

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

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, 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.



December 16/17, 2023 Third Sunday of Advent

An Upside Down World

The Church has just celebrated two great Marian feasts: the Immaculate Conception and Our Lady of Guadalupe. It is appropriate in this Advent time that we look to Mary's great song, the Magnificat, as a lens for today's readings, and to her life as the first of faithful disciples. In her canticle, Mary describes a world similar to the one for which Isaiah tells us the Spirit anoints the prophet: where the mighty arm of God scatters the proud and lifts up the lowly (the Lectionary, unfortunately, omits this verse today), where the hungry are filled with good things and the rich are sent away empty. This world is upside down from the one most of us experience. But if we are to follow our call to be disciples of Jesus, as Mary did, we must be committed to believing in and proclaiming a world like this.

Sent In the Spirit

Today we hear from John's Gospel, which serves as the first of a number of interjections during this year of the proclamation of Mark's Gospel. (This is because Mark's is the shortest of the Gospels.) John the Baptist once again speaks of his role as the forerunner, the herald of the light. He himself is not the light, but the one who "makes straight" the way before the Lord. John is describing our own vocation, the one given to us when we were baptized in water and the Spirit. We proclaim the coming of the light by living out our own Spirit-anointing to bring glad tidings to the poor, to strive for the world God desires, the one described by Isaiah. As we prepare for the coming of the light in whatever vocation God has anointed us for, we must live as Paul insists: in continual prayer, and always rejoicing!



Sunday, December 17, 2023

Third Sunday of Advent

Scripture Readings

Reading I: *Isaiah 61:1-2a, 10-11*—As a garden makes its growth spring up, so will God make justice spring up before all the nations.

Responsorial: *Luke 1*—My soul rejoices in my God.

Reading II: *1 Thessalonians 5:16-24*—Do not quench the Spirit. Do not despise prophetic utterances. Test everything; retain what is good.

Gospel: *John 1:6-8, 19-28*—I am the voice of one crying out in the desert, make straight the way of the Lord.

Star of the Valley Christmas Masses

Christmas Eve Vigil Mass, **Sunday**, Dec. 24 at 4:00 p.m.

Christmas Day, **Monday**, Dec. 25 at 10:00 a.m.



Thank You for Sharing Your Talents

The Star of the Valley **Advent Reflection** and **Christmas Gathering** was a great success. Marcy Fox created a beautiful and inspirational Advent reflection centered on the theme of light.

Parishioners were asked, "Who has brought light into your life and how can you bring light into other's



lives?" With our thoughts of spreading the Light of Christ to others, we walked with lighted candles to the Parish Center to enjoy some Christmas cheer. The highlight of the Christmas program was the Oakmont Play Readers, hosted by our parishioner, John Dolan. Another parishioner, Blanche Kaiser, was a standout in the short play by O. Henry. We also enjoyed singing traditional Christmas carols accompanied by Maryellen Birkland.

Thanks are in order for the Women's Circle spiritual committee: Marcy Fox, Terry Cutler, and Carole Kilgariff. Thank you to all the parishioners who brought delicious homemade Christmas cookies, to Barbara Spotleson who managed the wine and hot cider bar, and to Ruth Fulger who created a lovely Christmas environment in the Parish Center.

Pictured above clockwise: Marcy Fox, Barbara Gasparini, Blanche Kaiser, and John Dolan.

MASS INTENTIONS—DECEMBER 16-24

Sat	16	4:00	† Bob Waska (Frances Waska)
Sun	17	10:00	† Tim Ward (Kathy McKeon)
Mon	18		No Mass—Pray a Rosary
Tue	19	8:00	† Dorothy Beardsley (Mary Ann Neumann)
Wed	20	8:00	† R. J. Brant (Livia Brant)
		10:30	O.G. For the People of the Parish
Thurs	21	8:00	† Agnes Apicella (Martin & Carole Kilgariff)
Fri	22	8:00	Intention of Joan McCormack (Bunny Schmitt)
Sat	23	4:00	† Jack Luceti (Linda Luceti)
Sun	24	10:00	† Agnes Apicella (Mike Apicella)
		4:00	† Pat Marabella (Tom & Janet Ahearn)

Please keep the sick, and those in need, in your prayers: Gail Barrett, Ruth Beauchamp, Rich Busalacchi, Michael & Jessica Curtis, Mike Cusack, Rosalie Cushman, Lola Danielli, Mike Dines, Audrey Engen, Pinky Ezekiel, Fr. Paul Fitzpatrick, Marcy Fox, Mary Gorrell, Myrtle Gunning, Mary Jo Henrikson, Barbara Hoffman, Lorraine Kowalkowski, Maureen Latimer, Eve Marcucci, Roberta McElroy, Carolyn McKenna, Bill McNeany, Nancy McNeill, Lea Nelson, Mark Ochesli, Karen O'Malley, Tobi O'Neill, Agnes Orser, Lauri Paolinetti, Pricilla Peralejo, Eileen Poggi, Jill Ramage, Greg Sack, Angela Saul, Magda Shelton, Elaine Smith, Bob & Barbara Spaulding, Oceana Spotleson, Amelia Stafford, Marilyn Warman, and Dolores Zeni.

Also pray for those who have died: Rev. Andrew Metcalf and Joyce O'Connor.



Lost & Found

Please look in the Quiet Room of the church to retrieve lost articles left in the church.

Check the Msgr. Fahey Parish Center to retrieve lost articles left there. Anything not claimed after one month will be discarded or considered a donation.



The Third Sunday of Advent

The third candle is called the "Shepherd's Candle," and is pink, or rose, because rose is a liturgical color for joy. The third Sunday of Advent is called Gaudete Sunday and is meant to remind us of the joy that the world

experienced at the birth of Jesus, as well as the joy that the faithful have reached the midpoint of Advent.

This Weekend — December 16-17

4:00 p.m.

EMs: Linda Luceti

Lector: Sherry Rosevear

Server: Mary Kay Riccioni

Greeters: Evelyn Zigmont
Bob Chapman

Ushers: Kathleen Beirne

10:00 a.m.

Barbara Spotleson

Martin Kilgariff

Fritz Spotleson

Elizabeth McKee
Kathy McKeon

Tim Burkhard

Next Weekend — December 23-24

4:00 p.m.

Eva McGinn

Len Marabella

Connie Montague

Gloria Bowers
TBD

Judy Rodgers

10:00 a.m.

Marge Lamb

Don Forst

Mike Hanlon

Mary Bell
Donna Forst & Cricket

Clarence Younger

Christmas Vigil

4:00 p.m.

Blanche Kaiser

Judy Rodgers

Bev Shelhart

NA
NA

Kathleen Beirne

PARISH EVENTS—DECEMBER 17-25

Sunday, December 24, 4:00 Christmas Eve Vigil Mass—Church

Monday, December 25, 10:00 Christmas Mass—Church

Monday, December 25, Office Closed—Parish Center

Weekly Collection Report

Nov. 26	Dec. 3	Dec. 10	Weekly Goal
\$5,744	\$6,434	\$5,138	\$5,365*

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

*Needed to help meet monthly expenses.

Second Collection

This weekend's second collection is for **Parish Repair and Maintenance**.

NEWS OUTSIDE THE PARISH

Walk For Life West Coast 2024

Join fellow Catholics and Pro-lifers from all over California and beyond as we stand up for the littlest among us at the 20th Annual Walk for Life West Coast in San Francisco on Saturday, **January 20, 2024**.

For more information visit www.walkforlifewc.com or call 415-658-1793. A flyer is on the bulletin board.

If interested in transportation, a bus will be going from St. Elizabeth Seton Church in Rohnert Park. To reserve a seat on the bus (\$35 per person) please contact Evelyn Estrella at 707-228-5746.

Always remember that the light within you is greater than any darkness.

Parish Repair & Maintenance

Star of the Valley Parish has been maintaining and keeping the church, rectory, and Monsignor Fahey Parish Center in good repair due to your contributions to our collections for Parish Repair & Maintenance. These are some projects that have been completed lately, and some that are underway:

- ▶ Replaced light bulbs in EXIT signs in Parish Center.
- ▶ Convection oven door repair needed in Parish Center kitchen.
- ▶ Oak tree branches need pruning above roof of church and away from building for fire safety.

We will have a second collection this weekend, December 16 and 17, for **Parish Repair & Maintenance**.

Please be as generous as you usually are. Your donations are greatly appreciated!



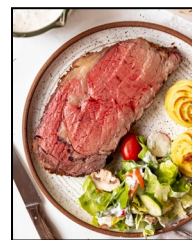
May I Receive Holy Communion Twice in a Day?

Answer: Yes, you may receive twice in one day, although the Church provides guidelines that need to be followed. The Code of Canon Law provides that a person may receive Holy Communion a second time, provided he does so during a celebration of the Eucharist in which he participates (canon 917).

Given this citing of official Church law, we must appreciate the rationale that serves as its foundation. The Holy Sacrifice of the Mass and the celebration of the Blessed Sacrament is "the true center of the whole Christian life both for the universal Church and for the local congregation of that Church" (*Instruction on the Worship of the Eucharistic Mystery*, #6). The offering of the Mass and the reception of Holy Communion are intrinsically connected. Moreover, the components of the Mass, particularly the Liturgy of the Word and the Liturgy of the Eucharist, form a cohesive whole.

Never, in ordinary circumstances, do we isolate the reception of Holy Communion from the rest of the Mass. The Church grants the permission of receiving Holy Communion twice in one day to meet those situations of a person attending, perhaps, a wedding Mass and a funeral Mass on the same day, or attending the regular daily Mass and then some special Mass the same day; nevertheless, the stipulation is that the person attends the whole Mass in both instances.

Furthermore, the Church's language on the matter says that one should "participate" in the celebration of the Mass when one receives Communion a second time. This doesn't mean you have to be an altar server or singing in the choir; the Church is saying that we should be engaging ourselves fully in the Mass: actively participating in the prayers, showing up on time, etc. The only exception would be someone who is in danger of death; Communion can be received as Viaticum in these cases.



Attention Men!

To join or renew your membership, as well as attend the **Men's Club Prime Rib Installation Dinner** which will be in January, 2024, please stop by the Monsignor Fahey Parish Center during the week to pick up the details and Membership Application. Don't miss out. Please invite your friends and neighbors too. The more, the merrier.

Mandated Reporter Training

Reporting Elder & Dependent Adult Abuse, **January 16, 2024**, 1:30 p.m.–2:30 p.m. virtual training via Zoom.

Learn about the responsibilities of making reports to Adult Protective Services as a mandated reporter. Mandated Reporters include any person who works with elderly and dependent adults in a professional or volunteer capacity. You're welcome to attend if you would like a refresher or if you have never attended before. [Click to Register](#).

Rejoice in the Lord always. Again, I say rejoice!

Welcome to Star of the Valley Catholic Church

Whether you are a long-time parishioner, a returning Catholic, a visitor or new member, we hope your time with us is a meaningful and spiritual experience.

If you'd like to register or receive offertory envelopes, have moved, or have other needs, please complete this form and return it to the parish office or offertory basket.



- ☐ New Parishioner
- ☐ New contact info (address, email, phone number)
- ☐ I'm moving; remove my name from the parish list.
- ☐ I need to talk to a priest. Please call me.
- ☐ I have a question. Please contact me.

Name: _____

Address: _____

City & Zip: _____

Phone Number: _____

E-mail Address: _____

NEWS OUTSIDE THE PARISH



An Evening with Sarah Hart

Friday, **January 12**, 7:00 p.m., at St. John the Baptist Catholic Church, 208 Matheson Street, Healdsburg. Free-will donations will be collected. CDs available for purchase. All are welcome! For more information call 707-433-5536.

NEWS OUTSIDE THE PARISH

Day Respite Program

Announcing Council on Aging's new fee-based Flex Care Respite Program. Services are offered on Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays. Contact Council on Aging to enroll: 707-525-0143, and see the flyer on the church bulletin board for more information.

SECURE

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**Need help getting started?
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Have you ever arrived at Mass and realized that you forgot your offertory envelope? If so, then you should be using online giving!

Consider using online giving!


Interested in setting up for online giving? Call the parish office at 707-539-6262, or visit our website: www.starofthevalley.org

SIGN UP TODAY!

<https://giving.parishsoft.com/app/giving/starofthevalleychurch>

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**YOUR AD SPACE IS
WAITING FOR YOU
HERE!**

If you would like to place an ad in this bulletin please call Sharon at 707-539-6262.

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