



# Holy Spirit Catholic Church

March 10th & 11th, 2018

**1244 St Francis Rd. Santa Rosa, CA 95409**

Parish Office & Rectory: (707) 539-4495 FAX (707) 539-3343

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Office Hours Mon-Thurs 9:30 to 2:30

## **Pastoral Staff:**

Fr Ron Serban, Pastor, Ext. 21

Deacon John Storm, 479-5424, [jstorm@srdiocese.org](mailto:jstorm@srdiocese.org)

Tara Kowalski, Office Manager, Ext. 10

Megan O' Neill, Director of Faith Formation (Grades 1-12)

Ext. 12, [m.oneill-hsc@outlook.com](mailto:m.oneill-hsc@outlook.com)

St Vincent de Paul Society, 537-7835

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

Cheryl Dudley, Women's Club, 539-5313

Patty Edson, Holy Communion Visitation, 538-3208

Diane Bowman, Prayer Chain 539-9035

Sharron Simpson-Ministry Coordinator-[simshar21@gmail.com](mailto:simshar21@gmail.com)

## **Mass & Service Schedule:**

Lenten Confessions: Thursday, March 15th, 6:30pm

Stations of the Cross: Friday, 12 noon. This Friday the 15th Only

Saturday: 5pm.

Sunday: 7:30 & 10:15 am.

Liturgy of the Word for Children: Sundays 10:15 am.

Weekdays: Mondays-Friday & First Saturday 9am

## **Sacrament of Reconciliation:**

Every Thursday and First Saturdays following 9 am Mass  
or at the Rectory by appointment

## **For other Sacraments:**

Please call the Parish Office

6 months in advance for Marriage

3 months in advance for Baptism

## 4th Sunday of Lent March 10th & 11th

... from the Pastor's Desk :

*"Bless me Father for I have sinned"*. When was the last time you said those words? This week you will have an excellent opportunity to do just that. This Thursday evening [March 15<sup>th</sup>] starting at 630pm we will have our *'Lenten Confessions'*. Three priests will be available. One speaks both English and Spanish.. Each confession 'station' will have the option of kneeling behind a screen for privacy or sitting face to face with the confessor. We will also have hand-outs available with the procedure and prayers for those who might need a *'refresher'*. Before you decide if you will avail yourself this opportunity for Reconciliation - please read on.

Celebrating and receiving the Sacrament of Reconciliation can be among the most blessed of human experiences. Yet, there are a number of reasons why we don't take advantage of the Sacrament or we do not celebrate it well. Fear, shame, bad experiences, of the past with a difficult priest, a long time since the last reception of the Sacrament or bad habits in celebrating it now, are all possible reasons for struggles with the Sacrament. The solution is so simple. A simple understanding of the Sacrament and a small encouragement to give it another try, with a new expectation, can literally change our lives and will certainly renew our faith.

The Sacrament of Reconciliation is God's gift to us. In the story the Prodigal Son, which we heard a few weeks ago, Jesus tells us that God is simply waiting for us to *'come home'*. In the story, the father is not only waiting, he is out by the road longing for the wayward son to return. And when the son begins to give his practiced speech of repentance, the father stops him and orders that a celebration begin.

Jesus is telling us that this is how God feels about our reconciliation. It is not about our having to shame ourselves or face being scolded. It is all about letting ourselves receive the merciful and healing love and peace that only God's love can give us.

Often asked questions: *"What does serious sin look like? Do we still have mortal and venial sins? How do I examine my conscience?"* First of all, let's consider what serious sin is. According to the teaching that many of us learned in our catechism or religious education, there are serious and less serious sins. A serious sin is called a *'mortal'* sin because it mortally wounds our relationship with God. To say it another way, when we see what a mortal sin is, it will become clear to us that it is a choice which involves turning my back on my relationship with God, freely and deliberately. Less serious sins, called *'venial'* sins, involve weakness and patterns of sin in our lives. They are sins, for sure, and involve missing the mark of what it means to be a follower of Jesus, but, as we will see clearly, they do not involve a free and deliberate choice to turn our backs completely on our relationship with God.

For something to be a mortal sin, three things are required. All three of them are necessary. It must be something quite seriously wrong. It must be something I do, knowing that it is serious and knowing that it is wrong. And, it must be something I do deliberately, that is freely. So, for something to be a mortal sin, I have to understand that something is serious enough to ruin my relationship with God and freely choose to do it anyway.

When we examine our consciences we are looking primarily for things like that. And we're looking for them in two areas: in what I have done and in what I have failed to do. For example I might never have mistreated my children, verbally or physically, but I might examine my conscience and recognize that I failed in my responsibility to raise them in the faith – the commitment I made at the time of my marriage and at their baptisms. However, I might judge that, though it is a serious matter, I did not do it deliberately and intentionally. In that case, I might examine this situation in terms of my overall selfishness or failure to live my commitments – perhaps venial sins in the area of what I failed to do, but for which I can ask forgiveness and receive healing so I can do this better in the future, and receive our Lords peace, even if I can't fix the past.

*Our sins are forgiven.* We must never forget what happens in the Sacrament of Reconciliation. Our sins are forgiven! They're taken away! The slate is wiped clean. We have a new beginning – fresh start. We receive God's mercy and are filled with God's peace. And once this total complete forgiveness happens, deep and lasting healing can happen as well.

So, it is a great idea to return to the Sacrament of Reconciliation and to receive a fresh start and to let the grace of healing begin. Most of us are ready to do that because we really miss communion with our God. We really don't like division, conflict, selfishness, negativity, disorder, injustice or dishonesty. We long for integrity and a love which nothing but this Sacrament can offer us.

Now, with all that being said, if you haven't been for a while, don't worry about the format –we will walk you through it. All you need is a humble, contrite heart and willingness to do better afterwards. God takes great delight in your returning to him. You've carried your burden alone - far too long.

Remember; there is no sin that cannot be forgiven – but we must ask. *He waits...*

*Father Ron*

## The Mass Schedule- March 10th-18th

|       |       |         |                            |
|-------|-------|---------|----------------------------|
| 03/10 | Sat   | 5:00pm  | Int. of Don Ratcliff       |
| 03/11 | Sun   | 7:30am  | Mass for the People        |
| 03/11 | Sun   | 10:15am | †Archibaldo & Helga Da Luz |
| 03/12 | Mon   | 9:00am  | Int. of Katie Neal         |
| 03/13 | Tues  | 9:00am  | Covel-DeBruin Families     |
| 03/14 | Wed   | 9:00am  | Int. of Michelle Davis     |
| 03/15 | Thurs | 9:00am  | †Tom Hubbard               |
| 03/16 | Fri   | 9:00am  | †Dennis DeCota             |
| 03/17 | Sat   | 5:00pm  | †David Frey                |
| 03/18 | Sun   | 7:30am  | Mass for the People        |
| 03/18 | Sun   | 10:15am | †Mary E. Byrne             |

## 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, Helen Hubbard, Joey Benjamin, Karen D'Ambrogi, Bonnie Clark, Renee Dierckx, Jackson Langdon, Nina Cantacessi, Debbie Sickma, Lisa Adams, Margaret Potchatek, Charlotte Facchini, Anne Benjamin, Erasmo Roque, Phyliss Smith, Ken Davis, Marilyn Lechuga and Chuck Fritch

**FOR THE SOULS OF:** Jack Macy, Nathan Krempely, Charlie Rogers, Paul Davis, Jeanne Vandenberghe, Bruce Campbell, Dennis DeCota, Frank Mantellina, Ray Hill, Alice Puruggannan, Howard Furlong, Richard Marson, Al Pisenti, Margaret Winrich and Carmen Leon-Guerrero

## 22nd Annual Easter Egg Hunt

9:30AM SATURDAY, March 31<sup>st</sup> 2018

Meet in the Parish Plaza

Walkers to age 11 years



Grab a flyer & registration form in the back of the church and join us for this fun event!

**LAST WEEK'S PLATE COLLECTION:** \$ 8,345.04

**LAST WEEKS SECOND COLLECTION** \$ 3,059.00

**BUILDING MAINT:**

**THIS WEEK'S SECOND COLLECTION:**  
**CATHOLIC RELIEF SERVICES/  
CAMPAIGN FOR HUMAN DEVELOPMENT**

## STATIONS OF THE CROSS

**This Friday ONLY, March 16th, stations will be at 12 noon.**



Ladies, mark your calendars for the Women's Club annual "Sox Night" on Wednesday, April 11th! This year it's a movie and pizza event, and we will donate all those new sox for homeless families.



## March 17th & 18th /5th Sunday of Lent

|                             | Readers                      | Eucharistic Ministers   | Greeters     | Servers                |
|-----------------------------|------------------------------|---|--------------|------------------------|
| Sat, March 17th<br>5 pm     | #1-K. Schmoll<br>#2-L. Kubo  | Joe Piasta, Kathy Snodgrass,<br>Mary Davis, Deacon John<br>Arlene Storm   | As Available | As Available.          |
| Sun., March 18th<br>7:30 am | #1-P. Edson<br>#2-L. Kubo    | Robin & Kurt Kunde<br>Cindy Hordyk  | As Available | Elizabeth<br>McDonnel. |
| Sun, March 18th<br>10:15 am | #1. M. Cusack<br>#2.R. Brady | Charlene Hullinger, Marti Hoeft,<br>Pat Dillaway,<br>Diane & John Lisciandro,<br>Jacky Macy, Tony Pimental,<br>Robert Vidalin, Patty Zack | As Available | Jerome<br>Salvador     |

Children's Liturgy of the Word – Babette O'Shell

Homebound Week of March 14th D. Mollihan, D. Boito, L. Ward

# FAITH FORMATION INFORMATION

## Faith Formation Grades 1-6

***This Sunday's Gospel: John 3:14–21*** describes Jesus as the Son God sent into the world to reveal God's love. Those who believe in Jesus believe in the power of God's love as the light of their lives—a light that can turn darkness into light and troubles into joys.

Pray together as a Lenten special devotion, try to have a family evening prayer each day this week. Use a favorite family prayer, pray in your own words, or say one decade of the Rosary. Set a definite time for this prayer. Remember that the prayer time does not need to be long or involved. The important part is praying together.

<http://www.pflaumweeklies.com>



*\*\*\*Just a reminder that next Sunday (3/18) there will not be any classes. Our catechist have been given time off to attend LA Religious Education*



### **Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults**

No meeting this week (3/15), Catechist are away at LA Religious Education Congress. PLEASE KEEP OUR CATHECUMEN AND CANDIDATES IN YOUR PRAYERS AS THEY JOURNEY TO THEIR FULL COMMUNION WITH THE CHURCH THIS EASTER.

### **Confirmation**

***Confirmation Parents a Parent Meeting will be held Monday, March 12<sup>th</sup> at 6:30PM in the Holy Family Room.***



Your child may join us at 6:30 to continue working on their puzzle piece and explore possible saints' names for Confirmation in the adjoining classrooms or wait until 7PM.

**Fr. Ron will join us this week (3/12) to speak on Vocational Discernment and Holy Orders**

**Wednesday, March 14<sup>th</sup> at 7PM** join us for a "Joan of Arcadia" catch up! "Joan of Arcadia" is an old TV series that features Joan, a 17yr. old girl who meets God in a variety of forms. God asks Joan to perform certain tasks which ultimately have moral and philosophical consequences.



Join us for a great show and discussion. Questions contact Megan O'Neill ([m.oneill-hsc@outlook.com](mailto:m.oneill-hsc@outlook.com)) **ALL HIGH SCHOOL TEENS ARE WELCOME IN YOUTH MINISTRY.....**even if you have never joined us before or can only make it on an irregular basis. We would love to welcome you to be a part of this growing ministry!

### **INVITATION TO MASS of the CHRISM**

The Most Reverend Robert F. Vasa, Bishop of the Diocese of Santa Rosa, along with the Diocesan and Religious priests of the Diocese invite you to participate in the **Mass of the Chrism** at the Cathedral of St. Eugene in Santa Rosa on **Thursday, March 22**, at 5:30 p.m.

The **Mass of the Chrism** is celebrated once a year, during which the Bishop blesses the oil of Catechumens, the oil of the Sick and the oil of Chrism. This Mass is one of the principal expressions of the fullness of the ministerial priesthood that the bishop has received and it also signifies the unity the priests have with the bishop who share in the same ministerial priesthood. During this Mass the Diocesan and Religious priests will renew their commitment of priestly service.