

**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.**

November 30, 2025

<u>Mass intentions during December 1st - 7th</u>			First Sunday of Advent Matthew 24:37-44
Mon.	8:00	Jerry Ryan, Richard Kingsbury, All Souls Espirideon Solorio, Abigail Rodriguez	A few years ago, my house was broken into on Super Bowl Sunday. Turns out, it's a great day for burglars. If the TV isn't on, people are probably watching the game somewhere else, so ... easy pickins'. I'll never forget walking into my bedroom and realizing someone had been there. My stuff was thrown all over the floor. The closet was torn apart. It was disorienting and disturbing — someone had invaded the space I thought was secure. After that, I bought an alarm system. And every Super Bowl Sunday since, I'm extra careful to lock the doors and keep the lights on. That experience made me more alert. Not scared. Just attentive. That's much like the spiritual place Jesus wants us to be on this first Sunday of Advent. He doesn't start the season with soft candlelight and cozy manger scenes. He starts with two brutal images: a flood and a thief. In other words, chaos and violation. Why? Because life will flood us. Chaos will come. And in the midst of it, Christ will come like a thief — not to steal from us, but to steal us back. He is the intruder we should want. The one who breaks in, not to ransack, but to rescue. Christ presents himself as the thief but also the new Noah. He builds the ark of the Church to carry us through the flood. And he invites us to join him. How? By participating fully in our parishes. By making our homes places of prayer. By guarding our hearts with truth. By refusing to let spiritual complacency leave us exposed. By repentance. This Advent, don't just stay vaguely "awake." Prepare. Build. Watch. The flood will come. But so will he. — Father John Muir ©LPi
Tues.	8:00	George Bordi (L), Litiana Tuidraki (L)	
Wed.	8:00	Cristina Ruiz and Family (L) Emma Van Bramer (L)	
Thurs.	8:00	The Maximiliano Alcaraz Family (L) Mary Moore Grala, Veronica Girolo	
Fri.	8:00	Melisa and Yareli Tinoco and Family (L) The Alcaraz Family (L), Jodi Fitzgerald (L) Joe Fitzgerald, Holy Souls	
Sat.	8:00	In Reparation to the Immaculate Heart of Mary Ron Saludek	
	5:00	Mark Kostielney, Jerry Ryan	
	7:00	Mauricio Velazquez (L), Pablo Lino (L) Rafael Martin, Silvestre Martin, Fernando Escobar	
Sun.	7:30	Pro Populo	
	9:00	Edward Anacleto, Lindy Borges John and Rosa Amaral	
	10:30	Marie Barboni, Kathleen Meyer	
	12:00	Juan Andres Avalos and Family (L) Thanksgiving to Our Lady of Guadalupe Ramon Ochoa Diaz, Mario Herrera Jose Luis Avalos	

Dear Fellow Parishioners,

Every place has its own markers of times and seasons. Here, the first signs of fall can begin in late September or early October, but really take hold in November. The pumpkin patches and corn mazes of October become the Christmas tree lots of late November and beyond. At local farmers' markets, tomatoes, stone fruit and sweet corn are replaced by squash and root vegetables. We've already had the first of our much needed rains, with more promised, which blessedly bring an end to the fire season and start the greening of our gardens and fields.

Just as the signs of autumn and winter appear, two kinds of seeds are planted with Thanksgiving and the First Sunday of Advent, which we celebrate within the next few days: the seeds of Thanksgiving gratitude, and the seeds of spiritual rebirth in Advent. Here, truth and humanity go hand in hand, and can render a harvest of grace.

In addition to gratitude, one of the major ingredients of Thanksgiving is nostalgia. It is a fitting conclusion to November, when we remember, and pray for, our beloved departed, which can also be an act of forgiveness. Our Thanksgiving memories take on a deep spiritual character if we are grateful for our loved ones, whatever their imperfections. They are not even in the past, because they are always with us.

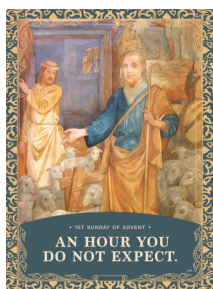
The senses most connected to memory are taste and smell, and that's where Thanksgiving dinner comes in. For many of us, it's the only time of the year when we have turkey, stuffing, bean and mushroom soup caserole, scalloped corn and, of course, cranberry sauce. (Not the overpriced fancy-schmancy stuff, but the good kind that slides out of the can in one log.) Some of our Hispanic community have creative variations, since turkey is not a traditional part of their food culture. Some barbecue turkeys slathered with salsa, others spend hours making tamales, nopales (cactus, which when properly prepared are like French-cut green beans), a non-turkey meat course, and traditional sides. Tortillas replace dinner rolls. Fine Mexican and Hispanic cuisine is deceptively simple, and though I consider myself a passable home cook of the basics, I've never tried to make it. It's too difficult to do well, yet so many of our families do exactly that.

Every year, our parish staff has an annual Thanksgiving midday dinner on the Wednesday a week before Thanksgiving, which is a mix of all of these things. It is one of the nicest, and most important, staff events of the year. Parishioners always know whether their priests and staff get along, as it is an important sign of the unity of the parish. Offering grace at that table with my colleagues in ministry is for me one of the happiest moments of the year.

I wish you all a grateful Thanksgiving Day, and a blessed beginning of Advent.

Blessings, Fr Bill Donahue

READINGS FOR THE WEEK OF DECEMBER 1ST - 7TH



Monday: Is 4:2-6/Ps 122:1-2, 3-4b, 4cd-5, 6-7, 8-9/
Mt 8:5-11
Tuesday: Is 11:1-10/Ps 72:1-2, 7-8, 12-13, 17/
Lk 10:21-24
Wednesday: Is 25:6-10a/Ps 23:1-3a, 3b-4, 5, 6/
Mt 15:29-37
Thursday: Is 26:1-6/Ps 118:1 and 8-9, 19-21, 25-27a/
Mt 7:21, 24-27
Friday: Is 29:17-24/Ps 27:1, 4, 13-14/Mt 9:27-31
Saturday: Is 30:19-21, 23-26/Ps 147:1-2, 3-4, 5-6/
Mt 9:35—10:1, 5a, 6-8
Sunday: Is 11:1-10/Ps 72:1-2, 7-8, 12-13, 17 (see 7)/
Rom 15:4-9/Mt 3:1-12

CHRISTMAS FLOWER OFFERING ENVELOPES are



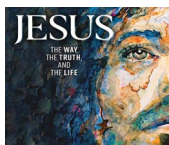
available at all the entrances of the church. Every year we rely on your flower donations to decorate our beautiful church. Remember your loved ones by putting their names on the envelope.

ADVENT CANDLES AND WREATHS are available at the



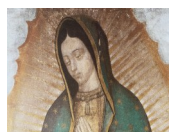
rectory for \$20.00 a set or sold separately at \$10.00 each. Office hours: 8:30 am to 3:30 pm. We close for lunch from 12 to 1 pm. For more information, please call 707-762-4278.

BIBLE STUDY: We welcome you to join "Jesus: The Way



The Truth and The Life" a 10 week study in the Parish Hall every Tuesday from 6:45 - 8:30 pm beginning December 2, and continuing Dec. 9, 16, January 6, 13, 20, 27, and February 3, 10, 17. The cost to cover materials is \$30, scholarships are available. Contact Joanne Ferris at jferrispetaluma@gmail.com or call 707-481-6431.

THE APPARITIONS OF OUR LADY OF GUADALUPE:



The Spanish speaking community of St. Vincent de Paul Church would like to invite you to come enjoy the play: "The Apparitions of the Our Lady of Guadalupe to Juan Diego" on Friday, December 5, 2025 at St. Vincent's Parish

Hall at 7 pm.

THE ADVENT REMEMBRANCE SERVICE to honor our



loved ones who have passed will be Monday, December 22nd. This event will begin at 7 pm with Christmas music followed by the service at 7:30 pm in the church. This is truly a very special evening. There will be angel ornaments where you can write the names of your loved ones who have passed, before the service, at the entrance of the church. You can hang them on the Christmas trees in the church or take them to decorate your Christmas tree at home.

ST. VINCENT'S GIVING TREE FOR 2025: The Giving



Tree project will benefit the Angel Food Network, Birthright of Petaluma, and our own St. Vincent de Paul Society. These organizations provide outreach to our community. When you take a tag off the Giving Tree, please make sure you tape the tag onto the gift. Please do not take a tag unless you definitely plan to buy a gift. Do NOT wrap the gift. Return gifts to the church on Sunday and put them on the table next to the altar when you are called forward to bring up your gifts. During the week, you may bring gifts to the rectory from 8:30 am to 3:30 pm. All gifts must be returned NO later than Friday, December 19th. For any questions, please call the office at 762-4278.

PARISH FINANCIAL INFORMATION:

Last Sunday's offering:

Sunday Basket	\$8,777
On-Line Giving	803
Total	\$9,580

The second collection for the Maintenance Collection was \$4,702.

Thank you for your generosity.

There will be a second collection this weekend for the St. Vincent de Paul Society.

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.



THE ADVENT RECONCILIATION

SERVICE will be on Monday, December 15th at 7 pm.

CONGRATULATIONS to West Francis Borgelt, Sophia



Melissa Brusati, Sloan Elizabeth Gillis, and Sophia Layla Lopez who received the Sacrament of Baptism.

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

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 - Mary Barber, Irene Carnazola, Rudy Campos, Andy Azzaro, Nina Sable-Lavery, Colin Lagos, and Michelle Paskal.

THE COMMUNAL FIRST SATURDAYS: A devotion to



Our Lady of Fatima is held every first Saturday of the month. We begin at 7:15am, with Prayers & the Rosary, then Holy Mass, followed by 15 min Scripture Meditation on Saturday, December 5th. For any questions, please contact Lilian Dubow at (510) 205-3712 or at Lilian.Dubow@gmail.com or go to www.CommunalFirstSaturdays.org.

THE CHANTICLEER CONCERT - On Thursday, December



18th, Chanticleer returns to St. Vincent's Church. A Chanticleer Christmas is a treasured holiday tradition, bringing the beauty and wonder of the season to audiences near and far. By the glow of candlelight, voices soar in harmony, weaving together centuries of music that illuminate the joy, mystery, and spirit of Christmas. From moments of hushed reverence to rousing celebration, this beloved program offers a musical embrace of the season's most cherished sentiments. Join us as we celebrate the most wonderful time of the year! Performances at 5 pm and 7:30 pm. For more information or to get tickets, go to www.chanticleer.org.