

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.



September 20/21, 2025— Twenty-Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Our Responsibility For Others

The Second Vatican Council has called us to envision the Church as the people of God. As a community of believers, we are responsible for our brothers and sisters, their salvation, their journey of faith, their physical well-being. Many of the documents of Vatican II and volumes of work since the mid-1960s give us advice, guidelines, and encouragement to take care of one another: the poor, the elderly, the unborn, the broken, the infirm.

Today's readings show us the agelessness of the issue of social justice. Eight hundred years before Christ was born, Amos warned the wealthy not to cheat the poor. In Paul's first letter to Timothy, he encourages all prayers to be for all people; and finally, the Gospel urges the wise use of money.

Lifting Up the Poor

Today's scriptures leave no doubt that lifting up the lowliest in society is essential to serving God, our one and only master. In St. Paul's words, God "wills everyone to be saved"—both spiritually and physically. But how are we to assist God in lifting up the poor? Are we to make more time to hold our children in our arms, or to move closer to our aging parents? Should we contribute more money or goods to those less fortunate than we are? Should we defend a co-worker who is being ridiculed, invest in socially responsible stocks, or actively seek legislation to protect the vulnerable in our society?

Each of us must daily discover how to serve God or risk dire consequences. It is in our own true self-interest to lift up the poor in this life, for when we die it is the lowly ones who will be waiting in paradise to lift us up and welcome us into our "eternal dwellings."



Sunday, September 20/21, 2025
Twenty-Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time
Reading I: Amos 8:4-7—God cannot forget the sin of those who cheat the poor.
Responsorial: Psalm 113—Praise the

Lord who lifts up the poor.
Reading II: 1 Timothy 2:1-8—Pray for everyone, not just your own.
Gospel: Luke 16:1-13—You cannot be the servant of God and the servant of money.

Star of the Valley’s 2025 Woman of the Year



Awarded to Barbara Gasparini
 We are proud to announce that Barbara Gasparini has been chosen as Star of the Valley’s Woman of the Year. Barbara has been an active parishioner and wonderful example of volunteering for Star of the Valley Parish for ten years. She is giving of her time, talent and her love of the church.

Barbara is a Eucharistic Minister for the homebound. She is a member of the Finance Council and the secretary of the Pastoral Council and Women’s Circle. She is the head Counter for weekend and holiday donations, recording and depositing them in the bank weekly. She held a leadership position in the successful parish seminar on Catholic Social teachings, and supports parish fundraisers by sharing her creativity in making and donating her beautiful crafts. Perhaps Barbara’s greatest contribution to our parish comes from her outstanding communication and organizational skills. Her announcements in our parish bulletin, minutes from all the meetings she attends, newspaper articles, etc. reflect a clear writing style and professionalism.

Barbara often works behind the scenes in a quiet unassuming manner. She is a kind and caring woman, who beautifully exemplifies our parish mission, to reflect and communicate the image of Christ.

Congratulations, Barbara, and thank you!

Women of the Year Celebration

The Santa Rosa Diocesan Council of Catholic Women invites you to the Annual Women of the Year Celebration starting with a continental breakfast at 9:30 a.m. on

MASS INTENTIONS—SEPTEMBER 20-28

Sat	20	4:00	†Pat Hart
Sun	21	10:00	†Don Peters (Liza Peters)
Mon	22		No Mass—Pray a Rosary
Tue	23	8:00	Intention of Susan Warner (Maryellen Birkland)
Wed	24	8:00	†Fr. Gordon Kalil
		10:30	O.G. For the People of the Parish
Thurs	25	8:00	†Pat Marabella (Len Marabella)
Fri	26	8:00	Intention of Virginia Randall (Maryellen Birkland)
Sat	27	4:00	†Joseph McAllister
Sun	28	10:00	†Martin Kilgariff (Carole Kilgariff)

Please keep the sick and those in need in your prayers: Dr. Mike Apicella, Gail Barrett, David Charlton II, Robert Curtis, Lola Danielli, Lisa Munoz Flores, Marcy Fox, Rosemary Haver, Alan & Cheryl Hennessy, Millie McKay, Karen O’Malley, Lauri Paolinetti, Carol Pascoe, David Reuser, Ben Rodgers, Sr., Magda Shelton, Bob Spaulding, Baby Vincent, Marilyn Warman, and Dolores Zeni. Also pray for those who have died: Fr. Gordon Kalil and Stan Lindsay.

(Women of the Year Celebration continued.)

Saturday, **October 11** at St. Elizabeth Seton Church, 4595 Snyder Lane in Rohnert Park, where Barbara Gasparini, our parish’s 2025 Woman of the Year, will be honored! The cost is \$35 per person, and includes a Rosary, Mass, awards presentations, luncheon, 50/50 cash drawing, and auction. All payments (nonrefundable) and reservations need to be received in advance.

If you missed the September 19 deadline for making reservations to attend this year’s Women of the Year Celebration, you may still attend by sending a reservation form and payment to SRDCCW, c/o Gloria Krzyzanowski, 428 Redrock Way, Petaluma, CA 94954, to be received by Wednesday, **September 24, 2025.**

Make checks payable to SRDCCW, and contact the Star of the Valley Parish Office for a reservation form.

Two Parishioners Honored

At the City of Santa Rosa’s 43rd Annual Merit Awards Ceremony on September 15, Star of the Valley parishioners, Blanche Kaiser and Don Shelhart, were honored in the Serving Others category, and recognized for their years of volunteer work in Catholic Charities’ Caring Rides & Caring Voices programs. Congratulations!

This Weekend — September 20–21
4:00 p.m. 10:00 a.m.

EMs:	Linda Luceti	Kar Hofmann
Lector:	Gail Passalacqua	Karen Schraga
Server:	Judy Rodgers	Drew Hofmann
Greeters:	Kathy McKeon Sherry Rosevear	Sue Cummings Tim Cummings
Ushers:	Kathleen Beirne Tom Beirne	John McCarthy Clarence Younger

Next Weekend — September 27–28
4:00 p.m. 10:00 a.m.

Dennis Sabourin	Liz Garcia
Connie Pearson	Mike Hanlon
Micki Sabourin	Jim Warman
Marietta Mancuso Kathy McKeon	Tim Burkhard Ron Manning
Bev Shelhart Michael Sotak	John Knight Clarence Younger



PARISH EVENTS—SEPTEMBER 21–27

Tuesday, September 23, 11:00—Pastoral Council Meeting—Bello Room

Weekly Collection Report

Aug 31	Sept 7	Sept 14	Weekly Goal
\$7,218*	\$4,640	\$5,824	\$5,365

Note: The amounts consist of First collections, and Parish Repair & Maintenance gifts received during the weekend and preceding week. *Includes a special \$4,000 donation from a parishioner for Parish Repairs & Maintenance which paid for the recent tree removal in the circle drive island at the church.

Second Collections

This weekend's second collection will be for the **Archdiocese for Military Services**. Next weekend's second collection will be for **Neighbor-to-Neighbor**.

Triennial National Collection—

For the Archdiocese for the Military Services, USA

The mission of this Archdiocese (AMS) is to ensure that service members in all six branches of the U.S. Armed Forces, veterans, and their families be able to seek sacramental preparation for baptism, confirmation, first Communion, penance, and marriage; to benefit from consultation with a priest, and to receive the sacrament of penance as they defend our rights of freedom, speech, and face constant transition and uncertainty.

The AMS does not receive financial assistance from the government or the U.S. Armed Forces, and without parishes, it cannot receive funds from weekly collections. Its mission is solely supported by the generosity of donors such as you.

This weekend, the second collection will be for the **Archdiocese for the Military Services**, who are "Serving those who serve."

What is Neighbor-to-Neighbor?

Our Neighbor-to-Neighbor program supports individuals and families needing food from Nick's Pantry in the Msgr. Fahey Parish Center throughout the year. Your donations provide funds to stock Nick's Pantry.

Ministry of Acolyte

What's the difference between an Altar Server and an Instituted Acolyte?

Altar servers are volunteers who assist at Mass by handling the cruets of water and wine, candles, and other simple tasks. An instituted acolyte, sometimes called a subdeacon, is formally installed by the bishop and takes on greater responsibilities, such as preparing the altar, handling sacred vessels, and serving as an official Extraordinary Minister of Holy Communion.

In 1972, in his *Motu Proprio*, *Ministeria Quaedam*, St. Paul VI abolished the minor orders and the major order of the Subdiaconate. The sacred functions of the Subdiaconate were assigned to the Instituted Ministries of Acolyte (and Lector). It is the local bishop's discretion whether to have these formal Ministries as standalone and active offices in his diocese and available to lay

people not discerning Holy Orders. Still, it is rare outside those pursuing ordination to the diaconate or priesthood in the U.S. The Diocese of Santa Rosa, California is one of the few dioceses in the Country that has Instituted Acolytes as a standalone lay ministry (those not pursuing Holy Orders).

In the Ministry of Acolyte, individuals are instituted (not ordained) by a bishop. However, an Acolyte is part of the laity whose ministry comes from the universal priesthood received in the anointing with sacred Chrism in baptism when the celebrant prays "He now anoints you with the Chrism of salvation, so that you may remain as a member of Christ, Priest, Prophet and King, unto eternal life." Therefore, Instituted Acolytes typically vest in an alb representing a baptismal garment.

During The Rite of Institution of Acolytes, each candidate goes to the bishop, who gives him a sacred vessel with the bread or wine to be consecrated, saying: "Take this vessel of bread (wine) for the celebration of the Eucharist. Make your life worthy of your service at the table of the Lord and of his Church." The acolyte answers, "Amen!"

Even though they are not ordained in Holy Orders, Acolytes take precedence over other lay ministers in liturgical celebrations by their institution.

In the absence of an Installed Acolyte some of his duties can be performed by an Altar Server(s) and an Extraordinary Minister of Holy Communion.

There are, however, a few things that are distinct to the Ministry of Acolyte.

- The Bishop of the Diocese installs the Acolyte and accepts a life-long ministry. Non-installed servers, such as a Reader, Altar Server, or EMHC, have a typical commission to serve a few years and may stop at any time. On the other hand, the Installed Acolyte accepts a permanent commitment to the Ministry.
- An Installed Acolyte may prepare the altar for the Liturgy of the Eucharist, if there is no Deacon, by laying out the sacred vessels, and may also purify the sacred vessels after Communion or Mass.
- An Acolyte is the official Extraordinary Minister of Holy Communion. If the Clergy requires assistance giving out Holy Communion, an Acolyte should assist before other non-installed Extraordinary Ministers are asked.
- An Acolyte may expose and repose the Blessed Sacrament in the monstrance for Adoration (but may not give Benediction)
- They may also distribute Holy Communion to the sick and homebound.
- Instituted Acolytes may also perform certain blessings from the Book of Blessings using the prescribed forms for non-clergy.

An Instituted Acolyte should be willing to serve his parish regularly since his installation is a lifelong commitment. Acolytes should strive to learn all altar server roles to lead teams, train other altar servers, and encourage vocations in young altar servers. A strong prayer life with eucharistic adoration and frequent participation in Holy Mass is the foundation for the spirituality of the Instituted Acolyte. The Ministry of Acolyte is centered around service to the Church and the people.

NEWS OUTSIDE THE PARISH



The fall 40 Days for Life campaign begins in less than one week, **September 24–November 2**. Your prayers are more crucial than ever. The abortion industry is down... but it's not out. It's time to finish the job. The 40 days for life vigil location in Santa Rosa is 1140 Sonoma Ave., in front of Planned Parenthood. Sign up for vigil hours at www.40daysforlife.com/en/santarosa. Contact Judy at 707-477-8937 or SantaRosa40daysforlife@gmail.com.



Armed with the Rosary: A Weapon for Spiritual Warfare

Join us for an evening of prayer with Fr. Moses Brown, including a talk, the Rosary, and Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament. Open to all families, women, and children, with a special call for men to rise up in prayer following the example of St. Joseph. Thursday, **September 25**, 6:30 p.m. at the Cathedral of St. Eugene.



Marian Theological Conference

You are invited to a powerful weekend of faith, formation and fellowship hosted by the Newman Center Catholic Club of Sonoma State University, **September 26-27**, 2025, at Sonoma State

University, 1801 E. Cotati Avenue, Rohnert Park.

This conference will explore the Church's teachings on the Blessed Virgin Mary, provide meals, and opportunities for prayer, confession, Eucharistic Adoration, and Mass with Bishop Vasa. Register early for \$60, as capacity is limited. If you can't attend but want to support the students, please sponsor!

Mail your check to SSU Newman Center, 1798 E Cotati Avenue, Penngrove, CA 94951. Contact us at NewmanCenterMarianChapel@gmail.com, or call 707-566-3317. See the flyer on the bulletin board.

Together In Holiness Couples Day Retreat

Married and engaged couples are invited to the 9th annual Together in Holiness Conference in the Archdiocese of San Francisco, Saturday, **September 27**, 2025, 10:45 a.m.–6:00 p.m. at Immaculate Heart Church, 1040 Alameda de las Pulgas, Belmont, CA. Contact Ed Hopfner at 415-614-5547 or HopfnerE@sfarch.org. To Register, [Click Here](#) or visit <https://forlifeandfamily.org/events/th25-sfca/>.

For more information, contact Jessie Sonnen at 208-702-2167 or jessie@forlifeandfamily.org.

Respect Life Conference

Saturday, **September 27**, 2025, at Star of the Sea Parish, San Francisco. Contact Valerie Schmalz at lifeanddignity@sfarch.org, or call 415-614-5571.



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