

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

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.



January 17, 2021— Second Sunday in Ordinary Time

God is calling you.
Are you listening?

Your Servant is Listening

In today’s first reading, Samuel hears the Lord’s voice, but mistakes it for Eli’s. Fortunately, Eli is familiar enough with the ways of the Lord to help Samuel make his response.

As we seek the Lord, it is good to have someone like Eli who is familiar with the Lord’s voice. There are many voices that bid us “Follow this way,” and the Lord’s call is not always easy to discern. There are people, too, who would pretend to know the Lord and draw others to themselves rather than to God.

Eli could have taken advantage of Samuel’s naïveté and claimed it was he who had summoned Samuel. But Eli claims neither to be God nor to speak for God. Instead, he encourages Samuel to listen for himself.

What Are You Looking For?

Finding the Messiah was partly a matter of what one was looking for. If one lived with the expectation of the Messiah’s coming, there would be a certain alertness, a certain watchfulness to life, and a certain openness to God’s movements. The two disciples in the Gospel reading had followed John the Baptizer, but as soon as John pointed to Jesus, they were ready to follow him.

It has been said that what we find in life is pretty much what we have sought. “What are you looking for?” is a challenging question for each of us to ask of ourselves. Our honest answer to this question can reveal much about our faith and our values. Those who, like Andrew and the other disciple, are looking for the Messiah will find the Messiah, dwelling now, as then, among the people. “Come and see!”



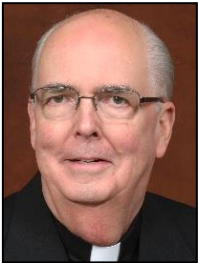
Sunday, January 17, 2021

Reading I: *1 Samuel 3:3b-10, 19*—
Speak, Lord, for your servant is listening.

Responsorial: *Psalm 40*—
Here am I, Lord; I come to do your will.

Reading II: *1 Corinthians 6:13c-15a, 17-20*—Your bodies are members of Christ.

Gospel: *John 1:35-42*—They saw where he was staying and they stayed with him.



2nd Sunday in Ordinary Time

God calls us all the time, just like he did Samuel in the first reading. He calls us over and over because we do not always recognize his voice, respond to him, and do what he asks of us.

We hear in the readings today that he keeps calling us to introduce more

people to him and to become better people.

He keeps calling us to introduce more people to him.

- In the Gospel, John the Baptist introduces Andrew and another one of his disciples to Jesus. “Behold, the Lamb of God.”
- Andrew, in turn introduces his brother, Simon, to Jesus. “We have found the Messiah... Then he brought him to Jesus.”
- Jesus asks us to do what John and Andrew did—introduce people to the Lord. We do that by being “Christ mirrors.” When people look at us, hopefully they see Jesus. They meet him in our friendly welcomes and our loving smiles, words, and actions.
- After the introduction, Jesus then starts conversing with the people, invites them to spend some time with him and follow him, if they so wish.

He keeps calling us to become better people.

- St. Paul in the second reading reminds us that we are members of Christ. We are joined to the Lord, one spirit with him. We are temples of his Spirit.
- Each time the Lord calls, he asks us to be open to becoming better people, shows us ways to better mirror him and helps us change for the better.

A Story—Merchant of Death

About ninety years ago a man picked up the morning paper and, to his horror, read his own obituary! The newspaper had reported the death of the wrong man. Like most of us, he relished the idea of finding out what people would say about him after he died. He read past the bold caption, which read, “Dynamite king dies,” then to the text itself. He read along until he was taken aback by the description of him as a “merchant of death.”

He was the inventor of dynamite and had amassed a great fortune from the manufacture of weapons of destruction. But he was moved by this description. Did he really want to be known as a “merchant of death”? It was at that moment that a healing power greater than the destructive force of dynamite came over him. It was his hour of conversion, his call. From that point on, he devoted his energy and money to works of peace and

human betterment. Today, of course, he is best remembered not as a “merchant of death,” but as the founder of the Nobel Peace Prize, Alfred Nobel.

Conclusion

God will be calling each one of us today. Let’s hope we recognize his voice, respond to him and do what he asks of us. He will certainly ask us to introduce more people to him and become better people ourselves, people who more clearly mirror him. Respond as did Samuel, “Speak, Lord, for your servant is listening.”



Follow Along with Monsignor’s YouTube Mass for January 17, 2021

Included with this bulletin you will find Mass Responses & Prayers for the **January 17** Mass. You can print them out by opening the **2021-01-17 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** at the Msgr. Fahey Parish Center

parking lot from 10:30-11:00 a.m. rain or shine.

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: Marcy Fox, Kar Hofmann, Martin Kilgariff, and Marge Lamb. The ministers assigned for **January 24** are: Eva McGinn, Mimi May, Linda Nolet, and Connie Pearson. Please find your own substitute to fill in for you if needed.



Year of Saint Joseph—2021

With the Apostolic Letter *Patris Corde* (With a Father’s Heart) that we included in last week’s bulletin, Pope Francis announced a special year dedicated to Saint Joseph. This week we are including a list of activities suggested by the

Apostolic Penitentiary, a Litany of Saint Joseph, and the prayer to Saint Joseph which was composed by Pope Leo XIII.

The Litany includes a link to The Catholic Crusade YouTube Channel where you may pray the Litany along with them. Remember, “where two or three are gathered...” Click on **Litany of St. Joseph.**

Let us ask for the intercession of St. Joseph to protect our country and help to alleviate our sufferings.

Prayer Intentions

Pray for the sick: Gail Barrett, Lola Danielli, Patricia Daniels, Fran Dias, Fran Evans, Frank Gyorgy, Mike Hanlon, 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: Vera Abramo.

Sunday's Mass Intention

The intention for this weekend's Mass is for the repose of the soul of **Dorene Musilli** (requested by John Musilli.)

Parish Office Closed—Martin Luther King Jr. Day

The parish office will be closed on Monday, **January 18**.

Darkness cannot drive out darkness;
only light can do that.
Hate cannot drive out hate;
only love can do that.

—Martin Luther King Jr.

End-of-Year Statements

2020 End-of-Year Contribution Statements were mailed out on Tuesday, **January 12**. If you do not receive yours and would like one, please contact the parish office during business hours at 539-6262.

Song: The Prayer

Click on [The Prayer](#) (all lyrics in English) to hear and pray along with a beautiful performance by Mat and Savanna Shaw, father and daughter. (4:14)

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA ONE NATION UNDER GOD

For the Elected Government To Act Wisely

Loving Lord and judge of all
the nations we come before
You in sadness of spirit,

knowing that our once great nation has fallen into such a sad and sorry state of repair. Revive us, I pray, and restore us, for we have no help except in You alone.

Guide the governors, legislators, sheriffs and all those men and women that are in senior positions of power—both in local and national government. Give them grace and wisdom to guide our nation back from the path of destruction and onto the path where God is the One in Whom we place our trust.

Lord we know that when a nation turns their back on You, they have turned from the path of freedom. I pray that in Your grace and patient loving-kindness You would bring us back to the place where You are honored in this land so that we may once again be a nation of free people.

Forgive us for our foolishness and from deviating from the path of truth onto this winding path to destruction. Forgive us that You have not been placed in Your rightful position in the governance of our nation, and may we turn back to Yourself, both individually and nationally, I pray. Amen.



Zooming with Father Leslie

Join us this week, **Wednesday, January 20**, at 11:30 a.m. to discuss next weekend's Mass readings: Jonah 3:1-5, 10; Psalm 25; 1 Corinthians 7:29-31; Mark 1:14-20. Send your request for the Zoom meeting link and information to Marcy Fox at marcyfox@gmail.com.

NEWS OUTSIDE THE PARISH

The Gospel of Mark

Sister Joan's class on Mark's Gospel begins this week. It will be on Zoom on Thursday mornings. [Click here](#) to see the schedule. The easiest way to sign up is to call Lacy or Sister Joan of Good Ground Press at 800-232-5533. We hope to see you on **January 21!**

Virtual Retreats at The Jesuit Retreat Center

Saturday, **January 16**: *New Life with God after the Pandemic* (Free), led by Fr. John Auther, S.J. Sign up by Saturday 12:00 noon. [Click here to Register](#).

Wednesday, **January 27**: *Pray the Examen* (\$10), led by Fr. Andrew Rodriguez, S.J. [Click here to Register](#).

Saturday, **January 30**: *Praying & Living the Serenity Prayer* (\$15), led by Fr. Andrew Rodriguez, S.J. [Click to Register](#).

Christ the King Online Women's Retreat

Join an opportunity to gain deeper wisdom and awareness of God's presence in these troubled times. You are invited to move more profoundly into the Passionist Charism which focuses on the suffering of the world. A time of transition and healing. How we decide to walk in faith.

We Remember, We Celebrate, We Believe is a weekend retreat for women starting at 7:00 p.m. on Friday, **January 29**, with session continuing throughout Saturday, January 30, 2021. \$75. [Click for more information](#). For questions, please email: retreatctk@passionist.org or call 916-725-4720 ext. 301.

Just to be Clear

The Church has not been closed. We have simply stopped worshipping in our buildings for a time to protect the health and well-being of our people and our communities. The Church does not require a building in order to be the Church. What is required is love, compassion, and the presence of God.

Reflections on Age

The way 2021 is starting out, we thought you could use a good laugh:

- It's weird being the same age as old people.
- When I was a kid, I wanted to be older. This is not what I expected.
- Life is like a helicopter. I don't know how to operate a helicopter.
- Chocolate is God's way of telling us he likes us a little bit chubby.
- It's probably my age that tricks people into thinking I'm an adult.

(More Reflections on Age are on the back page.)

Reflections on Age (Continued)

- During the middle ages they celebrated the end of the plague with wine and orgies. Does anyone know if there is anything planned when this one ends?
- I see people about my age mountain climbing; I feel good getting my leg through my underwear without losing my balance.
- We can all agree that in 2015 not a single person got the answer correct to, 'Where do you see yourself 5 years from now?'
- If you can't think of a word say "I forgot the English word for it." That way people will think you're bilingual instead of an idiot.
- I'm at that age where my mind still thinks I'm 29, my humor suggests I'm 12, while my body mostly keeps asking if I'm sure I'm not dead yet.

- I'm at a place in my life where errands are starting to count as going out.
- Coronacoaster noun: the ups and downs of a pandemic. One day you're loving your bubble, doing workouts, baking banana bread and going for long walks and the next you're crying, drinking gin for breakfast and missing people you don't even like.
- I'm getting tired of being part of a major historical event.
- I don't always go the extra mile, but when I do it's because I missed my exit.
- You don't realize how old you are until you sit on the floor and then try to get back up.
- We all get heavier as we get older, because there's a lot more information in our heads. That's my story and I'm sticking to it.



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