

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.

April 26, 2026

Mass intentions during April 27th - May 3rd

Mon.	8:00	Mary Nizibian (L) Benditas Almas de Purgatorio
Tues.	8:00	Joey Pappas and Family (L), Mary Nizibian (L)
Wed.	8:00	Legion of Mary and Auxiliaries (L) Vicki Aguilar and Family (L), Tony Andrade
Thurs.	8:00	Cecilia Fletes Cobian (L) Juan Ruesga Gomez, The Cobian Ruesga Family Tony Andrade, Richard Ballerini
Fri.	8:00	The Alcaraz Family (L) Elberth Gil, Tony Andrade
Sat.	8:00	In Reparation to the Immaculate Heart of Mary Brigiette Plant, Tony Andrade
	5:00	Richard Kingsbury, Christine Nantell Jon Martens
	7:00	Victor Rosado, Elsa Paredes, Rafael Martin Cesar Morales, Jose Guadalupe Contreras
Sun.	7:30	Pro Populo
	9:00	Sylvia Chicione, Isabel Madera Francisco Valdez
	10:30	Agrinoalda Maria Costa, Barbara Ramirez Dr. Vernon Mason Briggs, Jr.
	12:00	Ignacio and Emma Gonzalez and Family (L) Rosalina Solis Padilla, Tony Andrade

4th Sunday of Easter

John 10:1-10

"I am the good shepherd. A good shepherd lays down his life for the sheep."

John 10:11

My most boring job was working at an insurance company as a college student. My main task? Filing. Now imagine if I had told my supervisor, "I just want you to know, I'm willing to die for these files." She would have called a psychiatrist — or at least security.

There is something absurd in Jesus' words in today's Gospel: **"I am the good shepherd... I lay down my life for the sheep."** (John 10:11) It sounds noble, until you think about it. No one dies for sheep. Not a hired hand. Not even a good shepherd.

Sheep are important, sure, but not worth a human life.

And yet, Jesus insists: I will die for them. The crowd understandably responds:

"He is out of his mind."

C.S. Lewis once said that Jesus does not leave us the option of calling him merely a good teacher. If someone speaks like him, he is either lying, crazy, or telling the truth. John's Gospel won't let us stay sentimental. Jesus means it. He reveals a love that surpasses logic — a love that measures worth not by strength or success, but by the willingness to suffer unto death.

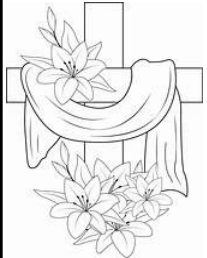
The Good Shepherd's madness is mercy. His cross makes no earthly sense and yet it makes divine sense. He lays down his life not for kings or saints but for sheep — for the ordinary, the unworthy, for you and me.

Think of someone who may feel unworthy of love. Do something simple and generous for them, not because they deserve it, but because Jesus did the same for you.

— Father John Muir LPI

THANK YOU FOR THE EASTER FLOWER DONATIONS IN MEMORY OF YOUR LOVED ONES:

David Rogers, Josie Jensen, Alice and George Lane, Earl Dolcini, Daniel Dolcini Coudray, Kitty and Arnold Dolcini, Catherine Cerrone, Mark Kostielney, Chester and Louis Lane, Arthur Bensen, Jerry Kennedy, Ray and Jean Johnson, Jens and Elsie Kolnes, Bud and Jean Nelson, Robert and Marlene Donahue, Philip and Nina Respini, Bernhardine Wong, John Radtkey, Olympio and Dora Lanzi, Mary Nunes, Stella Weber, Marlene Stewart, Pat Doherty, Jerry Dixon, Debbie Dixon, Felisbina and Antonio Pardal, Frederic Holden, Robert and Ellen Holden, Manny Vasquez, Don Borg, Charles L. Piezzi, Evelyn D C West O'Rourke, Rose Piezzi, Irene and Gene Piezzi, Theresa and Henry Morth, Mr. and Mrs. Aladino Marcucci, Mr. and Mrs. Egidio Mancini, The La Rosa Family, Eugene, Dorothy, and Jim Williams, Arthur and Marie Barboni, Sandra Shannon, Sister Mary Louise Williams, Marie Aggio, Judy Spencer, Keith Matthey, Gloria Bordi, Charles and Frances DeCarli, Ed and Teddie DeCarli, John and Georgia Terzian, Bob and Loretta Foulds, Berna Oseguera, James and Mable Hlebakos, Carlos Navarrete, and Kathy Yashar.

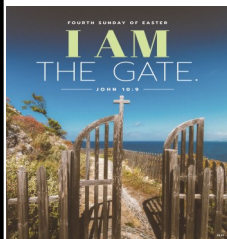


(PRACTICING) CATHOLIC - RECOGNIZE GOD IN YOUR ORDINARY MOMENTS

By Colleen Jurkiewicz Dorman

The Devil's Long Con

The algorithm on my streaming service has been suggesting a lot of romantic scam documentaries lately. If you're not familiar, romantic scams are a particularly cruel form of "the long con."



Some man presents himself to some woman as Prince Charming. He wines her. He dines her. He charms her mom and makes her friends jealous. Little red flags pop up here and there, but she shrugs them all off. She accepts convenient explanations.

She just wants to be happy.

And then one day, Prince Charming vanishes, along with the contents of the woman's savings account. Every victim says the same thing: "I should have known better, but I wanted it to be real."

I think the reason I'm so drawn to these shows is that I identify with these women. No, I've never been the victim of a romantic scam (if my husband married me thinking he would gain access to some kind of fortune, he's the one who got scammed). But we have all told ourselves that something is right because it feels right. We have shrugged off doubts about a choice, a relationship, a habit.

We have accepted easy answers that don't pass the sniff test — because we really, really wanted an answer, and we really, really wanted it to be easy.

The devil is a romantic scammer. A third-party retailer hawking knock-off joy and fulfillment. A wolf in sheep's clothing. A false prophet. A thief, a robber who has climbed the fence, knowing the gate will not admit him.

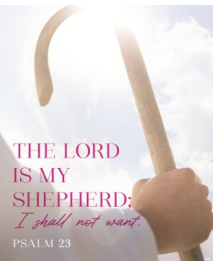
These are all different ways of saying the same thing: we can recognize what is real by where it comes from. What it sounds like.

This ability to discern truth is written into our souls. We can ignore it, if we want. Suppress it. We can follow the stranger.

But where will he lead?

©LPI

READINGS FOR THE WEEK OF APRIL 27TH - MAY 3RD



Monday: Acts 11:1-18/ Ps 42:2-3; 43:3, 4/
Jn 10:11-18 (second choice)
Tuesday: Acts 11:19-26/ Ps 87:1b-3, 4-5, 6-7/
Jn 10:22-30
Wednesday: Acts 12:24-13:5a/ Ps 67:2-3, 5, 6 and 8/
Jn 12:44-50
Thursday: Acts 13:13-25/ Ps 89:2-3, 21-22, 25
and 27/Jn 13:16-20
Friday: Acts 13:26-33/ Ps 2:6-7, 8-9, 10-11ab/
Jn 14:1-6
Saturday: Acts 13:44-52/ Ps 98:1, 2-3ab, 3cd-4/
Jn 14:7-14
Sunday: Acts 6:1-7/Ps 33:1-2, 4-5, 18-19/ Pt 2:4-9/Jn 14:1-12



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

CONGRATULATIONS - to Lorenzo Rafael Macias and Frances Rene McBride who received the Sacrament of Baptism.



PLEASE PRAY FOR - Rudy Campos, Ana Solar, Ana Ruiz, Roman Nolasco, Grace Smith, Benito Lopez, Colin Lagos, and Michelle Paskal.

OUR SYMPATHIES go out to the family of Brian Johnson who passed away March 17th. May the soul of the faithful departed, through the mercy of God, rest in peace.

THE COMMUNAL FIRST SATURDAYS: A devotion to Our Lady of Fatima is held every first Saturday of the month. We begin at 7:15 am, with Prayers and the Rosary, then Holy Mass, followed by a 15 min. scripture meditation on Saturday, May 2, 2026. For any questions, please contact Lilian Dubow at (510) 205-3712 or at Lilian.Dubow@gmail.com or go to [www. CommunalFirstSaturdays.org](http://www.CommunalFirstSaturdays.org).



IL POVERELLO FRATERNITY: You are invited to join the Il Poverello Fraternity in a Day of Reflection on Sunday, May 3rd. Our presenters, Francisco and Maria Christina Herrera will be offering this reflection in English and Spanish. Their topic: "St. Francis Brings Us to the Love of Jesus and life in abundance; The rule is Love." We will gather in the multiuse room at St. James Catholic Church, 125 Sonoma Mt. Pkwy, Petaluma. 9:30 am Check-in; 10:00 Meditation; 10:30 Mass; 11:45 potluck brunch; 12:15 pm sessions begin; 3:00 end. All are welcome to participate; freely offered to the community. A Good Will Offering will be accepted. Please see the posted flyer for further information, and RSVP by email to Edd Ringlein, OFS, ejringlein.ofs@gmail.com.



PILGRIMIGE TO FRANCE: Fr. Raul Lemus, the pastor of Saint Joseph Catholic Church in Cotati, invites you on a pilgrimage through some of the holy sites of France, October 19 - 29, 2026. The cost is \$5,499, which includes airfare, hotel accommodation, tour bus, tour guides, breakfast and all dinners, except for one dinner in Paris. This will be a bilingual pilgrimage in English and in Spanish. For more information, please visit www.sjccotati.org and scroll down to the pilgrimage information link. You can also call Fr. Raul Lemus at 707-795-4807, ext. 113 or email atpastor@sjccotati.org. You can also visit www.unitours.com/showtrip.aspx?tripid=2774.

PARISH FINANCIAL INFORMATION:

Last Sunday's offering:
Sunday Basket \$9,678
On-Line Giving 1,753
Total \$11,431

Thank you for your generosity.

There is 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.



ST. VINCENT'S ELEMENTARY SCHOOL NEWS



At St. Vincent de Paul Elementary School, we are committed to providing an excellent Catholic education grounded in the foundational pillars of Faith, Service, and Academics.

Faith: We foster the spiritual development of our students through daily prayer, participation in the sacramental life, and a deep commitment to Gospel values.

Service: Students are guided to live out their faith through acts of service, cultivating a lifelong dedication to compassion and stewardship.

Academics: We uphold rigorous academic standards that promote intellectual growth, critical thinking, and the pursuit of excellence.

We invite families to consider the lasting value of a Catholic education within our nurturing and faith-centered community. For further information or to arrange a visit, please contact the school office at 707-762-6426.

WINE, WOMEN, AND WORD BOOKCLUB: Our next selection to read is Theo of Golden by Allen Levi. Discussion will be May 14 at 6 pm. Location TBA.

YOU ARE INVITED: All ministries and parishioners of our parish are invited to the celebration of our priest's birthdays and priestly anniversaries, which will take place on Sunday, May 31st in the parish hall at 2:00 p.m. Please join us for this celebration. If you wish, feel free to bring a dish to share. We hope to see you there!



ST. VINCENT DE PAUL COLLEGE PREP NEWS:



Now enrolling grades 9-12. St. Vincent de Paul College Prep is currently accepting applications for the upcoming school year. We invite you to experience our vibrant campus community firsthand. To schedule a personalized family tour, please contact Kerry Pedersen at kpetersen@svhs-pet.org or call 707-763-1032 ext. 113.

CARDINAL NEWMAN: Under a new President, Cardinal Newman High School is looking for its next Principal/ administrative partner! For more information visit the school page of www.srdiocese.org or email LNorcia@SRdiocese.org.