

HOLY SPIRIT CATHOLIC CHURCH



PARISH OFFICE: **1244 St. Francis Rd., Santa Rosa, Ca 95409**

Phone **(707) 539-4495**, FAX 707.539.3343

Email: **holy-spirit@sbcglobal.net** Website: **www.holyspirit-sr.org**

**NEW OFFICE HOURS: Mon., Wed., Thursdays 9:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m.
and Tuesdays 11 am to 2:30 pm**

Pastor

Father Ron Serban

Deacon

John Storm 707.479.5424
jstorm@srdiocese.org

Liturgical Music Director

Francis Oliveira, Francis@holyspiritsr.org

Director of Religious Education

Matt Conley, matt@holyspiritsr.org
707.539.4495 ext.108

Office Administrator

Ruth Canniff, 707.539.4495

St. Vincent De Paul Society

707.537.7835, call Mon. 2-3:30 pm

Men's Club

Jack Tolin, 707-695-4744

Women's Club

Lynne DeCota, 707-981.8619

Holy Communion Visitation

Ruth Canniff, 707-539.4495

Prayer Chain

Diane Bowman. Call the office.

Parish Finance Council Chair

Brian Connolly,
brian@brianconnolly.net

Parish Advisory Council Chair

Loyde Johnson, loydej@sbcglobal.net

Weekend of March 16-17, 2024

MASS & SERVICE SCHEDULE

Weekday Mass: Mon., Wed., Thurs., Fri., at 9 am

Communion Service : Tuesday at 9 am.

Saturday Mass of Anticipation: 5 pm

Sunday Masses: 8 am, 10:30 am

1st Saturday of the Month: 9 am

Video Mass: A Saturday Mass is recorded each week and uploaded to our Youtube channel, **Holy Spirit—Santa Rosa.**



Fridays During Lent (except Good Friday)

Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament 2-3 pm

Reconciliation available in Sacristy after
Exposition begins to 2:50 pm.

Stations of the Cross at 3 pm

SACRAMENTS: Please call the office 707.539.4495

Reconciliation: Call the office for times.

Marriage: Call 6 months in advance.

Baptism: Call 3 months in advance.

PARISH REGISTRATION: in person, online, or by email

ONLINE DONATING at www.holyspirit-sr.org

HOME COMMUNION Please contact the office at
707.539.4495.

Fifth Sunday of Lent ~ March 16-17, 2024

..from your 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 of 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, 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

**Our Lenten Almsgiving Partner
Father Boniface Mbithi Nduva's
hometown, The Village of Ulu in Kenya
We will have a collection later in Lent and
Online giving is activated on our website.**



MASS INTENTIONS: March 16-24

03/16	Sat	5:00 PM	†Paul Ronchelli
03/17	Sun	8:00 am	For the People
03/17	Sun	10:30am	†Mary E. Byrne
03/18	Mon	9:00 am	†Anna Hadfield
03/19	Tue	9:00 am	<i>Communion Service</i>
03/20	Wed	9:00 am	Ho Seong
03/21	Thur	9:00 am	†Jim Rauber
03/22	Fri	9:00 am	Available
03/23	Sat	5:00 PM	†Rosario Ramos
03/24	Sun	8:00 am	For the People
03/24	Sun	10:30am	† Joseph Caputo

MINISTRY SCHEDULE: March 23-24

Mass	Lectors	Eucharistic Min.
Sat. 5:00 pm	#1—Tina T. #2—Carole R.	Mary D. Cheryl D. Judith M.
Sun. 8:00 am	#1—Kathy L. #2—Brian C.	Bob A. Donna K. Elizabeth M.
Sun. 10:30am	#1—Lilla O #2—Deanna B.	John L. Jolon W. Mike W.

Last Week's General Collection	\$ 8,787.00
Online General Fund Offering	\$ 1,626.75
The Village of Ulu, Kenya	\$ 50.00

HOLY WEEK

Palm Sunday—March 24

Holy Thursday, Mar. 28 at 6:30 pm

Good Friday, Mar. 29 at 3 pm

Easter Egg Hunt & More, Mar. 30

9:30-12 (Breakfast begins at 8)

Holy Saturday, Mar. 30 at 5 pm

EASTER SUNDAY MASSES, Mar. 31

at 8 am, 10:30 am, and 1 pm

REMINDER: There will NOT be 9 am masses on Holy Thursday or Good Friday. There will NOT be Confessions, Exposition of the Sacrament, or Stations of the Cross on Good Friday.

**PLEASE PRAY FOR OUR SICK
& THOSE WHO NEED OUR PRAYERS**

Sharon Leiberman, Mike Murray, Greg Macy, Fr. John Boettcher, Gabriella Ibarra, Annette O'Brien Fashauer, Jim Weese, Laura Zabatta, Jon DeVault, Kathy Hauck, John McHugh, Laura Pontes, Nancy Carrey, Larry Darling, Renee Ralls, Marion Fairbank, Tim Coyne, John Scrempo, Mike and Nancy Cusack, Cecelia Bautista, Bob Spalding, Donald Brent, Tristan Humble, Marlene Knivila, Jenny Lemp, Doug Harman, Margaret Duffy, Maria Alvarez, Mary Jo Toth, Mary Davis, Arthur Tyler, Lisa Bennett, Ruth Ann Haisey, Lew & Margie Chase, the Pisenti family, Holy Spirit Prayer Chain.

FOR THE SOULS

Arlene Pearson, Karin Lee, Peggy Levy, Regina Dieter, James Barton, Jr., Nancy Bufano, Julia Gromo, Bruce Marts Sr., Terry McNally, Derek Dunn, Bill Pinella, George Macaulay, Barbara Nowacki, Phyllis Smith, Ed McCarthy, Laura Dole, Arlene Figueroa, Bob Jennessee, Doris Gianini DeFord, Bill Davis, Kathy Stoddard, Dominica Mollahan, William Ouimette, Kim Seghezzi, Stephen Otis.

NEXT WEEK'S 2nd Collection is for CATHOLIC RELIEF SERVICES/CCHD
Please write separate checks. Thank you!


 Join us!
Easter Egg Hunt & Activities!

SATURDAY
MARCH 30, 2024
9:30 AM - NOON
1244 ST. FRANCIS RD, SANTA ROSA 95409









- BREAKFAST BEGINS AT 8 AM
- 2 BOUNCE HOUSES
- FACE PAINTING
- EASTER BUNNY PHOTO OP
- FUN GAMES
- EGG HUNT AT 9:30 AM

WITH SECTIONS FOR DIFFERENT AGE GROUPS



FOR MORE INFORMATION, CONTACT MATT CONLEY, DRE
 EMAIL: MATT@HOLYSPIRITSR.ORG, OR CALL 707.539.4495 EXT. 108


 Calling all moms with children from the newborn stage to the teenage years! Join us for friendship, fellowship, and faith-sharing at our upcoming gatherings:



--Wed, 3/27, 10am-12pm - Potluck brunch at St. Joseph's Parish Hall in Cotati. Time for visiting and reflecting on Sarah's example in "Becoming Women of the Word" by Sarah Christmyer. The book is not necessary to join. **Children are welcome at all events!**
RSVP rdiocese.catholicmoms@gmail.com for more details.

Grief Support Group

Wednesdays: April 3rd at 6:30-8 pm and the potluck will be on May 8th from 5:30-8 pm in the church hall.

ONE MORE HOSTESS NEEDED FOR THE VICTORIAN TEA ON APRIL 20TH. If interested, contact Lynne DeCota at 707-981.8619. Thank you!

INVITATION TO MASS of the CHRISM: The **Mass of the Chrism** is celebrated once a year. 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. You are invited to participate in the **Mass of the Chrism** at the **Cathedral of St. Eugene** in Santa Rosa on **Thursday, March 21, 2024 at 5:30 p.m.**

WEEKLY CHURCH CALENDAR		March 17 – March 24, 2024	
SUNDAY	3/17		<i>NO CLASS</i>
MONDAY	3/18	6:30 PM	Boy Scouts Meet
TUESDAY	3/19		
WEDNESDAY	3/20		<i>NO FAITH FORMATION CLASSES</i>
		4:00 PM	Parish Advisory Council and Finance Committee Meet
THURSDAY	3/21	7:00 PM	Choir Practice
FRIDAY	3/22	2:00 PM 3:00 PM	Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament & Reconciliation Stations of the Cross
SATURDAY	3/23		
PALM SUNDAY	3/24		<i>NO CLASS</i>