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.

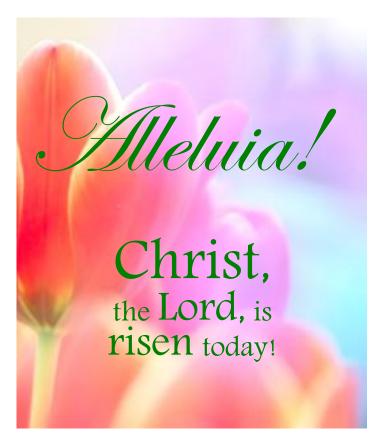
Anointing of the Sick

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.



April 4, 2021—Easter Sunday of the Resurrection of the Lord

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.

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.

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." 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. (Here continued on next page.)



Easter Sunday, April 4, 2021 Scripture Readings

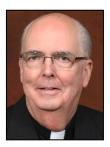
Reading I: Acts of the Apostles 10:34, 37-43—Peter is an eyewitness: The Lord is risen.

Responsorial: Psalm 118— This is the day the Lord has made;

let us rejoice and be glad.

Reading II: 1 Corinthians 5:6-8—Christ our Passover is sacrificed; therefore, let us celebrate.

Gospel: *John 20:1-9*—Three witnesses, Mary, Peter, and John: each responds to the empty tomb.



Easter Sunday Homily

Last Sunday we triumphantly entered Jerusalem with Jesus.

We remembered him at the Last Supper on Holy Thursday.

We gathered with him at the foot of the Cross on Good Friday.

Now we gather around the empty tomb where Jesus was buried after

his death.

Mary Magdalene, Peter and the disciple whom Jesus loved went to that tomb. They found the burial clothes, but not the body of Jesus. They were stumped. However, they soon realized, as do we, that Jesus rose from the dead and is still very much alive. Alleluia!

He is alive in us now and he asks us to share his life with others. Alleluia!

A Story

There once was a 7-year-old boy who had a deadly and fast-growing cancer. Though he had been treated at one of the leading cancer-treatment centers in the United States, none of the treatments worked for him.

In the hospital, the physicians and family of the little boy gathered in the boy's room for a final conference about the boy's treatment. As they were wondering what they should do, the little boy spoke up in a clear voice and said, "What I really want is to go home and learn how to ride my two-wheeler bicycle."

The bicycle had been a Christmas present that had little training wheels attached. The boy had practiced with the bicycle and had been just about ready to remove the training wheels before he had to go into the hospital. The parents and physicians were very resistant to the idea, but the boy's insistence finally wore them down. They agreed to let him go home.

Not 30 minutes after arriving home, the little boy was out in the yard with his bicycle. He insisted that his father remove the training wheels, and the father complied.

The little boy fell down on his first attempt to ride his bike. But on his second attempt he stayed aboard and rode the bike down the sidewalk out in front of his house. Then he said, "And now, I want to ride the bike all around the block." And before anyone could stop him, he was off, up the street and around the corner and out of sight.

For the next few minutes, the little boy's mother, father, brother and little sister were in suspense. They worried that perhaps he would fall and not be okay. But

then, after what seemed like an eternity, the little boy appeared at the other end of the block and was heading for home. He had a gigantic smile of triumph on his face. He had achieved his goal of riding the bicycle without training wheels!

Afterwards, the boy asked his father to bring the bicycle into his bedroom. After the father did that, the bicycle sat in the corner of the room—a gleaming symbol of life. Then, the boy asked if he could be alone with his sister. When his sister came into the room, the boy turned to her and said, "I won't be needing this bicycle anymore. I want you to have it for your birthday. I hope you enjoy it as much as I did."

This beautiful story is a resurrection story. It tells us that life in and with Christ is to be embraced, lived fully, shared with others, and will go on forever.

Conclusion

The tomb is empty. Christ is alive.
He lives on in us and we in Him.
New life is His, new life is ours now and forever.
This is definitely the day the Lord has made.
Let us rejoice and be glad.
Happy Easter, everyone!



Follow Along with Monsignor's YouTube Good Friday Service on April 2 & Mass for April 4, 2021

Included with this bulletin you will find Mass Responses & Prayers for the **April 4** Easter Sunday Mass. You can print them out by opening the **2021-04-04 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 get your hands sprayed with sanitizer, 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 get home.

The ministers assigned for **this Sunday** are: Sr. Joanne Abrams, Bianca Bailie, Marcy Fox, and Jennifer Willwerth. The ministers assigned for **April 11** are: Jan and Ted Rosshirt, Martin Kilgariff, and Marge Lamb.

(Here continued from front page)

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.

Prayer Intentions

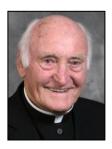
Pray for the sick: Gail Barrett, Lola Danielli, Patricia Daniels, Fran Dias, Fran Evans, Frank Gyorgy, Mike Hanlon, Yvonne Hanlon, Mary Jo Henrikson, Bette Johnson, Trula La Calle, Maureen Latimer, Charles Marchese, Liz Mullins, Lea Nelson, Louis Pappin, Peggy Pavone, Richard Peterson, Joel Rivera, Phyllis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

Also pray for those who have died.

Sunday's Mass Intention

The intention for this weekend's Easter Mass is for the repose of the soul of **Msgr. Gerard Fahey** (requested by the Cutlers.) The intention for next Sunday's, April 11th Mass is for the soul of **Bob Waska** (requested by the Frances Waska.)

The office regrets the mistake in last weekend's bulletin stating: "for the soul of Dorothy Beardsley." Dorothy is alive and well. It should have said: for the **intention of Dorothy Beardsley**. We apologize for any confusion.



In Loving Memory of Monsignor Gerard Fahey

April 4th, Easter, marks the one-year anniversary of our beloved founder's death. Msgr. Fahey established our parish, Star of the Valley Catholic Church, in 1981, and was the pastor for 17 years. The Msgr. Fahey Parish Center, was constructed in 1992.

Under Msgr. Fahey's guidance, many programs were established to benefit the needs of others—The Festival of Lights, the Neighbor-to-Neighbor program, Nick's Pantry, the Samaritans, the Newcomer's Welcome Dinner, and the sewing group.

Most importantly, Msgr. Fahey was passionate about his faith, and his belief in God's love for all of us.

Eternal rest grant unto your servant, O Lord, and let perpetual light shine upon him. May his soul and all of the souls of the faithful departed, through the mercy of God, rest in peace. Amen.

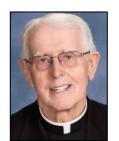


April is Child Abuse Awareness Month

In recognition of April's designation as Child Abuse Awareness Month, please see the attached: A Rosary for Healing & Protection, put together by the Secretariat of Child and Youth Protection in Washington, DC.

Later this month, a novena will be prayed throughout the Diocese of Santa Rosa. The novena will begin on April 19th and continue for an additional nine consecutive nights. Each of the nights will be led by a different priest of the diocese. More information will be posted on the diocesan website: srdiocese.org.





Zooming with Father Leslie

Join us on Zoom this week, **Wednesday, April 7** at **11:30 a.m.** to discuss next weekend's, April **11**, Mass readings: Acts of the Apostles 4:32-35; Psalm **118**; **1** John **5:1-6**; and John **20:19-31**.

We look forward to your companionship. It's not too late to

join us. Send your request for the Zoom meeting link to Marcy Fox at marcyfox@gmail.com.

Office Closed

The parish office will be closed on Easter Monday, **April 5**, the day after Easter.



Church Reopening Plan

The SOV Re-Opening Committee sent a letter and survey to all parishioners this week asking for assistance. Please return the completed survey by Wednesday, April 7, 2021.

Since our church capacity will be limited once we reopen, the Re-Opening Committee is devising a reservation system for attending Mass. More information will be coming. Stay tuned.

Thank you for your patience and prayers that we will all be together in our church in the very near future.

Prayer for Priests

Gracious and loving God, we thank you for the gift of our priests. Through them.

we experience your presence in the sacraments.

Help our priests to be strong in their vocation.

Set their souls on fire with love for your people.

Grant them the wisdom, understanding, and strength they need to follow in the footsteps of Jesus.

Inspire them with the vision of your Kingdom.

Give them the words they need to spread the Gospel.

Allow them to experience joy in their ministry.

Help them to become instruments of your divine grace.

We ask this through Jesus Christ,

who lives and reigns as our Eternal Priest.

Amen.

Alleluia, He Is Risen!

Easter is the most sacred and joyful celebration for Christians—Jesus is risen from the dead! His death and glorious resurrection free us from sin and restore our place as sons and daughters of God. We have much to celebrate. Today, voices from around the word join as one, as the Church resounds with a joyful "Alleluia."

An Easter Gift from St. Joan at Good Ground Press

Treat yourself, and those you love, to these two colorful pages called **Celebrate Easter**. To celebrate the 7 weeks of the Easter Season, click here to: **download and print**.



Divine Mercy—Jesus I Trust in You Divine Mercy Sunday is celebrated on Sunday, **April 11**, this year.

The Divine Mercy Novena starts on Good Friday, **April 2**. To help you participate in the Novena, please use the *Divine Mercy Novena*, and *How to Pray the Chaplet of the Divine Mercy* documents attached to this bulletin.

Also attached to this bulletin is the Divine Mercy image with the words: Jesus I Trust in You.

To hear a talk about St. Faustina, in Fr. Chris Alar's 'Explaining the Faith' series click on: St. Faustina: Her Life & Spirituality. Father Chris Alar, MIC, is the Director of the Association of Marian Helpers at The National Shrine of The Divine Mercy in Stockbridge, MA.

To watch a full-length movie, on YouTube, on the life

of St. Faustina click: Love & Mercy: Faustina.

In the year 2000, Pope John Paul II canonized Sister Faustina Kowalska. To watch this 8-minute video click on: **St. Faustina: Prophet of Mercy**.

To watch a 30-minute documentary on the original image of Divine Mercy click on: Original Image of Divine Mercy. The fascinating story surrounding the original work of art commissioned by St Faustina and painted in Vilnius, is finally being told. It features exclusive interviews with first-hand eye-witnesses, as well as Bishop Robert Barron of Los Angeles (Word On Fire), George Weigel (biographer of Saint Pope John Paul II), Cardinal Stanisław Dziwisz of Krakow, Fr. Michael Gaitley MIC, author Fr. Leo Maasburg (spiritual director and confessor to Blessed Mother Teresa), and many others. The documentary includes never-before-seen close-up images of the original painting in Vilnius.



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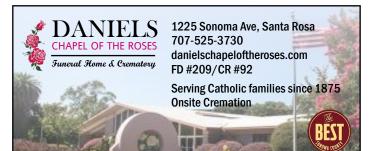


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