

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, megan4soneill@yahoo.com**

Andrew Darrow, Liturgical Music, 539-4495

St Vincent de Paul Society, 537-7835

Joe Piasta, Men's Club, 576-7850 Ext. 102

Terri Forrest, Women's Club, 539-2881

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-Thursday & First Friday & First Saturdays 9am

Sacrament of Reconciliation:

**Every Thursday and First Saturdays following 9 am Mass
or at the Rectory with an appointment**

For other Sacraments:

Please call the Parish Office

6 months in advance for Marriage

3 months in advance for Baptism

THE EPIPHANY OF THE LORD

.....*from the Pastor's Desk:*

Three Magi. Three gifts for the Child-King

If I asked you to think of the three worst things you ever did in your life, even if you didn't want to admit them, you could come up with them pretty quickly, certainly one of them, instantly. Now, if I asked you to think of the three best things you have ever done in your life (other than marriage and children) it would take a great deal more time. Sadly, many of us were raised that way. We were constantly chastised for anything wrong we did and hardly ever acknowledged for who we were as individuals or for doing the best we could. Sadder still, some of us have carried this mindset into our adult life, or in how we have treated our own children or, worst of all, to think that this is how God sees us.

When we only think of ourselves as bad, unworthy or insufficient, we very much limit our own potential, that is, the person God created us to be – the person God KNOWS we can be. The person God wants to help us be.

The Feast we celebrate today speaks of three men who made a great journey to find the new born King. They traveled to places unknown to them. Finding the King 'without' – their eyes were opened to look 'within'.

Our faith sometimes takes us to uncharted territory. We are called today to make a journey. But not to Bethlehem - not to the Holy Land - not to Rome - not even to San Francisco. Our faith calls us today to make the effort to make the inward journey to find ourselves. Think about it: though we all have lived with ourselves our entire lives, we can still know very little about who we actually are. Ask someone who has known you for many years. You'll be surprised how their view of you is quite different than yours. As we said, what you know about yourself often focuses on your negative qualities, forgetting that –the glory of the Lord shines upon you. We are each and every one made in the image and likeness of God.

So, first off, we need to find Jesus in ourselves. Most people might expect a king to be in an ornate palace, He actually resides in the quiet town of Bethlehem. Most people think of God as far off watching '*from a distance*'; yet, God is found in the quiet of your heart. Right now - even as you read this.

In our inner search, God will not be in those things the material world values; God is present in the quiet corners of our soul. The Wise Men had to go

across their known world to find the New Born King; we only need search the expanse of ourselves for our Savior.

The three best things you have ever done are your three gifts to the Child-King. The three worst are His gifts to you **in forgiving them and setting you free** of their burden. May this new found freedom bring you health, holiness and happiness this New Year. For, as always, the best - IS - yet to come!

Father Ron



A Heart-felt Thank You

Your generosity and kindness never ceases to amaze me. The many cards and gifts and well-wishes for my birthday, Christmas and the New Year stand in testament to this. I am truly grateful.

It was truly a 'blest' Advent and Christmas season, from lighting the first candle on the Advent wreath to the joyful Christmas liturgies, to the quiet, mystical mid-night masses, both for Christmas and the New Year.

Today we bring 'Christmas-Time' to an end with the feast of the Epiphany. It is my hope and prayer that just as the three sojourners in today's Gospel found Jesus – that you too – will find Him as well – each and every day of this New Year.

Great things lie ahead for our parish this year—Great things indeed.

God bless you, those you love, and those who love you.

Father Ron

Sat 7 5:00 **+Louise Oakes**
 Sun 8 7:30 **For the People of the Parish**
 10:15 **+Marsha Preshoff**
 Mon 9 9:00 **+Louise Oakes**
 Tue 10 9:00 **+Louise Kirk**
 Wed 11 9:00 **+Michael McCauley**
 Thurs 12 9:00 Communion Service
 Fri 13 9:00 Communion Service
 Sat 14 5:00 **For the People of the Parish**
 Sun 15 7:30 **+Raymond Benedict**
 10:15 **+Jack and Dolores McInerney**

PLEASE PRAY FOR OUR SICK AND THOSE WHO NEED OUR PRAYERS: The intentions of the Holy Spirit Prayer Chain, Steve Straessler, Tristan Humble, Mauro DeTrizio, Kelly McGuire, Feliciano Llosa, Helen Hubbard, Joey Benjamin, Karen D'Ambrogi, Bonnie Clark, Adelina Hernandez, Clem Shanahan, Jeanne Huffman, Linda Escobar and Bruce Campbell.
FOR THE SOULS OF: Pearl Babb, Jack Schweitz, Arlene Stevenson, George Martinucci and Bernie Pola.

COLLECTION THIS WEEK: \$6,011.00

SECOND COLLECTION LAST WEEK:
Building Maintenance Fund \$2,027.00

SECOND COLLECTION THIS WEEK:
Church in Latin America

ALTAR FLOWERS: Our Altar poinsettias are for the intentions of the Prentiss Family.



NEWS OUTSIDE THE PARISH:

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS, COUNCIL #1324 - ANNUAL CRAB FEED, Saturday, January 14 - St. Rose Parish Hall, 5 pm (Dinner at 6 pm) - \$50 Tickets: Tony Powell (707) 515-8151.

CATHOLIC CHARITIES VOLUNTEERS NEEDED: ALZHEIMER'S SHAW CENTER ENTERTAINMENT SCHEDULER is needed and also a KITCHEN VOLUNTEER.

SENIOR TRANSPORTATION ASSISTANT - who transports senior citizens to medical and other appointments, etc.

TAX PREPARATION VOLUNTEER who would help hardworking families receive the tax refunds they deserve by volunteering for the "Earn It! Keep it! Save it! Program".

Contact Volunteer Coordinator Noreen Mendoza at nmendoza@srcharities.org or (707)528-8712 ext. 160 if you are interested.

YOUTH MINISTRIES INFORMATION

Faith Formation Grades 1-6

Just as the three kings sought out Jesus to pay him homage, Matthew's story of the visit of the Magi from the East makes it clear that Jesus comes to all people, of his time and ours, who seek God. Check out pflaumweeklies.com to find your free resources designed for families in the continuing the Good News at home.

No class on January 15th in honor of Martin Luther King Jr. Wednesday afternoon classes will be held as normal on the 18th.

JUNIOR HIGH YOUTH MINISTRY

All junior high youth are invited to join us this Monday (1/9) afternoon 3:30 to 5PM in the Holy Family Room to begin our "Encounter" series. **Encounter: Experiencing God in the Everyday** is the new Bible study for middle-school-age children (gr. 6-8) by Mark Hart. Through fun & engaging video and discussion sessions, you will experience God as a loving father with a great plan. We will also learn about the Biblical roots of the Sacraments and the Mass.

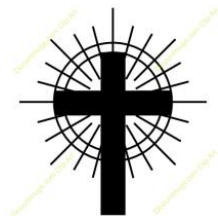
CONFIRMATION PREPARATION 2ND YEAR

This Monday and Tuesday evening (Jan. 9th/10th) we will gather from 6:30 to 8:30pm in the Holy Family Room. We will continue our preparation for Confirmation with "Why tell my sins to a priest? (The healing power of Confession)."

High School Youth Ministry

All high school teens are invited to join us this Wednesday evening (Jan. 11th) from 7-8:30pm in the Holy Family Room. Our topic for discussion this evening will be "Does Anyone Hear Me?"

ALL JUNIOR AND SENIOR HIGH SCHOOL YOUTH ARE INVITED TO JOIN US.....



Walking in the Light Retreat
February 3 - 5, 2017

CYO Retreat Camp, Occidental

Walking in the Light is a full weekend youth ministry retreat focused on finding the light of Christ in the world around us. The weekend promises to be filled with fun, friendship and spiritual enrichment. Call Megan O'Neill for a registration packet. Permission slips need to be in by January 18th.

UPCOMING EVENTS!

2017

1. Jr. High Youth, begins again Mon., Jan. 9, 3:30-5pm, in the Holy Family Room
2. Confirmation 2nd Year Youth, begins again Mon., Jan. 9, 6:30-8:30pm in the Holy Family Room
3. Confirmation 2nd Year Youth, begins again Tues., Jan. 10, 6:30-8:30pm, in the Holy Family Room
4. Men's Club "Boyz Nite Out", Tues., Jan. 10, 6:30 pm, in the Hall
5. Grades 1 and 2 Wednesday Class, begins again Wed., Jan. 10, 3:30-4:30 pm, in the Parish House
6. Women's Club, "Blessed Mother Baby Shower", Wed., Jan. 11, 6:30 pm, In the Hall
7. Finance Committee Meeting, Tues., Jan. 17, 6:30 pm, in the Parish House
8. Parish Advisory Council, Wed., Jan. 18, 6:30 pm, in the Parish House
9. Bible Study, Thurs., Jan. 26, 7-8:30 pm, in the Parish House

SECOND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

	Readers	Eucharistic Ministers	Greeters	Server
Sat, Jan. 14 5 pm	K. Kinkela, J. Albers	C. Dudley, D. Boito, M. Breuer P. Dillaway, K. Thompson	P. & K. Carlsen	A. Thompson I. Thompson
Sun., Jan. 15 7:30 am	S. Pola, B. Antoniuc	Dn. Storm, C. Dowgewicz, J. Hoffman	K. Castro	
Sun, Jan. 15 10:15 am	S. Simpson, M. Cusack	D. Adams, L. Berlo, R. Cooney, M. Davis, M. Friesen, C. Griffin V. Higdon	K. & N. Hicks	M. Salvadore R. Reynolds
Children's Liturgy of the Word – Babette O'Shell				
Homebound Week of January 11: M. Davis, L. Ward., F. Walsh			Friends House: Arlene Storm	

HOLY SPIRIT WOMEN'S CLUB

*"Baby Shower
for Blessed Mother"*



WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 11TH 6:30pm

\$15 - "Pork Loin Roast Dinner"

**PLEASE BRING: Unwrapped infant
item-- clothes, diapers, blankets etc.—
from size 0 to 24 months**

Please call Lynne DeCota at 707-981-8619 for
Reservations – no later than Sunday, January
8th. Please be respectful and make your
reservations so we can accommodate for the
meal!

HOLY SPIRIT MEN'S CLUB

"Boyz Nite Out"

Tuesday, January 10th

6:30 pm - \$20

**Who, What and Where!
We are Holy Spirit Community
Strong!**

COME CELEBRATE
GREAT DINNER, DRINKS
AND FUN!

Bring a Friend
1st Timers????
The HSMC will buy your dinner!