

HOLY SPIRIT CATHOLIC CHURCH



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

The office faces Raters Drive. Look for the fountain.

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

office@holyspiritSR.org Website: **www.holyspirit-sr.org**

OFFICE HOURS: Mon., Tues., Wed., Thurs. 9:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m.,

Pastor

Father Ron Serban

Deacons

John Storm 707.479.5424

jstorm@srdiocese.org

Bob Holgren

DcnBob@holyspiritSR.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, office@holyspiritsr.org

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

Prayer Chain

Diane Bowman. Call the office.

Parish Finance Council Chair

Brian Connolly,

brian@brianconnolly.net

Parish Advisory Council Chair

Loyde Johnson, loydej@sbcgloba.net

707.921.9292

Eighth Sunday in Ordinary Time March 1-2, 2025

MASS & SERVICE LENT SCHEDULE

Weekday Mass: Monday-Fridays 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 Go to www.holyspirit-sr.org

HOME COMMUNION Please contact the office.

CHOIR PRACTICE Thursdays at 7 pm in the church.

VOLUNTEERING Please contact the office.

Eighth Sunday in Ordinary Time – March 1-2, 2025

....from the Pastor's Desk

“Where have all the Flowers gone?”

You've heard me say that Lent was not my favorite time of the year. I am, by nature, a jovial person. I love to laugh and smile, to joke and jest. So, as a lad in the 1950's these did not go well with the Season as it was then observed. Through the years, try as I may, I just could not remain, sad, forlorn, and overly introspective or depressed for 6 weeks. Eventually, as I grew older and did my own research and studies on it I discovered; Lent is not a time of depression - even though everything in the Liturgy is toned-down and simplified and we try to simplify our own lives too.

Lent is a time for returning to the heart. **“Return to me with all your heart.”** Anyone with a heart has also a sense of humor. Sometimes it's the only way we can live with ourselves [or others]. It is painful work to strip away the ego's defenses and projections, and we have to do it with good grace if it's to stay done.

For many years now I wish people a **'Happy Lent'**, which does catch some people off guard. I suppose this greeting found its origin in the Preface for the First Sunday of Lent which said —*each year you give us this joyful season when we prepare to celebrate the Pascal Mystery with mind and hearts renewed.* However, the new translation of the mass, puts it this way: —*each year your faithful await the sacred paschal feasts with the joy of minds made pure*”. Aha!

This makes things much clearer, it stresses that Lent is principally a time of purification. It is that, but also, the season is joyful, and that joy leads us to purify our lives. The joy that is referred to is more serenity than pleasure. It is the serenity that comes from having kept a good Lent, having borne the hardships of penance and fasting and having put quite a bit of extra effort into our prayer lives.

We need to be attentive to the fact that the liturgy (Mass) has various moods and specific emphases for each liturgical season. This is why music instrumentation is at a minimum and there are not many flowers or plants in church. This is why we wear the solemn color purple. This is why we have devotions like the Holy Hour and Stations of the Cross offered for your edification. This is why we pray, fast, and give alms during this time more than other Seasons of the Church Year. The idea is to express the very different emotions of sorrow, praise and profound devotion – in harmony.

So Lent is a penitential season, but that does not make it a miserable season. There is joy in it but it is a sober joy, a restrained serenity that comes from being faithful to the traditional Lenten penances which are undertaken to unite ourselves to the sufferings of Jesus. It is a sorrowful (repentant) season but our sadness is moderated by the knowledge that Christ has won the victory and paid the price of our redemption.

Keep Lent well, and... pardon my Lenten Smile!

The Little Black Books Are Here!

Hello Friends! As we have for both Advent and Lent the last six years, so we are again now. Our seasonal 'Devotion' books are once again available. Since the book begins today, they will be handed out at the end of Mass. If you are not familiar with them; each day has a special teaching, a bit of scripture, maybe a word about the saint of the day [if there is one assigned] and often a humorous anecdote. It takes just a few minutes but you will be greatly rewarded by making the effort. Plus, it is a good Lenten commitment. As always, one per household until all masses are covered please.

Enjoy! Fr. Ron



Ash Wednesday Masses
 on March 5th 9 am and 6:30 pm
 The second collection will be for
 Central & Eastern Europe.



**YOU ARE INVITED TO TWO
 CATHOLIC CHARITIES EVENTS!**

FELLOWSHIP HOUR—A Morning of Faith & Purpose
 will take place 10am-11am on March 5th at
 987 Airway Court. This event is an informal conver-
 sation with a staff member who will share success
 stories and host a Q&A afterwards.

A MILE IN THEIR SHOES will be a 1 mile walk
 around Caritas on April 5th at 10 am and begins
 at St. Rose. Visit <https://ccnwc.org/> to sign up!



**DAYLIGHT SAVINGS TIME BEGINS
 MARCH 9TH. REMEMBER TO MOVE
 YOUR CLOCKS FORWARD 1 HOUR!**

MASS INTENTIONS: Mar. 1–9, 2025

03/01	Sat	9:00 am	For the family and soul of †Maria H. Tran
03/01	Sat	5:00 pm	† Bishop William Higi
03/02	Sun	8:00 am	<i>For the People</i>
03/02	Sun	10:30 pm	† Jace Collins
03/03	Mon	9:00 am	<i>Don & Julie Radcliff</i>
03/04	Tues	9:00 am	<i>Communion Service</i>
03/05	Wed	9:00 am	Ash Wednesday— † Manuel Benedict
03/05	Wed	6:30 pm	Ash Wednesday— † Bob Sola
03/06	Thur	9:00 am	<i>Michelle Davis</i>
03/07	Fri	9:00 am	<i>James Rockwell</i>
03/08	Sat	5:00 pm	† Mike Miller
03/09	Sun	8:00 am	<i>Available</i>
03/09	Sun	10:30 pm	<i>Available</i>

EUCCHARISTIC MINISTERS: Mar. 8—9

Mass	Lectors	Eucharistic Min.
Sat. 5:00 pm	#1—Rosalinda B. #2—Pat B.	Cheryl D. Kathy S. Arlene S.
Sun. 8:00 am	#1—Michael W. #2—Kathy L.	Brian C. Cindy D-H. Robin K.
Sun. 10:30am	#1—John M. #2—MaryAnn O.	Michelle D. Diane H. Donna K.

Last Week's General Collection \$ 6,030.00
 Online General Fund Offering \$ 1,388.00

This week's second collection is for
 our Building & Maintenance fund.
 Please write separate checks. **Thank you!**

FUNERALS

Robert O'Donnell—March 8, 2025 at 11 am

Andrew Gonzalez—March 15, 2025
 (Rosary at 10 am, Funeral at 10:30 am)

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

Ralph Sobieski, Brenda L. Winters, Francis Dolan, Scott Humble, MaryEllen Friesen, John O'Connell, Diane Drew, John Scott, Char Lavelle, Jessica Berlo, Renee Ralls, Mickey Smith, Sharon Larrance, Molly Touchette, Rose-Ann Saporita, Gail Flatt, Sachiko Gomez, Juan Scott, Dean Kennedy, Charlene Abayon, Gerri Peterson, Carlos Perez, Donna McMullen, Sharon Leiberman, Mike Murray, Greg Macy, Gabriella Ibarra, John McHugh, Laura Pontes, Nancy Carrey, 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, Arthur Tyler, Lisa Bennett, Ruth Ann Haisey, Lew & Margie Chase, the Pisenti family, and the Holy Spirit Phone Tree.

FOR THE SOULS

Andrew Gonzalez, Robert O'Donnell, William Westendorf, Ken Campbell, John Kerrige, Laura Zabatta, Sharon Vaughn, Barbara Spaulding, Joseph Panara, Larry Darling, Bill Vinson, Karin Lee, Ario Bigattini, Joe Piasta, Patricia Breuer, Imogen Swaney, Patrick Rodriguez, Lynda Adams, Gail Azevedo, Gloria McKay, Miriam Castillo, Jeanne Anderson, Mary Jo Toth, Kathy Hauck, Chris Christianson, Jim Weese, Scot Gordon, Arlene Pearson, Peggy Levy, Regina Dieter.



ANNOUNCING A NEW CLASS!

Lent in the Footsteps of Christ

Tuesdays at 1 p.m. in the Parish House

Enter through the office facing Raters Dr.

Lent is a time of contemplation of our personal Faith. We are called to consider the best ways to foster new growth as we approach the celebration of the Resurrection of Jesus. We too, at the conclusion of the season, are called to emerge with new life in our commitment and understanding of God's presence in our life.

To aid our journey through the Passion and Resurrection of Jesus, Holy Spirit is offering a time and place to reflect on the weekly readings for the coming Sunday. We will dive passionately into the historical context, author and language used in the writings to come to the celebration of the Eucharist with a new perspective on some of the stories we have heard many times.

Please join us on Tuesdays at 1:00 pm to follow the path laid before us by Christ towards a true model of faith we are called to emulate.

The class will be led by Matt Conley, DRE.

UPCOMING EVENTS

- LENT DECORATING_03/04 at 9:30 am
- LENT SCRIPTURE STUDY begins_03/04 at 1 pm
- VICTORIAN HOSTESS MTG._03/04 at 6:30 pm
- ASH WED. MASSES_03/05 at 9 am & 6:30 pm
- CONFESSIONS & HOLY HR._03/07, 2-3pm
- STATIONS OF THE CROSS _03/07, 3-3:30pm
- OCIA _03/12 from 7-8 pm
- CONFIRMATION RETREAT at WM _03/7 TO 3/8
- GRIEF SUPPORT_03/12
- ST. PAT'S DINNER_03/17
- BIBLE STUDY_03/19



HOLY SPIRIT MEN'S CLUB

ST. PATRICK'S DAY DINNER

Monday, March 17th

St. Patrick's Day!



Corned Beef & Cabbage Dinner

Two Italian Bartenders*

Doors open at 6 PM

\$25.00 Dinner, \$5.00 cocktails

Adults Only

LIMITED NUMBER OF ATTENDEES

Tickets on sale after Masses

beginning 3/1/25

No ticket sales at the door!!

Contact: John Caruso 707-696-1279

Email: hsmcsr@aol.com



GIRL SCOUT SUNDAY IS MARCH 9TH!

You are invited to wear green or a uniform, or a Girl Scout pin if you were ever or are a Girl Scout girl or adult, at the 10:30 am Mass on March 9th. See you there!



HOLY SPIRIT WOMEN'S CLUB

The Victorian Tea will be held

Saturday, April 26th, 2025-12-3PM

If you would like to be placed on a Reservation list, call Angela Provisor at 310-498-9444.

The Reservation list is on a first come-first served basis after the hostess' have seated their guests. Cost is \$40

Reminder: Hostess Meeting will be held on March 4th, 2025 at 6:00pm in the parish hall. If you are unable to attend, please send a representative for your table. The church's tablecloths will be available for pick-up if you'd like to use them. **Any questions please call Angela.**

**With Peace & Blessings
Holy Spirit Women's Club**

Grief Support Group

Wednesday, March 12 from 6:30-8 p.m.

at Holy Spirit Parish in the Church Hall,

Whether your loss was recent or more distant, the feelings and challenges are the same. Feel free to drop by and check us out. We are a friendly, compassionate, down to earth group of people who use Scripture as an anchor to make sense and find comfort in our grief. For further information, call Deanna at 909.532.0102 or Mary at 707-495-3095.



*This lenten season
we're raising much
needed funds for*

ywca
sonoma county
a brand new day...

Vital. Singular. Needed.



**“If it weren't for these programs,
I don't know where I would be right now.”**

- Camila, a Safe House resident

As Sonoma County's domestic violence service provider, YWCA Sonoma County is our community's vital and singular answer for local families fleeing violence in their own homes.

**We operate the County's *ONLY* 24/7 Domestic Violence Crisis Hotline
from inside the County's *ONLY* confidential Safe House shelter.**

Since 1976, families have come to us seeking safety for themselves and their children and we have been here to answer their call. By joining us in our mission to provide safety to families, you are ensuring that YWCA's crucial services remain available to your community.

24/7 DOMESTIC VIOLENCE CRISIS HOTLINE | 707-546-1234



*Parishioner Madeleine Keegan O'Connell, YWCA CEO
will speak at mass to share more about YWCA's vision
to keep Sonoma County families safe from harm.
(707) 303-8400*

**Please give
generously.**



Questions and Answers about Lent and Lenten Practices

Q. Why do we say that there are forty days of Lent? When you count all the days from Ash Wednesday through Holy Saturday, there are 46.

A. It might be more accurate to say that there is the "forty day fast within Lent." Historically, Lent has varied from a week to three weeks to the present configuration of 46 days. The forty day fast, however, has been more stable. The Sundays of Lent are certainly part of the Time of Lent, but they are not prescribed days of fast and abstinence.

Q. So does that mean that when we give something up for Lent, such as candy, we can have it on Sundays?

A. Apart from the prescribed days of fast and abstinence on Ash Wednesday and Good Friday, and the days of abstinence every Friday of Lent, Catholics have traditionally chosen additional penitential practices for the whole Time of Lent. These practices are disciplinary in nature and often more effective if they are continuous, i.e., kept on Sundays as well. That being said, such practices are not regulated by the Church, but by individual conscience.

Q. I understand that all the Fridays of Lent are days of abstinence from meat, but I'm not sure what is classified as meat. Does meat include chicken and dairy products?

A. Abstinence laws consider that meat comes only from animals such as chickens, cows, sheep or pigs --- all of which live on land. Birds are also considered meat. Abstinence does not include meat juices and liquid foods made from meat. Thus, such foods as chicken broth, consommé, soups cooked or flavored with meat, meat gravies or sauces, as well as seasonings or condiments made from animal fat are technically not forbidden. However, moral theologians have traditionally taught that we should abstain from all animal-derived products (except foods such as gelatin, butter, cheese and eggs, which do not have any meat taste). Fish are a different category of animal. Salt and freshwater species of fish, amphibians, reptiles, (cold-blooded animals) and shellfish are permitted.

Q. I've noticed that restaurants and grocery stores advertise specials on expensive types of fish and seafood on Fridays during Lent. Some of my Catholic friends take advantage of these deals, but somehow I don't feel right treating myself to the lobster special on Fridays during Lent.

A. While fish, lobster and other shellfish are not considered meat and can be consumed on days of abstinence, indulging in the lavish buffet at your favorite seafood place sort of misses the point. Abstaining from meat and other indulgences during Lent is a penitential practice. On the Fridays of Lent, we remember the sacrifice of Christ on Good Friday and unite ourselves with that sacrifice through abstinence and prayer.

Q. I understand that Catholics ages 18 to 59 should fast on Ash Wednesday and on Good Friday, but what exactly are the rules for these fasts?

A. Fasting on these days means we can have only one full, meatless meal. Some food can be taken at the other regular meal times if necessary, but combined they should be less than a full meal. Liquids are allowed at any time, but no solid food should be consumed between meals.

Q. Are there exemptions other than for age from the requirement to fast on Ash Wednesday and Good Friday?

A. Those that are excused from fast and abstinence outside the age limits include the physically or mentally ill including individuals suffering from chronic illnesses such as diabetes. Also excluded are pregnant or nursing women. In all cases, common sense should prevail, and ill persons should not further jeopardize their health by fasting.