We members of Star of the Valley Parish gather around the central act of Catholic worship, the celebration of active participation in the Mass. As a Eucharistic centered people, we reach out to heal, console and listen in the spirit of truth and justice, with a preferential option for the poor, thus advancing as individuals and as a community into the image of Christ.

Pastoral Staff
Rev. Msgr. James Pulskamp, Pastor
Rev. Msgr. Gerard Fahey, Pastor Emeritus
Rev. Patrick Leslie, Assisting Clergy

Contact Numbers
Parish Office Phone: 539-6262
Parish Office Fax: 539-8620
Answering service when the Office is closed.
E-mail: sov@sonic.net
Website: www.starofthevalley.org

Parish Office Hours
Monday–Friday, 8:30 a.m. -2:30 p.m.
Located in the Msgr. Fahey Parish Center
495 White Oak Drive, Santa Rosa, CA 95409-5939*
*This is the church and parish’s mailing address.
Sharon A. Charlton, Office Manager
Anna Jean, Office Secretary

Welcome New Parishioners
Please sign the book next to the side door in the back of the Church.

Mass Times
Weekday Masses: Tuesday-Friday Suspended
Oakmont Gardens: Wednesday Suspended
Sunday Masses: Saturday Suspended, Sunday Suspended

Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament Suspended

Sacrament of Reconciliation
Saturday Suspended. For appointment, email or leave a message for Msgr. Pulskamp.

Anointing of the Sick
For appointment, email or leave a message in the office.

Ministry to the Sick & Homebound
Suspended during Coronavirus shelter-in-place order.
Contact the office to arrange a visit or receive Holy Communion after the shelter-in-place is lifted.

April 12, 2020—Easter Sunday of the Resurrection of the Lord

Rejoice & Be Glad
“This is the day the Lord has made; let us rejoice and be glad” (Psalm 118:24). Let us remember that these words of today’s responsorial psalm are not only sung from the hearts of those gathered in our parish. They are also sung by the poor in tiny barrios throughout Central and South America. They are sung by those denied religious freedom in our world; these Christians lift their voices in clandestine places of worship. These words are sung by people who have lost loved ones to acts of terrorism and war around the globe. Even in the midst of conflict and division, Christians still come together to declare that poverty, loneliness, violence, and division will never, ever have as much power as the life, death, and resurrection of Jesus Christ. Indeed, let us rejoice this day and be glad!

Here We Are
Here we are, locked in our upper rooms for fear of the germs. We huddle and shake and tremble, afraid to go out, afraid of what might get in. Our normal lives, our expected plans, are all dead. They are gone, like dust blowing in a dry wind. Swept away by some unlooked-for visitor from a foreign land, too minute to even see. What do we do, locked behind our fear, struggling with our worries?

Suddenly, the news comes: “Run to the tomb!” We hesitate. What can this mean? Could it be true? Finally, no longer able to contain ourselves, we run.

(Here continued on next page.)
But where do we go? What are we looking for? Where are the tombs of our “normal” lives? Where did we expect to find fulfillment? Joy? Peace? In our work? In school? In bars and restaurants? They are all empty now like tombs with no bodies. Where we once laid our dreams and hopes there is nothing but emptiness.

But if they are empty, where is the body? Where is our Lord? He is right where He has always been. In our families. In our friends. In our hearts. What have we lost, finally seeing that our tombs are empty? Nothing! We have gained possibilities.

Just as Paul and Silas, let us pray and sing hymns for ourselves and our fellow prisoners. Perhaps we will experience, “Such a violent earthquake that the foundations of the prison will be shaken.” (see Acts 16:25-27) Let us play board games and tell jokes, read books and share stories, call family and write friends.

We are blessed to live in an age when our prison walls are porous. With the push of a button we can see and hear anyone across the world. Now is the time to reconnect!

But when we do find the body in our loved ones, let’s not go on and on about how miserable we are. Yes, talk of difficulties if you need help, but tell them of why they are dear to you as well. Reflect to each other the Risen Christ.

Where is the body? It was here all along.

Panis Angelicus Duet
If you can’t open and listen to the link in the email, this is the same father and son duet, with an introduction in German: www.youtube.com/watch?v=Nr_ikVdX-C0

Easter Mass
Pope Francis will celebrate Easter Mass in St. Peter’s Basilica. To view it on the internet, go to the Vatican website or click on: w2.vatican.va/content/francesco/en/events/month.dir.html/2020/4.html

Diocesan Live Streamed Masses
To view Bishop Vasa’s past and future Holy Week and Easter Masses, click on: www.youtube.com/channel/UC2ueqwT5jZnglWxq0ENTP4Q, or go to: srdiocese.org/livestreammass to see links to Masses at various parishes in the Santa Rosa Diocese. Scroll down to find this list.

Please Keep the Sick in Your Prayers

Please pray for those who have died: Msgr. Fahey.

Spiritual Communion
When we are unable to receive the Eucharist at Mass, the Church encourages us to make an act of “spiritual communion,” where we unite ourselves to God through prayer. There are many prayers you can offer during your spiritual communion. Here’s one example:

My Jesus, I believe that You are present in the Most Holy Sacrament. I love You above all things, and I desire to receive You into my soul. Since I cannot at this moment receive You sacramentally, come at least spiritually into my heart. I embrace You as if You were already there and unite myself wholly to You. Never permit me to be separated from You. Amen.

Wishing you a blessed and safe Easter.
Your quarantine team, Sharon & Anna

When This Is Over
When this is over, may we never again take for granted
A handshake with a stranger
Full shelves at the store
Conversations with neighbors
A crowded theatre
Friday night out
The taste of communion
A routine checkup
The school rush each morning
Coffee with a friend
The stadium roaring
Each deep breath
A boring Tuesday
Life itself.

When this ends, may we find that we have become more like the people we wanted to be we were called to be we hoped to be and may we stay that way—better for each other because of the worst. —Laura Kelly Fanucci

The Butterfly & Easter
The butterfly is a beautiful symbol of the life, death and resurrection of Jesus Christ. The caterpillar symbolizes earthly life, the cocoon resembles the tomb of Christ, and the butterfly wonderfully represents his resurrection and ascension to new life.

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Easter Mass Collection

Last month, all registered parishioners received a letter with the Holy Week and Easter Mass schedule, along with an Easter offertory envelope, in the mail. Please save your Easter envelope donation to put in the collection at Mass whenever Sunday Masses are resumed.

For those who receive regular sets of offertory envelopes (which include an Easter envelope), you may discard the Easter envelope that came with the letter.

Offertory Envelopes—What Do I Do with Them?

There is no need to mail offertory envelopes to the church at this time because our parish volunteer Collection Counting Team is on a break until the shelter-in-place order is lifted.

If you have offertory envelopes, once the church reopens, you may put them in the collections at Mass.

If you don’t get offertory envelopes, you might want to set aside some cash each week, or write a check to put in the collection when Masses resume.

A Prayer Amid A Pandemic

Jesus Christ, you traveled through towns and villages “curing every disease and illness.” At your command, the sick were made well.

Come to our aid now, that we may experience your healing love.

Heal those who are sick with the virus. May they regain their strength and health through quality medical care.

Heal us from our fear, which prevents nations from working together and neighbors from helping one another.

Heal us from our pride, which can make us claim invulnerability to a disease that knows no borders.

Jesus Christ, healer of all, stay by our side in this time of uncertainty and sorrow.

Be with those who have died from the virus. May they be at rest with you in your eternal peace.

Be with the families of those who are sick or have died. As they worry and grieve, defend them from illness and despair. May they know your peace.

Be with the doctors, nurses, researchers and all medical professionals who seek to heal and help those affected, and who put themselves at risk in the process. May they know your protection and peace.

Be with the leaders of all nations. Give them the foresight to act with charity and true concern for the well-being of the people they are meant to serve. Give them the wisdom to invest in long-term solutions that will help prepare for or prevent future outbreaks. May they know your peace, as they work together to achieve it on earth.

Whether we are home or abroad, surrounded by many people suffering from this illness or only a few, Jesus Christ, stay with us as we endure and mourn, persist and prepare. In place of our anxiety, give us your peace.

Jesus Christ, heal us. Amen.

—Kerry Weber, an executive editor of America

Gratitude at Catholic Charities

Dear Friends,

Like many of you, we had a few anxious weeks learning how to adapt to social distancing and the Shelter-in-Place order. The team at Catholic Charities prides itself on our ability to nurture meaningful relationships with those we serve. If we can’t walk alongside them, what would this mean for these relationships?

In no time at all, our fear turned to thanks.

We are overwhelmed with gratitude for how the community has supported our most vulnerable neighbors across Northern California. As a result of your compassion, we’ve successfully adapted and developed new programs, addressing our community’s changing needs.

In the midst of incredible uncertainty this past month, your support made a huge difference in people’s lives:

- 32 formerly homeless individuals moved into stable, permanent housing in Napa and Sonoma Counties.
- 800 families received a week’s worth of food from our food distributions.
- Over 1,000 wellness check calls were made to homebound seniors, ensuring they are safe ad have their most urgent needs met.

We need to keep this momentum.

We are preparing for a surge of need that will ripple through the community long after the Shelter-in-Place Order ends. But for now, we are so thankful to know we can count on you to keep us in this fight.

With love and gratitude for all,
The Catholic Charities Team

Star of the Valley Church Website

Please inform parishioners who do not have email that bulletins and updated information regarding the church closure are posted on the Star of the Valley parish website: http://www.starofthevalley.org/.

You might also want to visit the diocesan website for information: http://www.santarosacatholic.org/.

Parish Security Team Schedule

Thank you to our SOV volunteers for continuing the service of ensuring that our church and parish center are secure. April 13–19: Joey Cuneo, April 20–26: Bob Chapman, April 27–May 3: Tom Beirne. Please wear protective gloves for your safety.

About the Shelter-In-Home Experience

😊 Quarantine has turned us all into dogs. We roam the house all day looking for food. We are told ‘no’ if we get too close to strangers. And we get really excited about car rides.

😊 Half of us are going to come out of this quarantine as amazing cooks. The other half will come out with a drinking problem.

😊 PS: every few days try your jeans on just to make sure they fit. Pajamas will have you believe all is well in the kingdom.
In Memory of Monsignor Gerard Fahey

It fills our hearts with joy to know that our beloved Msgr. Fahey is now experiencing our Risen Savior face to face this Easter. As he so often told us through the years, “Eyes have not seen and ears have not heard nor has it entered into the heart of man what God has prepared for those who love him.”

He valued his lifelong friends who remained in contact with him, especially after retirement, and it brought him great comfort to receive your cards, letters, visits, and phone messages. Monsignor kept the cards, reading them often and offered prayers for each person.

The happiest years of his priesthood were with the people of Star of the Valley Parish.

We will miss you Monsignor and we will share your joyful spirit and genuine concern for those in need with others.

Bishop Robert Vasa and Monsignor Dan Whelton celebrated a private Funeral Mass for Monsignor Gerard Fahey. He was buried on April 8th at Calvary Catholic Cemetery in Santa Rosa. Bill and Terry Cutler, who cared for Monsignor Fahey in the last years of his life and a few members of their family were present.

A Memorial Mass and celebration of Monsignor’s life will be scheduled at a future date at Star of the Valley.

For those who wish, a donation in Monsignor Fahey’s memory, may be made to the Neighbor-to-Neighbor program, at Star of the Valley Parish, 495 White Oak Drive, Santa Rosa, CA 95409, or the charity of your choice.

Cards and written sentiments that will be shared with his family in Ireland can be sent to SOV in c/o Bill Cutler or emailed to faheyger@aol.com

Cead Mile Failte
A Hundred Thousand Welcomes.
May God hold you in the palm of His hand.