old houses lacking built-in closets.

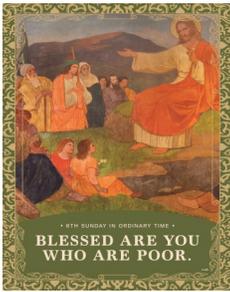
In the past, the ambry was used to reserve the Blessed Sacrament, a practice which is now forbidden in favor of proper locked tabernacles. Former guidelines required that the oil vessels be covered with violet cloth (for the Oil of the Sick) or white cloth (for the Sacred Chrism). Since olive oil degrades when exposed to light – that's why it's generally sold in cans or green glass bottles – Christian tradition and science once again go hand in hand.

Finally, a note on a sensitive topic – noise at Mass. I approach this matter with utmost care, as I rejoice in the size and diverse nature of our parish community. And while one is rightly skeptical of self-testimonials on this subject, I love children. Even better, according to our annual October Mass counts over the past several years, Mass attendance at SV is up 70% since 2018, distributed over 6 Masses. Some children, despite their parents' best efforts, get fussy – even loudly so – during Mass. That's just what kids do, and has nothing to do with being naughty or misbehaving. (I don't intend to be crude, but we spend the beginning of our lives in diapers, and end our lives in much the same way, and there's not much we can do about either...)

At the same time, there are some people – I among them – who have age-related hearing loss. If there is sustained loud noise at Mass, two things happen: Some wearing hearing aids have that sound painfully amplified, and I cannot speak, because I must hear my own voice in order to continue speaking. (Side point: If I briefly pause preaching when there is a lot of ambient noise in the church, it is only because I cannot hear myself speak. My only humble request is that, in order for us all to share the same worship space, we all be reasonable. Reasonably accommodating of parents with fussy children, and reasonably accommodating of those with hearing issues. A quick trip to the vestibule with a fussy child is usually all it takes. For those with hearing issues, sitting closer to the front can usually help as well.

Blessings, Fr. Bill Donahue

READINGS FOR THE WEEK OF FEBRUARY 17TH - 23RD



Monday: Gn 4:1-15, 25/Ps 50:1 and 8, 16bc-17, 20-21/Mk 8:11-13
 Tuesday: Gn 6:5-8; 7:1-5, 10/Ps 29:1a and 2, 3ac-4, 3b and 9c-10/Mk 8:14-21
 Wednesday: Gn 8:6-13, 20-22/Ps 116:12-13, 14-15, 18-19/Mk 8:22-26
 Thursday: Gn 9:1-13/Ps 102:16-18, 19-21, 29 and 22-23/Mk 8:27-33
 Friday: Gn 11:1-9/Ps 33:10-11, 12-13, 14-15/Mk 8:34-9:1
 Saturday: 1 Pt 5:1-4/Ps 23:1-3a, 4, 5, 6/Mt 16:13-19
 Sunday: 1 Sm 26:2, 7-9, 12-13, 22-23/1 Cor 15:45-49/Lk 6:27-38



Children's Religious Education Reminder — There are no English First Communion preparation classes Tuesday, February 18th and Wednesday, February 19th. Classes will resume on Tuesday, February 25th and Wednesday, February 26th.

THE PARISH OFFICE WILL BE CLOSED
 Monday, February 17th for President's Day.

ST. VINCENT'S PARISHIONERS – The tax contribution statements for 2024 were sent out last week to the families who donated over \$250. If you need a contribution statement or need more information, please call the rectory at 707-762-4278.

CONFESSIONS are held in the church on Thursdays at 6 pm and Saturdays at 3:30 pm; please enter through the confessional (left) side.

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

CONGRATULATIONS to Emmett Drew Petersen who received the Sacrament of Baptism.

PLEASE PRAY FOR — Brad Virgin, Charlie Kato, Frank Paula Sr., Anastasia Lester, Bonifacio Gonzalez, Lucelia Fish, Chris Gonella, Consuelo Alvarez, and Ev Woodruff.

OUR SYMPATHIES go out to the family of Frank Paul Bellante, Jr who passed away January 22nd, and Erwin W. Giacomini who passed away February 8th. May the souls of the faithful departed, through the mercy of God, rest in peace.

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS SCHOLARSHIPS: The KOC Council #1586 St. James, will be awarding multiple \$1000 scholarships to seniors who plan to continue education after high school. Scholarship applications can be picked up at the parish office Monday through Friday during normal business hours. The deadline is 4/10/2025.

THE OFFICE OF MARRIAGE AND FAMILY LIFE invites you to the 2025 NFP, Natural Family Planning, Training and Certification Workshop Friday, March 14th to Sunday, March 16th at St. Apollinaris Church, 3700 Lassen St, Napa, CA 94558. Contact Crisarlin Vazquez, director of Marriage and Family Life, at familylife@srdiocese.org or call 707-566-3305 to register. More information is posted on the church bulletin boards along with a QR code to register.

PARISH FINANCIAL INFORMATION:

Last Sunday's offering:
 Sunday Basket \$9,042
 On-Line Giving 2,046
 Total \$11,088

The second collection for St. Vincent's Church Religious Education Program was \$4,290.

Thank you for your generosity.

There will be a second collection next 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.



ST. VINCENT DE PAUL ELEMENTARY NEWS

At St. Vincent de Paul Elementary Catholic school, we are committed to fostering an environment where faith, values, and morals are at the heart of everything we do. We believe in partnering with our parish, and our school families, to help guide and nurture the next generation of kind, compassionate, responsible individuals. Together, we can instill the virtues of love, respect, integrity, and service that are central to our Catholic faith.

If you are interested in touring our Catholic school, we would love to show you all that we have to offer. Please contact the office to schedule a tour at your convenience. We look forward to welcoming you and sharing more about our faith-filled community! 707-762-6426 or email Mrs. Rynning at rynning@svelem.org

DIOCESAN SURVEY: 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.srdiocese.org to complete the brief survey. Thank you for your input!

THE DIOCESE YOUTH AND YOUNG ADULT program has opportunities this spring and summer:
Men's Lenten Pilgrimage March 5th - 9th - Join Men Ages 30 - 60 across the Camino de Sonoma in an incredible 5 day journey.
Young Couple's Pilgrimage May 3rd - Celebrate the CA Bishop's challenge to Radiate Love; engaged or newly married couples spend a Saturday together walking from Occidental to Jenner.
Summer Camps: Eureka Mission Trip (July 13 - 18th) and Little Flowers Girls Camps registration opens in March. Ages 10 - 30. More information can be found on the church bulletin boards, or contact Stephen Morris at 310-849-2342, or email at: dsryouth@srdiocese.org to register or to get more information.