

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 25, 2025

<u>Mass intentions during May 26th - June 1st</u>			6th Sunday of Easter John 14:23-29
Mon.	8:00	Louis Gamero (L), Sally Gamero (L) Cecilia Mendoza Vasquez	<p>Jonathan Haidt's 2024 book entitled "The Anxious Generation" argues that today's kids are marked by significant increases in anxiety, as the title suggests. Smartphones, social media, economic uncertainty, the chaos of a global pandemic, fear regarding climate change, and the so-called "meaning crisis" all contribute to strikingly high levels of anxiety in young people today. I'm a bit older than this generation, but I feel it, too. The world can be too much to handle.</p> <p>The Gospel this week offers a stunning solution for troubled souls. To his overwhelmed and anxious disciples, the risen Jesus says, "Peace I leave with you; my peace I give to you" (John 14:27). His peace is that of the one who was overwhelmed on the cross and then conquered death by the power of his divinity, his bond of love with the Father. He offers us this unshakeable peace.</p> <p>Of course, mental illness does not magically disappear because of the risen Jesus. But he does walk with us and offer us his peace in the midst of our suffering. The peace the world gives is not like his because it is weak, uncertain, and self-generated. Jesus' peace is strong, sure, and given as a gift from God. He gives it to us amid our anxiety. Will you receive it as a gift? I hope so. He wants to fill the hearts of this generation with his peace.</p> <p align="right">— Father John Muir ©LPi</p>
Tues.	8:00	Jean Nelson, Cecilia Mendoza Vasquez, Gerald Clark Kennedy	
Wed.	8:00	Rev. Fr. Andrew Pacheco (L), Lucia Laura Lopez Ortiz (L) Cecilia Mendoza Vasquez	
Thur.	8:00	Frank Bellante, Victor Parra, Geronimo Munguia Cecilia Mendoza Vasquez	
Fri.	8:00	George L. Bordi (L) Gloria Bordi, Cecilia Mendoza Vasquez	
Sat.	8:00	Cesar Alejandro Del Toro (L), Cecilia Mendoza Vasquez	
	5:00	Tammy Allen, Holy Souls in Purgatory, Bill Crowley	
	7:00	The Viveros-Larrieta Family (L), The Martin Family (L) Anastacia Paredes, Silvestre, Alfonso y Rafael Martin	
Sun.	7:30	Dante L. Bordi (L) Dora Sheerwood, Georgia Cort, Norbert and Pauline Andres	
	9:00	Kevin Fatooh, Antonio and Felisbina Pardal, Lindy Borges John and Rosa Amaral, Debbie Dixon Cecilia Mendoza Vasquez	
	10:30	Pro Populo	
	12:00	Teresa Cornejo Tajolla, Ramon Ochoa Diaz, Mario Herrera Jose Villalobos Padilla, Leonel Marquez Muñoz	

Dear Fellow Parishioners,

I don't often comment on civil matters, if only because they tend to be converted into political issues, into which I will not knowingly dip even one pinky toe. However, there is a current legal story closely connected to Church autonomy and the free exercise of religion.

The village of Toms River, New Jersey, announced plans to condemn and raze an active Episcopal parish, which was founded in 1865. This "village" – a Jersey Shore municipality of about 100,000 and the 8th largest in the state – intends to seize the 11-acre church property by eminent domain to put in a city park and several pickleball courts. The plan was announced shortly after the church requested approval to establish a 17-bed homeless shelter. The mayor claims that the timing is purely coincidental, and that the city has too little parkland – despite the fact that the church property is adjacent to a large (though private) country club. In addition, the church grounds contain a memorial garden which is the final resting place for a number of their past parishioners. (If this seizure is allowed, this "resting place" will not be so final after all.) To their credit, the Episcopal Diocese of New Jersey has indicated that it will contest the seizure, and I suspect many other parties will join the action with amici curiae briefs. The church property is reportedly worth \$4 million, which will surely be less than the legal fees to settle this, a victory for the lawyers of both parties.

Somehow, I can't believe this is even being considered as a possibility. It calls to mind Stalin's dynamiting of the beautiful Christ the Savior Cathedral in Moscow – "the St. Peter's of the Russian Orthodox Church" – to be replaced by a gaudy monument to the Soviet regime, which was never built. Eventually, the cathedral became a large swimming pool.

It reminds me of Dostoevsky's famous words, "If there is no God, everything is permitted."

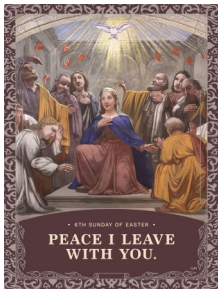
Also, the Supreme Court just announced that they will leave in place a lower court ruling that state funds may not be used for religious charter schools. It was a 4-4 decision, with Justice Barrett recusing herself. My immediate reaction was disappointment, but I will withhold further comment until I've read the entire opinion. This may not be all bad, as government money is rarely without strings, which Catholic schools may find difficult to accommodate without compromising their mission.

We are at the time of year for graduations, departures, and new beginnings. A large group of our young parishioners will be receiving the Holy Spirit in the Sacrament of Confirmation, which prepares them to take on the challenges of life as fully-initiated Catholics. Some will be graduating from colleges and universities, others from high school. Still others will graduate from elementary or middle school, and I understand that in some places there are even graduation ceremonies for Kindergartners.

Finally, this weekend we observe Memorial Day, to honor all those who made the ultimate sacrifice for our country. At a time when we celebrate the bright futures of our graduates, we would do well to remember the service of so many whose lives were over almost before they began, as well as their loved ones who never saw them again. There is no way to find even a modicum of peace with this outside of a belief in eternal life, in the presence of a saving God who wipes the tears from our faces.

**Blessings,
Fr Bill Donahue**

READINGS FOR THE WEEK OF MAY 26TH - JUNE 1ST



Monday: Acts 16:11-15/Ps 149:1b-2, 3-4, 5-6a and 9b/Jn 15:26—16:4a
 Tuesday: Acts 16:22-34/Ps 138:1-2ab, 2cde-3, 7c-8/Jn 16:5-11
 Wednesday: Acts 17:15, 22—18:1/Ps 148:1-2, 11-12, 3, 1 4/Jn 16:12-15
 Thursday: Acts 18:1-8/Ps 98:1, 2-3ab, 3cd-4/Jn 16:16-20
 Ascension: Acts 1:1-11/Ps 47:2-3, 6-7, 8-9 (6)/Eph 1:17-23 or Heb 9:24-28; 10:19-23/Lk 24:46-53
 Friday: Acts 18:9-18/Ps 47:2-3, 4-5, 6-7/Jn 16:20-23
 Saturday: Zep 3:14-18a or Rom 12:9-16/Is 12:2-3, 4bcd, 5-6/Lk 1:39-56
 Sunday: Acts 7:55-60/Rv 22:12-14, 16-17, 20/Jn 17:20-26
 Ascension: Acts 1:1-11/Ps 47:2-3, 6-7, 8-9 (6)/Eph 1:17-23 or Heb 9:24-28; 10:19-23/Lk 24:46-53



THE PARISH OFFICE WILL BE CLOSED Monday, May 26th for Memorial Day.

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.



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 May 29th and June 5th at 6 pm, are canceled.

ADORATION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT is on Thursdays after the daily Mass for one hour.



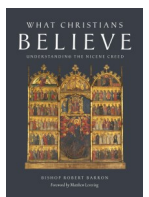
PLEASE PRAY FOR — Donna Boyajian, Michelle Paskal, Greg Lytle, Sylvia Samija, Louis Gamero, Lucelia Fish, Melvin B. LaFranchi, Bonifacio Gonzalez, Consuelo Alvarez, and Ev Woodruff.



OUR SYMPATHIES go out to the families of Telesforo Torres Lopez who passed away on May 5, and David Frances Joseph who passed away May 6. May the souls of the faithful departed, through the mercy of God, rest in peace.



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.



PARISH FINANCIAL INFORMATION:

Last Sunday's offering:

Sunday Basket	\$8,436
On-Line Giving	2,521
Total	\$10,957

Thank you for your generosity.

There is a second collection this weekend for the Maintenance Fund.

There will be a second collection next weekend for Priests Benefits and Welfare.

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

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 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.

