

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 is taking all calls until further notice.

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—**Closed**
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.



July 25/26, 2026 — Seventeenth Sunday in Ordinary Time



Treasures & Pearls

The Gospel of Matthew continues with parables that hint at what the reign of God might be like. The first parable doesn't tell us what the man was doing digging in a field that was not his, but it doesn't matter. He stumbles upon a great treasure, and recognizing its value, gives up everything he has for it.

The same is true of the pearl merchant. Pearls were very rare and expensive up until the twentieth century. They are found in oysters, deep in salt or fresh water, and divers, then without any air tanks, had to dive for them and collect many thousands of oysters to find good pearls. Enough beautiful, matched pearls for a necklace were a rare and expensive find. A single rare, large pearl was a king's ransom!



Sunday, July 25/26, 2026
17th Sunday in Ordinary Time
Scripture Readings

Reading I: 1 Kings 3:5, 7-12—
Solomon asks for an understanding heart.

Responsorial: Psalm 119—Lord, I

love your commands.

Reading II: Romans 8:28-30—God predestined us to be conformed to the image of the Son.

Gospel: Matthew 13:44-52—The kingdom of heaven is like a treasure buried in a field.

Catholic Church Sees Massive Growth in New Members in 2026

CHICAGO, **March 31, 2026**—The Catholic Church in the United States is seeing a significant increase in people entering the Church this Easter season.

Based on data compiled exclusively by Hallow from more than 140 of the 175 U.S. dioceses (more than 80%), dioceses are experiencing a 38% annual increase on average in individuals entering the Church through the Order of Christian Initiation of Adults (OCIA).

This includes both catechumens (unbaptized people preparing for full initiation into the Church) and candidates (those already baptized who are entering into full communion through confirmation).

The growth of people joining the Church is widespread and notable across dioceses of all sizes and regions.

The four largest dioceses in the U.S. all saw significant growth:

- Archdiocese of Los Angeles: +139%
- Diocese of Phoenix: +23%
- Archdiocese of New York: +36%
- Archdiocese of Chicago: +52%

Others in different parts of the country reporting strong growth include:

- Diocese of Duluth (Minn.): +145%
- Diocese of Pensacola-Tallahassee (Fla.): +85%
- Diocese of Rapid City (S.D.): +96%
- Diocese of Honolulu (Hawaii): +37%
- Diocese of Fairbanks (Alaska): +40%

In the Diocese of Helena (Mont.), diocesan officials believe this year's group, which is 60% larger than last year, is likely the largest (see **Growth** next column)

MASS INTENTIONS—JULY 25–AUGUST 2

Sat	25	4:00	†Fr. Patrick Stephenson
Sun	26	10:00	†Charlotte Muzio (Richard Muzio)
Mon	27		No Mass—Pray a Rosary
Tue	28	8:00	†Terry Wadsworth
Wed	29	8:00	†Bill Wallace
		10:30	O.G.—For the People of the Parish
Thur	30	8:00	†Pinkie Van Otten
Fri	31	8:00	†Jaime Piñgol (Lisa Peters)
Sat	1	4:00	†Mike Apicella (Len Marabella)
Sun	2	10:00	†Dominic Franchetti (Judy Monroe)

Please keep the sick and those in need in your prayers: Jeremy Aytes, Gail Barrett, Irene Beagle, Fran Benton, Lisa Bragg, Jim Bricker, David Charlton II, Bambi Clark, Shirley Collins, Bob & Wendy Curtis, Michael Curtis, Lola Danielli, Bob Esposito, Lisa Munoz Flores, Marcy Fox, John Glaser, Mike Hanlon, Rosemary Haver, Alan & Cheryl Hennessy, Gloria Márquez, Millie McKay, Karen O'Malley, Carol Pascoe, Sarah Petrini, David Reuser, Vincent, Marilyn Warman, and Dolores Zeni.

Also pray for those who have died.

(Growth continued)

that the diocese has had since the Rite of Election was restored following Vatican II in the 1970s.

Many dioceses saw record-breaking classes in 2025 and continue to build on that momentum in 2026. In 2024, the Archdiocese of Mobile (Ala.) saw its largest group of candidates and catechumens in a decade. Last year, it surpassed that number. And this year, it's up 36% compared to 2025.

The fastest-growing diocese was the Diocese of Duluth (Minn.), which grew +145%, with 186 combined catechumens and candidates in 2026 compared to just 76 a year ago.

The Archdiocese of Los Angeles, which is welcoming more than 8,000 people into the Church, more than any other diocese in the country, grew +139% from last year.

"The Lord is truly at work, bringing so many back to Him and to experience His love right now," said Alex Jones, Hallow CEO and Co-Founder. "As we see firsthand at Hallow the impact of what so many priests, sisters, Church leaders, and more are doing across parishes in the US, it's beautiful to see the fruits of their labor and the ways folks are reaching for the Lord."

—Stephen Spiewak, Hallow

	This Weekend — July 25-26		Next Weekend — August 1-2	
	4:00 p.m.	10:00 a.m.	4:00 p.m.	10:00 a.m.
EMs:	Blanche Kaiser	Cristina Wadsworth	Linda Luceti	Liz Garcia
Lector:	Connie Pearson	John Knight	Len Marabella	Judy Passaglia
Server:	Bev Shelhart	Mike Flanagan	Sr. Joanne Abrams	Mike Flanagan
Greeters:	Sherry Doran Mary Mickelsen	Mardie Hart Mary Montague	Bob Chapman Pat Chapman	Ceal Geurts Paula Scull
Ushers:	Ed Montague Michael Sotak TBD	Clarence Younger Tim Cummings Steve Hipson	Tim McCammon Kathleen Beirne Tom Beirne	Michael Montez John Knight Rick Ragan



PARISH EVENTS—JULY 26-AUGUST 2

Saturday, August 1— 5:00 August Buffet Dinner.

Weekly Collection Report

July 5	July 12	July 19	Weekly Goal
\$5,040	\$4,812	\$3,513	\$5,365

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

Second Collection

This weekend, the second collection will be for **Neighbor-to-Neighbor**.



Electronic Giving

If you would like to support our parish through online giving, please scan this QR code or go to our website's online giving page by clicking on **Donate Here** on our website home page:

www.starofthevalley.org. If you have questions or need help, please email Anna in the parish office M, T, Th, F at sov@sonic.net.



Annual Ministry Appeal 2026 Parish Target Reached!

Thank you for your generosity.

The Church walks with families at every stage of life—in marriage preparation, in raising children, in faith formation, and in moments of joy and challenge.

The Annual Ministry Appeal supports the ministries that strengthen marriage and family life throughout our Diocese. Your participation helps ensure continued support for our families across the Diocese. Together, we move forward as *One Family in Mission*.

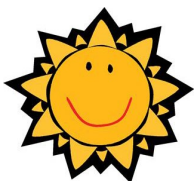
Although there are a few pledges that still need to be paid, we have reached our assigned target of \$22,500! For donations to the AMA which exceed our goal, we will receive a rebate which will benefit the parish and enable us to continue our ministries and maintain our buildings.

Thanks to all of you for donating, and for continuing to pay off your pledges!

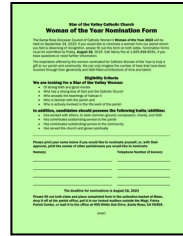
Scheduling Mass Intentions at Star of the Valley

Contact the parish office and leave a message with the answering service or email sov@sonic.net and let us know the name(s) for whom the Mass is intended, whether they are deceased or not, and date preference, if any. Suggested donation for the priest's stipend is \$10 per Mass and may be dropped off or mailed to the office.

Need a Little Sunshine?



The Women's Circle has a Sunshine Committee that would like to send a card to anyone who needs prayer or a little sunshine in their life due to illness or loss of a loved one. Please call any of our Sunshine Ladies: Terry Cutler at 707-280-9995; Paula Scull at 760-809-2760; Carole Kilgariff at 415-370-2083; or Janet Rosshirt at 707-293-4256.



Woman of the Year Nominations Due!

There's still time to help choose Star of the Valley's Woman of the Year! Please submit your completed nomination form by Friday, **July 31**, by placing it in the WOY Nominations box in the back of the church or mailing to the parish

office at 495 White Oak Dr, Santa Rosa, CA 95409. Nomination forms may be found at the back of church.

Star of the Valley's past Women of the Year: 2025 Barbbara Gasparini, 2024 Micki Sabourin; 2023 Judy Rodgers; 2019 Jackie Kenilvort; 2018 Cristina Wadsworth; 2017 Blanche Kaiser; 2015 Ruth Fulger & Roberta McElroy.

Star of the Valley's AUGUST BUFFET DINNER



Are you missing your fellow parishioners?

Because of lightening damage in April, we haven't been able to gather to visit and enjoy each other.

Mark your calendars for SOV's August Buffet Dinner. The Women's Circle and Men's Club are sponsoring a ham and salad buffet dinner on Saturday, August 1.

Because of the generosity of our pastor and our talented cooks (Karl Turner and Peter Hardy), our previous wine and cheese social is now a delicious ham buffet dinner.

No cost to attend, no reservations and we aren't selling anything.

Please come and reconnect, chat, enjoy and support each other.

Saturday | August 1 | 5:00-7:00 pm

EAST RECREATION CENTER
7902 Oakmont Drive in Oakmont

