

# STAR OF THE VALLEY Catholic Church

**495 White Oak Drive  
Santa Rosa, CA 95409**

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. 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](mailto:sov@sonic.net)

**Website:** [www.starofthevalley.org](http://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.



## **January 3, 2021—The Epiphany of the Lord**

### **What will the Neighbors Think?**

It must have been quite a sight on the streets of Bethlehem as the magi, those star-searchers, made their way to the house of Joseph. Imagine the wonder that filled the eyes of the neighborhood children as this caravan made its way. Matthew doesn't tell us many specifics about them (he never numbers them as three or calls them "kings"), but travel was hard in that time, and "safety in numbers" was the rule for making a long trek. Most likely it was a lengthy cortege that wound its way under the guidance of that star. If the celestial phenomenon that guided them there hadn't already excited the village, the arrival of these women and men (in the ancient world astrologers and sign-readers were frequently female) with their dromedaries, unusual clothing, foreign ways—and gifts!—certainly would have roused the neighbors.

### **Don't Be Fooled**

We can include the magi on our list of role models in faith for the season. They were not Jews, but were willing to follow a route that led to an insignificant and troublesome Roman province. When they were led to the Holy Family's humble abode in Bethlehem they did not say, "No way! This can't be the place. It's too lowly, they're not affluent enough." They simply bowed down and worshiped Jesus the Christ, in a scene that prefigures the disciples bowing to worship him later in Matthew's Gospel after his resurrection. These sign-seekers were willing to be led by their wonder, ready to persist in their journey, not knowing where the quest for their revelation would lead them, but open to its possible presence anywhere. We, like they, must be ready to seek the epiphania, the manifestation of God, earnestly and honestly, and be prepared to bow in worship when we find it.



## Sunday, January 3, 2021 Readings

**Reading I:** *Isaiah 60:1-6—*

The glory of the Lord shines upon you.

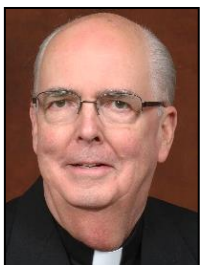
**Responsorial Psalm:** *Psalm 72—*Lord, every nation on earth will adore you.

**Reading II:** *Ephesians 3:2-3a, 5-6—*

The Gentiles are coheirs of the

promise.

**Gospel:** *Matthew 2:1-12—*We saw his star at its rising and have come to do him homage.



## Epiphany

Today we celebrate the Epiphany of the Lord. The magi, the travelers from the East, followed a star that finally led them to Bethlehem and shone upon Mary, Joseph and a baby lying in a manger. They paid him homage and gave him gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh.

The magi in this story represent us. We, too, are travelers in life. We follow the “star.” We find the Son of God. But for us, we do not just find the Lord once. We find him over and over again throughout our lifetimes.

- ★ Sometimes the star shines over a church, sometimes a home, sometimes a business, a school, a hospital.
- ★ Sometimes the star shines over a spouse, a family member, a neighbor, a parishioner, a clerk in a store, a stranger.
- ★ Sometimes the star shines over a homeless person, over a hungry person, over a person out of work, over a victim of wildfires, over a victim of abuse or violence, over a sick person, or over someone near death.
- ★ Sometimes the star shines on our wedding day, on the day of our child’s baptism, on a graduation day, at a funeral of a loved one.

Each time we find the star, we find Christ. We bow down in homage and give him the greatest gift we have—ourselves, a gift we also share with other people. With each encounter with him, the glory of the Lord shines upon us. His light grows brighter and brighter within us and illumines all we are, all we say, and all we do.

## A Story—Babushka

Old grandmother Babushka, a good woman, is about to retire for the evening when, out of the fierce winter night, a knock comes on her door. It’s the Wise Men, and they tell her excitedly about the King born in Bethlehem; they urge her to come and honor him. She peeks out the door. It’s an awful night, cold and blustery. Babushka looks back at her warm bed, hesitates, and says, “I will see the Christ Child..... tomorrow.”

She returns to her bed and, lo, another knock at the door. This time it’s the shepherds urging her to come and, if not, at least give them a basket of goodies to bring to the Christ Child. Again, she looks at the weather, looks at her bed, hesitates, but finally replies, “I’ll bring them myself, tomorrow.”

Well, tomorrow comes and Babushka is as good as

her word. She packs some food and off she goes to Bethlehem. But the stable is empty when she gets there. She is crestfallen but determined. She keeps looking. In fact, she looks for the Child for the rest of her life, joining all the wanderers who have ever lived. And in her endless journey she finds children, finds them everywhere. She finds many a manger. She finds many a cradle. She finds many a mother nursing her baby. She leaves gifts at each place hoping that it is the Christ Child.

She is now very old and near death. As she lies dying, the Christ Child appears to her wearing the face of every child she has ever touched and offered gifts to. She dies happily knowing that, in spite of her first hesitancy, she did indeed find the Child, not in the manger where she expected him, but in the poor and the needy where she never expected him.

## Conclusion

The message of the Epiphany: Jesus came for all people. He keeps coming for all people. Keep looking for his star throughout your lives. Give him the gift or yourself by giving of yourselves to others, especially to the poor and needy. Let his star shine brightly within you so other people may find their way to the Lord.



## Follow Along with Monsignor’s YouTube Mass for January 3, 2021

New each week and included with this bulletin you will find Mass Responses & Prayers for the **January 3** Mass attached. You can print them out by opening the **2021-01-03 Mass Responses.pdf** file.



## Star of the Valley Outdoor Communion

The drive-thru distribution of Holy Communion at Star of the Valley is continuing this **Sunday**, and every Sunday at the Msgr.

Fahey Parish Center parking lot from 10:30-11:00 a.m. rain or shine. Spread the word!

Wear a face covering and stay in your vehicle as you proceed in the line through the parking lot. You will stop and roll down your window to get your hands sprayed with sanitizer (remove gloves if you’re wearing them), and then stop again to receive Communion in your hands. You may then pull your mask away to consume the Host, then drive away and say your prayer of thanksgiving when you arrive at home.

You may hand in offertory envelopes, or receive a 2021 calendar from the person **before you get your hands sprayed with sanitizer**.

The ministers assigned for **this Sunday** are: Blanche Kaiser, Ted Sullivan, Stacey Hill Thomas, and Cristina Wadsworth. The ministers assigned for **January 10** are: Bianca Bailie, Marcy Fox, Jennifer Willwerth, and Bob Zeni. Please find your own substitute to fill in for you if needed.





Christmas 2020

### Prayer Intentions

Pray for the sick: Gail Barrett, Lola Danielli, Patricia Daniels, Fran Dias, Fran Evans, Frank Gyorgy, Yvonne Hanlon, Mary Jo Henrikson, Bette Johnson, Trula La Calle, Maureen Latimer, Charles Marchese, Liz Mullins, Lea Nelson, Louis Pappin, Peggy Pavone, Richard Peterson, Joel Rivera, Phyllis Rogers, Angela Saul, Bart Taylor, Ed Turpin, Mercedes Vegvary, Claire Vincent, William Wallace, and Dolores Zeni.

Also pray for those who have died.

### Sunday's Mass Intention

The intention for this weekend's Mass is for **Dorothy Beardsley** (requested by Barbara Zednik.)

### Parish Office Closed Friday, January 1

The parish office will be closed on Friday, **January 1, 2021**, to celebrate New Year's Day and the Solemnity of Mary, the Holy Mother of God.

### Our Hope for 2021

Loving God,  
As the entire world carries the cross of the COVID-19 pandemic, we look to Your Son, Jesus, who died on the cross for us.

Reflecting on Him on the Cross, we ask You to:

Help us remember that we are not alone;  
that You are with us.

Help us remember that You can bring good out of evil,  
and that You will lead us through the Passion to Resurrection.

Give repose to the souls  
of those who have died from this disease.

Help us tend to those who are at risk,  
those who have been diagnosed,  
and those who are recovering.

Guide and protect the doctors, nurses,  
and all health care workers  
who work diligently to care for the rest of us.

Grant the wisdom of Your Spirit on us and our leaders,  
so that we may make the best decisions  
in response to this crisis.

Bring us closer together in mind, heart and spirit,  
even though we may have to physically distance  
ourselves from one another.

May we not fall into isolation.

Give us Your strength to be bringers of hope  
and ambassadors of Your Love.

In the name of Jesus, who died on the Cross and rose  
from the dead. Amen.

—Father Phil Paxton, C.P.

The Passionists of Holy Cross Province



Joey Cuneo

### Women's Club News

I am pleased to announce that the Women's Club has gifted the parish \$2,159.18 representing our efforts in fundraising for the parish during 2020.

During the months of November and December the Women's Club reached out by phone, mail or email to our members with Holiday Wishes. I want to thank the volunteers who were on that outreach committee: Marcy Fox, Ruth Fulger, Mardie Hart, Justine Haugen, Carole Kilgariff, Leila O'Callaghan, Mary Valentine, Cristina Wadsworth, and me, Joey Cuneo. A special thanks to Paula Scull who coordinated the holiday outreach.

Once the parish is again able to gather safely, the Pastoral Council and Msgr. Pulskamp will determine the future direction of the Women's Club.

Current officers' terms expired on December 31st. However, Justine Haugen will continue as the Acting Treasurer until the future of the Club is determined. In view of the importance of the Corresponding Secretary duties in sending out condolences and get well notes to Parish and Club members, I volunteer to take on that role during this interim time, as well as continuing as the Acting President.

We look forward to a healthy and more active 2021!  
Joey Cuneo, President 2020



Jim Warman

### Men's Club News

2020 has been a very unusual year for all of us. Our club has not disbanded. We are here and intend to continue all of our activities when the Star of the Valley Parish reopens. In the interim, the officers of the club have agreed to continue in their respective positions into 2021. In addition, all club memberships will also be carried over, with no request for 2021 dues.

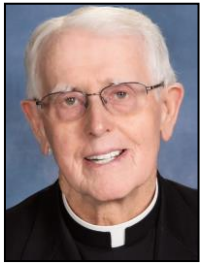
It's the board's intention to host a large social gathering to celebrate the renewal of the parish and our club. We all look forward to getting together as quickly as possible. If you have any questions or suggestions, please let me know.

Sincerely,

Jim Warman, President SOV Men's Club  
707-230-2682, warman804@yahoo.com



Nativity in front of SOV altar for Christmas 2020



### Zooming with Father Leslie

Join us this week, **Wednesday, January 6**, at 11:30 a.m. to discuss this weekend's reflection on the Baptism of the Lord. Send your request for the Zoom meeting link and information to Marcy Fox at [marcyfox@gmail.com](mailto:marcyfox@gmail.com).

### Solemnity of Mary, the Holy Mother of God

Click on **Song: Oh Mother** (7:18) featuring John Finch and Greg Boudreaux by the Vigil Project, and enjoy a peaceful meditation while welcoming the New Year.

### Point to Ponder

Begin to see yourself as a soul with a body rather than a body with a soul.  
—Wayne Dyer

### NEWS OUTSIDE THE PARISH



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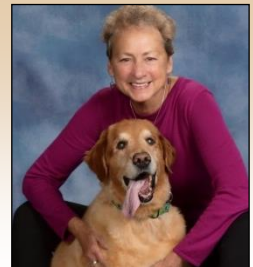


### Joey Cuneo

Broker Associate  
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6580 Oakmont Drive, Santa Rosa



### Mike & Leila O'Callaghan

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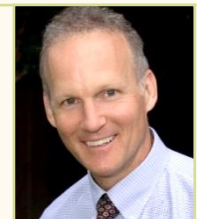
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