

# 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

## Contact Numbers

Parish Office Phone: 707-539-6262

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, Administrative Assistant

## Welcome New Parishioners

Please sign the Newcomers Register  
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.

## 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  
for Anointing of the Sick by a Priest  
when someone is hospitalized or homebound.

## Ministry to the Sick & Homebound

Call the office to arrange visits by a  
Eucharistic Minister for Holy Communion  
when someone is homebound.



## February 25/26, 2022— First Sunday of Lent

### One does not live on bread alone.

The Sunday scriptures of Lent begin with the second of the two versions of the creation story. Today's account—in which Adam receives life and Eve is created from his side—when God wanted to change lifeless clay into a being made in the divine image, it was through breath. That breath (in Hebrew the *ruach* or wind, or spirit of God) is the sign and source of humanity's intimate connection with our Creator. Adam experiences *conspire*: a “breathing with” God. Adam and Eve are in the best sense made conspirators with God's plan for creation. But when he and Eve decide to conspire against the divine will and not with it, they fall out of their intimate relationship with God. At first, it seems that God's response is punishment; but Christians believe that God's ultimate response to this fallen state is a gift: Jesus Christ.

### The Response of God

The Sunday scriptures of Lent begin with the second of the two versions of the creation story. Today's account—in which Adam receives life and Eve is created from his side—when God wanted to change lifeless clay into a being made in the divine image, it was through breath. That breath (in Hebrew the *ruach* or wind, or spirit of God) is the sign and source of humanity's intimate connection with our Creator. Adam experiences *conspire*: a “breathing with” God. Adam and Eve are in the best sense made conspirators with God's plan for creation. But when he and Eve decide to conspire against the divine will and not with it, they fall out of their intimate relationship with God. At first, it seems that God's response is punishment; but Christians believe that God's ultimate response to this fallen state is a gift: Jesus Christ.

### The Response of Christ

We commonly call today's Gospel “The Temptation in the Desert” but it more accurately might be called “The Triumph in the Desert.” The Gospels are filled with stories in which Jesus is triumphant, when he faces evil, enemies, adversity. All of these prey on his human nature and seek to make him cease breathing with the spirit of God's will. But each time, Jesus prevails, and in prevailing gives glory to God. Each of these triumphs is a small prefiguring of the Resurrection. And it is the Resurrection for which Lent prepares us. It is a time when we remember that the very breath of Christ must be drawn upon to strengthen us in our trials, that our temptations will be vanquished by the will of God. In our failings remembered, we ask forgiveness. In our triumphs through Christ, we give glory to God.



**Sunday February 26, 2023**

**Scripture Readings**

**Reading I:** *Genesis 2:7-9; 3:1-7*—The Lord God planted a garden in Eden.

**Responsorial:** *Psalms 51*—Be merciful, O Lord, for we have sinned.

**Reading II:** *Romans 5:12-19*—In

Adam all die. In Christ all live.

**Gospel:** *Matthew 4:1-11*—Jesus fasted forty days.

**Climb to Holiness**

Dante Alighieri, writing *The Divine Comedy*, paid Peter Damian the great honor of placing him in one of the highest circles of Paradise. In fact, Peter is the first of two important monastic figures to greet Dante in “seventh heaven,” the other being Saint Benedict of Nursia. Both represent this heavenly level: spiritual contemplatives who’ve lived a life of temperance and prayer. Dante has Peter and Benedict climbing up and down a golden ladder, reminiscent of the “Ladder of Humility” (12 steps) described in the Benedictine Rule and the “Ladder of Divine Ascent” (30 steps) written by monastic Saint John Climacus. If you need to build a Lenten practice, step up to the task.

**Ladder of Humility**

Biblical theologian Brant Pitre points out an interesting passage from Chapter 7 of “The Rule of Saint Benedict” in which Benedict takes Christ’s promise that “everyone who exalts himself will be humbled, but the one who humbles himself will be exalted,” (Luke 14:11) and proposes a 12-step ladder of humility and discipline to help his monks climb to the heights of true exaltation in Christ. Pitre calls it the first “12-Step” program, designed for those of us who are addicted not to drugs or alcohol, but to ourselves. That is, perhaps, all of us to varying degrees. The steps are well worth reviewing.

**Step 1: Obeying all of God’s commandments.**

Obviously, but challengingly, this is the starting point for every true disciple of Christ. It lays in the recognition, first rejected by Adam and Eve under the influence of the serpent, that God is God and we are not.

**Step 2: Not bothering to please yourself.** In other words, don’t take the best cookie in the batch. Don’t take the best seat on the bus. Don’t skip in line at Starbucks. Whatever you are naturally inclined towards, pivot away from it. Take the lowest place.

**Step 3: Obedience to your superior.** This could be your boss, or your parents if you are still in their care, or even your spouse, as husband and wife mutually die to

themselves in service of one another and their children. As long as you are not being ordered to sin, freedom is found in the surrender of your will to the will of your superior.

**Step 4: Patient and quiet perseverance of everything inflicted on you.** Stop complaining. It is ultimately rooted in pride. Patiently and quietly endure your present affliction. If you’re honest with yourself, you probably deserve much worse.

**Step 5: Humble and thorough confession of your sins and faults.** The Sacrament of Confession is a wonderfully humbling undertaking. Make regular use of it.

**Step 6: Acceptance of crude and harsh tasks.** Stop grumbling. It, too, is a form of pride. Clean the toilet. Change the diaper. Volunteer to take the notes at a meeting.

**Step 7: Not only confessing that you are imperfect but believing it in your heart.** Make your humility not just an outward show, but an interior disposition. Recognize the good in others and believe that you still have a long way to go along the path of perfection.

**Step 8: Strict observance of a rule of life.** Be on time out of respect for others. Hold up your end of the bargain with household chores. Get to Mass on Sundays and holy days of obligation. Observing these things faithfully makes a person humble.

**Step 9: Practice of silence; only speaking when necessary.** Think how much more substantive and peaceful the world would be if people deferred to the power of silence before saying the first thing that popped into their head.

**Step 10: Restraint from laughter and frivolity.** Laughter can be good medicine, but too much medicine turns it into poison.

**Step 11: Speaking few words, simply and seriously.** Economy of words is a form of restraint that honors other people’s time and prevents you from becoming a chatter box.

**Step 12: Showing humility in your heart and in your appearance and actions.** Don’t just think or talk about being humble, but actually put it into practice daily and concretely.

Chances are that more than one rung of that ladder tweaked your conscience. But “the ear that listens to wisdom rejoices.” (Sirach 3:29) May we hear, respond and so rejoice both now and at the eternal wedding feast of heaven.

—Fr. John Mitchell; *Catholicerald.org*

	<b>This Weekend — February 25–26</b>		<b>Next Weekend — March 4–5</b>	
	<b>4:00 p.m.</b>	<b>10:00 a.m.</b>	<b>4:00 p.m.</b>	<b>10:00 a.m.</b>
<b>EMs:</b>	Eva McGinn	Kar Hofmann	Jan Rosshirt	Marge Lamb
<b>Lectors:</b>	Judy Rodgers	Rosemary Haver	Ted Rosshirt	Martin Kilgariff
<b>Servers:</b>	Dennis Sabourin	Drew Hofmann	Connie Montague	Jennifer Martinez
<b>Greeters:</b>	Cathy Hardy Pete Hardy	Mary Bell Mimi May	Sherry Rosevear Evelyn Zigmont	Donna Forst & Cricket Mimi May
<b>Ushers:</b>	Agnes Apicella	Clarence Younger	Judy Rodgers	Fritz Spotleson



## MASS INTENTIONS—FEBRUARY 25—MARCH 5

Sat	25	4:00	† <b>Louise Paolinetti</b> (Lee & Judy Rodgers)
Sun	26	10:00	† <b>James Baker</b> , † <b>Deb Valenti</b> , † <b>Mary Kaleel</b> (Del Baker)
Mon	27		No Mass—Pray a Rosary
Tue	28	8:00	† <b>Tory Bucher</b> (Bill & Terry Cutler)
Wed	1	8:00	† <b>Ann Byrne</b>
		10:30	O.G. <b>For the People of the Parish</b>
Thurs	2	8:00	† <b>Geraldine Connell</b>
Fri	3	8:00	† <b>Lincoln McCarthy</b> (Maria McCarthy)
Sat	4	4:00	† <b>Ed Schudel</b> & † <b>Kathy Ramirez</b> (Robin Schudel)
Sun	5	10:00	†† <b>Carol &amp; Dick Larsen</b> (Linda Nolet)

Please keep the sick, and those in need, in your prayers: J-3, Gail Barrett, Ruth Beauchamp, Mike Cusack, Lola Danielli, Fran Dias, Audrey Engen, Fr. Paul Fitzpatrick, Marcy Fox, Mary Gorrell, Yvonne Hanlon, Mary Jo Henrikson, Barbara Hoffman, Maureen Latimer, Jack Luceti, Pat Marabella, Eve Marcucci, Roberta McElroy, Carolyn McKenna, Bill McNeany, Don McQuaid, Connie Montague, Lea Nelson, Karen O'Malley, Lauri Paolinetti, Pricilla Peralejo, Richard Peterson, Jill Ramage, Angela Saul, Magda Shelton, Elaine Smith, Bob & Barbara Spaulding, Oceana Spotleson, Claire Vincent, and Dolores Zeni.

Also pray for those who have died: Jo Cornett, Don McQuaid, and Bishop David G. O'Connell

## PARISH EVENTS—FEBRUARY 25—MARCH 5

**March 5**, Donut Sunday—Msgr. Fahey Parish Center

### Weekly Collection Report

In case you're wondering why we have been operating in the **RED**:

Feb. 5	Feb. 12	Feb. 19	Weekly Goal
\$3,566	\$3,820	\$3,074	\$5,365

**Note:** The amounts consist of First collections, Parish Repair & Maintenance, and Holy Day collections received during the preceding week and weekend.

### Second Collection

Next weekend's second collection will be for **Parish Repair and Maintenance**.

**2022 EOY  
STATEMENTS  
NOW AVAILABLE**

### 2022 Contribution Statements

If you would like a Contribution Statement of your donations to Star of the Valley Church in 2022, please contact the office by phone at 707-539-6262, or email [sov@sonic.net](mailto:sov@sonic.net).



### Lenten Penance & the Synodal Journey

Inserted in this bulletin is a message of the Holy Father, Pope Francis, for Lent 2023.

### Our Lady of Fatima—Five First Saturdays Devotion

On the Divine Mercy counter in the back of the church you will find a Fatima Calendar tent card with The Five First Saturdays Devotion on the inside. Help yourself to a copy to take home if you like.



## Dinner & Music

Music by

**MACK & PORTER**

**Thursday, March 16**

At the Monsignor Fahey Parish Center  
495 White Oak Drive in Oakmont

Cocktails & Hors d'oeuvres at 5:00 p.m.  
Dinner to follow at 6:00 p.m.

### Menu

Green Salad with Rolls  
Corned Beef with Mustard  
Cabbage Wedges, Guinness Carrots with Dill  
Colcannon Style Potatoes  
Chocolate Cake with Mocha Filling

**\$25 per Person**

### Full Cash Bar

To reserve a seat:

Mail or drop your check in the Men's Club box  
at the Monsignor Fahey Parish Center.

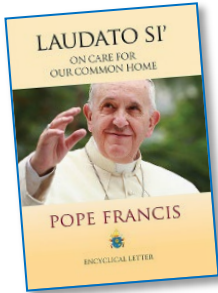
To reserve a table for 8 (max.)  
please put the checks for each person at your  
table in one envelope and list each name  
on the outside of the envelope.

**All reservations due by March 12, 2023**

*Unfortunately, adding names after making the  
initial dinner reservation will not guarantee  
additional reservations at your table.*

### Seating is limited!

Seating is reserved based on the date your  
reservation and payment is received.  
Don't wait to sign up. This event always sells out!  
Questions? Call Jim Warman, 707-230-2682.



## A Lenten Reflection

The Star of the Valley Parish's Women's Circle and Pastoral Council invite you to view the encyclical letter *Laudato Si'* (Praise Be to You), the message from Pope Francis to the whole world.

**Video & Discussion**  
**Wednesday, March 22**  
**4:00-6:00 p.m.**

Monsignor Fahey Parish Center

There will be refreshments and all are welcome.



No RSVP needed.

### Women's Circle



### Annual Ministry Appeal 2023

If you have not already pledged to this year's AMA, please do so today. We are counting on you to respond generously and to give for the spiritual benefit of our brothers and sisters in Christ. Funds provided through the AMA help to bring Christ's love and comfort to others. Effectively continuing His mission requires a united effort by every Catholic throughout our Diocesan church. Our parish goal is \$28,352. It is not too late to participate. Please use the envelopes available in the church or give online at [srdiocese.org](http://srdiocese.org).



### Judge Mike Hanlon Spoke

All who attended the Wine & Cheese Gathering that the Men's Club hosted on Thursday were fortunate to hear parishioner Mike Hanlon share some of his experiences of his 50-year career as a lawyer and judge which included death penalty cases, and

how he faced them as a Catholic. Thank you, Mike!

Afterward, Mike Apicella, president of the Men's Club, asked if the audience would like this type of social event on a regular or monthly basis. Those attending were very much in favor of this idea, so stay tuned!

### NEWS OUTSIDE THE PARISH

#### Bookkeepers Needed

Are you a bookkeeper looking for a few extra hours? The Diocese is looking for part-time bookkeepers. Please contact Lori Norcia at [lnorcia@srdiocese.org](mailto:lnorcia@srdiocese.org) or call 707-566-3322 for more information.

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 **Mike & Leila O'Callaghan**

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