Holy Spirit Catholic Church

Ministering to the people in Rincon Valley and beyond
1244 St Francis Rd. Santa Rosa, CA 95409

Parish Office & Rectory: (707) 539-4495 FAX (707) 539-3343
E-Mail: holy-spirit@sbcglobal.net Website: www.holyspirit-sr.org

Pastoral Staff:
Fr Ron Serban, Pastor, Ext. 21
Deacon John Storm, 479-5424, jstorm@srdiocese.org
Kathy Stoddard, Office Manager, Ext. 10
Megan O’Neill, Director of Faith Formation (Grades 1-12),
   Ext. 12, megan4sonNeill@yahoo.com
Andrew Darrow, Liturgical Music
St Vincent de Paul Society, 537-7835
Walt Dillaway, Men’s Club, 539-1031
Gloria McKay, Women’s Club, 527-5906
Patty Edson, Holy Communion Visitation, 538-3208
Diane Bowman, Prayer Chain 539-9035

For other Ministerial Staff:
Please phone the office (707) 539-4495

Mass Schedule:
Saturday Vigil: 5pm.
Sunday: 7:30 & 10:15 am.
Liturgy of the Word for Children: Sundays 10:15 am.
Weekdays: Mondays-Friday & First Saturdays 9 am.

Sacrament of Reconciliation:
Every Thursday and First Saturdays following 9 am Mass

For other Sacraments:
Please call the Parish Office
6 months in advance for Marriage
3 months in advance for Baptism
SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT
December 5 - 6, 2015

...from the Pastor’s Desk:

HOLY DAY OF OBLIGATION:
THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION OF THE BLESSED
VIRGIN MARY.

Tuesday, December 8th, is a day which Mother Church deems so important that it has the same weight of responsibility as does a Sunday. Meaning all Catholics are expected to attend Mass on this day as they would on any given Sunday. Why? Well, not because one day a week (Sunday) was not enough, but because the ‘Holy Days of Obligation’ are so important and unique to our faith and so defining of who we specifically ARE as Catholics that the church in Her love for us wants to make available this opportunity for us to be enriched and nurtured by this Feast. Unfortunately in our era many Catholics see them as an imposition or an inconvenience. And I honestly don’t know why. These ‘Holy Days’ are so few yet so beneficial and so ‘Full Of Grace’. We should not take this mandate lightly.

Okay, Father Ron, but - what is this feast is all about? Good question. From the first moment of her existence Mary is sinless, the single member of our race conceived without Original Sin. Before the foundation of the world God chose Mary and gave her very spiritual blessings and chose her to be the mother of God’s Only Son. Mary, a young, unknown and already betrothed peasant virgin chosen before time for this glorious and salvific role.

Likewise, before the foundation of the world God also chose US and gave US every spiritual blessing and chose US to be God’s own dwelling place and the Body Of Christ on earth. Ourselves, so ordinary, so human. How can we respond adequately to God’s choice of us? By doing what Mary did - by saying … Yes. Yes to taking the time, even if at great personal sacrifice to attend Mass on this Holy Day. And – Yes – by opening our hearts at Mass to receive the blessing. From generation to generation we have looked to Mary as our model – as she herself prayed; “May it be done to me according to Your Word.”

Mary, Model, mother, advocate help us with our saying ‘yes’. On your feast we beg you for your intercession that your Son be born anew in us this Advent!

Our Mass times are Vigil Mass on Monday at 6:30 pm and Tuesday at 9 am. Please make your best effort to attend one of the masses. Okay? Ok...

May the Peace of Our Lord And the Love of Our Lady; Be with you and all you love!

Father Ron

BACK TO THE FUTURE? - Office Hours

Actually, it’s more like ‘Back To The Past’. As far back as we could tell – the office hours for previous decades were Monday through Thursday. When the previous pastor was assigned the duties of two parishes, he deemed it best to change that to office hours of Tuesday –Friday. This worked for him then, but it doesn’t work that well for us now. Most businesses are very busy on Mondays and not so much on Fridays. Not that we are a “business” but we do have to work with and correspond with many who are. Based on the number of phone calls, messages and office visits we receive on Mondays compared to Fridays, this is definitely the casehere. Plus, many parishioners like to begin their weekends early, especially during the summertime. This is why very few things even in the secular world are scheduled on Fridays. The staff is in 100% agreement that it would work best to return to the tried and true schedule of office hours Monday – Thursday, 9:30 to 2:30 pm. Our hope is that this return is most convenient for all.

We have had masses every day of the week (including Monday Mornings) since Father Ron arrived almost a year and a half ago. This means he has not scheduled a day off. He needs a day off – don’t you think? So, effective immediately (Per the insistence of his Spiritual Director) he will take Fridays off. However, he still will have the First Friday and First Saturday Masses (With Confessions) every month. Weekly Adoration and Confessions will change to Thursday at 9:30 (right after 9:00 am mass) instead of Friday. There will still be a service every Friday at 9:00 am, but not always a mass. The Sacrament of Reconciliation remains available by appointment. That will not change.
MASS INTENTIONS—December 5 - 13:

Sat 5 5:00 +Dick Landen
Sun 6 7:30 Intentions of Chad Davis
       10:15 +Gina Catelani
       5:30 For the People of the Parish
Mon 7 9:00 +Frank and Shirley Desimone
       6:30 All Expectant Mothers
Tue 8 9:00 All Mothers—Living & Deceased
Wed 9 9:00 +Margaret Dale
Thurs 10 9:00 +The Saverimutti’s
Fri 11 9:00 Communion Service
Sat 12 5:00 Intentions of Ashley Neal
Sun 13 7:30 +Rosalie Vidalin
       10:15 +Mark Higdon
       5:30 For the People of the Parish

PLEASE PRAY FOR OUR SICK AND THOSE WHO NEED OUR PRAYERS: The intentions of the Holy Spirit Prayer Chain, Tony Chu, Tristen Humble, Mauro DeTrizio, Kelly McGuire, Feliciano Llosa, Helen Hubbard, and Jacky and Sean Harn.

FOR THE SOULS OF: Margaret Dale and Rosalie Vidalin.

COLLECTION LAST WEEK: $5,673.33

SECOND COLLECTION THIS WEEK:
ST. VINCENT DE PAUL SOCIETY 5TH WEEKEND COLLECTION $2,981.00 WOW!

SECOND COLLECTION THIS WEEK:
Building Maintenance Fund

SECOND COLLECTION NEXT WEEK:
Retirement Fund for Religious (See enclosed flyer)

ST. VINCENT DE PAUL “CHRISTMAS BOXES”
Now it is time for our “CHRISTMAS BOXES” which will be distributed to those in need within our parish on Wednesday, December 23rd. We would be very grateful for the donation of hams of any size (3–5 lb. canned hams are ideal).

It would be of help to us if you would sign the sheet in the hall after mass if you plan to donate a ham. This helps us determine how many additional hams we may need to purchase.

From all of us at St. Vincent de Paul to you, your kindness and generosity to your neighbors is greatly appreciated.

“ADVENT CONCERT”
Dana Couey-Harmon & Family
Thursday, December 17th
7PM – Holy Spirit Church

ALTAR FLOWERS – Our altar flowers this weekend are in loving memory of Gina Catelani.

Taizé Service “Come to The Quiet”
Please join us on Thursday, December 10th for Taizé Service led by Andy Darrow. Some of you are familiar with the Taizé Prayer Service. Taizé Prayer is an hour-long meditative candle-light service that centers on music, prayer, and silence, to quiet the mind, open the heart and feed the soul—A time of quiet and solitude in the presence of God.

A series of words sung over and over again reinforce the meditative quality of prayer. They express a basic reality of faith that can be grasped quickly by the heart and intellect, gradually penetrating the whole being.

YOUTH MINISTRIES INFORMATION

FAITH FORMATION CLASSES GRADES 1-6:
Classes resume this week and the classrooms are filled with inspiration for the Advent Season and anticipation for our Annual Christmas Pageant. Flyers went home today to invite all children between the ages of 5 and 11 to participate in the pageant at our 5 PM Christmas Eve Children’s Mass. All children must be present at the two rehearsals: Saturday, Dec. 19 at 1 PM and Thursday, Dec. 24th at 4:15 PM to participate in the Pageant. If your child is interested in participating, please sign up before and after Faith Formation Classes or by emailing --megan4soneill@yahoo.com-- by December 13th.

Christmas break for classes will be December 27th to January 3rd.

JUNIOR HIGH YOUTH MINISTRY
Monday, December 7th, we will gather at 6:30 PM in the church to attend the vigil mass for the Holy Day of Obligation—Feast of the Immaculate Conception. We can sit together as a class or you are welcome to set with your family! After mass, we will gather in the Holy Family Room for Pizza and creating Advent Calendars! All middle school students are invited to join us on Monday evenings!

CONFIRMATION PREPARATION 2ND YEAR
“Who is Mary? Meeting the Mother of God” will be our topic for this Tuesday evening on the Feast of the Immaculate Conception. We will gather in the Holy Family Room from 7:8-30 PM.

HIGH SCHOOL YOUTH MINISTRY
This Wednesday HSYM will help the Women’s Club welcome our parish children for a “Visit with Santa”. We will volunteer our services from 5:30 PM to 8:30 PM in the Parish Hall. Dinner will be provided by the Women’s Club. Questions? Contact Megan O’Neill.
ANNUAL “GIVING TREE”

PLEASE NOTE THAT IT IS VERY IMPORTANT THAT ALL PACKAGES BE RETURNED NO LATER THAN DECEMBER 20th SO THAT NO ONE IS LEFT OUT.

We thank you for your unfailing generosity!

SUNDAY ADVENT SERIES
December 6th and 13th

The Advent Season lights four candles in winter darkness. We prepare to celebrate Jesus’ birth, God’s coming among us as one of us, revealing all love can do, all we can be.

Join us on Sunday evenings after the new Sunday evening mass in the Holy Family Room to break open the Sunday readings helping us to deepen our response and anchor sharing, prayer and fellowship with God and each other.

Sign up in the back of the church or by contacting Megan O’Neill at 539-4495 ext. 12 or by email: megan4sonell@yahoo.com.

SCHEDULE FOR NEXT WEEKEND – THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT

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<td>Sun., Dec. 13</td>
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Children’s Liturgy of the Word – Jane Catelani Howard

Homebound Week of December 9: M. Breuer, L. Ward, F. Walsh

Friends House: Jeanne Huffman

UPCOMING EVENTS

1. Jr. High Youth, Mon., Dec. 7, 7-8:30 PM, in the Holy Family Room
2. Confirmation, Tues., Dec. 8, 7-8:30 PM, in the Holy Family Room
3. Immaculate Conception-Holy Day of Obligation, Dec. 7th at 6:30 PM & Dec. 8, Mass at 9 AM
4. Men’s Club “Christmas Sing Along” Meeting, Tues., Dec. 8, 6:00 PM, in the Hall
5. 6th Grade Wednesday Class, Dec. 9, 3:30 PM, in the Rectory
6. Women’s Club “Christmas Party with Santa”, Wed, Dec. 9, 6:00 PM, in the Hall
7. High School Youth, Wed., Dec. 9, 7-8:30 PM, in the Holy Family Room
8. RCIA, Wed., Dec. 9, 7-8:30, in the Rectory
9. Advent Series, Sun., Dec. 6, 6:30 PM in the Holy Family Room following 5:30 PM Mass
10. Taize Service, Thurs., Dec. 10, 7 PM in the Church
11. Advent Series, Sun., Dec. 13, 6:30 PM in the Holy Family Room following 5:30 PM Mass
12. “Advent Concert” Dana Couey-Harmon, Thurs., Dec. 17, 7 PM in the Church