

# HOLY SPIRIT CATHOLIC CHURCH



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

Phone **(707) 539-4495**, Office faces Raters Dr.

**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

email: [jstorm@srdiocese.org](mailto:jstorm@srdiocese.org)

Bob Holgren

email: [DcnBob@holyspiritSR.org](mailto:DcnBob@holyspiritSR.org)

## Liturgical Music Director

Francis Oliveira, [francis@holyspiritSR.org](mailto:francis@holyspiritSR.org)

## Director of Religious Education

Matt Conley, [matt@holyspiritSR.org](mailto:matt@holyspiritSR.org)

707.539.4495 ext.108

## Office Administrator

Ruth Canniff, [office@holyspiritsr.org](mailto:office@holyspiritsr.org)

## St. Vincent De Paul Society

707.537.7835, call Mon. 2-3:30 pm

## Men's Club

Bob Benjamin, 707.292.1115

## Women's Club

Kathleen Freitag, 415.860.2581

## Prayer Chain

Diane Bowman. Call the office.

## Parish Finance Council Chair

Brian Connolly,

[brian@brianconnolly.net](mailto:brian@brianconnolly.net)

## Parish Advisory Council Chair

Loyde Johnson, [loydej@sbcglobal.net](mailto:loydej@sbcglobal.net)

707.921.9292

## Sixth Sunday of Easter May 9-10, 2026

### MASS & SERVICE SCHEDULE

**Weekday Mass:** Mon., Wed., Thurs, Fri. at 9 am  
Tuesday- Communion Service 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:** The Saturday Mass is recorded each week and uploaded to our Youtube channel, [Holy Spirit—Santa Rosa.](#)



**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](http://www.holyspirit-sr.org)

**HOME COMMUNION** Please contact the office.

**CHOIR PRACTICE** Thursdays at 7 pm in Church.

**VOLUNTEERING** Please contact the office.

# Sixth Sunday of Easter ~ May 9-10, 2026

## From your Pastor's Desk:

Many people are deeply concerned about what is happening in our world. And not just rising gas prices. And not just National Security. It seems, rather, that there is a growing sense of National Insecurity. The secular world says people are returning to church because they are afraid. That may be so in some instances, but I feel that they are just 'returning home'. They no longer wish to be alone. They miss and wish 'family'.

That is what we experience on the local level, but what about the global one? There is a danger to not see people as people. Not as children of God. But as 'collateral damage' or 'expendable'. Having spent a good deal of time in the military, I have seen what those terms mean.

How many innocent children have died? How many innocent parents have died?

In today's Gospel, the words "I will not leave you orphans" still speak directly today to some of our greatest fears and challenges, abandonment and isolation, loneliness, and vulnerability. Can we be an advocate for those who left orphans or those who are in despair and full of questions such as what will I do now, where will I go, what is going to happen, who will nurture me and stand with me?

These are some of the same thoughts going through the disciples' heads.  
These are some of the same thoughts going through our heads.

This is when the church, at its best, can be a community of love, that love which gives the church a great power to provide support so desperately needed. The community where the advocate is present provides solace for those who need an advocate. And that advocate is Jesus, the advocate of the Spirit of truth, the Spirit of Jesus, and the Spirit of God.

For us we may not see or hear the presence of God all the time. But the power and presence of God is always available for us. No matter how frightened or alone we feel, no matter how much we feel abandoned or how weak or powerless we believe we are, that does not mean the Spirit is not here. That does not mean we are not loved.

We may feel separated from God, but God does not go anywhere. God is always with us, even when all we can see ahead of us is loneliness and despair. God protects and provides for us. We are God's treasured possession. We are God's children, brothers, and sisters of Christ Jesus. We are friends of Jesus. Jesus promised He will never leave us orphaned. He promised to be with us always through the presence of the Holy Spirit.

And if we live out the commandments of loving God with all we are and loving our neighbors as ourselves, that is proof of our love for Christ. It is not simply saying we love Him. It is doing what He told us to do. That is the measure of our faithfulness and of our love for Jesus. It is because of love for the Father and for us that Jesus embraced the mystery of the cross. It is because of our love for God that we are enabled to endure the sufferings of life. For we know that this life will pass away, but our love of life in Christ will live forever.

Be not afraid.

**Father Ron**

## MOTHER'S DAY PRAYERS

*July will mark my twelfth year here. I have prayed, cried, laughed and rejoiced with many of you. I have seen you in great sorrow and great joy. I implored the Lord for what have asked. What follows here flows from those requests, concerns and oftentimes, tears, through the years. We do not always have words to say when our hearts are breaking or our patience worn thin.*

*These prayers may be shared with anyone you wish or kept for the time in your life when you are hard-pressed to find the right words to pray. These prayers are offered in the spirit of our common experience - every one of us has been borne by a mother. Our mothers may be part of our everyday lives or live far away. Perhaps our communications are strained. Maybe our mother is no longer living. We may know of a young mother, living in the chaos of a newborn, who needs our prayers. Or one who lives in the darkness of dementia. These prayers - your prayers - from the heart are offered for mothers here and everywhere.*

### **Prayer of a Mother Concerned about her Adult Children**

As I turn to you, Lord, my heart is troubled. You know the journey that brought my children to where they are today. I am so sorry if my husband or I might have done wrong, Lord. Our children don't seem to practice the faith we tried to hand on to them. Their values are so different from ours. It breaks my heart to see them passing those same values on to their children, my grandchildren.

Oh, Lord, I place them in your hands. I surrender the judgments and anger that can fill me. I know that, at times, in my frustration and desire to help them, I have pushed them farther away. Give me the graces I need to change my heart. Fill me with your mercy and forgiveness for my sins so that I might grow in the ability to forgive and embrace my kids with compassionate love. Let me be a healer of wounds, rather than a wounder. Let me build bridges of understanding. I know that is the only way I will be able, with your grace, to heal our relationship.

Father of Love, help my kids grow in gratitude to you. Help them to find you in their busy lives. Help me to affirm them and support them with love, that they might recognize authentic faith and love, and turn to you in their time of need. Thank you, Lord. Thank you.

### **Prayer for a Single Mother**

Dear God, she seems to bear the weight of the world on her shoulders, but to carry it more lightly than I think I would. I see her balancing work and home, money and no money, friends who no longer make time to see her, and I send up a prayer for her.

Her old friends have moved on with their lives, and in truth, she doesn't have much in common with them anymore. She is lonely, loving God. She would like company but doesn't want to make time for new relationships because her waking hours are already full: she is a mother. She walks when gas is too expensive for the car and forgoes new clothes so her child can have shoes

This is not how her life started out, but circumstances changed from her life of privilege to this life she embraces so fully. Her life is difficult and she seems so tired much of the time, but I am inspired by the love she has for her child.

Give her the strength to put in long hours each day; the courage to face those who dismiss her with blaming and knowing nods; the ability to maintain her loving life at home; and the deepest knowledge in her heart that you love her.

### **Prayer for a Birth Mother, from an Adoptive Mother**

Please, God, bless the life of this courageous woman. She gave me the great gift of motherhood, and I can imagine the cost to her: an empty spot in her own heart where this child we somehow share will always abide. Bless her life, dear Lord. Give her an abundance of happiness and love and family. Please let her feel the prayers we have for her on each birthday of our child, each Mother's Day. We think of her with reverence and love and inexpressible gratitude.

### **For Working Mothers**

My Loving Creator, You know how really tired I am. On days when things are frantic, I consider how you made the world in seven days -- and then I try to remember that you aren't asking me to recreate that feat.

Please help me to remain a loving mother to my children and to keep some balance in my life. Help me to remember that you are with me in every packed hour of every day. As I am finishing a work project or planning dinner or buying the kids shoes, (sometimes all at the same time) help me to remember your loving care for me and let me sometimes stop for a moment and just wallow in that.

Most of all, my caring Father, let me remember to ask for help and to rely on you for strength when I have none left; for patience when mine is so often gone; and for the wisdom and endless well of compassion and love I need in my job as mother.

### **Prayer for a Grandmother Raising Her Grandchild**

Heavenly Father, Thank You for the gift of my grandchild and the blessing of being entrusted with their care. You know the joys and the challenges that come with this journey. Give me strength when I feel weary, wisdom when I face hard decisions, and patience when the days are long.

Fill our home with love, peace, and laughter. Protect my grandchild's heart, mind, and future. Guide them to grow in kindness, courage, and faith. Help me to be both a safe place and a guiding light for them, showing Your love through my words and actions.

When I feel alone, remind me that You are with me. When I feel unsure, steady my heart with Your promises. May our bond be strong, our days be filled with grace, and our lives be a testimony of Your goodness.

### **For a Mother with Alzheimer's Disease**

*"Take Lord, and receive all my liberty, my memory, my understanding, my entire will...*

*Give me only your love and your grace and that is enough for me." -- Ignatius of Loyola*

Loving God, please bless every mother who has Alzheimer's disease. She was with us children as we learned to walk -- Guide her uncertain steps today as her balance fails her.

She taught us to cross streets and be safe-- Help her not to get lost, even in her familiar surroundings. She held us close in the terrors of the darkest nightmares -- May she not be frightened today by the reality of her life, which is strange and totally out of her control.

She cooked thousands of meals over decades of time -- Please allow her to accept the caring hand that now feeds her. She changed diapers, Lord, and served you each time she did -- Please give her now the humility and grace to be served in this way.

Loving God, the familiar eyes of my mother now respond with a blank stare. She is unable to carry on a conversation, to ask about her family or to serve in the central role she has in our family. Help her accept the surrender of her life these days. Open her prayerful heart and fading mind to be aware of your presence with her, perhaps now closer than ever. Give us, her family, the patience, courage and acceptance to love her as she is and to support her in her daily needs.

### **For a Mother who has Died**

Dear Lord, relying on your promises to us, I turn to you in trust that my mother is with you and that she is enjoying your loving embrace. You alone know how she loved the best she could and how she faithfully endured the struggles that she faced. You know the graces you gave her and you know the grace she was for me and for so many. For all the ways she truly loved the way you loved her, please reward her, Lord. May she enjoy the communion of all her family and friends who are with you.

*Lord, I know my mother still loves us who are still here on earth. I ask You that you might listen to her fervent prayers for us. Help me to grow into a new and deeper relationship with my mother now, as I long for the day when we will both meet in Your embrace - freed from all that might have hindered our relationship on earth, knowing and understanding everything we did not know or understand on this earth.*

*I ask you this with faith in the resurrection, trusting my mother's love, and desiring that she know my love for her. Amen. I wish for you a most blessed Mother's Day. Father Ron*

# God is Love

## FUNERALS

### MASS INTENTIONS: May 9—May 17, 2026

05/09	Sat	5:00 pm	† Don Linch
05/10	Sun	8:00 am	<i>For the People</i>
05/10	Sun	10:30 am	† Mike Cusack
05/11	Mon	9:00 am	† Chris Hawkins
05/12	Tue	9:00 am	<i>Communion Service</i>
05/13	Wed	9:00 am	† Ken Nelson
05/14	Thurs	9:00 am	† Vivian Tarango
05/15	Fri	9:00 am	† Diane Magri
05/16	Sat	5:00 pm	† Robert Brunson
05/17	Sun	8:00 am	<i>For the People</i>
05/17	Sun	10:30 am	† Tom Brady

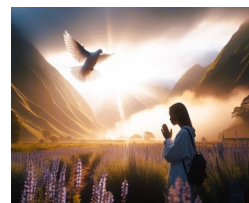
- \*Vivian Tarango ~ May 8 at 11 am
- \*Bob & Barbara Spaulding ~ May 30 at 11 am
- \*LuAnn Capps ~ June 6 at 11 am
- \*Michael Murray ~ June 30 at 11 am

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

Derek O'Leary, Anthony and Beth Donato, George Fiori, H. Vincent McNally, Sister Noreen Duffy CSJ, Betsy Crook, Danny Ruckman, Cindi Doell, Deb Stucke, Joanne Landen, Jordyn P., Richard LaRussa, Tristan Humble, Larry Kubo, Yolanda Farias, Marie Mahoney, Gary Mahoney, Diana Rives, Charles Marchese, Mollie Nichols, Roland Thibault, John Guth, Eliana Pavlicka, Ellie Steffens, John May, Janice Wright, Joe Turdo, Russ Dieter, Ralph Sobieski, Francis Dolan, Scott Humble, Jessica Berlo, Mickey Smith, Rose-Ann Saporita, Juan Scott, Charlene Abayon, Gerri Peterson, Nancy Cusack, and the Holy Spirit Phone Tree.

### FOR THE SOULS

Manuel Martinez, Eleanor Travaglini, Wayne and Barb Matley, Josephine Poni, Lynette Mulert, Jenny Lemp, Mike Murray, Diana Magri, LuAnn Capps, Suzanne Borgert, Mary Davis, Teresa Resende, Shari Brown, Don Linch, Jerry Williams, Jim Codding, Emilio Ricci, Rhio Reigh, Bob Spalding, Bob Crozier, John Scott, Patricia Crook, Millie Jaskola, Mike Cusack, Erma DeSimone, Julie Caruso, Karen Panoski, Benjamin and Jessica Stone, Horst Tilsch, Louis Capuano, Richard Vitali, Mike Largent, Eileen Poggi, Roger Provey Jr., Dale Hands, Barbara Bardella, Diane Drew, Charlene McDaniel, Peg Devine, Cecelia Hurst, Josephine Battaglia, Catherine Kubo, Bernice Rogers, Elizabeth Olsen, Larry Bancroft, Gail Flatt.



*Please call the office if you wish to add, remove or keep someone on the prayer list. Each name will remain for 3 months from the time we receive a request unless we hear otherwise.*

### EUCCHARISTIC MINISTERS: May 16-17, 2026

Mass	Lectors	Eucharistic Min.
Sat. 5:00 pm	#1— Rosalinda B. #2— Pat B.	Judith M. Shirley S. Tim S.
Sun. 8:00 am	#1— Brian C. #2— Henri K.	Kurt K. Robin K. Martie S.
Sun. 10:30am	#1— Loyde J. #2— Lilla O.	Sherry J. Jolon W. Mike W.

Last Week's General Collection \$ 8,425  
 Online General Collection \$ 2,508  
 Building & Maintenance \$ 5,210

**Thank You!**

Next week's 2nd collection is for the Catholic Communications Campaign. Half of your donation for CCC stays in your diocese to support local communications efforts. The other half supports the communication activities of the US Conference of Catholic Bishops as well as projects across the USA and abroad.  
*Please write separate checks .*

**ONLINE GIVING OPTIONS:** *Our online giving options have expanded to include Venmo, ApplePay, Paypal, & Stock/Crypto. Visit our website at [www.holyspirit-sr.org](http://www.holyspirit-sr.org).*



## UPCOMING

- SCRIPTURE STUDY —TUESDAYS at 1PM ,  
Last group Tuesday May 19, 2026
- MEN'S CLUB DINNER— 5/12 –Doors open 6 PM
- WOMEN'S CLUB DINNER— 5/14 @ 6 PM
- JUSTICE & SERVICE—5/18 @ 7 PM
- CONFIRMATIONS—5/23 @ 2 PM



### HOLY SPIRIT MEN'S CLUB

May 12th Meeting  
Doors open 6:00 PM\*  
Dinner at 7 PM



Who, What and Where!  
We are *Holy Spirit* Strong!  
COME CELEBRATE WITH FRIENDS  
GREAT ROASTED BRISKET DINNER,  
VEGGIES, POTATOES AND SALAD  
DRINKS AND FUN!

\$25.00 includes: Dinner, two cocktails  
and fun tickets



### Justice & Service In Community

**Third Mondays Monthly**

**May 18th at 7-8pm**

*Cornerstone Room in the Parish House*

### ARE YOU REGISTERED HERE AT HOLY SPIRIT CHURCH?

Are you new? Would you like to register in our parish? [Registration Forms](#) can be found in the office or online. Let us know if you want to receive offering envelopes. It is alright to be registered at more than one church. For more information contact Ruth at 707.539.4495 or email [office@holyspiritSR.org](mailto:office@holyspiritSR.org). There are forms at the back of church which can be dropped off in our mailbox or in the offering basket.

### *The Holy Spirit Women's Club*



*Invites all women to  
the Woman of the Year  
Dinner on Thursday,  
May 14th,  
at 6:00 p.m.*

**Tickets are \$30.**

**Any questions, please contact  
Angela Provisor at  
369-444-5577.**



### VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL OPTIONS

**TK-8th: June 15-19th at Bethlehem Lutheran  
6:30-8:30 pm, \$20 per family suggested donation.  
(707) 539-5252**

**K-6th: July 20-24th at St. Eugene's Cathedral  
Contact Anna Delaney 707.539.5185**

YOU CAN WATCH OUR MASS  
ON YOUTUBE!



Remember, if you're not feeling well enough to come to Mass in person, please go to our YouTube channel. We livestream our Saturday evening mass. Past masses are also available to watch. Search for Holy Spirit Santa Rosa or click on <https://www.youtube.com/@holyspiritcatholicchurch-s3653/streams>

