

**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.**

July 19, 2026

<u>Mass intentions during 20th—26th</u>			Sixteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time Matthew 13:24-43
Mon.	8:00	Leo Lavio, Georgia Cordova	A man recently told me he was losing patience with the Church. “It’s supposed to be God’s Kingdom on earth,” he said, “but it’s full of contradictions and hypocrisy. Why can’t the Church just be better?” That last word landed with a judgmental thud. It hurt. Because at times the Church can look painfully ordinary, even disappointing. But Jesus’ parables in today’s Gospel meet that frustration head-on. He says, “The kingdom of heaven may be likened to a man who sowed good seed in his field,” yet the weeds grow up with the wheat, and the master allows both to grow together until harvest. To his listeners, this sounded strange, even offensive. They expected God’s reign to be pure, powerful, and glorious, anything but mixed up, hidden, or small. Jesus is showing us something essential. The Kingdom always begins small and grows amid imperfection. Grace and weakness exist side by side until the harvest. That is why the Church often looks messy. Yet within that mess, God’s quiet work continues. The weeds do not stop the wheat from growing. When we see the Church’s flaws or our own, it helps to remember that this is exactly the field in which Christ chose to plant. The miracle is not that everything looks perfect, but that his Word keeps taking root anyway. Lord, give me patience with Your field, the Church. Help me see Your hidden life growing even among the weeds. Amen. — Father John Muir ©LPi
Tues.	8:00	Benito Lopez, Richard Bordi, Keith Hunt	
Wed.	8:00	Legion of Mary and Auxiliaries (L) George A. Bordi and Family (L)	
Thurs.	8:00	Olga Lucia Gutierrez (L), Edward J. Degan, II John Macdonald, Teresa “Kiki” Baumgarten Henry and Andrena Gianini	
Fri.	8:00	The Orozco Alvarez Family (L) The Vizcarra Alvarez Family (L) Lucero Alvarez (L), Olga Lucia Gutierrez (L) The Samaha Family	
Sat.	8:00	The Lavio Manni Family, Benito Lopez Manuel V. and Francelina Lopes Augie Rivas	
	5:00	The Enriquez Gutierrez Family (L) Gerardo Enriquez, Nicolas Escamilla Martina Romo, Jesus Angel Mendoza Razo	
Sun.	7:30	-	
	9:00	Jeffrey Farinha, Antonio and Felisbina Pardal Jerry Dixon, Frederic Holden Pro Populo	
	10:30	Jovanny Cisneros (L), The Acosta Ruiz Family (L) Arelin and Leslie Jimenez (L) The Jimenez Garcia Family(L), Bernardo Negra	
	12:00		

(PRACTICING) CATHOLIC - RECOGNIZE GOD IN YOUR ORDINARY MOMENTS

By Colleen Jurkiewicz Dorman

The Weeds We Need

Driving up my street in late spring, you can see which yard is mine from a whole block away: it’s the one covered in dandelions. And I like it that way.



I fear neither my husband’s shame nor the snarky comments of neighbors: I will never apologize for my dandelion-filled yard. “It’s for the pollinators,” I say, but it’s a total lie. I just think it looks lovely. Who doesn’t like a splash of yellow after a long, dreary winter?

People call dandelions “weeds,” but it’s just not true. Weeds are, by definition, any plant growing where it isn’t wanted. A rosebush is a weed, if it’s in the middle of a cornfield. I want my dandelions. Plants that are commonly considered weeds can even have beneficial properties. They attract pollinators, for instance, and they promote nutrient cycling, whereby soil health is improved.

We all have metaphorical “weeds” in the garden of our lives. I certainly do: facets of my personality I loathe, realities of my life I resent, limitations in my abilities I dread— these are my weeds, and their roots run deep, coiling closely around those of the plants I try to cultivate. But if I could rid my garden of any one of these weeds, would it really benefit me? And if I examined them all closely, could I tell them apart — the blessing from the curse, the struggle from the triumph?

One day, it will all become clear: what is the wheat, and what is the weed. We will be put to our ultimate purpose, and we will see ourselves for what we are meant to be.

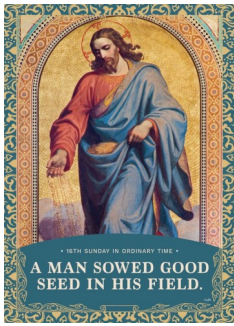
Until then, we need the weeds. It’s not harvest time yet.

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ST. VINCENT DE PAUL CONFIRMATION PROGRAM 2026-2027

Registrations for the English and Spanish Confirmation program will begin the following Saturdays in the parish hall from 9 - 11:50 am: August 15th, 22nd, 29th and Sept. 5th. If you're registering your child for 2nd Year Confirmation, **YOU MUST BRING A COPY OF THEIR BAPTISM CERTIFICATE**, even if they were baptized at St. Vincent’s Church. For more information, please call the parish office at 707-762-4278.

READINGS FOR THE WEEK OF JULY 20TH - 26TH



Monday: Mi 6:1-4, 6-8/Ps 50:5-6, 8-9, 16bc-17, 21 and 23/Mt 12:38-42
 Tuesday: Mi 7:14-15, 18-20/Ps 85:2-4, 5-6, 7-8/Mt 12:46-50
 Wednesday: Sg 3:1-4b or 2 Cor 5:14-17/Ps 63:2, 3-4, 5-6, 8-9/Jn 20:1-2, 11-18
 Thursday: Jer 2:1-3, 7-8, 12-13/Ps 36:6-7ab, 8-9, 10-11/Mt 13:10-17
 Friday: Jer 3:14-17/Jer 31:10, 11-12ab, 13/Mt 13:18-23
 Saturday: 2 Cor 4:7-15/Ps 126:1bc-2ab, 2cd-3, 4-5, 6/Mt 20:20-28
 Sunday: 1 Kgs 3:5, 7-12/Ps 119:57, 72, 76-77, 127-128, 129-130/Rom 8:28-30/Mt 13:44-52 or 13:44-46

PARISH FINANCIAL INFORMATION:

Last Sunday's offering:
 Sunday Basket \$9,938
 On-Line Giving 2,298
 Total \$12,236

The second collection last weekend for the Priests' Benefits and Welfare was \$4,875.

Thank you for your generosity.

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

ST. VINCENT'S RELIGIOUS EDUCATION 2026-2027

Registrations for the English Religious Education Program have begun. You can pick up a registration form in the bell room at the church entrance or on the Rectory's front porch. Kindly return the completed form and fee in a sealed envelope to the rectory office, attention Carmen Aanenson, Director of Religious Education. PLEASE NOTE: Carmen Aanenson is at the parish rectory Tuesday and Wednesday ONLY.

ALL in-person registrations for the Religious Education programs are scheduled for Saturday, August 15, 22, and 29 in the parish hall from 9 - 11:30 am.

English First Communion Preparation classes will begin Tuesday, September 8th and Wednesday, September 9th.

The PreK and K Program begins Sunday, September 27th.

ADULT CONFIRMATION: Are you an adult and missed the sacrament of confirmation? Are you ready to deepen your baptismal life, which calls you to be a missionary witness of Jesus Christ? For a registration form, please contact Carmen Aanenson, 707-762-4278 x114, dreaanenson@gmail.com or pick one up from the bell room or parish office before class begins.

OCIA (Order of Christian Initiation of Adults): Are you interested in being a Catholic? Have you ever thought about it? Are you being called to a deeper relationship with Jesus Christ and His Church? Now is the time to come and see what's next. For a registration form, please call Carmen Aanenson, 707-762-4278 x114, dreaanenson@gmail.com or meet her at the in-person registration, the dates are listed above.

The class for Adult Confirmation and OCIA will begin Wednesday, September 23rd from 6 - 7 pm.



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 - 7 pm.

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? Have you been receiving Sunday offering envelopes, but are not using them? Please call the parish office at 707-762-4278 to get more information or to discontinue the offering envelopes.



PLEASE PRAY FOR - Joyce Souza, Harry Mills, Kiki Baumsteiger, Rose Wooley, Lori Madrid, Jose Carranza, Elaine Stevick, Ana Solar, Colin Lagos, and Michelle Paskal.

NATURAL FAMILY PLANING AWARENESS WEEK

will be observed July 19-25, 2026. These dates commemorate the anniversary of Pope St. Paul VI's encyclical Humanae Vitae (July 25), which beautifully articulates the Church's teachings on human sexuality, marriage, conjugal love, and responsible parenthood. Would you like to learn about the Natural Family Planning methods offered in our diocese? Visit the Diocese of Santa Rosa Natural Family Planning webpage or scan the QR code for information about available methods, instructors, and local classes.



MARIAN SHRINES PILGRIMAGE 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 him at pastor@sjccotati.org. You can also visit www.unitours.com/showtrip.aspx?tripid=2774

BIRTHRIGHT OF PETALUMA - Do you or someone you know need free diapers, bottles, baby clothes, maternity clothes, children's toys and more? Visit BIRTHRIGHT center in Petaluma, 370 Sonoma Mountain Pkwy. Open Monday from 1:30 - 3:30 pm, Wednesday and Friday from 10 am - 12 pm. For more information, please call 707-763-9888.

