

# 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 **8:00 a.m.**  
Oakmont Gardens: Wednesday **10:30 a.m.**  
Sunday Masses:  
Saturday **4:00 p.m. Vigil**, Sunday **10:00 a.m.**

## **Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament**

**After the 8:00 a.m. Mass on Wednesday until 9:30 a.m.**

## **Sacrament of Reconciliation**

Saturday **from 3:00-3:30 p.m.** and by appointment

## **Anointing of the Sick**

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

## **Ministry to the Sick & Homebound**

Call the office to arrange a visit by a Priest  
when a parishioner is homebound or hospitalized  
to arrange for Anointing of the Sick.  
Eucharistic Ministers to the homebound suspended.



**July 31/August 1, 2021**

**Eighteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time**



## **What Can You Do?**

The crowd wanted to know, "What can we do to accomplish the works of God?" (John 6:28). They were looking for a way to do

miracles, signs, wonders, and they expected Jesus to prove himself by doing this for them, too. They had just witnessed the multiplication of the loaves, yet it seemed not to impress them! They were asking for yet another "sign." Jesus directed their attention to the meaning of the miracles: God's loving faithfulness to them in their need. Manna in the desert and loaves in the wilderness were the signs of Jesus' gift of himself to us in love.

What Jesus was looking for in these people was an attentive heart. He wanted them to see that God was providing for their needs with love and faithfulness, and had always done so. But the people didn't get it. They had just witnessed a miracle, and yet they still were asking for "a sign." What counts as a sign? Do we need to be hit over the head? Every day we witness miracles, and yet we don't really see them, or believe that they really come from God. Every day we are bread for each other, or someone is bread for us, and yet we do not make the connection! No doubt the people in the desert failed to connect the quail and the manna with their crying out to God for food. God answers our prayers and knows our needs, and sends people to us and us to others, and yet we look for other explanations of these "miracles" in our lives.



**Sunday, July 31/August 1, 2021**

### Scripture Readings

**Reading I:** *Exodus 16:2-4, 12-15*—I will rain down bread from heaven for you.

**Responsorial:** *Psalms 78*—The Lord gave them bread from heaven.

**Reading II:** *Ephesians 4:17, 20-24*—

Put on the new self that has been created in God's way.

**Gospel:** *John 6:24-35*—Whoever comes to me will never hunger, and whoever believes in me will never thirst.

### Journey of Faith

How many times does God open a door for us—an opportunity to grow in our faith—and we say to ourselves, "I don't think I can handle this. I just don't have what it takes."

The miracle of the loaves and fishes (Mark 6:1-15, heard in last Sunday's gospel reading) is a good meditation to help restore our confidence. We're more capable of doing good than we sometimes realize.

[God] is asking us to take personal inventory: What gifts do I have that I can share? What blessings can I give that will change someone's life and reflect the compassion of Our Lord? Can I—just one person—help build God's Kingdom on earth?

The first step in working through all these questions—and experiencing a personal miracle of faith—is recognizing that we are always in God's hands. Everything we have is a gift from God. With these gifts, we can be assured that we are worthy and capable of great things.

For any of us in need of a little assurance, the details of Mark's Gospel provide answers. A young boy offers five barley loaves and two fish. The Jews knew barley as the first grain of spring—symbol of the harvest and the unleavened bread of Passover, the bread we now call the Eucharist.

With confidence in God the Father, Jesus blessed the seven gifts from the child and began to distribute them to the 5,000 assembled before him. The blessing was so great that later on the apostles filled 12 wicker baskets with fragments of the meal. We can think of the 12 baskets in many ways: as the 12 tribes of Israel, the 12 patriarchs, and also the 12 apostles—all symbolizing God's people doing God's work.

Rather than dwell on what's missing in our lives, today's Gospel teaches us to think about what's

possible, especially in the presence of faith. Rather than focus on risk, we can accept that we are always in God's hands, and that nothing we do will ever be wasted. Multiply one act of kindness with more acts of kindness and... you know the rest.

The evangelists must have thought Mark's story a very big deal. The multiplication of loaves and fishes is the only miracle Jesus performed that appears in all four Gospels. So rather than saying, "I'm not talented enough," or "I don't think I'm the best person for the job," just know that you have all the gifts you need to work a miracle. Why not give it a try?

—Fr. Raymond J. Finch, M.M.

### OPPORTUNITIES TO SHARE

#### Church Decorators Needed

Please join our team of parishioners who take turns putting flowers in the church. Many silk arrangements are available to use, or fresh flowers may be bought with the parish's flower funds. Please call the parish office if you can help in this ministry.

#### Head Ushers Needed

At least one Head Usher, male or female, is needed for each weekend Mass, and for Masses on Holy Days of Obligation when a collection is taken. Each Head Usher needs to be fingerprinted so that a background check can be done per Diocesan guidelines, and the Live Scan fingerprinting fee will be reimbursed to you by the parish.

Star of the Valley Parish would also benefit from having someone volunteer to schedule our Ushers for each Mass. You are not required to be an Usher to do the scheduling.

Please contact the office for more information and to help this important ministry.

## Let Jesus Shine Through You

### Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament

The Blessed Sacrament is exposed for adoration every Wednesday from 8:30-9:30 a.m. Come and visit with our Lord to receive the many graces promised to His adorers.

"The best and the surest and most effective way of establishing everlasting peace on the face of the earth is through the great power of Perpetual Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament." —Pope Saint John Paul II

	<b>This Weekend – July 31–Aug 1</b>	
	<b>4:00 p.m.</b>	<b>10:00 a.m.</b>
<b>Eucharistic Ministers:</b>	Connie Pearson	Barbara Spotleson ( <i>Eucharistic Ministers are to wear a face covering during distribution of Communion.</i> )
<b>Lector:</b>	Ted Sullivan	Mimi May
<b>Server:</b>	Micki Sabourin	Fritz Spotleson
<b>Greeters:</b>	Justine Haugen Jackie Kenilvort	Marietta Mancuso Paula Scull
<b>Ushers:</b>	TBD	TBD

	<b>Next Weekend – August 7–8</b>	
	<b>4:00 p.m.</b>	<b>10:00 a.m.</b>
	Blanche Kaiser	Sr. Joanne Abrams
	Len Marabella	Bianca Bailie
	Mary Kay Riccioni	Jennifer Martinez
	Kathleen Beirne Tom Beirne	Marietta Mancuso Joyce O'Connor
	TBD	TBD



To serve as an Usher, please contact the office during the week, and let us know which Mass you prefer. Thanks!

## MASS INTENTIONS—JULY 31–AUGUST 8

Sat 31	4:00	† <b>Vic Fryling</b> (Msgr. Pulskamp)
Sun 1	10:00	† <b>Grace Bennett Simpson</b> (Rick Ragan)
Mon 2		No Mass
Tue 3	8:00	<b>Intention of Magda Shelton</b> (SOV Office Staff)
Wed 4	8:00	<b>For the People of the Parish</b>
	10:30	Mass at Oakmont Gardens
Thurs 5	8:00	<b>For People the at Sam Jones</b>
Fri 6	8:00	<b>Intention of Dick &amp; Blanche Kaiser</b> on their 61st Anniversary
Sat 7	4:00	<b>For an End to the Pandemic</b>
Sun 8	10:00	† <b>Charlotte Muzio</b> (Richard Muzio)

Please keep the sick in your prayers: Gail Barrett, Ron Charlton, Lola Danielli, Patricia Daniels, Fran Dias, John Dolan, Fran Evans, Yvonne Hanlon, Mary Jo Henrikson, Bette Johnson, Trula La Calle, Maureen Latimer, Charles Marchese, Eve Marcucci, Carolyn McKenna, Leo McKenna, Jacqua Miller, Liz Mullins, Lea Nelson, Mimi O'Connor, Karen O'Malley, Gail Passalacqua, Peggy Pavone, Richard Peterson, Ray Pregent, Janet Pyne, Joel Rivera, Phyllis Rogers, Angela Saul, Kara Sewale, Bart Taylor, Ed Turpin, Mercedes Vegvary, Claire Vincent, William Wallace, Frances Waska, and Dolores Zeni.

Also pray for those who have died: Vic Fryling and Claire Killeen.

## Mass Intention Scheduling

Masses may now be scheduled for your intentions. You may call or come into the office during the week, between 8:30 a.m. and 2:30 p.m.



## Donut Sunday—August 1

Thanks to Green Acres Manor, we will have Donut Sunday on **August 1**, at the Msgr. Fahey Parish Center. Come by before or after Mass, to enjoy some juice, coffee, donuts, and conversation with friends, and check out our library while you're there.

Welcome back!  
Stay and celebrate with us  
after the 4:00 p.m. Saturday Mass.

5:00 p.m., Saturday, August 7  
Msgr. Fahey Parish Center  
Sponsored by the Men's Club

Welcome Back  
WINE & CHEESE



## Meditation in the Garden

Led by Star of the Valley parishioner, Marcella Fox, **Meditation in the Garden** draws on reflections from the wisdom of universal teaching. All are welcome. The talks will be held at the Kenwood Community Church, 9637 Channing Row, Kenwood, CA on the following days:

- **August 2** 4:00–4:30 p.m. Lao Tzu
- **August 16** 4:00–4:30 p.m. Hildegard of Bingen
- **August 30** 4:00–4:30 p.m. Rumi

## OPPORTUNITIES TO SHARE

### Christmas Basket Manager Needed

Please call, email, or come in to the parish office during the week if you'd like more information about our Christmas Basket Program, or have organizational skills, or experience with Excel spreadsheets to offer.

We are hoping to be able to have the event inside the Msgr. Fahey Parish Center this year, as it has been in the past. But, unless someone, or two people volunteer to take the lead, we will not be able to offer the program this year.

Preliminary steps in organizing for this one-day December event start in September. If you will be available and have some time each month this autumn to fill this important role, let us know. We'd love to hear from you!

What little we have, we offer all to you, Lord Jesus, who fed the hungry thousands with just five loaves and two fish.

May we not let our poverty prevent us from doing good by giving our all.

Multiply our good works to the glory of Your name and build up the kingdom of God in our time.

Jesus, our Master, and our Messiah, help us feed people's hunger not just for bread but for every word that comes forth from Your mouth, O God.

Feed their hunger for justice with righteousness, for forgiveness with reconciliation, and for peace with that joy that only comes from knowing and accepting You as Lord.

We come before You with open hands, Lord Jesus, holding nothing back, we ask You to take all we offer and give us all we need to live fully and joyfully here on earth and eternally with all Your saints in heaven where You reign with the Father and Holy Spirit, God forever and ever. Amen.

—Fr. Joseph R. Veneroso, M.M.

## DSR Senior Accountant Position

The Diocese of Santa Rosa chancery office is looking for a Senior Accountant. For more information or to apply, send your resume to [Inorcia@srdiocese.org](mailto:Inorcia@srdiocese.org).



## **Eighteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time— Commentary**

“Do not work for food that perishes but for the food that endures for eternal life, which the Son of Man will give you.” (John 6:27)

In our fast-paced world, how often have we worked for food that perishes? How often have we tried to satisfy an ache in our heart by something other than God? We turn to our phones, to news articles, Instagram, and Twitter; we allow ourselves to be distracted by the demands of work; we work tirelessly, never allow ourselves to be alone with our thoughts, to rest; we chase success; we turn to food as a source of comfort; we become consumed with our looks and appearances; we seek love and approval in broken and disordered ways.

In this Sunday's Gospel, Jesus challenges us to realign our desires, to hunger for eternal life, to raise our eyes to heaven. Indeed, Jesus promises that “whoever comes to [him] will never hunger, and whoever believes in [him] will never thirst” (John 6:35). What are you longing for? Are you willing to let Jesus fulfill your deepest desires? The truth is, as long as we attempt to satisfy our hearts with the things of this world, we will always be left empty, hungry, longing for something the world cannot offer, because we were not made for this world—we were made to know and love God.

—Jim Messa

## **Second Collections**

The second collection this weekend is for **Parish Repair & Maintenance**. The second collection for next weekend is for **Peter's Pence**. Your generosity allows the Pope to respond to our suffering brothers and sisters.

## **Your Money at Work**

We are happy to report how your donations to Star of the Valley's **Parish Repair & Maintenance** collections are being used. Thank you for your help in keeping our church, the parish center, and the rectory in good running condition.

In the second week of July, 2021, we did some major landscape clean-up at the church, the parish center, and the rectory, to follow Oakmont's Firewise recommendations. In August we will continue the Firewise recommendations and we will cut down some more trees and bushes behind the parish center.

Thank you for your support.  
It is your efforts that make the projects and maintenance possible.



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