

# 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.



## **August 16/17, 2025— Twentieth Sunday in Ordinary Time**

### **Family Valued?**

Listening to Jesus describe the divided households that would result from following him is somewhat startling in our society. And yet we know that in many ways religion still divides families, when one spouse is observant and another is not, when children choose or reject the beliefs of their parents, when lifestyles of a loved one do not conform to Church teachings, when a marriage or remarriage occurs outside of the sanctuary, when a non-believing yet baptized child merely goes through the religious motions to satisfy a grandparent... the list goes on. Centuries ago, Jesus knew that deeply held and honestly followed religious convictions could often be a source of division, in spite of the fact that what he and his Father in heaven wanted most deeply was unity.

### **Typical Teenager**

In the days when Luke's Gospel was written, Christianity was in its adolescence. In its infancy it was a branch or sect of Judaism. Ongoing dissension within the Jewish faith about the nature of Jesus and his messianic role created a rift. Social and political situations aggravated by the destruction of the Jerusalem temple deepened it. Luke was preaching and writing to many people who, day by day, were living through the kinds of household divisions that Jesus was describing. Anyone who has lived through a child's teenage years knows that "son against father, daughter against mother" is a common situation. It was no different for Christianity as it wrested itself away from its parent religion. The followers of Christ in Luke's day were learning that sometimes a household divided was the price paid for keeping their eyes "fixed on Jesus, the leader and perfecter of faith."



**Sunday, August 16/17, 2025**

**20th Sunday in Ordinary Time**

**Reading I:** *Jeremiah 38:4-6, 8-10*—

Because he demoralized the people,  
Jeremiah is condemned to death.

**Responsorial:** *Psalm 40*—Lord, come to

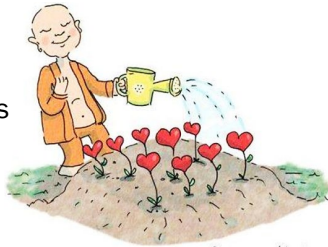
my aid!

**Reading II:** *Hebrews 12:1-4*—We are surrounded by a  
cloud of witnesses, who can teach us how to struggle  
for glory.

**Gospel:** *Luke 12:49-53*—Jesus says: I have come to  
divide.

### Gardening

Kind hearts are the garden,  
Kind thoughts are the root,  
Kind words are the blossoms  
Kind deeds are the fruit.  
Take care of your garden  
And keep out the weeds,  
Fill it with sunshine,  
Kind words, and kind deeds.

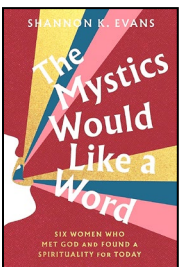


—Anonymous

### Woman of the Year

Please submit your completed nomination form by  
Friday, **August 29th** by placing it in the weekend's  
collection basket, dropping it off at, or mailing to the  
parish office at 495 White Oak Drive, Santa Rosa, CA  
95409. Nomination forms may be found at the back of  
church or in the Msgr. Fahey Parish Center.

Star of the Valley's past Women of the Year:  
2024 Micki Sabourin; 2023 Judy Rodgers; 2019 Jackie  
Kenilvort; 2018 Cristina Wadsworth; 2017 Blanche  
Kaiser; 2015 Ruth Fulger & Roberta McElroy; 2013  
Sherry Busterna; 2012 Mary Jo Henrikson; and 2011  
Harriet Draper.



### Spiritual Book Club

Men and women are invited to join in a  
reflection and meditation using the  
book *The Mystics Would Like a Word:  
Six Women Who Met God and Found A  
Spirituality for Today* by Shannon K.  
Evans. We will discuss Chapters 11 &  
12 on Wednesday, **August 20**, 10:00–  
11:00 a.m. in the Quiet Room at the

church. This is the last meeting with this book.

### MASS INTENTIONS—AUGUST 16-24

Sat	16	4:00	† <b>Bob Waska</b> (Frances Waska)
Sun	17	10:00	†† <b>Roberta &amp; Walter McElroy</b> (Theresa Fairley McElroy)
Mon	18		No Mass—Pray a Rosary
Tue	19	8:00	† <b>All Souls</b> (P. Vu)
Wed	20	8:00	† <b>Marianne Decroes-Patterson</b>
		10:30	O.G. <b>For the People of the Parish</b>
Thurs	21	8:00	† <b>Jim Merriman</b> (Bonnie & Mike Dines)
Fri	22	8:00	† <b>Yvonne Hanlon</b> (Janis Blanchette)
Sat	23	4:00	† <b>Tom Luceti</b> (Linda Luceti)
Sun	24	10:00	† <b>Bill Schuster</b> (Cathy & Pete Hardy)

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, Tim Cummings, Michael Curtis, Lola Danielli,  
Ki Daniels, Elizabeth Dmitriew, Bob Esposito, Lisa Munoz  
Flores, Marcy Fox, Ted Gold, Randy Hakala, Rosemary  
Haver, Alan & Cheryl Hennessy, Tina Howard, Lee Kern,  
Millie McKay, Karen O'Malley, Lauri Paolinetti, Carol  
Pascoe, David Reuser, Magda Shelton, Bob Spaulding,  
Lisa Sullivan, Baby Vincent, Marilyn Warman, Adrian  
Wells, and Dolores Zeni. Also pray for those who have  
died: Marianne Decroes-Patterson.

### NEWS OUTSIDE THE PARISH

#### Fall Fiesta at Resurrection Church

Join the fun and enjoy the music and food on Saturday,  
**September 6**, 2025 at 303 Stony Point Road in Santa  
Rosa. Details to follow.

#### 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.

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, Pettingrove, CA 94951. Contact us at  
[NewmanCenterMarianChapel@gmail.com](mailto:NewmanCenterMarianChapel@gmail.com). See the flyer  
on the bulletin board.

#### This Weekend — August 16–17

**4:00 p.m.**

**10:00 a.m.**

<b>EMs:</b>	Micki Sabourin	Liz Garcia
<b>Lector:</b>	Judy Rodgers	John Knight
<b>Server:</b>	Dennis Sabourin	Jim Warman
<b>Greeters:</b>	Sherry Rosevear	Tim Burkhard Mardie Hart
<b>Ushers:</b>	Kathleen Beirne Tom Beirne	Tim Burkhard Clarence Younger



#### Next Weekend — August 23–24

**4:00 p.m.**

**10:00 a.m.**

Linda Luceti	Kar Hofmann
Len Marabella	Karen Schraga
Connie Montague	Drew Hofmann
Diane D'Ambrogia	Cathy Hardy Pete Hardy
Ed Montague	John Knight
Judy Rodgers	Clarence Younger

## PARISH EVENTS—AUGUST 16–24

**Wednesday, August 20**, 10:00 Spiritual Book Club—  
Church Quiet Room

**Thursday, August 21**—1:30 Finance Council Meeting—  
Zoom

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### Weekly Collection Report

July 27	Aug 3	Aug 10	Weekly Goal
\$3,889	\$4,880	\$6,076	\$5,365

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

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### Invest In Your Parish and Be A Gift

There are many opportunities to share your time and talents at Star of the Valley. You are needed to help keep our parish a vibrant faith community. Without all of our wonderful volunteers, we would cease to exist, so it is vital, and our responsibility to contribute, not only financially, but our skills as well.

Please see the list of Parish Committees & Ministries that is printed on the back of each monthly calendar and posted on the bulletin boards. If you can lend a hand in a certain ministry, please call the person on the list and get more information. They will be happy to welcome you and train you if needed.

You may also call the parish office for more information or to volunteer. Most of the opportunities are infrequent, only require small commitments of time, and scheduling is based on your availability.

Join the fun of participating, perhaps in a new way; enhance your spiritual life by allowing God to work through you; be a gift to your parish and become closer to your family of faith.



### What Does the Church Say About Cremation?

Cremation is now permitted by the Church, but there are important guidelines for Catholics to follow when choosing this option. Our faith calls us to honor the sacredness of the body even in death—by treating cremated remains with the same dignity as a full body burial.

### Catholics & Cremation

By: Deacon Joe Oberting and Angela ScheiHING  
July 29, 2025

Cremation can be a confusing issue for Catholics. In 1963, the Church began to allow Catholics the choice of cremation of the deceased body. Catholics believe that we are created in the image and likeness of God, that all God's creation is sacred, and that we will again be reunited with our bodies at the Second Coming.

As Catholics, we believe that during baptism our body was baptized into the Lord and His promise of eternal life. Recognizing that the goal of our lives is to spend eternal life with God, we prepare for that with prayer, reception of the sacraments, and caring for those around us. Preparation for death is an essential part of

life for a Christian.

In making decisions for the preparation for death, the choice for cremation has become more common. While the Church continues to prefer and encourage the faithful to bury or entomb the bodies of their departed love ones, if cremation is chosen, the Church wishes to support the faithful in honoring the life and memory of the departed and will allow the cremated remains to be buried or entombed.

Christians respect and honor the bodies of the dead and the places they rest. The scattering of cremated remains or keeping them at home, or dividing them among various family members is not the reverent disposition the Church believes is appropriate. The Church considers these actions superstitious. The cremated remains of the body should be treated with the same respect as the whole body would be treated (as in a casket). Scattering of cremated remains does not allow families to visit the final resting place of their loved ones. Generations of families still return to the site of the grave, crypt or niche of a loved one and share memories and prayers in our legacy of faith. At the graveside, the minister conducts a blessing rite for the actual place of burial.

Catholic Cemeteries, in the Diocese of Santa Rosa, have urn gardens for in-ground burial, niches for inurnment and under certain conditions, cremated remains may be placed in a grave or crypt with a loved one already interred at the cemetery. This allows for the visitation, memorialization and prayers.

If you or someone you may know are considering scattering their loved one's ashes due to finances, please consider placement in our Peace Crypt at Calvary Catholic Cemetery in Santa Rosa. We offer **free entombment of cremated remains**, however, there are some fees due (recordation and cemetery care). The Cemetery still requires a current California Burial Permit from the family in order to receive the urn.

After the Tubbs Fire (2017) and Glass Fire (2019), our office was contacted numerous times from loved ones not only grieving the loss of their home but the realization that their loved one's urn that was sitting on a mantel or in a closet, had perished as well. Many shared they felt profound guilt having not buried their loved ones at the cemetery and wished to have a consecrated place of memorialization to honor their loved ones.

Please contact Calvary Catholic Cemetery at the main office in Santa Rosa at 707-546-6290. Our staff can share the multiple options and payment plans for you and your loved ones. Main office hours are Monday–Friday, 9 a.m. –3 p.m., appointments are encouraged.

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### NEWS OUTSIDE THE PARISH

#### Caregiving: Film & Discussion

Join us for a free screening of the new film Caregiving, and meet two inspiring local caregivers from Sonoma County's Fijian community. **August 21**, 5:30 p.m. at First United Methodist Church, 1551 Montgomery Drive, Santa Rosa. All ages welcome! To register visit <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/caregiving-film-and-discussion-tickets>.



## NEWS OUTSIDE THE PARISH



### Sustainable Food Gardening Webinar

UC Master Gardener Program of Sonoma County presents:  
*Grow More, Buy Less:  
Fabulous Fall/Winter*

*Food Gardening*, a free Zoom webinar by Master Food Gardening Specialists, Thursday, **August 21, 2025**, 5:30-6:30 p.m. To register, email [menright@ucanr.edu](mailto:menright@ucanr.edu). See flyer on the bulletin board.

### Trivia Night at Shady Oak

You're invited to join Redwood Empire Food Bank friends for Tap Out Hunger Trivia Night at Shady Oak Barrel House in Santa Rosa on Wednesday, **August 27**.

- 📍 Shady Oak Barrel House is located at 420 1st Street, Santa Rosa, CA 95401.
- 💰 Tickets are \$15 per person—100% of proceeds benefit the Redwood Empire Food Bank. Each ticket includes entry to both trivia games and one raffle ticket. Teams can have up to 6 players. All ages welcome!
- 🕒 Doors swing open at 5:30 p.m. The first round of trivia begins at 6:00 p.m., with the second game starting at 7:00 p.m. Between the two games, we'll hold drawings for a chance to win Shady Oak and Redwood Empire Food Bank swag!

🍷 Come hungry and thirsty! Shady Oak is generously donating a portion of trivia participants' entire tab. MoMo Man food truck will be there serving yummy Indian spice, Nepalese soul & Asian street food.

🎁 Ways to get extra raffle tickets: Bring a bag of food to donate. August is Protein Power Up—bring canned protein for extra kindness points!

Let's come together, test our knowledge, and make a positive impact on our community. To get tickets, visit <https://refb.givevirtuous.org/> or click **GET TICKETS**

### Grief Support at Holy Spirit Church

Predictability and routine can be illusive when a loved one has died. Making sense of our new reality can be challenging. Yet, God in His mercy has blessed Holy Spirit Church with a group of grieving men and women who come together monthly for support. Our time together is casual, relaxed and welcoming. We focus on a short Scripture, followed by a reflection giving us focus and comfort around the grieving process. Christian fellowship and optional group sharing is also included. If you are in need of comfort, support and community around the loss of a loved one, you are most welcome to join us on Wednesday, **September 3, 2025**, from 2:00-3:30 p.m. at Holy Spirit Catholic Church Hall, 1244 St. Francis Road, Santa Rosa. For further information, call Deanna 909-532-0102 or Mary 707-495-3095.



## TWEETEN ELDERCARE ADVISORS

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*We help you find the best care solution at no cost to you.*



[Joseph@TweetenEldercare.com](mailto:Joseph@TweetenEldercare.com)  
707.570.2589 (w)  
619.251.5905 (c)

**Joseph Hansen**  
Eldercare Advisor



1225 Sonoma Ave, Santa Rosa  
707-525-3730  
[danielschapeloftheroses.com](http://danielschapeloftheroses.com)  
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Serving Catholic families since 1875  
Onsite Cremation



**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.



### Mary McCammon

Licensed Marriage & Family Therapist

707-545-8264  
659 Cherry Street Suite 101, Santa Rosa  
[mary@marymccammonlmtf.com](mailto:mary@marymccammonlmtf.com)  
website: [marymccammonlmtf.com](http://marymccammonlmtf.com)

*Supporting those experiencing grief, loss & change. Lic. 124805*

## FOUNTAINGROVE DENTISTRY

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