

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.



September 5/6, 2026— Twenty-Third Sunday in Ordinary Time



God's Watchers

In the ancient world watchmen were extremely important people. They kept communities safe, and were there to alert them to any impending danger or attack. Before locks, alarms, and security systems, watchmen were the protectors, the safety measure. So when the Lord

charges Ezekiel as a watchman today, it is a weighty charge.

Heed the Warning

In answering God's call to be a prophet, Ezekiel took on a serious duty. Just as the watchman sounded a trumpet to warn the citizens of impending danger, so was it the prophet's responsibility to warn the people to repent. If the townsfolk ignored the watchman's trumpet and were taken by the enemy, the watchman was not to blame. Yet in the task of warning the people, the watchman was responsible for the welfare of the entire community. In the same way, the prophet only needed to deliver the message. What the listeners did upon receiving it was their own choice. Nevertheless, the prophet's responsibility to the community was clear. To shirk that duty would be a disservice to all.

In Paul's Letter to the Romans, he tells us to go beyond the letter of God's law to its heart, which is love. What the fourth through tenth commandments really challenge us to do is love our neighbor. As Paul points out and as the Gospel clarifies, we cannot do this passively or by choosing not to get involved.



Sunday, September 5/6, 2026

23rd Sunday in Ordinary Time

Scripture Readings

Reading I: *Ezekiel 33:7-9*—We are responsible for one another and must try to lead each other in the path of righteousness.

Responsorial: *Psalm 95*—If today you hear his voice, harden not your hearts.

Reading II: *Romans 13:8-10*—We are bound by the law of love.

Gospel: *Matthew 18:15-20*—Jesus is present in our midst wherever two or three are gathered in his name.

A New Chapter

After 15+ years working as Office Manager for Star of the Valley Church, Sharon Charlton is getting ready for a new chapter in her life—retirement.

The full-time position of Office Manager at Star of the Valley has been posted on the diocesan website. Anyone interested in this job opportunity will be asked to apply through the diocesan Human Resources department. Any questions regarding the position may be asked of Lori Norcia, Director of HR, Diocese of Santa Rosa at lnorcia@srdiocese.org.

A Responsible Christian

Loving one another is not easy to do. There will always be those whose actions damage and disrupt the community and cause harm to the world at large. It is our responsibility to challenge those actions and shed the light of the gospel on them, but to do so in a loving way. In a culture where public sentiment can run strong, demonstrating such restraint and respect may feel like swimming upstream. Yet today's Gospel invites us not to condemn out of hand, but to engage in a dialogue with the offender that can result in conversion and change. To fail to do so is to shrink from our Christian responsibility. In the light of today's Gospel, what do you think could be the appropriate Christian responses to the many different actions of relatives, friends, fellow citizens, and government authorities in the past year?

Pun Fun

I visited a monastery and as I walked past the kitchen, I saw a man frying chips. I asked him, "Are you the friar?" He replied, "No, I'm the chip monk."

MASS INTENTIONS—SEPTEMBER 5-13

Sat	5	4:00	†Paul Valente (Virginia Randall)
Sun	6	10:00	††Drs. Michael & Agnes Apicella (Dr. Philip & Marietta LaVerde)
Mon	7		No Mass—Pray a Rosary
Tue	8	8:00	†Lincoln R. McCarthy (Maria McCarthy)
Wed	9	8:00	†Fr. Jack O'Neill
		10:30	O.G.—For the People of the Parish
Thur	10	8:00	†Robert Murnane
Fri	11	8:00	†Dennis O'Brien
Sat	12	4:00	†Mildred Waska & †Bob Waska (Frances Waska)
Sun	13	10:00	†Pat Sack (Kathy McKeon)

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, Cathy Hardy, Mike Hanlon, Rosemary Haver, Alan & Cheryl Hennessy, Gloria Márquez, Millie McKay, Margot Olds, Karen O'Malley, Carol Pascoe, Sarah Petrini, David Reuser, Phil VanTassell, Vincent, Marilyn Warman, and Dolores Zeni.

Also pray for those who have died: Gene Engen and Bill Volmerding.

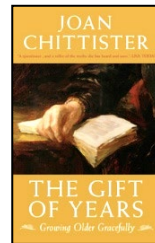


Electronic Giving

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:

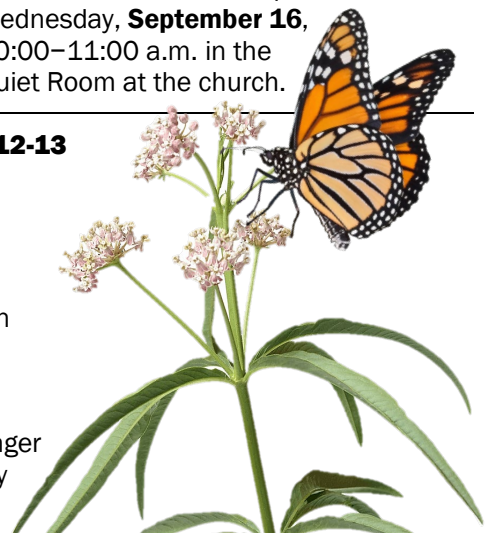
www.starofthevalley.org. If you have questions or need help, please email Anna in the parish office M, T, Th, F at sov@sonic.net.

I'm reading a book about anti-gravity. I can't put it down.



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 6 and 7, Wednesday, **September 16**, 10:00-11:00 a.m. in the Quiet Room at the church.



This Weekend — September 5-6

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

EMs:	Linda Luceti	Liz Garcia
Lector:	Karen Schraga	John Knight
Server:	Len Marabella	Mike Flanagan
Greeters:	Bob Chapman Pat Chapman	Mary Bell Paula Scull
Ushers:	Tim McCammon Tom Basile Michael Sotak	Tim Cummings Steve Hipson Michael Montez

Next Weekend — September 12-13

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

Blanche Kaiser	Kar Hofmann
Bob Zeni	Bowman Olds
Bev Shelhart	Drew Hofmann
Livie Brant Josie Peluso	Mardie Hart Judy Monroe
Kathleen Beirne Tom Beirne Josie Peluso	Clarence Younger John McCarthy Rick Ragan

PARISH EVENTS—SEPTEMBER 5–13

Monday, **September 7—Office Closed—Labor Day**

Donut Sundays, Bingo Dinners, Pancake Breakfasts, and other events will resume after the Msgr. Fahey Parish Center is repaired and approved for reopening. Please keep this reconstruction process in your prayers!

Weekly Collection Report

August 16	August 23	August 30	Weekly Goal
\$3,068	\$3,895	\$4,644	\$5,365

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

Second Collections

Next weekend's second collection will be for **Parish Repair & Maintenance**.

It's Parish Festival Time...

...except for Star of the Valley Church.



Unfortunately, since we still don't have a usable parish center, our annual summer Parish BBQ Raffle fundraiser and Welcome Dinner had to be forfeited. As long as there will be no more unforeseen repair delays, we plan on resuming our annual fundraising gathering next summer, 2027.

Meanwhile, check out other parish's festivals for fun!

NEWS OUTSIDE THE PARISH

Resurrection Parish Fall Fiesta

Food, fun, music and a raffle are available at Resurrection Parish's Fall Fiesta, 303 Stony Point Road, at the corner of West 3rd in Santa Rosa, on Saturday, **September 12**, 12:00-6:00 p.m.

St. Rose Parish Festival—September 20

Join us at St. Rose Parish, 398 10th Street in Santa Rosa, on Sunday, **September 20** from 11:30 a.m.-3:30 p.m. for family fun, food, and fellowship. For more information, please call 707-540-2168. See flyer on bulletin board.

Parish Repair & Maintenance

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

- ▶ Leaking roof at the Parish Center.
- ▶ Roofing, bathrooms, electrical & other repairs & reconstruction at the Parish Center.
- ▶ Autumn landscape & parking lot maintenance.

We will have a second collection next weekend, **Sept. 12/13**, for **Parish Repair & Maintenance**.

Thank you for your generosity.



SOV Craft Fair & Raffle Cancellation

We would like to inform all our parishioners that we have cancelled our annual Craft Fair and Raffle Fundraiser, scheduled for November, 2026. As all of you know, the Monsignor Fahey Parish Center will not be open by November. We have researched other venues and couldn't find an appropriate space that we could afford.

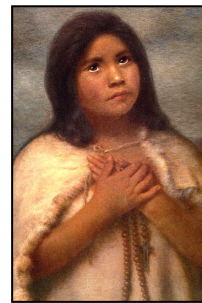
We plan to organize another craft fair in the Spring of next year. We have talked with many of our craft vendors, and they seem excited about a spring Craft Fair. We appreciate all the support we have received from our raffle prize donors, and are hopeful they will donate in the spring.

We are also thankful for all the support you, our Star of the Valley parishioners, have shown for the craft fair in the last few years.

Much appreciation,

Paula Scull, Chair

Barbara Gasparini, Assistant Chair



How Santa Rosa Got It's Name

Santa Rosa's history is rich in culture and many different groups have called the area their home. Pomo, Miwok, and Wappo Indians originally populated the area followed by the Spanish in the early 1800's. The first deeded land was held as the Rancho Cabeza de Santa Rosa and was given to Senora Maria Ignacia Lopez de

Carriillo by Spanish authorities.

Senora Carillo was the mother-in-law of General Vallejo, commander of the Mexican forces north of the Presidio of San Francisco. In 1837 the Senora built an adobe structure at the junction of ancient Native American trading routes near present-day Farmer's Lane and Highway 12. The ruins still stand today adjacent to St. Eugene's Church.

According to popular legend, this area was named Santa Rosa by Father Juan Amorosa. After baptizing a young Native American woman in a stream, he followed the usual custom of naming rivers and creeks for saints.

Because the baptism took place on the day of the Feast of Santa Rosa de Lima, Santa Rosa was the name given to the stream (and later to the whole valley) as well as to the young woman who was baptized.

Why Santa Rosa

Have you ever wondered why we're called the Diocese of Santa Rosa? Fr. Moses Brown shares the fascinating story behind our name, from the account of a young Indigenous girl who was given the Christian name Rosa to our connection with St. Rose of Lima. To hear Fr. Moses share the fascinating story of our name, from the account of a young Native American woman—watch this 60-second story by visiting or clicking on: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=mqxyrbrGmY>.

Funny Thought

Noah was a brave man to sail in a wooden boat with two termites.

Pray for Priests

The September calendar of Prayers for Priests is on the bulletin board in church. Please pray for them.

NEWS OUTSIDE THE PARISH



Reading with an Ignatian Heart

One day workshop on the book: The Tears of Things by Richard Rohr. Eight Friday mornings, starts Friday, **September 25**, 9:30–11:00 a.m. These workshops are offered by the Jesuit

Retreat Center of Los Altos. For more information call 650-917-4024 or go to:

<https://www.jrclosaltos.org/overnight-weekend-retreats>.

Religious Education Congress

Looking to be equipped as a disciple and inspired for mission? Join catechists, ministers, and faith leaders for a day of renewal and formation at the Religious Education Congress, hosted by the Office of Faith Formation at Cardinal Newman High School on Saturday, **September 26**, 2026. The day includes Mass followed by sessions with guest speakers Fr. Thomas Aquinas Pickett, O.P., Mary Ann Wiesinger-Puig, Paul Senz, Fr. Robert McTeigue, S.J., and more. Register at <https://srdiocese.org/recongress> or by scanning the QR code on the flyer which is on the bulletin board.



Health & Resource Fair

Oakmont Gardens is hosting a Health & Resource Fair on Thursday, **September 17**, from 1:00–4:00 p.m.

Come explore a variety of vendors and resources focused on health, wellness, caregiving, exercise, dental health, and more. Enjoy samples, small bites, acai bowls, a raffle, and plenty of opportunities to learn something new!

This event is open to the public, so invite your friends, family, and neighbors to join us. Questions? Call Michelle at 707-538-4883.

Organ Concert

David Hatt, Assistant Organist at Sr. Mary's Cathedral in San Francisco, will perform Organ Sonata No. 13 by Josef Rheinberger (1839-1901) on Sunday, **September 20**, 5:00 p.m. at St. Paul's Episcopal Church, 209 Matheson Street in Healdsburg.

"The Rescue" Patricia Sandoval's Testimony

Hear Patricia Sandoval's powerful story of rescue from drugs, homelessness, and Planned Parenthood on Saturday, **October 3**, 9:00 a.m.–12:00 p.m. at St. John the Baptist Church Hall in Napa. A free-will donation will be accepted. Coffee and pastries provided. Please register in advance at 707-255-2949. See flyer in church.



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