

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 17/18, 2026—
Second Sunday in Ordinary Time**

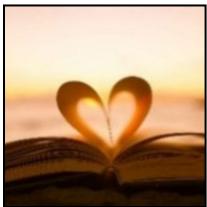
Lamb of God

A lamb was a familiar image for Jewish people in Jesus' day. It was part of the Jewish tradition that lambs be slaughtered for sacrifice, as a way for the people to return to God after they had separated themselves through sinfulness. Jesus reminded his disciples of this sacrifice at the Last Supper. His actions at that meal would forever bind his followers to the sacrifice he made for each of us. Jesus had become the new Passover Lamb.

John the Baptizer recognized Jesus as this sacrifice. Upon his approach, John proclaimed Jesus the "Lamb of God." Having already seen the spirit come down on Jesus, John knew that was the sign by which God had promised to indicate the chosen One. While it would remain unclear exactly what it meant to be the Lamb of God until after the Passion and Resurrection, John knew that this was the most fitting title for the one who approached him on that day at the Jordan River.

In Service of the Lamb

We will grow only in service to one another. We may each be feeling at times that we work alone, but in reality, as Paul explained to the Corinthians, we are united. We are united in God by the power of the Holy Spirit, through Jesus Christ, the Son of God. In our humanity, we may not be able to give as completely as Jesus did, but we strive nevertheless to carry one another in humble service. Through our obedience to God's will, we proclaim to the world Jesus' message of love, for even the least, by our words and actions as we lift up our brothers and sisters. As we are strengthened by the Gospel message and examples of others, the service that we offer to others is truly that of Jesus himself, the Lamb of God.



Sunday, January 17/18, 2026
Second Sunday in Ordinary Time
Reading I: *Isaiah 49:3, 5-6*—From my mother's womb, I am God's servant.
Responsorial: *Psalm 40*—Here am I, Lord; I come to do your will.
Reading II: *1 Corinthians 1:1-3*—

Greetings to you, a holy people in Christ.

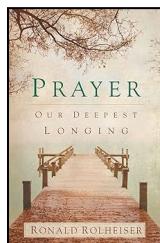
Gospel: *John 1:29-34*—Behold, the Lamb of God!

Three Missions

Today we begin with one of the “servant songs” from the book of Isaiah, a song prophetic of Jesus’ ministry of service. Isaiah’s mission is not only to bring back the children of Jacob to gather in Israel; it is also to be “a light to the nations.” Jesus Christ, as servant, will be the fulfillment of the ancient prophecy and the basis of the new.

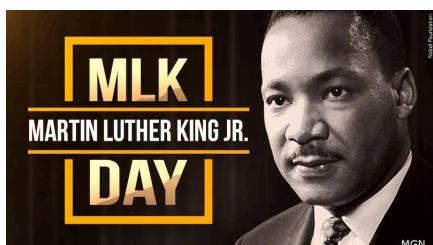
This Sunday we begin a series of readings from Paul’s letter to the Corinthians. Here Paul is identified by his mission: he is an apostle of Jesus Christ. The church at Corinth to whom he addresses this letter is also identified: it is part of the universal church of God. The Corinthians are called to holiness, as are all Christians.

Though the feast of the Baptism of the Lord was celebrated last Sunday, today’s Gospel also alludes to the importance of that event. The reading emphasizes that Jesus “outranks” John: his baptism in the Spirit will eradicate sin. Jesus accepts John’s baptism, even though it is he himself who is the Lamb of God



Spiritual Book Club

Men and women are invited to join in a reflection and meditation using the book *Prayer: Our Deepest Longing* by Ronald Rolheiser. Our discussion will be on Chapter 4, Wednesday, **January 21**, 10:00–11:00 a.m. in the Quiet Room at the church.



Monday, January 19
 The Parish Office will be closed on Monday, **January 19**, in honor of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Day.

MASS INTENTIONS—JANUARY 17–25

Sat	17	4:00	† Maria Marotto (Diane D’Ambrogio)
Sun	18	10:00	† Greg Imm (Tim & Barbara Birkhard)
Mon	19		No Mass—Pray a Rosary
Tue	20	8:00	Intention of Ian M. McCarthy (Maria McCarthy)
Wed	21	8:00	† Msgr. John Brenkle
		10:30	O.G.—For the People of the Parish
Thur	22	8:00	† Fr. Jose Gonzalez
Fri	23	8:00	† John Brosnan III
Sat	24	4:00	Intention of Robert Waska & †Bob Waska (Frances Waska)
Sun	25	10:00	† Maria Marotto (Bill & Terry Cutler)

Please keep the sick and those in need in your prayers: Dr. Mike Apicella, Jeremy Ayles, Gail Barrett, Irene Beagle, Fran Benton, Lisa Bragg, Jim Bricker, David Charlton II, Shirley Collins, Lola Danielli, Bob Esposito, Lisa Munoz Flores, Marcy Fox, Rosemary Haver, Alan & Cheryl Hennessy, Dr. Leonard Klay, Marietta Mancuso, Gloria Márquez, Millie McKay, Richard Muzio, Karen O’Malley, Carol Pascoe, David Reuser, Bob Spaulding, Baby Vincent, Marilyn Warman, and Dolores Zeni.

Also pray for those who have died: Eileen Poggi.

NEWS OUTSIDE THE PARISH

An Evening with the Sisters

Join an elegant evening with the Marian Sisters of Santa Rosa on Saturday, **February 7, 2026** at Roche Winery, 22097A Bonness Road, Sonoma, CA 95476.

The night’s agenda: Hors d’oeuvres at 4:00 p.m.; Silent auction; 5:00 p.m. Plated dinner; 6:00 p.m. a musical medley performance by the Sisters offering a beautiful glimpse into their life of prayer, service, and joyful witness; Live auction and Fund-A-Need; 7:00 p.m. Dessert and coffee.

Individual Tickets: \$250, Table for 8: \$1,600

Register online at <https://www.mariansisters.com/store/p10/An-Evening-with-the-Sisters.html>

Thank you for your prayers and support of the Sisters and their apostolates!



Memorial of St. Agnes, Virgin & Martyr

As a young girl of 13 or 14, Agnes refused all suitors because she had betrothed herself to Christ. As punishment, she was taken to a brothel.

You can help end today’s childhood sex trafficking at the [Save the Children](#) and [United Nations](#) websites.

This Weekend — January 17-18

4:00 p.m. **10:00 a.m.**

EM: Sr. Joanne Abrams Kar Hofmann

Lector: Bob Zeni Bowman Olds

Server: Mary Kay Riccioni Drew Hofmann

Greeters: Marie Crimaldi Sue Cummings
Kathy McKeon Tim Cummings

Ushers: Bev Shelhart Steve Hipson
Michael Sotak Clarence Younger

Next Weekend — January 24-25

4:00 p.m. **10:00 a.m.**

Blanche Kaiser Liz Garcia

Len Marabella Mike Hanlon

Judy Rodgers John Dolan

TBD Tim Burkhard
Kathy McKeon Ron Manning

Kathleen Beirne Rick Ragan
Tom Beirne Clarence Younger

BEHOLD THE LAMB OF GOD



PARISH EVENTS—JANUARY 18-24

Monday, **January 19**, Parish Office Closed—**Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Holiday**
Tuesday, **January 20**, 11:00, Pastoral Council Meeting—Bello Room in the Msgr. Fahey Parish Center
Wednesday, **January 21**, 10:00, Spiritual Book Club—Quiet Room in the church
Thursday, **January 22**, 1:30, Finance Council Mtg.—Zoom

Weekly Collection Report

Dec 28	Jan 4	Jan 11	Weekly Goal
\$15,476*	\$6,899	\$5,950	\$5,365

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

Second Collection

Next weekend, the second collection will be for the **Church in Latin America**. Many in Latin America and the Caribbean find that a rising secular culture, difficult rural terrain, and a shortage of ministers all present obstacles to practicing the faith. Your support to the collection provides lay leadership training, catechesis, priestly and religious formation, and other programs to share our Catholic faith with those who long to hear the Good News of Christ. To learn more about how your gifts make a difference, visit usccb.org/latin-america.



Electronic Giving

If you would like to support our parish through online giving, please scan this QR code or go to our website's **Donate Here** page: giving.parishsoft.com/app/giving/starofthevalleychurch. If you have questions or need help, please call Anna in the parish office M, T, Th, F at 707-539-6262.

**2025 EOY
STATEMENTS
NOW AVAILABLE**

2025 Contribution Statements

If you would like a Contribution Statement of your 2025 donations to Star of the Valley Church, please contact the office by phone at 707-539-6262, or email sov@sonic.net.

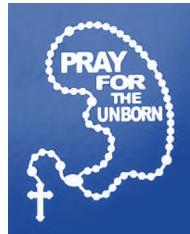


Planned Giving

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.

Punny Our mountains aren't just funny, they're hill areas.



Day of Prayer for the Legal Protection of Unborn Children

The General Instruction of the Roman Missal (GIRM), no. 373, designates **January 22** as a particular day of prayer and penance, called the “Day of Prayer for the Legal Protection of Unborn Children”. *In all the Dioceses of the United States of America, January 22 (or January 23, when January 22 falls on a Sunday) shall be observed as a particular day of prayer for the full restoration of the legal guarantee of the right to life and of penance for violations to the dignity of the human person committed through acts of abortion.*

How to Participate

Not sure how to observe this day of prayer and penance? Pick from the ideas below or offer some other prayer or sacrifice that you feel called to do.

- Go to Mass
- Abstain from meat
- Pray the Divine Mercy Chaplet (See back counter in church)
- Fast
- Pray a decade of the Rosary
- Give up TV and movies for the day
- Offer A Prayer for Life to Jesus in the Blessed Sacrament (See below)
- Sacrifice some of your free time to do a small act of service for someone else

A Prayer

for Life to Jesus in the Blessed Sacrament

O Jesus, you came that we might have *life*—and have it in abundance. Together with the Father and the Holy Spirit, you form us in our mothers' wombs and call us to love you for all eternity.

As your most precious gift of human life is attacked, draw us ever closer to your Real Presence in the Eucharist. Dispel the darkness of the culture of death, for you are the light that shines in the darkness, and the darkness cannot overcome it.

By the power of your Eucharistic Presence, help us to defend the life of every human person at every stage. Transform our hearts to protect and cherish all whose lives are most vulnerable.

For you are God, forever and ever. Amen.

—USCCB 2024



Share Your Smile—Be a Greeter!

We are in need of additional volunteers to be Greeters at our Saturday, 4:00 p.m. Masses. It is an easy job and much appreciated by parishioners to have you greet them at the doors of our church with a warm smile and cheerful hello. Please volunteer your time by contacting Kathy McKeon at 707-228-8311, phone or text.

For those who realize that they must die, quarrels cease.

—Dhammapada



Walk for Life West Coast 2026

Join fellow Catholics and Pro-Lifers from all over California and beyond as we stand up for the littlest

among us at the 22nd Annual Walk for Life West Coast in San Francisco on **January 24**, 2026. There will be Mass at 9:30 a.m. celebrated by Archbishop Salvatore Cordileone at St. Mary's Cathedral. The rally begins at 12:30 p.m. in San Francisco's Civic Center Plaza, and the Walk, down the city's Market Street, begins at 1:30 p.m. For more information visit www.walkforlifewc.com or call 415-658-1793.

Bus transportation is available at two locations: \$42 cash only, departing from St. Eugene's at 7:30 a.m. Call 707-542-6984 for information; and \$40 per seat (students ride free) from St. Joseph Catholic Church. Arrive by 7:10 a.m. and register online at <https://www.zeffy.com/en-US/ticketing/walk-for-life-2026>.

Join us for this powerful witness to life and dignity.



January Crab Feeds

Saturday, **January 24**, 6:00-8:30 p.m. at Fr. Denis O'Sullivan Parish Center, 320 10th St, Santa Rosa. \$80 each,

\$25 ages 6-11. Purchase tickets at <https://kofc1324.org> or call 707-860-2888.

Saturday, **January 24**, 5:30 p.m. at St. Vincent de Paul HS DeCarli Gymnasium, 849 Keokuk St, Petaluma. \$95 each. Purchase tickets by January 16, 2026, at <https://e.givesmart.com/events/M4U/>

Saturday, **January 31**, 5:30-10:30 p.m. at Roche Winery, Sonoma, to benefit tuition assistance for the students of Kolbe-Trinity School in Napa. Purchase ticket sat \$120 per person by January 23, 2026 at <https://givebutter.com/2026CrabFeed>



The Spirituality of Aging

You are invited to explore the questions of aging in light of the Ignatian vision of indifference and "letting go" in a retreat led by Anne Grycz and Mary Romo. *The Spirituality of Aging*, a non-silent retreat for women and men at the Jesuit Retreat Center of Los Altos, will be on Friday, **February 6**, 4:00 p.m. through Sunday, **February 8**, 2:00 p.m. Cost: \$320 per person (single or double occupancy.)

How does an elder navigate the prevalent "culture of youth?" Anne and Mary will delve into how diminishment might be an invitation to new, unimagined chapters in one's spiritual journey. Scan the QR Code, above, to register, or click on [The Spirituality of Aging](#).


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