

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.

September 28, 2025

<u>Mass intentions during September 29th - October 5th</u>			Twenty-Seventh Sunday in Ordinary Time Luke 17:5-10
Mon.	8:00	Earl Dolcini, Robert Michael Donahue	<p>A priest friend of mine received a call from a family whose elderly mother was dying. Within thirty minutes, he was at her bedside, offering the consolation of the sacraments, anointing her with the oil of the sick, and commending her soul to God. She passed not long after, and for months, her family spoke of their deep gratitude for his presence. When I phoned him to commend his faithful ministry, he simply said, "I was just doing my job."</p> <p>His words brought to mind Jesus' teaching this week in Luke 17:10: "So you also, when you have done everything you were told to do, should say, 'We are unworthy servants; we have only done our duty.'" In a world that often seeks recognition and applause, the Lord invites us into a different mindset — one of humble service. The priest did not see his response as extraordinary; he saw it as a grace to fulfill his vocation.</p> <p>How tempting it is to seek affirmation for doing what I ought to do! Yet Jesus reminds us that true discipleship is not about grandstanding but about quiet faithfulness. It is enough to have served. It is enough to have loved. It is enough to be grateful that we were given the chance to do our duty in the first place. Whether in priesthood, parenthood, or any vocation, what peace -soaked freedom there is in simply doing what is asked of us. No more, no less. Jesus, that is how you quietly love us.</p> <p align="right">Father John Muir ©LPi</p>
Tues.	8:00	Dominic Oliva, Jesus and Inocencia Carrillo	
		Joey Pappas and Family (L), Lawrence Frederic (L)	
Wed.	8:00	Thanksgiving to St. Joseph, John Scharer	
		Maria Luisa Barragan and Family (L)	
		Legion of Mary and Auxiliaries (L),	
		Emma Van Bramer (L), Gloria B.	
Thur.	8:00	Melisa and Yareli Tinoco and Family (L)	
		Jesus and Inocencia Carrillo, Holy Souls in Purgatory	
Fri.	8:00	The Alcaraz Family (L), Tim and Lori Nelson (L)	
		Melisa and Yareli Tinoco and Family (L)	
Sat.	8:00	Alejandro Ruiz (L), In Reparation to the Immaculate	
		Heart of Mary, Wolfgang Zoeller	
	5:00	Mark Kostielney, Michael Cooper	
	7:00	The Enriquez Gutierrez Family (L), Karen Hernandez (L)	
		Rafael Martin, Silvestre Martin, Juan Sanchez Ortega	
Sun.	7:30	John Pedroni	
	9:00	Pro Populo	
	10:30	Marie Aggio, Isaura Rico, Dr. Vernon Mason Briggs, Jr.	
	12:00	Juan Andres Avalos and Family (L), Bets Hernandez (L)	
		Mario Herrera, Jose Luis Avalos, Ramon Ochoa Diaz	

Dear Fellow Parishioners,

One of the events I most look forward to is the Blessing of Animals, which takes place on, or near, the Feast of St. Francis of Assisi on October 4th. This year, it will take place in the parish plaza and park after the First Friday Mass on October 3rd, at about 12:15 p.m. I encourage not only school families, but all parishioners, to bring their animals to be blessed, in return for the love and companionship they provide throughout the year.



The Blessing of Animals is a phenomenon which has traveled the world over, in many times and cultures. It is widely regarded as a religious activity, and occurs broadly across most religions in some form, including, for example, Christianity, Islam, Judaism, Shinto, and Unitarian Universalism, amongst others. World Animal Day, celebrated by those not associated with credal religion, is nonetheless celebrated on October 4th, the Feast of St. Francis.

Those with stuffed animals may have them blessed as well. They, too, are recipients of human affection, and it is not always possible for a family to keep a live pet. Here, I speak from experience. I would love to have a canine companion, but my life as a pastor does not permit that now. Over the years, my parents adopted a number of rescue dogs, and almost all of them had a keen awareness that they had been rescued. Those adopted dogs were exceptionally affectionate companions.

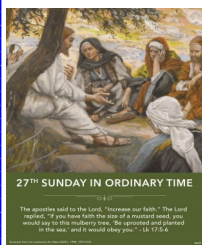
Over the past century or more in this country, our relationship to animals has evolved dramatically. At the turn of the 20th century, horses were a mainstay of the American economy, and were even subject to the military draft. My grandmother told me that the only time she saw her father weep was when the Army came to their farm to draft their pick of the horses for World War I. On farms, they were neither pets nor possessions, but living beings and essential co-workers with whom farmers spent far more time, day after day, even than with their own human families. Today, the power of even electric cars is measured in "horsepower," a metric which few probably associate with real horses of any kind. Canned dog food was introduced under the brand "Ken-L-Ration" in the early 1920's. Now, whole aisles of superstores are dedicated to pet supplies.

The beauty of the Feast of St. Francis when joined to the Blessing of the Animals is that it unites the worship of God with the appreciation and veneration of creation.

Come join us on October 3rd.

**Blessings,
Fr. Bill Donahue**

READINGS FOR THE WEEK OF SEPTEMBER 29TH - OCTOBER 5TH



Monday: Jon 1:1—2:2, 11/Jon 2:3, 4, 5, 8/Lk 10:25-37
 Tuesday: Jon 3:1-10/Ps 130:1b-2, 3-4ab, 7-8/
 Lk 10:38-42
 Wednesday: Jon 4:1-11/Ps 86:3-4, 5-6, 9-10/Lk 11:1-4
 Thursday: Mal 3:13-20b/Ps 1:1-2, 3, 4 and 6/Lk 11:5-13
 Friday: Jl 1:13-15; 2:1-2/Ps 9:2-3, 6 and 16, 8-9/
 Lk 11:15-26
 Saturday: Jl 4:12-21/Ps 97:1-2, 5-6, 11-12/Lk 11:27-28
 Sunday: 2 Kgs 5:14-17/Ps 98:1, 2-3, 3-4 (see 2b)/
 2 Tm 2:8-13/Lk 17:11-19

PARISH FINANCIAL INFORMATION:

Last Sunday's offering:

Sunday Basket	\$9,205
On-Line Giving	1,441
Total	\$10,646

The second collection last weekend for the Archdiocese for Military Services was \$4,048.

Thank you for your generosity.

There will be a second collection this weekend for the Maintenance Fund.

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 church entrance. Please call the parish office for more information: 707-762-4278.

MINISTRY SPOTLIGHT:



Angel Food Network: If you are happiest working behind the scene for others, Angel Food Network is a great ministry for you. AFN supports funeral receptions in the parish hall. Volunteers set up and decorate in the morning and clean up in the afternoon. Emails are sent in advance asking if volunteers are available. Interested in learning more about this ministry? Contact Kristy Spaletta at kspaletta22@gmail.com or call 707-364-7337.

Baptism Preparation: this is a great opportunity for married couples to share God's gift of raising children in our faith. Contact Dave and Juli Lee at davjul@comcast.net or call 707-364-2113 (It is not a major time commitment).

ST. VINCENT'S USHERS: The official mass attendance for the Diocese of Santa Rosa will be taken at ALL masses during the month of October 2025.

OUR SYMPATHIES go out to the family of Robert Michael Donahue, Fr. Bill's dad, who passed away September 17th. His Memorial Service is scheduled for October 10, 2025 at 11 am. May the soul of the faithfully departed, through the mercy of God, rest in peace.



PARK PLAYDATE: "Hello St. Vincent's moms! Join other moms and kids on the 4th Sunday of each month for a park playdate following the 9 am mass. Message Chrissie Dunham (415-250-6406), or look for the kids by the fountain after Mass.



AMERICA NEEDS FATIMA 2025: A Public Square Public Rosary by America Needs Fatima hosted by St. Vincent's Knights of Columbus Council will be held on Saturday, October 11 at 10:00 am on the plaza of St. Vincent Church. Please come and join us as we pray for America and the World. If you have any questions please call Ross Hicks at (707) 762-9433.



ADORATION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT is held Thursday mornings after the weekday mass for one hour, and the first Thursday evening of the month, from 6 - 7 pm.



PLEASE PRAY FOR - Keith Heck, Colin Lago, Lorraine Dominguez, Frank and Marleen Hench, Charlie Kato, Martin Carreño, Joaquin Wilfredo Valle, Quintin Ponce Jr., Michelle Paskal, Consuelo Alvarez, and Ev Woodruff.



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

ST. VINCENT DE PAUL ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

We are blessed to have a thriving Catholic school community right here in our parish! St. Vincent de Paul Elementary School offers a faith-filled, academically excellent education for students in Transitional Kindergarten (TK) through 8th grade.

Our dedicated faculty and staff are committed to nurturing the whole child. Mind, body, and spirit through daily prayer, participation in school Mass, rigorous academics, and a strong sense of community rooted in Gospel values.

We invite all families to consider the gift of a Catholic education for their children. Whether you're already part of our school or exploring options for the future, we welcome your interest and involvement.

Come visit us and see the difference a Catholic education can make.

Thank you for your continued prayers and support of our school community. Together, we are forming future leaders in faith and service.

For more information or to schedule a tour, please contact our office @ 707-762-6426 or visit www.svelem.org.



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 will be on Saturday, October 4th . 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.



"FAITH, HOPS, AND LOVE" series is coming back to the Santa Rosa Diocese. Every Thursday in October it will be "5'o'clock somewhere." Stephen Morris will host conversations with Priests, Deacons, and Young Adults at 5 different locations around the Diocese starting Oct. 2nd at Lagunitas. Non-alcoholic options available at each location. For more information and to register: www.faithhopslove.org