

**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.**

**August 31, 2025**

<u>Mass intentions during September 1th - 7th</u>			22nd Sunday in Ordinary Time Luke 14:1, 7-14
Mon.	8:00	Irene Carnazola (L) Myron Namba, Susanna Uribe, Holy Souls in Purgatory	<p>Once I was invited to a group meeting with Pope Francis. Entering the room, I paused, eyeing the seats next to the Pope's fancy chair. Someone saw my paralysis and invited me to sit in the seat farthest from what I wanted. Hiding my disappointment, I sat. We waited. To our surprise, an aid pointed out that those seats were still empty and invited me and another to have them. We calmly but gleefully strode across the room and sat. Pope Francis entered, and we enjoyed two hours of amazingly uplifting conversation.</p> <p>Jesus says this week to us: "When you are invited, go and take the lowest place so that when the host comes to you he may say, 'My friend, move up to a higher position.' Then you will enjoy the esteem of your companions at the table" (Luke 14:10). This is not about how to score free seat upgrades. Rather, it is a wise pattern for the whole of life. It is how to live free from the anxiety of constantly grasping for status and recognition.</p> <p>Jesus perfectly embodies his seat-taking advice. He eschews his glorious throne for the lowest: death on a cross, that lonely chair we all deserve. In his resurrection, he calls us up higher to his marvelous banquet seats. This week, perhaps we should look for opportunities to choose the lowest seat. We'll be pleasantly surprised when we do.</p> <p align="right">— Father John Muir ©LPi</p>
Tues.	8:00	Gina Marie DeFilippo, Linden Crossman Randall C. Fowler, Jomar Lococo	
Wed.	8:00	Emma Van Bramer (L), Holy Souls in Purgatory	
Thur.	8:00	Alejandro Ruiz (L), Courtney Nelson (L) Elodia Grajeda	
Fri.	8:00	The Alcaraz Family (L), Msgr. Daniel Whelton (L) Melisa and Yareli Tinoco and Family (L)	
Sat.	8:00	In Reparation to the Immaculate Heart of Mary Joel McIntire	
	5:00	Mark Kostielney, Anthony Radovitch, Alan Alvarado Ruiz	
	7:00	Eulalio Salinas Torres, Beatriz Alcaraz, Jose Jesus Calvillo	
Sun.	7:30	Pro Populo	
	9:00	Felisbina Pardal, Debbie Dixon, Jerry Dixon Lindy Borges, John and Rosa Amaral	
	10:30	Kathleen Panfiglio	
	12:00	Familia Jimenez Garcia (L) Mario Herrera, Abraham Avalos, Jose Maria Lopez	

**Dear Fellow Parishioners,**

I was preparing my Pastor's Desk to talk about the religious significance of Labor Day, and maybe a couple of other things. Meanwhile, the tragedy at Annunciation Catholic School and Parish in Minneapolis intervened, to the dismay and horror of an entire nation. The state of Minnesota, and even the White House, have lowered flags to half-mast to indicate solidarity with that grief-stricken parish and, most importantly, with the children and families most affected. As of this writing, one adult and two children are dead. Several others have been wounded and are (pray God) recovering in local hospitals. Please join me, our parish, and Pope Leo XIV in praying for them, and their families.

As for the assailant, more will be uncovered. At the very least, he had – as the Amish would say – “troubles of the heart.” As for those seeking to understand a motive or cause for this act of monumental wickedness, there is something essentially incomprehensible and banal about evil. However it may be explained, it cannot not fully understood in terms of psychology alone. It is conscience that is the cornerstone of the moral psyche, and the language of conscience has been almost entirely absent in the past two generations (if not more) of our therapeutic age.

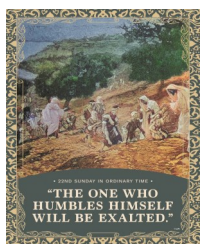
As a pastor, this reduces me to my most helpless. I cannot offer words that will heal this wound, because those words do not exist. I cannot offer words to allay the fears of our own elementary school parents, whether at SV or elsewhere, because they do not exist.

In another parish, many years ago, I received a credible death threat from a deranged former spouse of someone whose wedding I was officiating. The police parked a cruiser outside of the church, and the Mass occurred without incident. Unlike that church, which had 13 exterior doors, our church is unusually well defended by its architecture. There is one man, Peter, who occasionally interrupts a Mass to “preach” loudly for a minute or two. He has not returned for some time. In the meantime, I have thoroughly investigated him, and believe he is an annoyance rather than an actual threat. (He interrupted a Hispanic wedding, and, with the help of several men, he made the quickest exit down the back stairs of the church that I have ever seen...)

We have never lived in a time when threats to our survival, even that of children, have not existed, whether from deadly childhood diseases, foreign adversaries, or human wickedness. Belief in, and prayer to, our Guardian Angels, was powerfully impressed upon me as a young priest by an elderly priest. They are not magical imaginary companions, but spiritual powers with independent wills dedicated to our earthly well-being and eternal salvation. As we pray for the children and families of Annunciation School, we would do well to pray for the children of our own parish, reconnect at whatever age with our own Guardian Angels, and instruct our children to do so as well.

**Blessings,  
Fr Bill Donahue**

# READINGS FOR THE WEEK OF SEPTEMBER 1ST - 7TH



Monday: 1 Thes 4:13-18/Ps 96:1 and 3, 4-5, 11-12, 13/  
Lk 4:16-30  
Tuesday: 1 Thes 5:1-6, 9-11/Ps 27:1, 4, 13-14/Lk 4:31-37  
Wednesday: Col 1:1-8/Ps 52:10, 11/Lk 4:38-44  
Thursday: Col 1:9-14/Ps 98:2-3ab, 3cd-4, 5-6/Lk 5:1-11  
Friday: Col 1:15-20/Ps 100:1b-2, 3, 4, 5/Lk 5:33-39  
Saturday: Col 1:21-23/Ps 54:3-4, 6 and 8/Lk 6:1-5  
Sunday: Wis 9:13-18b/Ps 90:3-4, 5-6, 12-13, 14-17 (1)/  
Phlm 9-10, 12-17/Lk 14:25-33

## **ST. VINCENT'S ENGLISH RELIGIOUS EDUCATION PROGRAMS 2025 – 2026**

**CLASSES BEGIN Tues. Sept. 9th & Wed. Sept. 10th.** Registrations for the English PreK- 6th grades have begun. Pick up the registration form from the Bell room at the church entrance or the parish office's front porch. Kindly return the completed form and fee in a sealed envelope to the rectory office attention Carmen Aanenson.

**WE NEED VOLUNTEERS:** We need more dedicated people willing to spend 1 - 2 hours a week to help with our religious education programs. Let's meet!

**OCIA (Order of Christian Initiation of Adults):** Are you interested in being a Catholic? Have you ever thought about it? Are you being called further into a relationship with Jesus Christ and His Church? Come and see what's next.

**ADULT CONFIRMATION:** Are you an adult and missed confirmation? Classes begin in September. For a registration form please contact Carmen Aanenson.

**ALL PRE-K AND K** children are invited to join our Sunday Program. It presents faith in a language that the child can understand and have fun, through prayer, stories, and activities. The classes are on Sunday, 9 - 10 am, in the parish hall. Please pick up a registration form from the bell room at the entrance of the church or from the parish office's front porch.

**FIRST COMMUNION FOR PRE-TEEN AND TEEN:** We offer classes on Tuesday for grades 7th – 12th, and Wednesday for grades 4th – 6th., from 3:30 – 5:00 pm in the Parish Hall.

**English Religious Education registration sign ups can be made in person on Sat., Sept. 6 from 8am-11:30am in the parish hall. CarmenAanenson will also be available after each Mass on Sept. 13th and 14th, at the plaza.** For more information about any of the above programs, or for a registration form, please contact Carmen Aanenson, 707-762-4278 x114 or email dreaanenson@gmail.com.

## **ST. VINCENT DE PAUL CONFIRMATION PROGRAM**



**2025-2026:**Registration for the English and Spanish Confirmation programs have begun, and will continue the following Saturdays, in the parish hall from 9 - 11:50 am, Sept. 6th. If you're registering your child for 2nd Year Confirmation, YOU MUST BRING A COPY OF THEIR BAPTISM CERTIFICATE, even if they were baptized at St. Vincent's Church. For more information, please call the parish office at 707-762-4278.

**PLEASE PRAY FOR** - Martin Carreño, Joaquin Wilfredo Valle, Anthony Flores, Quintin Ponce Jr., Alexine Silveira, Michelle Paskal, Consuelo Alvarez, and Ev Woodruff.

## **PARISH FINANCIAL INFORMATION:**

Last Sunday's offering:  
Sunday Basket \$7,462  
On-Line Giving 1,292  
Total \$8,754

The second collection last weekend for the Maintenance Fund was \$4,736.

**Thank you for your generosity.**

There will have a second collection this weekend St. Vincent de Paul Society.

There will be a second collection next weekend for the Diocesan Seminarians.

**ONLINE GIVING AT ST. VINCENT'S** - 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. 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 of the entrance of the church. Please call the parish office for more information: 707-762-4278.

**THE PARISH OFFICE WILL BE CLOSED** this Monday, September 1, 2025. Happy Labor Day!



**CONGRATULATIONS** - to Roman Luna and Kate Annabel Kiely who received the Sacrament of Baptism.

**THE COMMUNAL FIRST SATURDAYS:** A devotion to Our Lady of Fatima is held every first Saturday of the month before the daily mass. The devotion for September will be on Saturday, Sept. 6. If you have questions, please call Lilian Dubow at 510-205-3712 or email her at, Lilian.Dubow@gmail.com. For more information about the devotion go to [www.CommunalFirstSaturdays.org](http://www.CommunalFirstSaturdays.org).

**ST. VINCENT CHURCH MINISTRY FAIR ON THE PLAZA:** Discover Your Place to Serve! Saturday, September 13 and Sunday, September 14 immediately following 5:00 pm, 7:30 am, 9:00 am and 10:30 am Mass. Find Your Ministry Match! Join us to explore the many opportunities available for using your gifts and talents! Questions? Contact Joanne Ferris at [jferrispetaluma@gmail.com](mailto:jferrispetaluma@gmail.com), or call 707-481-6431.

**WINE, WOMEN, AND WORD** will be gathering Thursday, September 18 at St. James Parish Center. Doors open at 6:00 pm; program starts at 6:30 pm. All women of faith from St. James and St. Vincent's are invited to this evening of fellowship and faith-sharing. Our focus this evening will be two of the Sacraments of Initiation - Eucharist and Confirmation. Please bring a box of facial tissue that we will deliver to local schools. Questions? Joanne Ferris 707-481-6431 or email at [jferrispetaluma@gmail.com](mailto:jferrispetaluma@gmail.com).

**JOB OPENING:** Like working outside? Interested in another Catholic ministry? Join our Catholic Cemeteries team! Catholic Cemeteries is looking for a full-time Groundskeeper. For more information or to apply please email [angela@dsrccm.org](mailto:angela@dsrccm.org).