



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

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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

SUNDAY OF DIVINE MERCY

April 22 - 23, 2017

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



His Mercy Endures

Since the early years of his priesthood, Saint John Paul II had a deep devotion to the Divine Mercy. In the year 2000 he officially established the Sunday after Easter as Divine Mercy Sunday. On that

same date he canonized a humble Polish nun named Faustina Kowalska. St. Faustina received revelations from Jesus that became the basis for the Divine Mercy devotion. In spite of a somewhat rocky beginning, the devotion spread first in Poland, then throughout the entire world. After Pope John Paul canonized Sister Faustina, he said, *"This is the happiest day of my life!"* Devotion to the Divine Mercy, of course, was not a novelty.

Our Psalm today says, "His mercy endures forever." St. Peter reminds us that we received a new birth because of God's "great mercy." And in today's Gospel the Risen Jesus gives mercy as his first gift: "Receive the Holy Spirit. Whose sins you forgive are forgiven them..." Divine Mercy summarizes the message of the Bible and gift of our Savior.

So the devotion to Divine Mercy goes back to our origins. Nevertheless, Jesus chose St. Faustina to highlight and renew this devotion at a crucial moment at a time when many people had lost faith not just in God, but in mercy itself.

In the nineteen forties, humanity, to that point, experienced its most horrendous war. Like all wars, it took the lives of young soldiers, but it had another dimension. On a scale never before seen, civilians became targets: children, their mothers, the disabled, and the elderly. People asked: How could humans commit such atrocities? And: Where is God in all this? As Pope Benedict observed, people saw *"the horrors of human history, especially of the most recent human history, as an irrefutable pretext for denying the existence of a good God and slandering his creature man."*

Someone who particularly witnessed the horrors of recent human history was the man recently canonized – John Paul II. During the Nazi occupation of Poland, he was in Warsaw's underground seminary. In the terror which the Nazis imposed, he saw fellow seminarians and priests arrested and summarily executed. After the war, Nazism was replaced by its twin evil – communist totalitarianism. The Nazi occupation lasted five years, but the communist oppression of Poland would last fifty years.

Many historians are recognizing the significant role St. John Paul II played in the downfall of European communism. After the collapse of the Soviet empire, some of the secret archives became public. They reveal an obsession against the Catholic Church – and particularly against the Polish Pope.

This Sunday we see his greatest weapon. It was not condemnation; it was not political intrigue and it surely was not economic power. The pope's great weapon was the Divine Mercy.

Against a materialist philosophy that viewed humans in terms of economics, St. John Paul II presented a different vision. Yes, we are deeply flawed. Yes, we committed unimaginable crimes against each other. But we are not abandoned. God offers us something infinitely greater than our human cruelty.

My friends, sometimes it seems like we are up against insurmountable obstacles. But remember that in the mid-nineteen eighties, many political experts scoffed at the idea that the Soviet empire would give way. St. John Paul II saw something deeper – the Divine Mercy at work in human history – and in your life and mine.

This Sunday let's ask the intercession of St. John Paul II that we would know deeply what we heard in the Psalm: "His mercy endures." Amen. St. John Paul II – Pray for us!

Father Ron

MASS INTENTIONS – April 8 - 16:

Sat	22	5:00	+John and Rose Conrad
Sun	23	7:30	+Myrtle Lyman
		10:15	For the People of the Parish
Mon	24	9:00	Intentions of Tom Peterson, Jr
Tue	25	9:00	+Wil Davis
Wed	26	9:00	+Mary Kyncy
Thurs	27	9:00	+Janice McAdam
Fri	28	9:00	Communion Service
Sat	29	5:00	Intentions of Kaitlyn Radcliff
Sun	30	7:30	+Dr. William and
			Leocadia Serban
		10:15	+Maria Luisa Pacheco

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, Linda Escobar, Bruce Campbell, Yolanda Madrid-Picano, Barbara McRae, Charlie Rogers, Carol Posehn, Jim Weese and Jack Macy.

FOR THE SOULS OF: Clem Shanahan

EASTER COLLECTION: \$18,536.00

GOOD FRIDAY COLLECTION: \$1,339.00
Holy Land



RETIREMENT
PARTY FOR
KATHY
STODDARD!

SUNDAY
APRIL 30TH AT
5PM

ALL are welcome!
We are having a POT LUCK in the PARISH HALL!
Bring your favorite main dish or side dish
We will provide the drinks and dessert!
PLEASE RSVP TO MEGAN O’NEILL AT
megan4soneill@yahoo.com
or by calling the parish office at
539-4495 ext. 12!

Men’s Club
18th ANNUAL GOLF TOURNAMENT
Sunday, MAY 21ST
Call: Walter Dillaway 539-1031
Or John Caruso 696-1279

YOUTH MINISTRIES INFORMATION

FAITH FORMATION GRADES 1-6

The Gospel for this Sunday describes Jesus’ appearance to his disciples, his greeting of peace, and his gift of the Holy Spirit. We show our faith when we demonstrate courage in the face of difficulty. What could you do this week as an individual or family to help strengthen someone when they are sad or give them courage when they are afraid? Check out pflaumweeklies.com to find your free resources designed for families in the continuing the Good News at home.

Sunday Classes 9-10:05 am.

Wednesday Classes 3:30-4:30 pm.

JUNIOR HIGH YOUTH MINISTRY

All Junior High Students are invited to join us this Monday, April 24, 3:30-5PM in the Holy Family Room. We will celebrate Easter and Build Community with each other. Bring your favorite treat to share with all!

CONFIRMATION PREPARATION 2ND YEAR

The Monday and Tuesday, April 24 and 25, we will gather from 6:30 to 8:30pm in the Holy Family Room. We will continue our preparation for Confirmation with Lesson 23: How do I build the kingdom? Saying “Yes” to the Mission of Christ and His Church” Bring a treat to share!

Many thanks to those of you that took “Prayer Cards” for our Confirmation Candidates. Please keep them in your prayers each day until their Confirmation on May 13th.

HIGH SCHOOL YOUTH MINISTRY

All high school teens are invited to join us this Wednesday evening April 26 from 7-8:30pm in the Holy Family Room. We will explore another episode of “Joan of Arcadia, “Drive He Said.”

Catholic Cursillo Movement – Come join us for fellowship gatherings of Catholics. Meetings are held generally twice a month in Santa Rosa and Rohnert Park. The May dates:

Wednesday, May 3, 6-8pm, St. Eugene’s

Saturday, May 20, 2-4pm, St. Elizabeth Seton

GET ON THE BUS – The annual quilt raffle for Get on the Bus, the organization that takes children to see their parents in prison, will take place after all the masses on the Weekend of April 29-30. The drawing is Friday, May 12 at 5 am when the children and their caretakers board the bus from Resurrection Parish. Any questions, please call Phyllis Bazzano, 528-4151.



Holy Spirit Men's Club

presents

"HOLY MOSTACIOLLI"

Friday, April 28th

Doors Open at 5 PM

NO HOST BAR

Dinner served from 6 to 8 PM

"FREE" DINNER

Bring the whole Family!

FOR ALL HOLY SPIRIT PARISHIONERS

"TO CELEBRATE OUR COMMUNITY"

THIRD SUNDAY OF EASTER

	Readers	Eucharistic Ministers	Greeters	Server
Sat, Apr. 29 5 pm	J. McHugh, P. Babb	Dn. Storm, A. Storm, K. Snodgrass, D. Krempely, D. Mollahan	P. & K. Carlsen	M. Johnson
Sun., Apr. 30 7:30 am	K. LeRoy, P. Edson	B. Antoniuc, A. Arnerich, B. Connolly	K. Castro	C. Hordyk
Sun., Apr. 30 10:15 am	B. O'Shell, L. Orr	L. & S. Johnson, J. & J. Macy J. & D. Lisciandro, S. Simpson	C. Farias A. Lopez	I. Norcia- Crowell M. Salvador
Children's Liturgy of the Word – Babette O'Shell				
Homebound Week of April 26: S. Ayres, P. Edson, E. Manfredi			Friends House: Arlene Storm	

UPCOMING EVENTS

1. Jr. High Youth, Mon., Apr. 24, 3:30-5pm, in the Parish House
2. Confirmation 2nd Year Youth, Mon., Apr. 24, 6:30-8:30pm, in the Holy Family Room
3. Confirmation 2nd Year Youth, Tues., Apr. 25, 6:30-8:30pm, in the Holy Family Room
4. Grades 1 and 2 Wednesday Class, Wed., Apr. 26, 3:30 -4:30pm, in the Parish House
5. High School Youth, Wed., Apr. 26, 7-8:30pm, in the Holy Family Room
6. "Holy Mostaciolli" – Men's Club Holy Spirit Parish Dinner, Fri., Apr. 28, 6pm, in the Hall
7. "Retirement Party for Kathy" – Potluck Dinner, Sun., Apr. 30, 5pm, in the Hall
8. Women's Club "Mother-Daughter Dinner", Wed., May 10, 6 pm, in the Hall
9. Men's Club "18th Annual Golf Classic", Sun., May 21, 12:15 pm, Oakmont East

