



# Holy Spirit Catholic Church

March 17th & 18th , 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:**

Stations of the Cross: Fridays 6:30pm

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

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

... from the Pastor's Desk:

*Here is a 'truism'.*

Every life worth living, every great work, has a price that has to be paid. And whatever that price is, it always involves letting go of something we value.

The child, in a sense, has to let go childhood to become an adult.

The single have to let go of the 'single' lifestyle to become married.

The elderly have to let go of the work-a-day world to become retired.

Life comprises then, a series of letting 'go's', or as today's Gospel says – 'deaths'.

That's what Jesus is telling us with his parable about the seed. As Jesus said to Nicodemus: The seed must die. **But the seed doesn't really die.** It changes into something, greater, more beautiful, changes to what God always intended it to be as the logical consequence of its creation.

Every seed has a miracle locked up inside it: It has the capacity to become a noble tree or a gorgeous flower or a tasty meal for someone. But it can't become any of those things if it stays on the shelf in its nice, dry little envelope. It has to let go of that comfortable spot and get down into the dirt where it's dark and damp. It has to let go of being a little seed, if the miracle is to happen.

It is about not being afraid of letting go... and so it is with us, all of us.

The adolescent flies the nest of home to create its own niche.

The newly married plunge into a void to found a family.

The elderly retire from active work to dream new dreams.

It was always thus. It shall always thus be.

To be born, we had to die. To die, we had to be born...

The womb is our first tomb. The tomb will be our last womb.

We enter this world crying - we seldom leave it without a whimper. So life is a series of 'dying's'. Those who master the art of living - must be well-practiced in renunciation. We cannot go forward to the new unless we are prepared to renounce - to 'let go' of the old.

Such is life for us all, even for Jesus. To complete his work, he had to let go of everything, even his very life. Letting go takes different shapes for each of us.

For the battered wife or the man who's grown hopelessly stale in his job, it may mean letting go of security and status, and moving on.

For the couple whose marriage is foundering, it may mean staying put but letting go of old habits and ideas that have got in the way. Or in extreme, threatening cases, it may mean just saying Good-bye and 'Fare thee well....'

In every case, clinging to things as they are and refusing to let go will inevitably rob us of life and steal away our joy - all because we're afraid of losing what we have, though it may be as tiny and insignificant as a seed.

Knowing when and what to let go is not easy. And finding the courage to do it is even harder. Only one thing makes it possible: Our connectedness to God, who will help us see ourselves clearly through his eyes, and then help us act with his strength.

God wants us to have life and joy to the full. And lest we miss the best parts of life, he is challenging us to ask ourselves a simple question:

*What am I clinging to that is robbing me of life? What am I afraid of letting go?*

There's an important answer if we ask the question and then listen carefully.

So ask the question now and don't be afraid.

God knows the answer - and I can promise you - that if you listen and believe, it is a happy ending.

Or, perhaps better stated.... a Happy Beginning.

*Father Ron*

## The Mass Schedule- March 17th-25th

03/17	Sat	5:00pm	†David Frey
03/18	Sun	7:30am	Mass for the People
03/18	Sun	10:15am	†Mary E. Byrne
03/19	Mon	9:00am	Int. of Mika Neal
03/20	Tues	9:00am	Int. of Jim Ganley
03/21	Wed	9:00am	†Rebecca Jane Wade
03/22	Thurs	9:00am	†Marcus Johnson
03/23	Fri	9:00am	†Barbara Favale
03/24	Sat	5:00pm	†Fr. Jim Flanagan
03/25	Sun	7:30am	Mass for the People
03/25	Sun	10:15am	†James Kaiser

## 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, Andy Darrow, Jackson Langdon, Nina Cantacessi, Debbie Sickma, Lisa Adams, Margaret Potchatek, Charlotte Facchini, Anne Benjamin, Erasmo Roque, Phylliss Smith, Ken Davis, Marilyn Lechuga, Chuck Fritch and George Fannuci

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

## 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!

Please pray for the repose of the soul Rose Mary Bernstein, a beloved parishioner who recently passed away. Her services have already been conducted. Our condolences to her family and friends. God bless you Rose Mary.

**LAST WEEK'S PLATE COLLECTION:** \$ 5,685.00

**LAST WEEKS SECOND COLLECTION** \$ 1,535.00

**BUILDING MAINT:**

**THIS WEEK'S SECOND COLLECTION:**  
**St. VINCENT DE PAUL**

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.



## COME HELP US DECORATE THE CHURCH!

Palm Sunday: Thursday March 22nd at 1:00pm  
Holy Thursday: Wednesday, March 28th at 12:30pm  
Easter: Saturday, March 31st at 10:00am



## March 24th & 25th /6th Sunday of Lent

	Readers	Eucharistic Ministers	Greeters	Servers
Sat, March 24th 5 pm	#1-M. Davis #2-J. McHugh	Dino Boito, Pat O'Brien, Dominica Mollahan, Elly Manfredi	As Available	As Available.
Sun., March 25th 7:30 am	#1-B. Antoniuc #2-B. Antoniuc	Deacon John & Arlene Storm, Jane Hoffman	As Available	Elizabeth McDonnel.
Sun, March 25th 10:15 am	#1. S. Duffy #2.T. Pimentel	Laurie Berlo, Michelle Daivs, Donna Kaiser, Dennis Krempely, Jolon Wagner, Dave Adams, Kathy Stevens, Diane Hobough	As Available	Jerome Salvador

Children's Liturgy of the Word – Barbara Nishimoto

Homebound Week of March 21st– S. Ayers, T. Pimentel, P. Breuer

# FAITH FORMATION INFORMATION

## Faith Formation Grades 1-6

In Sunday's Gospel (John 12:20–33), Jesus faces religious leaders who are plotting against him. Many Jews and Greeks in Jerusalem were coming to him, and this fueled anger in Jesus' opponents. Jesus explains his fate by using the parable of a grain of wheat falling to the ground. Unless it dies, it remains a single grain. If the seed dies, it will produce a rich harvest...



*This grain of wheat becomes bread. The bread of the Eucharist helps us understand who Jesus is and how the Mass gathers us together as a people. As a family, share your experiences of Mass. What are some of your best experiences? Why are these experiences so special?*  
<http://www.pflaumweeklies.com>

## Confirmation



**Confirmation candidates will gather this Monday (3/19) from 6:30PM -8:30PM in the Holy Family Room (new time, same place).**

This Monday we will look at a very essential part of our faith journey “**Getting to Know God Through Prayer**” Don't forget to bring your book!

**All high school and middle school students are invited to join us for the Chrism Mass, Thursday March 22<sup>nd</sup> at 5:30PM.** We will gather at St. Eugene's Cathedral at 5:15PM and head to Round Table Pizza after mass!  
Contact Megan O'Neill for more information and a permission slip.

## Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults



This Thursday (March 22<sup>nd</sup>) all R.C.I.A. candidates and catechumen will gather in the Holy Family Room at 6:30PM to continue our Lenten journey of **Purification and Enlightenment**. This week's reflection will be on the “*The Death and Life of Lazarus*”  
*PLEASE KEEP OUR CATHECUMEN AND CANDIDATES IN YOUR PRAYERS AS THEY JOURNEY TO THEIR FULL COMMUNION WITH THE CHURCH THIS EASTER*

**Wednesday, March 21<sup>st</sup> at 7PM** join us for a “Joan of Arcadia’ catch up Part Two! “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 and **BRING A FRIEND!**

