

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.



August 8/9, 2026— Nineteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time



What's What

Today's passage from Matthew's Gospel is loaded with many symbols and details. Our familiarity with the tale of the calming of the sea and Peter's rescue may lull us into overlooking them, or we may simply be unfamiliar with their meaning. Here are things to note: Jesus makes the disciples

get into the boat, so there is distance between him and them; the boat, in the Gospels, is always a code word for the church; Jesus goes up a mountain to pray, the place of closeness to God (also the place, in Matthew's Gospel, where Jesus teaches the Beatitudes); the wind and stormy seas can be conquered only by God, as chaos was conquered at creation; Jesus, in prayer to God, is able to know the trouble of his followers, his church, in the boat, even though he is separated from them by a great distance.

Matthew packs all these details and symbols into a handful of sentences, yet they are all vital to our understanding of this passage and—more importantly—for our own growth in faith as a church.

(Continued on the next page—Who's Who)



Sunday, August 8/9, 2026
19th Sunday in Ordinary Time
Scripture Readings

Reading I: *1 Kings 19:9a, 11-13a*—
 “Stand on the mountain; the Lord will
 be passing by.”

Responsorial: *Psalm 85*—Lord, let us

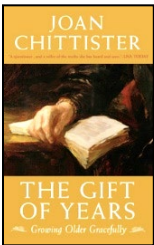
see your kindness, and grant us your salvation.

Reading II: *Romans 9:1-5*—To the Israelites belong the
 covenants, the law and the patriarchs; and from them
 comes the Christ.

Gospel: *Matthew 14:22-33*—As Jesus walked on the sea,
 he said to the disciples, “Do not be afraid.”

Who’s Who (continued from front page)

Throughout the Gospels and all of the New Testament,
 Peter stands as an emblem for the whole church. He is a
 mixture of faith and fearfulness, expresses profound
 belief and yet also cruel denial of Christ. Peter is the
 saint and the sinner that every baptized member of the
 church is. Today he leaps forward in exuberant faith, but
 caves in to the tempest tossing him about. He musters
 enough faith to cry out his need for salvation, as we all
 must. And then Christ, who called him through the storm,
 identifies himself by saying (literally, in the Greek text),
 “I Am”—as God was revealed to Moses. Christ, divinely
 unfazed by the petty storms that terrify his church,
 always stands ready to reach out to those he has called
 when they cry for help. “Lord, save me!” was on Peter’s
 lips that morning, as it has been on the lips of countless
 Christians throughout the centuries. And Christ still
 reaches out to us, his church being tossed about, to take
 us by the hand and reply, “Do not be afraid.”



Spiritual Book Club

Men and women are invited to join in a
 reflection and meditation using the book
Gift of Years by Sister Joan Chittister. Our
 discussion will be on Chapters 4 and 5,
 Wednesday, **August 19**, 10:00–11:00
 a.m. in the Quiet Room at the church. All
 are welcome.

Some people try to turn back their “odometers.” Not me.
 I want people to know why I look this way. I’ve traveled a
 long way and a lot of the roads were not paved.

MASS INTENTIONS—AUGUST 8–16

Sat	8	4:00	Intention of Misty Moore & †Frank Byron White (Misty Moore)
Sun	9	10:00	†Al Maggini (Judy Monroe)
Mon	10		No Mass—Pray a Rosary
Tue	11	8:00	Intention of Jill Fryling (Mike Flanagan)
Wed	12	8:00	†Pat Sack (Carole Kilgariff)
		10:30	O.G.—For the People of the Parish
Thur	13	8:00	†Thomas Eamonn Flanagan (Mike Flanagan)
Fri	14	8:00	†Andrew Dunn (Mike Flanagan)
Sat	15	4:00	†Bob Waska (Frances Waska)
Sun	16	10:00	††Dr. & Mrs. Michael Brendan Flanagan (Mike Flanagan)

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, Margot
 Olds, Karen O’Malley, Carol Pascoe, Sarah Petrini, David
 Reuser, Vincent, Marilyn Warman, and Dolores Zeni.

Also pray for those who have died: Russell Emery and
 Pat Sack.

Funeral Mass at Star of the Valley

Tuesday, **August 11**, 11:00 a.m.: Dr. Michael Apicella

Success

To laugh often and much
 to win the respect of intelligent people
 and affection of children;
 to earn the appreciation of honest critics
 and endure the betrayal of false friends;
 to appreciate beauty,
 to find the best in others;
 to leave the world a bit better,
 whether by a healthy child
 a garden patch
 or redeemed social condition;
 to know even one life has breathed easier
 because you have lived.
 This is to have succeeded.

—Ralph Waldo Emerson



This Weekend — August 8-9

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

EMs:	Cathy Hardy	Kar Hofmann
Lector:	Mary Mickelsen	Bowman Olds
Server:	Connie Montague	Drew Hofmann
Greeters:	Tom Basile Livie Brant	Judy Monroe Mary Montague
Ushers:	Ed Montague Josie Peluso Bev Shelhart	Tim Cummings Steve Hipson John McCarthy

Next Weekend — August 15-16

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

Tim McCammon	Judy Monroe
Connie Pearson	Mike Flanagan
Bev Shelhart	Jim Warman
Cathy Hardy Pete Hardy	Mary Bell Ron Manning
Ed Montague Kathleen Beirne Tom Beirne	Clarence Younger Steve Hipson John Knight

PARISH EVENTS—AUGUST 8-16

No parish events. **August 8:** National Pickleball Day.



Weekly Collection Report

July 19	July 26	August 2	Weekly Goal
\$3,513	\$13,886*	TBD	\$5,365

Note: The amounts consist of First collections, Parish Repair & Maintenance (*including a grant of \$10,000 from a parishioner), and Holy Day gifts received during the weekend and preceding week.

Second Collection

This weekend's second collection will be for **Parish Repair & Maintenance**. See Parish Repair & Maintenance on the back page.

Next weekend's second collection will be for **Diocesan Seminarians**. Please help those who are in formation and studying for the priesthood in our diocese. We need more priests, and they need our support.

Star of the Valley's 2026 Woman of the Year Awarded to Marcy Fox



We are proud to announce that Marcy Fox has been chosen as Star of the Valley's Woman of the Year. Marcy has been an active parishioner and wonderful example of volunteering for Star of the Valley Parish for nine years.

Marcy is a valued member of the Women's Circle, has served on the Pastoral Council and is a Eucharistic Minister. But Marcy's biggest contribution to our parish is in the area of spiritual education. Using her extensive experience in teaching religion at the senior high school and adult levels, Marcy has organized relevant and popular prayer services for the seasons of Advent and Lent for many years. Parishioners come to these prayer services knowing Marcy will help deepen their appreciation of our church's two important spiritual seasons.

Marcy has led many seminars and classes in world religions for our parishioners and for several neighboring churches. For several years, Marcy has led numerous teaching sessions on religious topics, such as spirituality, prayer and liturgical renewal. Marcy recently held a leadership position in the successful parish seminar on Catholic Social Teachings.

Currently, Marcy is the leader of our parish's spiritual book club. She not only leads wonderful discussions but also educates the members of the book club in the area of spirituality.

Marcy is a welcoming, kind and humble person of strong faith who has an innate ability to bring people together. She is a gifted facilitator, who brings calmness and depth to all she does. Her deeply spiritual nature helps to encourage others in deepening their spiritual journey. Marcy is a highly respected member of our parish who has been a vital part of our parish's spiritual life. Congratulations, Marcy on a well-deserved award.

Woman of the Year Celebration information in next week's bulletin.



AUGUST BUFFET DINNER

Last Saturday's August Buffet Dinner was an outstanding parish event. We had about 85 parishioners attend, and everyone had a wonderful time. The food was fabulous; many mentioned it was "the best ever." The appetizers were delicious. The ham was especially tender and tasty; the hot German potato salad was outstanding as was the Caesar salad and mixed berry baked brie. The table settings and decorations were lovely and inviting. But the best part was the enjoyment everyone felt from being together after so many months of not being able to socialize because of the renovations of the Monsignor Fahey Parish Center. Parishioners stayed long after their dinner, talking and catching up with old friends and meeting new friends. The whole evening couldn't have been more successful.



Thank you to a whole team effort that saw this idea to completion. Our chefs, Karl and Patty Turner did an outstanding job, making everything at home and then bringing it into the tiniest of kitchens. Thanks also to Peter and Kathy Hardy, who not only provided the appetizers, but supplied and manned the bar. Ruth Fulger made the lovely cobalt blue center pieces, and Mardie Hart brought in several "Marthas" to do the table setting. Thanks to Pat Hendricks who arranged for Oakmont's East Recreation Center, and organized the set-up, take down and cleanup. Lastly, a huge thank you to Monsignor Pulskamp who supported the idea from the beginning, and committed church resources in order to help make it so successful. It was truly a team effort and lots of people helped.



In Our Prayers

Please join us in praying for all those affected by the recent wildfires, especially those who have lost their homes. May God grant them strength, comfort, and hope, and protect all who continue to battle the fires.

Parish Repair & Maintenance

These are some projects on our "to do" list that you can help complete with your contributions.

- ▶ Tree trimming at church.
- ▶ Tree removal and stump grinding at the Parish Center—Branch fell and broke plumbing.
- ▶ Broken lock in the Parish Center.
- ▶ Leaking roof at the Parish Center.
- ▶ Lightning Damage at the Parish Center.

We will have a second collection next weekend, **August 8/9**, for **Parish Repair & Maintenance**.

Thank you for your generosity.



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.



Celebrate God's Goodness

Ask God for help

Leave your concerns with God

Meditate on good things

NEWS OUTSIDE THE PARISH

Mass Celebrating the Catholic Faith in Africa

Join us on Sunday, **August 9th**, at 2:00 p.m. at the Cathedral of St. Eugene, for Holy Mass as we lift up the African community in prayer and thanksgiving. All are welcome to attend and share in this moment of faith and fellowship.

A community gathering and refreshments will follow in the parish hall. See bulletin board.

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