

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.

October 19, 2025

Mass intentions during October 20th - 26th			Twenty-Ninth Sunday in Ordinary Time: Luke 18:1-8
Mon.	8:00	Andres y Julissa Pacheco (L), Anthony "Tony" Cheever George Sr. and Veronica Girolo	A woman in my parish has an adult son who has rejected his faith. She prays for him every day. She lights candles, says rosaries, and asks God again and again to bring him back. But nothing changes. Is God listening? Is He delaying? She told me once that she feels like the widow in Jesus' strange parable — crying out for justice, but hearing only silence. And yet, she said, she is at peace. I asked why. She responded, "God is already answering. I just can't see it yet."
Tues.	8:00	Kathy Doherty and Family (L) Inesita Valle, Gerard Geoghegan, Jack Quinn	
Wed.	8:00	Suzie Cummins (L), Kay Patterson and Family (L) Lisa Galindo (L), Vince Patterson, Suzanne Capella	She embodies something of the mystery in Jesus' parable this week in Luke 18. A powerless widow demands justice from a corrupt judge. This isn't about wearing God down until He gives in. It's about faith in the justice that is already coming. The widow isn't just persistent; she believes that justice is inevitable. And when Jesus points to the judge's words — his fear of being "struck" — He hints at something deeper: God's justice does not creep in gradually. It strikes. It comes like lightning.
Thur.	8:00	Jose Luis Del Toro, Jr. (L), The Covarrubias Fletes Family (L) Claire Gibson and Family (L), Rafael Covarrubias	
Fri.	8:00	Rafael Cobian (L), Rafael Cobian, Jr. (L) Gabriel and Vicki Naal (L), Jan Eshleman, Chuck Sackett	Blessed Mary is, of course, the ultimate widow demanding justice. At the foot of the cross she stands before what looks like the ultimate injustice — the brutal execution of her son. But she did not despair. She did not beg for a last-minute rescue. She knew that justice was not delayed. In fact, it was happening. The power of the cross was already unleashing justice upon the world — suddenly, decisively, like a blow that would topple every corrupt power, making even the most corrupt fear her strike.
Sat.	8:00	Kiara Covarrubias (L) The Lavio-Manni Family, Wilfred and Helen Fatooh	
	5:00	Florence and Bob Lago, Robert M. Donahue Magdalena Gonzalez, Tito Orozco	This parable asks us: will the Son of Man find faith on earth? Or will we mistake God's silence for absence? The cross proves that justice is not slow. It is only hidden. The lightning has already struck. In the cross, justice is speedily being done. — Father John Muir ©LPi
	7:00	Ignacio and Emma Gonzalez and Family (L) The Enriquez Gutierrez Family (L) Telesforo Torres, Toñita Ortiz Carreño	
Sun.	7:30	Tom and Carolyn Maloney (L), Dora Sherwood Norbert and Pauline Andres, Georgia Cort	
	9:00	Pro Populo	
	10:30	Harold Mazza, Dorothy Williams	
	12:00	The Alvarez Rico Family (L), Arelin and Leslie Jimenez (L) Juan Andres Avalos and Family (L) Mario Herrera, Jose Luis Avalos	

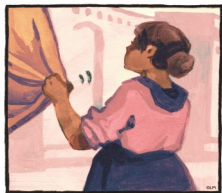


THE KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS would like to thank you for your generous contributions over the past two weekends during our drive to benefit people with intellectual disabilities! 100% of the \$1,696 collected will go to directly to Petaluma-based organizations caring for the disabled!

(PRACTICING) CATHOLIC – BENEATH THE SURFACE

By Colleen Jurkiewicz Dorman

Mini reflection: In the same way that a judge cannot go looking for conflicts to mediate, God will not force his way into our problems. What would be the point? What is our life on earth for, if it is not to teach us how to turn willingly to God?



The Prayers We Don't Say

It has always confused me: why a judge?

Jesus could have compared prayer to the subject who requests a gift of his king. He could have compared it to the child who asks a favor of a parent. But in the parable of the widow and the judge, Jesus compares prayer — specifically constant, unwavering prayer — with the marginalized person who doggedly pursues her claim through an unforgiving legal system.

It's not a rosy or reassuring picture. So what is he trying to tell us?

Unlike a king or a parent, a judge has strictly drawn lines which he cannot, under any circumstances, cross. He can only help people who bring their case to court. Even good, earnest judges cannot render justice if charges are not brought.

God is all-powerful. But that doesn't make Him a meddler. He will not force his way into our problems. What would be the point? What is our life on earth for, if it is not to teach us how to turn willingly to God, in every instance — adoration, gratitude, need?

Today, I sat down and made a list of problems I don't pray about. When I was done, I looked at the list and asked myself: why not? Why don't I pray about these things? Some are huge issues over which I have absolutely no control, and prayer feels futile. Some are small grievances I never even considered mentioning to God.

If I prayed about them all, my life would be totally consumed by prayer. Constant, unwavering prayer. The kind of prayer Jesus calls me to in the parable of the widow and the judge: continual surrender of myself to the mysterious, limitless power of God.

Praying that way could make me tired. The widow was tired, too — but she kept bringing her charges. She got justice. And her judge wasn't even a nice guy.

So say the prayer. Bring the charges. Our judge is one who wants to help, but He won't overstep His bounds. ©LPi

READINGS FOR THE WEEK OF OCTOBER 20TH - 26TH



Monday: Rom 4:20-25/Lk 1:69-70, 71-72, 73-75/
Lk 12:13-21
Tuesday: Rom 5:12, 15b, 17-19, 20b-21/Ps 40:7-8a,
8b-9, 10, 17/Lk 12:35-38
Wednesday: Rom 6:12-18/Ps 124:1b-3, 4-6, 7-8/
Lk 12:39-48
Thursday: Rom 6:19-23/Ps 1:1-2, 3, 4 and 6/Lk 12:49-53
Friday: Rom 7:18-25a/Ps 119:66, 68, 76, 77, 93, 94/
Lk 12:54-59
Saturday: Rom 8:1-11/Ps 24:1b-2, 3-4ab, 5-6/Lk 13:1-9
Sunday: Sir 35:12-14, 16-18/Ps 34:2-3, 17-18, 19, 23
(7a)/2 Tm 4:6-8, 16-18/Lk 18:9-14

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.



CONGRATULATIONS - to Rosie Marie Clear and Rory Thomas Lollis who received the Sacrament of Baptism.

IL POVERELLO FRATERNITY: Franciscans around the world are celebrating the 800th Anniversary of the Canticle of Creation, St Francis' poem celebrating the wonders of God's creation. A new musical composition has been created and will be introduced virtually on Saturday, October 25, 2025.



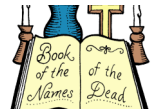
This presentation can be seen in the St James multi-use room, 125 Sonoma Mtn. Pkwy., Petaluma, at 10:00 AM. Please see the posted flyer on the church bulletin boards for more information. Contact: Edd Ringlein, OFS text message (707) 246-5311 or email: ejringlein.ofs@gmail.com

ST. VINCENT'S 2026 LECTOR AND VISITING OF THE SICK BOOKS are available at the rectory office. If you



haven't picked up your book, please do so. Office hours are Monday through Friday from 8:30 am to 3:30 pm, closed for lunch from 12 to 1 pm. If you have any questions, please call the office at 707-762-4278.

ALL SOULS DAY REMEMBRANCE ENVELOPES will be available at all entrances of the church next weekend. You may write the names of your loved ones on them. During the month of November, the Remembrance Book will also be available. We remember our loved ones and honor their memory with great respect as we pray for them.



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 to 7 pm.



PLEASE PRAY FOR - Frank Huddleston, Jose Rodriuez, Carolyn Maloney, Melvin B. LaFranchi, Keith Heck, Colin Lagos, Quintin Ponce Jr., and Michelle Paskal.



ROSARY PROCESSION HONORING MARY, Queen of the Most Holy Rosary: You are invited to join us on Sunday, October 19, 2025 at 2 pm at the Carmelite House of Prayer, Oakville, CA, 20 Mt. Carmel Dr., off Oakville Rd. Join us as we process outside on the monastery grounds or pray in the chapel (for those who prefer not to walk). Following the rosary, there will be a Crowning of Mary with Adoration and Benediction in the chapel. Refreshments will follow in Our Lady of Mt. Carmel Center.



PARISH FINANCIAL INFORMATION:

Last Sunday's offering:

Sunday Basket	\$8,630
On-Line Giving	2,135
Total	\$10,765

The second collection last weekend for World Mission Sunday was \$4,388.

Thank you for your generosity.

There will be a second collection next 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.

ST. VINCENT DE PAUL ELEMENTARY SCHOOL



Explore St. Vincent de Paul Elementary's TK/ Kindergarten Program! Where curiosity sparks and learning takes flight!

We invite prospective families to join us for a Parent Tour or Open House to see how our program nurtures faith, academics, and service from the very beginning.

Tour and Open House dates available this November through January!

For full details and to RSVP, visit: www.svelem.org.

Questions? Email us at info@svelem.org



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

EL DIA DE LOS MUERTOS PETALUMA 2025



POCESSION will be on Saturday, November 1st at the Petaluma Historical Museum, 20 4th Street, Petaluma, from 4 to 10 pm. The candlelight procession and closing event will have food, art vendors, entertainment with Ballet Folklorico Paquiyollotzin, Danza de Diablos, Mateo Guzman, a Catrina Contest and more.

THE CATHOLIC ADULT SINGLES ASSOCIATION OF MARIN AND SONOMA COUNTY: The Catholic Adult Singles Association of Marin and Sonoma is a group of 55+ single or single again Catholics who are interested in making new friends, taking part in social activities, sharing opportunities for spiritual growth and becoming involved in volunteer projects that will benefit our parishes, our community, and one another. We welcome those who are interested. For Membership & Event information, please call Bob at 415 897-0639.