

**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.**

August 30, 2026

<u>Mass intentions during August 31st - September 6th</u>			Twenty-Second Sunday in Ordinary Time Matthew 16:21-27
Mon.	8:00	Alejandro and Cristina Ruiz (L)	Do you know what it is like to be thrilled by the power of Christian faith one moment and then utterly fail in it the next? I do. That is Peter in today's Gospel. After last week's bold confession, he now hears Jesus speak of suffering and death, and something in him recoils. He takes Jesus aside and tries to correct him. Jesus responds with the shocking rebuke, "Get behind me, Satan." Peter is the mirror of every disciple. We love Jesus until he contradicts the script we have written for our lives. Peter does not reject Jesus. He rejects a suffering Jesus. So do we, whenever we avoid a hard responsibility, resist a demanding relationship, or cling to comfort instead of choosing love. We want a Lord who supports our plans, not one who overturns them. Yet Jesus does not discard Peter. He redirects him. "Whoever wishes to come after me must deny himself, take up his cross, and follow me." In effect, Jesus says, stop trying to lead me. Let me lead you. Discipleship does not begin with heroism or clarity but with surrender. It means trusting that God's path to life often passes through places we would never choose. Peter is all of us. We move from insight to confusion, from confidence to correction. That is why we should have hope. Jesus patiently teaches us again and again. Trust me. Get behind me. Follow me. When we stop fighting the crosses that come and start carrying them with him, we discover a freedom deeper than comfort and a love stronger than fear. — Father John Muir ©LPi
Tues.	8:00	The Nelson-Oliva Family	
Wed.	8:00	Randall C Fowler, Jomar Lococo	
Thurs.	8:00	Cathy Terhune	
Fri.	8:00	Alejandro Ruiz (L), The Alcaraz Family (L) Elodia Grajeda	
Sat.	8:00	In Reparation to the Immaculate Heart of Mary Joel McIntire	
	5:00	Sharon Almeida, Jane Marovich	
	7:00	The Alcaraz Family (L) Telesforo Torres, Maria Luisa Macias	
Sun.	7:30	Eulalio Salinas Torres, Rafael Martin The Manni Family, Rebecca Perez	
	9:00	Pro Populo	
	10:30	Edmundo Meza	
	12:00	Maria Eva Flores, Rosalina Solis Padilla Gloria Rodriguez, Ramon Ochoa Diaz Jose Cisneros	

Dear Fellow Parishioners,

I've always taken my vacation in July, the only full month of the year when our school is closed. Usually I delay my departure until after the July 4th weekend, so as to avoid holiday traffic.

This year, my long-awaited vacation did not go according to plan. A day or two before my vacation started, I slipped and fell in my kitchen, half-asleep in stocking feet at 5:00 a.m., like sailing across a darkened kitchen on a banana peel. I was on the floor for several hours before being taken to Memorial Hospital in Santa Rosa for a week, and then for another two weeks at Petaluma Post-Acute Rehab on B Street. I did my therapy faithfully, and completed all tasks deemed necessary for release. The very first night back home alone, I fell again, this time in the shower. Without going into detail, this was a much more serious fall, with broken and fractured bones and extensive bruising. With the exception of single-footed hopping around, I have been mainly immobile for a month now, and may be so for some time to come. I spent almost two full days this week tracking down medical equipment. The four items I needed were a wheelchair, walker, Rollator (the souped-up walker with handbrakes and a folding seat) and a cane. I finally got them all.

"I've fallen and I can't get up!!" That punch line, first used in a commercial nearly 40 years ago, was about the first thing that came to my mind when I was unable to move. And my very next guilty thought was, "And I shouldn't have made fun of that lady...!" (The power of advertising has insinuated itself into every area of life.)

My recovery will take some time. I am most grateful for the support provided by our dedicated associate Fr. Mauricio Rodriguez. We are also indebted to Msgr. Dan Whelton, Fr. Gary Lombardi (Pastor Emeritus of SVDP), Fr. Steve Canny (Pastor Emeritus of St. Joseph's Cotati) and Fr. Michael Culligan (Pastor Emeritus of St. James Parish across town). I first met Fr. Canny nearly 60 years ago when he was the associate pastor here at SVDP from the mid-1960's. All four of these priests have generously set aside well-earned leisure hours to help us in our time of need.

I am most grateful for your Masses, prayers, cards, expressed concern, flowers, best wishes, prayers and even meals. The support of community is perhaps the best medicine of all.

The 2026-2027 academic year has started, or nearly so, for our parish students, no matter where they attend daycare, elementary and secondary school, college or trade school. We remember not only these students, but also their parents and grandparents anxious for these young futures in the making, May Almighty God grant success to their efforts, and hope in all their new endeavors.

Blessings, Fr. Bill Donahue

READINGS FOR THE WEEK OF AUGUST 31ST - SEPTEMBER 6TH

Monday: 1 Cor 2:1-5/Ps 119:97, 98, 99, 100, 101, 102/Lk 4:16-30
Tuesday: 1 Cor 2:10b-16/Ps 145:8-9, 10-11, 12-13ab, 13cd-14/Lk 4:31-37
Wednesday: 1 Cor 3:1-9/Ps 33:12-13, 14-15, 20-21/Lk 4:38-44
Thursday: 1 Cor 3:18-23/ Ps 24:1bc-2, 3-4ab, 5-6/Lk 5:1-11
Friday: 1 Cor 4:1-5/Ps 37:3-4, 5-6, 27-28, 39-40/Lk 5:33-39
Saturday: 1 Cor 4:6b-15/Ps 145:17-18, 19-20, 21/Lk 6:1-5
Sunday: Ez 33:7-9/Ps 95:1-2, 6-7b, 7c-9/Rom 13:8-10/Mt 18:15-20

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: The start date for some of the classes has changed:

The Junior High and High School classes begin Tuesday, September 15; Junior High at 3:45 pm and High School at 4 pm in the parish hall.

English First Communion Preparation Classes (1st - 6th grades) begin Wed., September 16 at 3:30 pm in the parish hall.

The PreK and K Programs begin Sunday, September 27th.

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



ST. VINCENT'S CHURCH CONFIRMATION PROGRAM 2026-2027: Registrations for the English and Spanish Confirmation programs have begun. The last in-person registration will be on Saturday, September 5th, in the parish hall from 9 - 11:50 am. 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.

CONGRATULATIONS - to Noah Zaragoza and Leonel Ponciano Hernandez who received the Sacrament of Baptism.



PLEASE PRAY FOR - Jason Flores, Frank and Marlene Hench, Richard Rains, Phyllis Johnson, Colin Lagos, and Michelle Paskal.

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: Thursday mornings after the weekday mass for one hour, and the first Thursday evening of the month, from 6 - 7 pm.

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 15 minute Scripture Meditation on

Saturday, September 5th. For questions, please contact Lilian Dubow at (510) 205-3712 or at Lilian.Dubow@gmail.com or go to www.CommunalFirstSaturdays.org.

PARISH FINANCIAL INFORMATION:

Last Sunday's offering:

Sunday Basket	\$7,799
On-Line Giving	1,792
Total	\$9,591

The second Collection last weekend for the Maintenance Fund was \$5,249.

Thank you for your generosity.

ST. VINCENT DE PAUL SOCIETY will have a second collection this weekend. This is to inform our longtime and new contributors to the St. Vincent de Paul Society as to what we do with their generous contributions. The 5th Sunday collections, the Poor Box (in the back of the church), Christmas Giving Tree, Thanksgiving donations, plus individual gifts allow us to distribute gift cards. The gift cards allow Petalums in need to purchase food and household items (excluding alcohol, tobacco and lottery). Thanks again for your continued support!

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

We are excited to share that the school year is off to a wonderful start at St. Vincent de Paul Catholic School! Our TK-8th grade students and teachers have been busy learning, growing, and building community, and we are grateful for the continued support and prayers of our parish family.

We extend a warm welcome to all of our new families and are so happy to have you become part of the St. Vincent de Paul School community. We look forward to another year filled with faith, learning, friendship, service, and joy.

Our virtue for this trimester is Friendship. We are encouraging our students to be welcoming, kind, compassionate, and supportive of one another as they grow together as a school family.

"A friend loves at all times." — Proverbs 17:17

May we continue to nurture friendships that reflect Christ's love and remind our children of the importance of kindness, inclusion, and caring for others.

Please keep our students, teachers, staff, and families in your prayers as we begin another wonderful school year!

St. Vincent de Paul Catholic School (707)762-6426 or visit www.svelem.org

TK-8th Grade • Growing in Faith, Academics & Service

WINE, WOMEN, AND WORD: Our 10th Anniversary gathering will be on Sunday, September 27, from



1 - 3 pm, at St. James Parish Center. Our anniversary party theme honors the Blessed

Mother, Mary. All women of faith from St. Vincent's and St. James' parishes are invited. In lieu of an "anniversary gift", we invite you to bring household items for Welcome Home Baskets for clients of COTS moving into permanent housing. For more information, please contact Melissa Cabanas at 312-213-5156. or email at mccabanas@hotmail.com.