

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.



January 25/26, 2025— Third Sunday in Ordinary Time

“Do Not Be Sad, and Do Not Weep”

Our days are holy when they are lived in the presence of God. So why do we weep? Not because God is not present to us. That’s impossible. We weep because we are not present to God. We lose ourselves in our fears and our wishes that things would be different than they are.

The people of Nazareth sat down to listen. Jesus sat with them, and opened up the book of Isaiah. And what passage did he turn to? A message of consolation, the promise of “glad tidings to the poor... liberty to captives... recovery of sight to the blind” and freedom for the oppressed. Then, when all eyes were fixed on him, he declared, “Today this Scripture passage is fulfilled in your hearing.”

When is that “today”? Is it yet to come? If so, then Jesus was mistaken. Is it already past? If so, then it is not today. “Today” is now, always now.

We Play Our Part... Today

Paul tells us that we are “Christ’s body.” He explains that among the church’s people there are a lot of different gifts, a lot of different jobs.

In God’s work—work like setting captives free and giving sight to the blind—we have our part to play. Our part is not to weep because we haven’t done more. Our part is to recognize and acknowledge what we have done, see what else we might do, and then walk out into today and do it.

God has made this year a “year acceptable to the Lord” and this day a “holy day.” God is present to us and we need to be present to God and to God’s world. We each have our contribution to make. Each of us can make God’s world more peaceful, more joyful, healthier, and freer. This year! Today!



Sunday, January 25-26, 2025

Sunday of the Word of God

Third Sunday in Ordinary Time

Reading I: *Nehemiah 8:2-4a, 5-6, 8-10*—Do not be saddened this day, for rejoicing in the Lord must be your strength.

Responsorial: *Psalm 19*—Your words, Lord, are Spirit and life.

Reading II: *1 Corinthians 12:12-30*—In one Spirit we were all baptized into one body.

Gospel: *Luke 1:1-4; 4:14-21*—The Spirit of the Lord has sent me to proclaim liberty to captives.

Anointing of the Sick

The Sacrament of the Anointing of the Sick is commonly associated with the Last Rites, but this sacrament is not limited to the end of one’s life. Anyone who is seriously ill can receive the Anointing of the Sick as a way of receiving strength to face their suffering with courage and hope, even if God doesn’t heal them physically.

When administering this sacrament, a priest anoints the sick person’s forehead and hands with the Oil of the Sick and blesses them. If this sacrament is part of the Last Rites, Confession and Holy Communion will also be offered (if the dying person is able). —*catholictv.org*



Donut Sunday—February 9

Many thanks to Lisa Munoz Flores for sponsoring Donut Sunday, the weekend after next, in memory of her husband Bob Flores. Please come to the Monsignor Fahey Parish Center for

fellowship and donuts before and after the 10:00 a.m. Sunday Mass on **February 9**, and you may also visit our library while you’re there.

If you would like to sponsor a future Donut Sunday to celebrate, honor, or in memory of someone, please contact Drew Hofmann at 707-539-2706.

What’s in the SOV Library?

All kinds of fabulous books and other media are in the Star of the Valley Fireside Room, aka the library, including books written by some of our very own parishioners—*Magda’s Memoirs* by Magda Shelton; *Once Upon A Time: Tales from Fifty Years of Teaching* by Marcella “Marcy” Fox; and *A Collection of Poems* by M.H. “Andy” Andrew.

MASS INTENTIONS—JANUARY 25—FEBRUARY 2

Sat	25	4:00	† Agnes Apicella (Mike Apicella)
Sun	26	10:00	† Martin Kilgariff (Diane D’Ambrogia)
Mon	27		No Mass—Pray a Rosary
Tue	28	8:00	† Martin Kilgariff (Marcy Fox)
Wed	29	8:00	Intention of Ora Romani (Maryellen Birkland)
		10:30	O.G. For the People of the Parish
Thurs	30	8:00	Intention of Alan Hennessy (Cheryl Hennessy)
Fri	31	8:00	† Mary Hanson (Bob & Dolores Zeni)
Sat	1	4:00	† Martin Kilgariff (Harriet Draper)
Sun	2	10:00	† Carolyn Bettencourt (Larry Bettencourt)

Please keep the sick and those in need in your prayers: Barbara Ahluwalia, Dr. Mike Apicella, Gail Barrett, Jane Borr, Lisa Bragg, Jim Bricker, David Charlton II, Michael Curtis, Lola Danielli, Lisa Munoz Flores, Marcy Fox, Rosemary Haver, Alan & Cheryl Hennessy, Millie McKay, Karen O’Malley, Carol Pascoe, Pricilla Peralejo, Magda Shelton, Bob Spaulding, Lisa Sullivan, Baby Vincent, Marilyn Warman, Adrian Wells, and Dolores Zeni.

Also pray for those who have died.

Pray for Priests in February

The February calendar of Prayers for Priests is on the Divine Mercy counter in church. Please pick one up and pray for them, and for more vocations to the priesthood.

What is the Anointing of the Sick?

One of the seven sacraments of the church, Anointing of the Sick recalls the healing presence and power of Jesus when we touch our mortality most vulnerably. From ancient times oil was valued for its healing and beautifying properties and in preparing bodies for burial.

The ordinary minister of the sacrament is the priest. However, it’s presumed that others share the event: family, friends, caregivers. Elements of the ritual include prayers, scripture, laying hands on the recipient, and anointing of the head and hands. A water sprinkling rite may be included, and affected areas of the sick person’s body may also be anointed. When in danger of death, additional sacraments of Reconciliation and Communion (*viaticum*, or “on the way with you”) are also administered.

—*Alice Camille, from “Questions Catholics Ask”*

The best mirror is a friend’s eyes.

—*Gaelic proverb*

This Weekend — January 25-26

4:00 p.m.

10:00 a.m.

Next Weekend — February 1-2

4:00 p.m.

10:00 a.m.

EMs:	Don Shelhart	Liz Garcia
Lector:	Len Marabella	Mike Hanlon
Server:	John Dolan	Judy Rodgers
Greeters:	Jan Rosshirt Ted Rosshirt	Marietta Mancuso Ron Manning
Ushers:	Kathleen Beirne Tom Beirne	Tim Burkhard Rick Ragan

Micki Sabourin	Barbara Spotleson
Connie Pearson	John Knight
Dennis Sabourin	Fritz Spotleson
Bob Chapman Pat Chapman	Tim Burkhard Paula Scull
Judy Rodgers TBD	Tim Burkhard Clarence Younger



PARISH EVENTS—JANUARY 26—FEBRUARY 2

Quiet Time—No Events

Weekly Collection Report

Jan 5	Jan 12	Jan 19	Weekly Goal
\$8,178	\$4,511	\$3,627	\$5,365

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

Second Collection for the Church in Latin America

This weekend we take up the collection for the Church in Latin America. Many people in Latin America and the Caribbean lack access to church programs and ministries because of a rising secular culture, rugged rural terrain, and a shortage of ministers. Your generosity enables our brothers and sisters in Latin America and the Caribbean to share in the life of the Church and grow closer to Christ.



2024 Contribution Statements

If you would like a Contribution Statement of your donations to Star of the Valley Church in 2024, please contact the office by phone at 707-539-6262, or email sov@sonic.net.

Electronic Giving



If you would like to support our parish through electronic giving, please scan the QR code or go to our website's

Donate Here page:

giving.parishsoft.com/app/giving/starofthevalleychurch.

Crazy World Prayer

Lord,
In this crazy world of ours let my love for others, near and far, be half as crazy as your love for me:
freely forgiving; humble and gracious; unselfish and generous; ungrudging and unconditional.

May my love for you and for others cause at least a few to tell me:

"I think you're out of your mind!"

Amen.



Planned Giving

Regardless of your current income, with foresight and planning, you can continue to give to Star of the Valley Parish far into the future. Gifts

may be in the form of cash, property, investments, or a portion of an estate. In many cases there can be significant tax advantages.

For more information, pick up a *Heritage Friends* pamphlet and a *Planned Giving Statement of Intent*, or go to our parish website. Talk with your attorney, accountant, or financial advisor to help you determine the type of gift that is right for you and how you might include Star of the Valley Parish in your estate planning.

Sunday of the Word of God

Pope Francis' Apostolic Letter, *Motu proprio* "Aperuit illis", published on 30 September, 2019, established that "the Third Sunday in Ordinary Time is to be devoted to the celebration, study and dissemination of the Word of God".

The timing of the document is significant: 30 September is the Feast of Saint Jerome, the man who translated most of the Bible into Latin, and who famously said: "Ignorance of Scripture is ignorance of Christ". 2019 also marks 1600 years since his death.

The title of the document, "Aperuit illis", is equally important. They are its opening words, taken from St Luke's Gospel, where the Evangelist describes how the Risen Jesus appeared to His disciples, and how "He opened their minds to understand the Scriptures".

Recalling the importance given by the Second Vatican Council to rediscovering Sacred Scripture for the life of the Church, Pope Francis says he wrote this Apostolic Letter in response to requests from the faithful around the world to celebrate the Sunday of the Word of God.

In the *Motu proprio* (literally, "of his own initiative"), Pope Francis declares that "the Third Sunday in Ordinary Time is to be devoted to the celebration, study and dissemination of the Word of God". This is more than a temporal coincidence, he explains: the celebration has "ecumenical value, since the Scriptures point out, for those who listen, the path to authentic and firm unity".

The Bible is not meant for a privileged few, continues Pope Francis. It belongs "to those called to hear its message and to recognize themselves in its words". The Bible cannot be monopolized or restricted to select groups either, he writes, because it is "the book of the Lord's people, who, in listening to it, move from dispersion and division towards unity".

"The role of the Holy Spirit in the Scriptures is primordial", writes Pope Francis. "Without the work of the Spirit, there would always be a risk of remaining limited to the written text alone". The Pope continues: "This would open the way to a fundamentalist reading, which needs to be avoided, lest we betray the inspired, dynamic and spiritual character of the sacred text". It is the Holy Spirit who "makes Sacred Scripture the living word of God, experienced and handed down in the faith of His holy people".

Pope Francis invites us never to take God's Word for granted, "but instead to let ourselves be nourished by it, in order to acknowledge and live fully our relationship with Him and with our brothers and sisters".

The Pope concludes his Apostolic Letter by defining what he describes as "the great challenge before us in life: to listen to Sacred Scripture and then to practice mercy". God's Word, writes Pope Francis, "has the power to open our eyes and to enable us to renounce a stifling and barren individualism and instead to embark on a new path of sharing and solidarity".

The Letter closes with a reference to Our Lady, who accompanies us "on the journey of welcoming the Word of God", teaching us the joy of those who listen to that Word—and keep it.

See the insert **Enthroned the Bible in Your Home**.

NEWS OUTSIDE THE PARISH

Free Resource from Knights of Columbus

Men and women, young and old, strengthen and grow in your faith with five short videos produced by the Knights of Columbus called the "Mission of The Family." The videos can be found on the Knights of Columbus website for free! Each video is less than 14 minutes in length.

Visit <https://www.kofc.org/en/campaigns/into-the-breach.html>



Married Couples Retreat

Rediscover the joy and depth of your marriage at "Finding Extraordinary Love in the Ordinary." Inspired by the scriptures, this retreat invites married couples to renew their bond and uncover the beauty of everyday love.

Come and celebrate the sacred journey of marriage in a community that embraces love, faith, and renewal. Join us for this inspiring experience!

Presenters: Fr. Joe Moons, C.P., Fr. Phillip Donlan, C.P., and Olivia and Talib Huff.

The retreat starts at 4:30 p.m. on **February 14th** and concludes with the celebration of Sunday Mass at 11:45 a.m. on February 16, at Christ the King Passionist Retreat Center in Citrus Heights. For More information call 916-725-4720 ext. 301.

Christ the King Weekend Retreat Season

All weekends are open to members of any parish group and individuals. We do not allocate shared rooms, please organize your own partner.

■ Men's Retreats:

February 28–March 2, April 4–6, May 2–4

■ Women's Retreats:

January 31–February 2, February 21–23, March 7–9, March 28–30, April 11–13, April 25–27

Call 916-725-4720 ext. 301 or visit

<https://christthekingretreatcenter.org/>

Workshop: Introduction to Ignatian Discernment

A non-silent retreat for women and men led by Fr. Kevin Leidich, S.J. at the Jesuit Retreat Center of Los Altos, Friday through Sunday, **February 14**, 3:00 pm–February 16, 1:00 pm. Call 650-917-4000 for more information.



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To help us improve communication across the Diocese, we invite you to complete a brief survey. Your feedback will guide us in enhancing our communication strategies to better serve everyone. Simply scan the QR code or visit www.srdiocese.org to complete the brief survey. Thank you for your input!



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

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