

**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.**

**May 18, 2025**

<u>Mass intentions during May 19th—25th</u>			5th Sunday of Easter John 13:31-35
Mon.	8:00	Elodia Munguia (L) Anthony “Tony” Clever, Juan Sanchez Ortega	<p>I’ve always found it amazing that Jesus never says to his disciples the straightforward and bumper stickery words “I love you” or “I will always love you” (a la Dolly Parton’s song). Why doesn’t Jesus say, “I love you”?</p> <p>Well, actually he does, but in particular ways. He says, “As the Father loves me, so I love you” (John 15:9) thereby rooting his love for us in the space of the Holy Trinity. This week he commands, “Love another as I have loved you” (John 13:34). He presents his love for us as a completed action which continues into the present moment. How has he loved us? By becoming one of us, one with us, and finally giving his life for us in his suffering on the cross. We weren’t there when he did that, but neither were his Apostles (except one). Still, that action is his great “I love you” to us.</p> <p>His love is also hedged in a command: “Love one another.” So how can we practically follow it? The great St. John XXIII wrote in his diary that each day he followed this rule: “Only for today, I will do one good deed and not tell anyone about it.” The hidden nature of a good deed is a sign that it is truly loving. This week, take on St. John XXIII’s practical method of following Jesus’ great commandment of love. It’s a splendid way to say, “I love you.”</p> <p align="right">— Father John Muir    LPi</p>
Tues.	8:00	Hilda Sickles, John Allen	
Wed.	8:00	Susana Uribe and Family (L)	
Thur.	8:00	Jan Eshleman, Chuck Sackett Ramon Ochoa Diaz	
Fri.	8:00	Lisa and Bob Dietlan (L) Francelina and Manuel Lopes	
Sat.	8:00	Alma Porras (L), Janet Bowker (L)	
	5:00	Peter and Vivian Mar, Fred Rodoni	
	7:00	Filomena Cervantes Sanchez, Cesar Morales Adolfo Martinez, Jose Grajeda Mendoza Toñita Ortiz Carreño and Family	
Sun.	7:30	Donald Patterson, The Lavio-Manni Family	
	9:00	Pro Populo	
	10:30	Tessa C. Bordi (L), Noelia Gonzalez (L) Cesar Ronaldo Mendez Vallejo	
	12:00	Juan Andres Avalos and Family (L) Jose Luis Avalos, Mario Herrera Ramon Ochoa Diaz The Gonzalez Alvarez Family	

**Dear Fellow Parishioners,**



This week’s “From the Pastor’s Desk” was nearly completed when we received the news of the election of a new pope and, shortly after that, one from Chicago to be called Leo XIV. There was no way I could go forward without mentioning it and celebrating it while keeping in mind that this is still a fast-developing story that might change before this weekend’s Masses. Still, the essential fact of his election is now history.

Like many, I thought it highly unlikely that any American would ever be elected pope, given that the U.S. already has great world-wide influence, and given the large and growing percentage of Catholics now living in Asia, Africa and Latin America. From the perspective of an outsider (like me), some modern papal elections seemed more “predictable” than others. The elections of Benedict XVI and Francis were not exactly surprises, since the former was probably JP II’s closest adviser for the third-longest papacy in Church history, and Francis, elected in 2013, apparently was the runner-up in the Conclave of 2005 that elected Benedict. Karol Wojtyla was elected John Paul II in 1978 despite the fact that few outside of the Roman Curia or Poland had ever heard his name.

The two biggest modern changes to the election process in recent history are the voting age limit of 80 years instituted by Paul VI, and the requirement instituted by John Paul II that a pope must be elected by a super-majority vote of 2/3 of the electors. This helps to assure that the new pope has a broader base of support, and to break deadlocks if neither of two equally strong candidates can garner a majority. The effect is to surface new candidates once the original candidates have been proven unelectable. Another surprise of the election was that it was concluded so quickly.

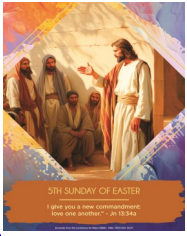
An interesting feature of past papal elections was the “*ius exclusivae*” (“papal veto”) – the right of a Catholic monarch from Austria, France or Spain to veto the papal election of any cardinal. Though the Church never officially acknowledged this right, in practice it was allowed, the last time in 1903, by Franz Joseph I of Austria, in opposing the election of Cardinal Rampolla, then the leading candidate. While this intervention was not officially acknowledged, it nevertheless had the effect of weakening his candidacy and resulted in the election of St. Pius X. One of Pius X’s early acts was to explicitly forbid such interventions. The most recent known attempt by a secular power to influence a conclave was in 1963, when the dictator Francisco Franco of Spain made an unsuccessful attempt to block the election of Cardinal Montini, who became Paul VI.

There is already too much speculation about the new pope’s political perspectives and what he is likely to do in the future. I hope that Catholics (and others) will avoid pigeonholing him under one label or another. One of the most important titles and functions of the pope is “Pontifex” – i.e., “bridge-maker,” as a focus and source of unity within the Church, and an appeal to the goodwill of all others. That is usually best achieved through persuasion, charity and example.

Finally, on the lighter side, when it was announced that the Chicago-born pope was a Cubs fan, I told a few people that at least he’s accustomed to suffering. Then I found a far better posting in headline form: “Cubs Fan To Lead Padres.”

**Blessings, Fr. Bill Donahue**

# READINGS FOR THE WEEK OF MAY 19TH - 25TH



Monday: Acts 14:5-18/Ps 115:1-2, 3-4, 15-16/Jn 14:21-26  
 Tuesday: Acts 14:19-28/Ps 145:10-11, 12-13ab, 21/Jn 14:27-31a  
 Wednesday: Acts 15:1-6/Ps 122:1-2, 3-4ab, 4cd-5/Jn 15:1-8  
 Thursday: Acts 15:7-21/Ps 96:1-2a, 2b-3, 10/Jn 15:9-11  
 Friday: Acts 15:22-31/Ps 57:8-9, 10 and 12/Jn 15:12-17  
 Saturday: Acts 16:1-10/Ps 100:1b-2, 3, 5/Jn 15:18-21  
 Sunday: Acts 15:1-2, 22-29/Ps 67:2-3, 5, 6, 8 (4)/Rv 21:10-14, 22-23/Jn 14:23-29

## PARISH FINANCIAL INFORMATION:

Last Sunday's offering:

Sunday Basket	\$9,122
On-Line Giving	2,217
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$11,339</b>

**Thank you for your generosity.**

## ST. VINCENT'S KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS congratulate



seniors Ailin Reyes, Madelyn Rynning, and Ashlee Vazquez who have each received a \$1000 scholarship from our Council #11431 to pursue their college education.

## MINISTRY FAIR: Are you involved in one of our wonderful



ministries at St. Vincent de Paul Church? If your ministry is looking for more help or members, please contact Joanne Ferris at jferrispetaluma@gmail.com. We are working on offering a parish ministry fair and would love to include your ministry!



**CONFESSIONS** are held in the church on Saturdays at 3:30 pm. Confessions on Thursday, May 22, and 29 at 6 pm, are canceled.

## ADORATION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT

Is **canceled** for the next couple of weeks.

## PLEASE PRAY FOR — Donna Boyajian, Michelle Paskal,



Greg Lytle, Sylvia Samija, Luis Gamero, Lucelia Fish, Melvin B. LaFranchi, Bonifacio Gonzalez, Consuelo Alvarez, and Ev Woodruff.

**OUR SYMPATHIES** go out to the family of Marcella Janie Lopes who passed away on April 28, and Florencia Martinez Rojas who passed away April 27. May the souls of the faithful departed, through the mercy of God, rest in peace.

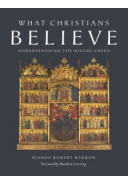
## WOMEN'S RETREAT: Sarah Hart will be leading a Women's



Retreat at Holy Spirit Church in Santa Rosa on Sunday, May 18th from noon to 5 pm. She will also be playing at the 10:30 am mass that day.

Tickets are available at the office, after masses, and online at the following link: <https://giving.parishsoft.com/App/Form/f725e962-0003-435b-992e-a4ccb559ecb7> or from our website [holyspirit-sr.org](http://holyspirit-sr.org).

## STUDY OF THE CREED: Join us for a nine-week study of



the Nicene Creed using Bishop Robert Barron's book **What Christians Believe: Understanding the Nicene Creed**. Fr. Samuel Moses Brown will lead the study at St. Eugene's Cathedral, 2323 Montgomery Dr, Santa Rosa. Classes will be from 6 - 6:45 pm on June 19, 26; July 10, 17, 24, and 31; August 7, 14, 21. Cost is \$10 (includes book). Please call the Cathedral office to sign up at 707-542-6984.

**MEMORIAL DAY MASSES:** The Diocese of Santa Rosa has scheduled the following Masses for Memorial Day, Monday, May 26, 2025: 10 am at Calvary Catholic Cemetery in Santa Rosa, 2930 Bennett Valley Road; 10 am at Calvary Catholic Cemetery in Petaluma, 304 Magnolia Avenue, and 9 am at Holy Cross Catholic Cemetery in St. Helena, 2121 Spring Street.

**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.



**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 SCHOOL

On behalf of the entire staff at SVES, we want to share how incredibly proud we are of each and every one of our students. Receiving your First Holy Communion is a beautiful and sacred milestone in your faith journey, and we are honored to walk alongside you as you grow in love, grace, and understanding of God's presence in your lives.

Your reverence, joy, and dedication have touched our hearts. We pray that this special day will remain a cherished memory and a strong foundation for your lifelong relationship with Jesus Christ.

Congratulations, and may God continue to bless you abundantly!

Sophia Boyd, Warner Burris, Mateo DeBernardi  
 Chloe George, Miles Hackett, Alessandra Hayes  
 Gael Herrera, Austin Kruit, Merrick Leaf  
 Lillian Miin, Brooklyn Miller, Wyatt Miller, Hayden Nortz  
 Samantha Reynolds, Hugo Santoyo Gaona  
 Charlotte Scerri, Aubrey Silva, Sophia Smith, Beatrice Tobes  
 Hunter Wallace, Margaret Yeager, Nancy Yeager  
 Kaitlin Chin, Charles McCoy, Robert McCoy  
 Madison Metzler, Dominic Molina Biondi

## ST. EUGENE'S CATHEDRAL: 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](mailto:steugenegiftshop@outlook.com).