

# 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.



**And the Word became flesh and dwelt among us.**

## **December 24, 2023—4th Sunday of Advent**

### **Echoing Mary's Decision**

The angel Gabriel today confronts Mary with a mystery. In a way, it is the ultimate "Whodunit?" that Mary expresses in her question, "How can this be?" The mystery of salvation in Christ is not a mystery that is solved, but a reality beyond our comprehension that we must choose to enter into. In the liturgy of the Eastern Church, everyone waits to see if Mary will enter into the mystery: God waits, Adam and Eve and all the souls of the dead who long for Paradise wait, angels wait for new heavenly companions. And there is much rejoicing when her decision is "yes."

We have less dramatic choices offered to us, but the mystery of our salvation in Christ is by no means "solved." We may understand it a bit better due to Mary's "yes." We may be a bit closer to it through the passion, death, and resurrection of Jesus Christ. But ultimately, it still remains a reality beyond our comprehension, a mystery to which we all must give our own "yes." Soon we will be singing "O come, let us adore him." May our Advent prayer, our echo of Mary's "yes," continue then, so we may enter into the mystery of our salvation in Jesus Christ, God among us.



### **The Fourth Sunday of Advent**

We light the final purple candle, along with the others previously lit, to mark the final week (or day this year) of prayer and penance as we wait for the birth of our Savior. This candle, the "Angel's Candle," symbolizes peace. It reminds us of

the message of the angels: "Peace on Earth, Good Will Toward Men."



**Sunday, December 24, 2023**  
**Fourth Sunday of Advent**  
**Scripture Readings**  
**Reading I:** 2 Samuel 7:1-5, 8b-12, 14a, 16—The kingdom of David shall endure for ever before the Lord.  
**Responsorial:** Psalm 89—For ever I

will sing the goodness of the Lord.

**Reading II:** Romans 16:25-27—The mystery kept secret for long ages has now been manifested

**Gospel:** Luke 1:26-38—Behold, you will conceive in your womb and bear a son.

### Star of the Valley Christmas Masses

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

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

### SOV Christmas Program 2023—Another Great Year

Our Christmas Program was successful thanks to the volunteers who planned, set up, and made special deliveries. “Santa’s Elves” enjoyed seeing the big smiles of the children who received candy canes and cookies, and said they were touched by how grateful all the families were.

Thanks to your generous donations to our Neighbor-to-Neighbor program, each family who attended received a \$100 Safeway gift card, and 82 children at Caritas Family Support Center received \$15 Target gift cards.

On the Christmas team were: Leila and Mike O’Callaghan, Terry and Bill Cutler, Gloria Bower, Virginia Fuentes, Clara C. Gallo, Pat Hendricks and Tom Redmond, and Kathy Lollock.

Behind the scenes were Dorothy Murray from St. Mark’s Lutheran Church, Caryn Shapiro Stone from Caritas Family Support Center, Pete Hardy, and Sharon and Anna from our parish office.



**Our Christmas Elves** top left: Mike & Leila O’Callaghan, Bill Cutler, Pat Hendricks & Tom Redmond. Bottom left: Kathy Lollock, Terry Cutler, and Gloria Bower.

### MASS INTENTIONS—DECEMBER 23-31

Sat 23 4:00 †**Jack Luceti** (Linda Luceti)  
 Sun 24 10:00 †**Agnes Apicella** (Mike Apicella)

#### Christmas Vigil

Sun 24 4:00 †**Pat Marabella** (Tom & Janet Ahearn)

#### Christmas Day

Mon 25 10:00 †**Sigrid Pregent** (Jennifer Martinez)

Tue 26 8:00 †**Frances Fagan** (Mimi May)

Wed 27 8:00 ††**Honey & Ed Sosnowski** (Barbara & Fritz Spotleson)

10:30 O.G. **For the People of the Parish**

Thurs 28 8:00 †**Dorothy Beardsley** (Mary Ann Neumann)

Fri 29 8:00 **Intention of the Simone Family** (Tom & Shirley Simone)

Sat 30 4:00 †**Bob Flores** (Lisa Munoz Flores)

Sun 31 10:00 †**Mary Lima** (Livia Brant)

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 Ochlesli, 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.



### The Fifth Candle

The white candle, symbolizing Love, is placed in the middle of the Advent wreath and lit on Christmas Eve. This candle is called the “Christ Candle” and represents the life of

Christ. The color white is for purity—because Christ is our sinless, pure Savior. The flame of this candle reminds us that He is the light of the world and that if we follow Him, we will never walk in darkness, but will have the true light of life.

May the light of Christmas fill your hearts all year long.

	<b>This Weekend — December 23–24</b>		<b>Christmas Vigil &amp; Day</b>		<b>Next Weekend — Dec. 30–31</b>	
	<b>4:00 p.m.</b>	<b>10:00 a.m.</b>	<b>4:00 p.m.</b>	<b>&amp; 10:00 a.m.</b>	<b>4:00 p.m.</b>	<b>10:00 a.m.</b>
<b>EMs:</b>	Eva McGinn	Marge Lamb	Blanche Kaiser	Marcy Fox	Dennis Sabourin	Sr. Joanne
<b>Lector:</b>	Len Marabella	Don Forst	Judy Rodgers	Bowman Olds	Len Marabella	John Knight
<b>Server:</b>	Connie Montague	Mike Hanlon	Dennis Sabourin	Jim Warman	Connie Montague	Drew Hofmann
<b>Greeters:</b>	Gloria Bowers Cathy Hardy	Mary Bell Donna Forst/Cricket	Don Forst Donna & Cricket	Tim Burkhard Paula Scull	Lisa Flores Sherry Rosevear	Esther Dolan Paula Scull
<b>Ushers:</b>	Judy Rodgers	Clarence Younger	Kathleen Beirne	Rick Ragan	Kathleen Beirne	John Knight

## PARISH EVENTS—DECEMBER 23-31

**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

Dec. 3	Dec. 10	Dec. 17	Weekly Goal
\$6,434	\$5,138	\$5,578	<b>\$5,365*</b>

**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.

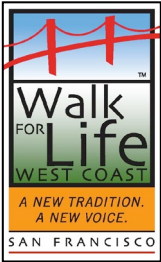


### Flu Season Recommendation

Wearing a face covering is optional at Star of the Valley Church, but since it's flu season, and with RSV and all the new variants of COVID

out there, it is suggested that you consider wearing an N95 (or equivalent) face covering, depending on your risk factors and vulnerability. Please stay safe and healthy.

## 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](http://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.



### 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.

### 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**

A child is born for us. Thanks be to God.

**MEN'S CLUB**

**INSTALLATION DINNER**



**All Men Invited**

### Thursday, January 11

At the Msgr. Fahey Parish Center

**5:00** Social Hour (Bar Open)

**5:45** Annual business meeting

**6:00** Scrumptious prime rib dinner

### Menu

Green Salad, Rolls, Roast Prime Rib, Baked Potato, Vegetable, and Dessert

Dinner Cost: **\$25\***

\*Includes Men's Club Membership

**RSVP** by Tuesday, **January 6**, 2024

**Membership forms are available by the Men's Club box in the Msgr. Fahey Parish Center.**

Membership dues for 2024 are **\$15**. Call Jim Warman at 707-230-2682 or Drew Hofmann at 949-279-0011, for more information. Membership applications are accepted year-round.

## TEA & TALK

For the women of the Star of the Valley Parish

**2:00-4:00 p.m.**  
**Thursday**  
**January 18**

Msgr. Fahey  
Parish Center

Enjoy  
cookies,  
treats,  
tea, & coffee

*Come,  
let us  
have  
some  
tea and  
talk  
about  
happy things*



**Women's Circle**







the very first King size bed

Photo by Anneke Schram, via Corbis

### Welcome to Star of the Valley Catholic Church

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

#### 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

## ONLINE GIVING

**Easy. Convenient. Safe.**

**Need help getting started?  
We can make it easier for you!**

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](http://www.starofthevalley.org)

**SIGN UP TODAY!**

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



**DANIELS**  
CHAPEL OF THE ROSES  
*Funeral Home & Crematory*

1225 Sonoma Ave, Santa Rosa  
707-525-3730  
[danielschapeloftheroses.com](http://danielschapeloftheroses.com)  
FD #209/CR #92

Serving Catholic families since 1875  
Onsite Cremation



### Insured Income for Life



**Frank R. Sites CLU**  
**[www.FrankSites.net](http://www.FrankSites.net)**

6575 Oakmont Drive, Santa Rosa, CA  
office 707-579-4300; cell 707-292-4187  
[Frank.Sites@CeteraAdvisors.com](mailto:Frank.Sites@CeteraAdvisors.com)

CA Insurance Lic. #0428894, Securities offered through Cetera Advisors LLC—Member FINRA/SIPC



**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.

### FOUNTAINGROVE DENTISTRY

**Robert W. Erlach, DDS MAGD**  
Cosmetic & Implant Dentistry

707-525-1500

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Santa Rosa, CA 95403

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