

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.

March 15, 2026

<u>Mass intentions during March 16th - 22nd</u>		
Mon.	8:00	Claire Gibson and Family (L) Jodi Fitzgerald (L), Ashley Nelson Levy (L)
Tues.	8:00	Angela D'Ambrogi (L), Jodi Fitzgerald (L) Richard Kingsbury
Wed.	8:00	Kay Patterson and Family (L) Suzie Cummins (L), Lisa Galindo (L) Wilfred and Helen Fatooh, Vince Patterson
Thurs.	8:00	Alejandro Ruiz (L), Msgr. Dan Whelton (L) The Guzman Flores Family (L) Darlene Adiego, Jose Dolores Hernandez
Fri.	8:00	Joseph Daly, James Duffy
Sat.	8:00	-
	5:00	Ann Simmons, Norbert and Pauline Andres Georgia Cort, Dora Sheerwood
	7:00	Nery Gonzalez, Arnulfo Gonzalez, Enedina Meza Filemon Mendoza, Benditas Almas del Purgatorio
Sun.	7:30	Norbert Galego, Raffaelli Bros.
	9:00	Antonio and Felisbina Pardal Jerry Dixon, Frederic Holden
	10:30	Pro Populo
	12:00	Arelin and Leslie Jimenez (L), Jose Luis Flores (L) The Jimenez Garcia Family (L)

2026 Holy Week at St. Vincent's Church

Palm Sunday – March 29
Regular Sunday Schedule

THE EASTER TRIDUUM
Holy Thursday – April 2
(No Mass at 8:00 a.m.)
Mass of the Lord's Supper
7:30 p.m. (bilingual)
Adoration until 10:00 p.m.

Good Friday – April 3
Celebration of the Lord's Passion 1:15 p.m.
Stations of the Cross 3:30 p.m.
The Lord's Passion (Spanish) 7:30 p.m.

Holy Saturday – April 4
No Mass other than
Celebration of the Easter Vigil
8:00 p.m. (bilingual)

Easter Sunday – April 5
English Masses: 7:30, 9:00, 10:30 a.m.
Spanish Mass: 12:00 p.m.



Dear Fellow Parishioners,

This weekend we celebrate “Laetare Sunday,” which means, “Rejoice.” It is a close relative to the Third Sunday of Advent, known as “Gaudete Sunday,” which means roughly the same. They both come after the mid-point of a penitential season, and may be celebrated with rose-colored vestments, the only two Sundays when that color may be used. Both are turning points on the way to the two greatest Christian feasts, Christmas and Easter. From now through the end of Lent, there is a distinct shift in the emphasis of the prayers of the Mass, from penitence to the anticipated glories of Easter.

When is Lent? Lent extends from Ash Wednesday to the Mass of the Lord’s Supper on Holy Thursday night. (There is no morning Mass that day.) The time between the Mass on Holy Thursday night and the Easter Vigil is the Triduum (i.e., “three-dayer”), a distinct liturgical period of its own. At the Gloria of the Easter Vigil Mass, the bells are rung for the first time since Holy Thursday, and the Easter season begins. Also, the “Alleluia” is said for the first time since the beginning of Lent. The clacker (a hand-held device with a wooden hammer attached) may take the place of the sanctuary bells for all, or part, of Lent. The liturgical name for it is “crotalus”(Greek “krotalon,” i.e., “rattle,” as a result, “crotalus” is the name for a genus of rattlesnakes.) At SV, we use it only on Holy Thursday night.

Are Sundays considered days off Lent? They certainly “count” liturgically, as the use of violet vestments, omission of the Gloria and Alleluia, etc. continue all through Lent. The only Lenten practices required by the Church are fasting and abstinence from meat on Ash Wednesday and Good Friday, and abstinence on the Fridays of Lent. Anything beyond that is purely voluntary, such as giving up candy, video games, whatever. And if you want take Sundays off, that’s OK too. More next week.

Holy Water. In the past, some parishes removed holy water from the fonts at the entry of the church in order to signify the dryness of the Lenten desert entered into by Jesus himself. While there is some symbolic logic to this, the current liturgical guidelines provide for removal of the holy water only between Holy Thursday night and the Easter Vigil. The covering of religious images is to begin no earlier than the Fifth Sunday of Lent. Good Friday and Holy Saturday are the only two days of the year when Mass is not celebrated at all. According to most ancient tradition, all non-essential liturgy and activity ceases, including much of the Divine Office, though Communion is provided at the Good Friday Passion Liturgy. Until the mid-1950's, usually only the priest received Communion on Good Friday. The reason was a devout practice all its own: the people united themselves to the priest’s Communion by making their own spiritual Communion, a traditional practice revived most recently during the COVID-19 church closures.

Blessings, Fr. Bill Donahue

READINGS FOR THE WEEK OF MARCH 16TH - 22ND

Monday: Is 65:17-21/Ps 30:2 and 4, 5-6, 11-12a and 13b/Jn 4:43-54
 Tuesday: Ez 47:1-9, 12/Ps 46:2-3, 5-6, 8-9/Jn 5:1-16
 Wednesday: Is 49:8-15/Ps 145:8-9, 13cd-14, 17-18/Jn 5:17-30
 Thursday: 2 Sm 7:4-5a, 12-14a, 16/Ps 89:2-3, 4-5, 27 and 29/Rom 4:13, 16-18, 22/
 Mt 1:16, 18-21, 24a or Lk 2:41-51a
 Friday: Wis 2:1a, 12-22/Ps 34:17-18, 19-20, 21 and 23/ Jn 7:1-2, 10, 25-30
 Saturday: Jer 11:18-20/Ps 7:2-3, 9bc-10, 11-12/Jn 7:40-53
 Sunday: Ez 37:12-14/Ps 130:1-2, 3-4, 5-6, 7-8/Rom 8:8-11/Jn 11:1-45 or
 11:3-7, 17, 20-27, 33b-45

St. Vincent's Church Confirmation Masses 2026

On Saturday March 21st the Most Reverend Bishop Robert Vasa will celebrate the Confirmation Masses at St. Vincent's Church. **The English Confirmation Mass will be at 10 am** and the **Spanish Confirmation Mass will be at 1 pm.**

Confirmation rehearsal will be on Wednesday, March 18th: 5:30 pm for the English Mass and 7 pm for the Spanish Mass.



The Lenten Penance Service this year will be on Monday, March 16th at 7 pm. You are invited to come to this service to prepare for the season of Easter.



The "Scrutinies" will be celebrated solemnly on the Sundays of March 8, 15, and 22 at the 9:00 am Mass.

EASTER FLOWER ENVELOPES are available at the entrance of the church. It's a great opportunity to have your loved ones remembered by making a donation to help decorate our beautiful church for the Easter season.



CRS RICE BOWLS—Please return your rice bowls on Palm Sunday, March 29th. For more information, go to crsrice-bowl.org.

ST. VINCENT'S STATIONS OF THE CROSS - are held on Fridays at 7:30 pm in the church from February 20th through March 27th. Stations of the Cross on Good Friday, April 3rd, will be at 3:30 pm. Deacon Jim Carr will lead the Stations of the Cross. All are welcome.



PLEASE PRAY FOR - Benito Lopez, Harry Mills, Mabelle Angel, Melvin LaFranchi, Karen Gronberg, Rosie Greeott, Alexine Silveira, Mary Barber, Irene Carnazola, Colin Lagos, and Michelle Paskal.

PART-TIME SPANISH TEACHER for Grades (5–8): St. Vincent de Paul Catholic Elementary School is seeking a part-time Spanish teacher for grades 5 –8 who will support students' academic growth and Christian formation by modeling Catholic values in and out of the classroom. Reporting to



the principal, the teacher will plan and deliver a rigorous Spanish curriculum aligned with state, diocesan, and federal standards; maintain effective classroom management; assess student progress; and communicate regularly with parents. Candidates should be organized, professional, and committed to the mission and policies of the Diocese of Santa Rosa and the school community. Please contact the principal, Mr. Joseph Clapp, if interested in applying. (707) 762-6426.

PARISH FINANCIAL INFORMATION:

Last Sunday's offering:

Sunday Basket	\$10,824
On-Line Giving	2,387
Total	\$13,211

The second collection last weekend for the Catholic Relief Services was \$4,817.

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.



ST. VINCENT DE PAUL ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

At our Catholic school, rooted in the teachings of the Church and united with our parish community, we see Lent as a sacred opportunity to help our students grow into the people God created them to be.

Each day, our students encounter Christ not only in religion class, but through prayer, the Sacraments, and the loving witness of teachers who model the Gospel. What makes a Catholic education beautiful and unique is that faith is woven into every subject, every relationship, and every moment forming hearts as well as minds.

In partnership with our families and guided by the mission of the Catholic Church, we nurture academic excellence grounded in virtue, service, and compassion. Nowhere else will children be so intentionally formed to seek truth, grow in holiness, and use their God-given gifts to serve others with courage and joy.

If you are interested in exploring our Faith Based Education for TK-8th grade students please visit our website at www.svelem.org or call the office at 707-762-6426.

CATHOLICS AT THE CAPITOL: On March 25, the Feast of the Annunciation, Catholics from across California will gather in Sacramento for a sacred day of prayer, unity, and public witness with our California bishops. This gathering is meant for everyone - families, young adults, school communities, ministry leaders, and parish groups. It is an opportunity to make Lent visible and to stand together in hope at the center of our state's civic life. There will be a bus departing from St. Joseph, Cotati, with a transportation fee of \$27.50. The bus QR code is located on the right side of this announcement. For more information about the event go to: <https://cacatholic.org/capitol/> or scan the QR code on the left.

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS SCHOLARSHIPS: Both of the Petaluma KoC Councils (#1586 St James and #11431 St Vincent), will be awarding multiple \$1000 scholarships to seniors who plan to continue education after high school. Scholarship applications can be picked up at the parish office M - F. The deadline for this scholarship is April 20th. There are no exceptions.

