

**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.**

April 6, 2025

Mass intentions during April 7th - 13th

Mon.	8:00	Alexa Marie Ruiz (L), Joe Piasta
Tues.	8:00	Glenn Craft (L), Francelina and Manuel Lopes
Wed.	8:00	Sylvia Samija and Family (L)
Thur.	8:00	Ralph Hopper (L)
Fri.	8:00	Sylvia Samija and Family (L)
Sat.	8:00	John Adams, Mary Amerata
	5:00	Joseph and Virginia Sled, Magdalena Gonzalez
	7:00	Antonio Salvador Esquivel (L) Jonathan Antonio Ortiz (L) Maria Graciela Pedroza Solano Jesus Hernandez Cano Toñita Ortiz Carreno and Family
Sun.	7:30	Norbert and Pauline Andres, Joan Jimenez Georgia Cort, Raymond Skipp, Dora Sherwood
	9:00	Mary Barber (L) Lynn Nelson, Jerry Dixon Frederic Holden, Don Borg
	10:30	Pro Populo
	12:00	The Jimenez Garcia Family (L) Jesus Saucedo, Maria Ponce, Mario Herrera Ramon Ochoa Diaz

**5th Sunday Lent**

John 8:1-11

“The scribes and the Pharisees brought a woman who had been caught in adultery and made her stand in the middle” (John 8:3). Why do they make her stand in the middle? Why not expose her on the periphery? The reason is something that affects us practically every day.

The center is what stabilizes a community’s identity. We humans tend to center ourselves around an accused and condemned victim — though we rarely admit it. This renews our fragile communities and our power as those who weaponize the accusation. This is effective because it is often a victim who represents something truly dangerous for the group. In this case, adultery stands for the breakdown of a community and those within it, because it forces questions like: who is my father? Whose child is this? Is this child one of us, or that of an outsider? The accusers place the adulteress in the center because their community, like most, is built around turning an enemy into a victim.

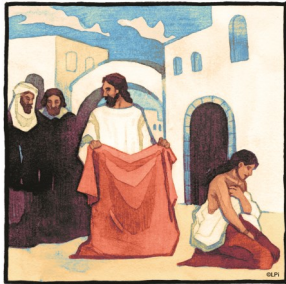
Once you understand this, you’ll see it almost anywhere humans group together (families, politics, workplaces, sports, schools, etc.). The good news is Jesus exposes this dynamic by deftly pointing out the sin-infected hearts of everyone besides the woman. They all leave, symbolizing the breakdown of the old order, and she is “left alone before him.” A new community has begun, structured around the merciful love of Christ.

What is in your center? What is in the center of our parish and family communities? Strive to center on Christ’s forgiveness, and we experience the new, lasting community we call the Church.

— Father John Muir ©LPi

**(PRACTICING) CATHOLIC – BENEATH THE SURFACE**

By Colleen Jurkiewicz Dorman



**Mini Reflection:** Too often, we don’t care about righteousness or truth. We just care about being right. We have a terrible tendency to see only decisions, and in doing so we dehumanize the people behind them. But when God looks at us, he sees more than the worst decisions we’ve ever made.

**The Allure of Being Right**  
It wasn’t a real question.

“The law of Moses says we should stone her. What do you say?” the Pharisees asked Jesus as they brought the adulterous woman before him. But they weren’t really asking.

They didn’t care what Jesus’ answer was. They didn’t ask his opinion because they wanted to know. They asked because they wanted to use his words against him.

Righteousness, truth — that wasn’t the goal. The goal was being right.

And in the middle of the whole scene, dragged before Jesus, used as a literal prop in this staged drama, is a woman. A real flesh-and-blood woman.

I find myself wanting to know more about her. She had been “caught in the act,” they claimed, but I wonder what that even means. With whom was this act committed, and what were the reasons for her participation in it? Was she coerced? Was she scared? Was she confused? Was it really a cut-and-dry, black-and-white situation of adultery, of lust, of making the wrong decision?

We will never know the answers to these questions, and it doesn’t matter — it’s not our business. God knows the answers. God knows the truth of the matter: what she did, what she chose, what she felt. Because she wasn’t a prop to Him. She was a person.

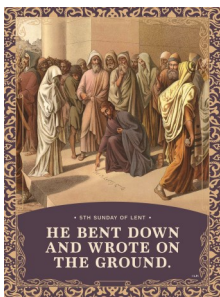
When God looks at us, he sees more than the worst decisions we’ve ever made.

I worry that we use one another as props even today, when we try like the Pharisees to illustrate “What is Right.” We have a terrible tendency to see only decisions, and in doing so we dehumanize the people behind them.

Too often, we don’t care about righteousness or truth. We just care about being right.

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**READINGS FOR THE WEEK OF APRIL 7TH - 13TH**



Monday: Dn 13:1-9, 15-17, 19-30, 33-62 or 13: 41c-62/Ps 23:1-3a, 3b-4, 5, 6/Jn 8:12-20  
 Tuesday: Nm 21:4-9/Ps 102:2-3, 16-18, 19-21/ Jn 8:21-30  
 Wednesday: Dn 3:14-20, 91-92, 95/Dn 3:52, 53, 54, 55, 56/Jn 8:31-42  
 Thursday: Gn 17:3-9/Ps 105:4-5, 6-7, 8-9/Jn 8:51-59  
 Friday: Jer 20:10-13/Ps 18:2-3a, 3bc-4, 5-6, 7/ Jn 10:31-42  
 Saturday: Ez 37:21-28/Jer 31:10, 11-12abcd, 13/ Jn 11:45-56  
 Sunday: Lk 19:28-40/Is 50:4-7/Ps 22:8-9, 17-18, 19-20, 23-24 (2a)/Phil 2:6-11/Lk 22:14—23: 56 or 23:1-49

**Holy Week at St. Vincent's – 2025**

**Palm Sunday – April 13**  
 Regular Sunday Schedule

**CONFESSIONS**

Thur., April 17, 12:00 p.m. to 1:00 p.m.

**THE EASTER TRIDUUM**

**Holy Thursday – April 17**

(No Mass at 8:00 a.m.)  
 Mass of the Lord's Supper  
 7:30 p.m. (bilingual)  
 Adoration until 10:00 p.m.

**Good Friday – April 18**

Celebration of the Lord's Passion 1:15 p.m.  
 Stations of the Cross 3:30 p.m.  
 The Lord's Passion (Spanish) 7:30 p.m.

**Holy Saturday – April 19**

No other Mass  
 Celebration of the Easter Vigil  
 8:00 p.m. (bilingual)

**Easter Sunday – April 20**

English Masses: 7:30, 9:00, 10:30 a.m.  
 Spanish Mass: 12:00 noon



**BAKE SALE TO BENEFIT CATHOLIC RELIEF SERVICES:**

On Sunday, April 13th, Wine Women and Word will be hosting a Bake Sale of homemade goodies for your family to enjoy, after all the Masses. Help support the world wide efforts of the Catholic Relief Services that give humanitarian aid to those suffering throughout the world. Your cash donation will be appreciated. Please contact Carolyn Maloney for more information at (707) 763-8456.

**EASTER FLOWER ENVELOPES** are available at the entrance of the church. It's a great opportunity to have your loved ones remembered by making a donation to help decorate our beautiful church for the Easter season.

**CONFESSIONS** are canceled this coming Thursday, April 10, at 6 pm. There will be regular confessions on Saturday at 3:30 pm; please enter through the confessional (left) side. On Thursday, April 17, confessions will be available from 12—1 pm in the church; there will be no evening confessions.

**PLEASE PRAY FOR** — Luis Gramero, Lucelia Fish, Ino Carrillo, Glenn Craft, Melvin B. LaFranchi, Anita Solar, Marilyn Lee, Jilberto Porrás, Mary Barber, Rosaura Gopar, Mercedes Nolasco, Bonifacio Gonzalez, Consuelo Alvarez, and Ev Woodruff.

**PARISH FINANCIAL INFORMATION:**

Last Sunday's offering:  
 Sunday Basket \$8,289  
 On-Line Giving 1,527  
 Total \$9,815

The second collection last weekend for St. Vincent de Paul Society was \$5,341.

**Thank you for your generosity.**

Next weekend there will be a second collection for Catholic Home Missions.

**ONLINE GIVING AT ST. VINCENT'S** - 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 the parish office at 707-762-4278.



**ST. VINCENT DE PAUL ELEMENTARY SCHOOL**

There are moments in life when we are faced with trials, challenges, and times of deep need — whether it be emotional, physical, or spiritual. In these moments, we can sometimes feel overwhelmed, lost, or uncertain of where to turn. Yet, as Catholics, we are reminded that we are never truly alone. In times of difficulty, let us lean on our faith and one another. Prayer is a powerful tool; it connects us with God and with each other. It is through prayer that we find solace, hope, and the courage to face the challenges ahead. Let us walk together in faith, encouraging one another and holding each other up in prayer. God is with us, and in His love, we are made strong. May God's peace be with you all, and may you feel His presence in your life during times of need.

FAITH.ACADEMICES.SERVICE

St. Vincent de Paul Elementary School is currently enrolling TK-7th Grade

**CHRISM MASS:** The Most Reverend Robert F. Vasa, Bishop of the Diocese of Santa Rosa, along with the priests serving in the diocese, invites you to attend the Mass of the Chrism at the Cathedral of St. Eugene, 2323 Montgomery Dr. in Santa Rosa on Thursday, April 10, 2025, at 5:30 pm.



**PRESENTATION OF THE STATIONS OF THE CROSS:**



Soldiers of Christ from Resurrection Parish in Santa Rosa will have a live Stations of the Cross in Spanish at St. Vincent's Parish Hall on Saturday, April 12th at 5 pm. All are welcome.

**KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS SCHOLARSHIPS:** The KOC Council of St. James and St. Vincent's, 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 M - F. The deadline for St. James is April 10, 2025; St. Vincent's is April 15, 2025.