



A REFLECTION FROM FR. VINCENT PINEDA, PASTOR

August 31, 2025 – Twenty-Second Sunday in Ordinary Time

"When you hold a banquet, invite the poor, the crippled, the lame, the blind; blessed indeed will you be because of their inability to repay you." - Luke 14:13-14

Dear St. Francis of Assisi family,

Today's Gospel takes us to a dinner party where Jesus offers lessons in both humility and hospitality. What begins as observation about social customs becomes profound teaching about the nature of God's kingdom.

Jesus first addresses the guests, noticing how they choose the places of honor. His advice seems practical: take the lowest place so you might be invited higher rather than risk the embarrassment of being asked to move down. But this isn't just about social etiquette – it's about the fundamental attitude of humility that characterizes kingdom living.

"Everyone who exalts himself will be humbled, but the one who humbles himself will be exalted." This principle runs counter to our culture's emphasis on self-promotion and personal branding. Jesus calls us to a different way – seeking not to elevate ourselves but to serve others, trusting that God will lift us up in due time.

Then Jesus turns to the host with even more radical advice about whom to invite. Instead of friends, relatives, and wealthy neighbors who can reciprocate, invite "the poor, the crippled, the lame, the blind." This isn't just charity – it's a complete reimagining of hospitality and community.

This teaching challenges our natural tendency toward reciprocity and social networking. We typically invest in relationships that might benefit us somehow. But Jesus calls us to radical inclusion, especially of those who cannot repay our kindness. This reflects God's own gratuitous love for us – love given not because we deserve it or can earn it, but simply because God is love.

The promise that follows is beautiful: "Blessed indeed will you be because of their inability to repay you. For you will be repaid at the resurrection of the righteous." Our reward comes not from human reciprocity but from God's recognition of our faithfulness to kingdom values.

This Gospel speaks directly to how we build community in our parish and beyond. Are we creating spaces where everyone feels welcome, especially those who might be marginalized or overlooked? Are we practicing the kind of radical hospitality that reflects God's inclusive love?

This week, consider: How can you practice humility in your daily interactions? What would it look like to extend radical hospitality in your life? Who are the "poor, crippled, lame, and blind" in your community who need to experience God's welcome through you?

Blessings, *Fr. Vincent*

☞ OFFICE HOURS

Monday-Friday, **9:00 AM — 4:00 PM**
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UPCOMING PRESIDER SCHEDULE AND FEATURE ARTICLE

September 6-7, 2025

Twenty-Third Sunday in Ordinary Time
(Subject to Change)

SATURDAY VIGIL

4:00PM *Msgr. Michael Mitchel*

5:30PM (Vietnamese) *Fr. Phong Nguyen*

SUNDAY

8:00 AM *Fr. Ritchie Bueza*

8:15AM(Villages) *Fr. Phong Nguyen*

10:00AM *Fr. Eddie Obero*

12:00PM *Fr. Eddie Obero*

2:00PM (Spanish) TBD

4:00PM *Fr. Phong Nguyen*

6:00PM TBD



A REFLECTION FROM DEACON JOSEPH CABRIDO **Jubilee Year 2025 - A Time of Grace, Renewal, and Mission**

In the Catholic tradition, a jubilee year, also known as a “holy year,” is a special year in the life of the church. Its roots are found in Leviticus 25:8–12, when the Lord spoke to Moses to tell the Israelites to set aside the fiftieth year as a time of liberation, rest, and restoration. Drawing from our Jewish roots, Pope Boniface VIII established the Catholic Jubilee

Year in 1300, emphasizing the sacrament of reconciliation and restoring relationships with God. It also provides an opportunity for a special plenary indulgence, which removes the residual effects of sin through the grace of Christ, and can be offered by the living for the relief of souls in purgatory.

A Jubilee Year is proclaimed by a Pope, and since 1450 has typically occurred every 25 years. However they can be called for a particular purpose and deemed extraordinary as Pope Francis did in 2015 when he declared a Jubilee Year for the 50th anniversary of the end of the Second Vatican Council, naming it the Year of Mercy. In May 2024, Pope Francis decreed that 2025 be a Jubilee Year calling believers to be “tangible signs of hope for those of our brothers and sisters who experience hardship of any kind.” The theme of this holy year is “Pilgrims of Hope” and officially commenced on December 24, 2024, with the opening of the Holy Door at St. Peter’s Basilica in Rome, and concludes on January 6, 2026, the Feast of the Epiphany.

Pilgrimage plays a central role in any jubilee year: the faithful are invited to journey to designated holy sites, especially the four papal basilicas in Rome, and to pass through the Holy Door, a symbol of Christ Himself. This act is not merely ceremonial; it is a physical sign of entering into a renewed relationship with God.

It is also a time for the Church to reawaken her mission in the world, inviting Christians to action. Pope Francis called for “signs of hope”, including the desire for peace in the world, openness to life, responsible parenthood, and closeness to prisoners, the poor, the sick, the young, the elderly, migrants and people “in difficult situations.” Pope Francis has called on affluent countries to forgive the debts of countries that would never be able to repay them, and address “ecological debt,” which he described as “connected to commercial imbalances with effects on the environment and the disproportionate use of natural resources by certain countries over long periods of time.”

A Jubilee Year is a reminder that the Christian life is a continuous journey of conversion. It is a time when God’s grace overflows and the faithful are invited to walk more closely with Christ. We have four months left till Jubilee Year 2025 ends with the closing of the Holy Door. Whether through prayer, pilgrimage, sacramental life, or acts of service, Jubilee Year 2025 is a sacred opportunity to renew the soul and rekindle the mission of love.

Faith Formation

D A T E S T O R E M E M B E R



REGISTRATION CLOSES

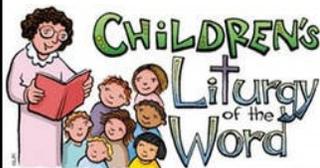
MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 8, 2025

FAITH FORMATION (Elementary/OCIA/OCIC)

✠ J.O.Y. & Faith Formation
(First Eucharist Preparation)

YOUTH CONFIRMATION (High School)

REGISTRATION IS CLOSED



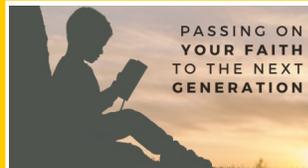
**CHILDREN'S LITURGY OF
THE WORD**

September 14, 28, 2025 at
8AM, 10AM, 12PM

INTERESTED IN BECOMING
CATHOLIC?

What is OCIA? Are you interested in joining the Catholic Church? Then OCIA (Order of Christian Initiation for Adults) is for you! The OCIA process introduces you to the beliefs and practices of the Roman Catholic Church. It helps you explore what it means to be a Christian. It prepares you to enter fully into our community of faith through the sacraments of Baptism, Confirmation, and Eucharist. Becoming Catholic is more than just learning Scripture and rituals; it is discovering how to be a disciple of the Lord.

We welcome all those who are new to the faith, the unbaptized or baptized, those that have not yet been confirmed in the Church and those who are simply just searching for God. If you have more questions, contact Lerma Simpson
lerma.simpson@dsj.org



FAITH FORMATION

Faith: The Next Generation

– Pass It On! Boldly go where many have gone before and help pass on the Good News

of Jesus Christ and our Catholic faith! This fall over 100 children will sign up to learn more about Jesus and the Catholic faith and to prepare for their sacraments. You can help them by becoming a catechist for JOY (Jesus Others and You) or for First Eucharist preparation. The sessions are only once a month, and you don't need any previous experience as a catechist. You will be trained and supported along the way. As you nurture the faith of our young, you will learn and grow as well! As one long-time catechist put it, "I learn so much from the children!" If you are interested in joining our wonderful team of catechists or for more information, please contact Lerma Simpson at lerma.simpson@dsj.org or at (408) 223-1770 ext. 316.

ATTENTION

FAITH FORMATION FAMILIES.

The deadline for registration for Faith Formation programs is fast approaching. **Register your child(ren) for JOY and First Eucharist preparation by September 8, 2025. No late registrations will be accepted.** Please contact Lerma Simpson for more information.

lerma.simpson@dsj.org
(408) 223-1770 ext. 316

MASS INTENTIONS

Monday, September 1, 2025
 Marie Azalino (Health/Healing)
 Gerardo Huerta+
 Huerta Family (SI)

Tuesday, September 2, 2025
 Hoang Yen and Toan Anniversary
 Michael daCosta+

Senya and Dianne Fontanilla (Healing)

Wednesday, September 3, 2025
 Emil Blas Perez+
 David Diaz+
 Ana Maria Vu Thi Thuoc+
 Maria Magdalena Le Thi Thieu+

Our Lady of Perpetual Help (7PM)
 Expedito Reyes+
 Francesca Inuman (Bday)

Thursday, September 4, 2025
 Maria Dung Nguyen+
 Alice Marie Lawrence+
 Chrissa Monique Tabuan+ (Bday)
 Ed Vallejo+ (40th day)

Friday, September 5, 2025
 Rolando Juson+
 Kim Sirhan (Conversion/Healing)

Saturday, September 6, 2025
 Marygrace Sison Estoesta (Birthday)
 Elena Cayentano (Health/Healing)
 Kim Sirhan-Sean Conversion
 Nguyen-Thong-Tuan Conversion

WEEKLY OFFERTORY TOTALS

COLLECTION TOTALS
AUGUST 11-17, 2025:

Masses	\$ 11,594.75
Online	\$ 5,673.00
Mail	\$ 1,456.00
Our Lady of Perpetual Help	\$ <u>183.00</u>
Grand Total	\$ 18,906.75

Feast of the Assumption \$5,860.00
2nd Collection: Church in Africa
\$3,753.00

Thank you in advance for your continual generosity and financial contributions to the needs of our parish!

Saturday/Sunday, September 6-7, 2025
4:00PM Vigil
 Elpidio de Jesus+
 Nicholas Pernia+
 Victor Jose (Bday)

Mayet Galang Recio (Health/Healing)

5:30PM Vietnamese Vigil
 Maria Tran Thi Tranh+
 Leo Hồ Quý Chương+
 Maria Lan Le Duong+

Sunday 8AM Chapel
 Thelma F Rodin+
 Alexander Guiang+
 Maria Dinh Thi Loc+
 Eden Crafts+

8:15AM Villages
10AM Chapel
 Gioakim Dinh Van Hoc+
 For souls of the Dinh-Mais family
 Giancarlo Bello+
 Teresita Galvez+
 Phaolo Huynh Thuong+

12PM Chapel
 Melanie Santiago (Bday)
 Albert Herrera (Bday)
 Adolfo Nonoy Reyes (Bday)

Senya and Dianne Fontanilla (Healing)

2PM Spanish
4PM (Vietnamese)
 Maria Lan Le Duong+
 Thanh Nguyen+

6PM Chapel

Please plan your Mass Intentions in advance if possible (Birthdays, Anniversaries, Death Anniversaries).

Our Mass Intention calendar is open through
December 31, 2025

Our 2026 Mass Intentions will open October 13, 2025

IMPORTANT INFORMATION

- ◆ **Daily Rosary and Prayer**
8:00AM, Chapel
- ◆ **Adoration**, First Friday of month, 9:30AM-5:00PM, Chapel
- ◆ **Our Lady of Perpetual Help** is hosted by Legion of Mary every Wednesday in the Chapel, with a Rosary & Novena at 6:30PM followed by Mass at 7:00PM.
- ◆ **Spanish Community Prayer and Rosary**, Wednesdays at 4:30PM

IMPORTANT CONTACTS:
Crisis Mental Health Services 988
Suicide Hotlines
 Santa Clara County 855-278-4204
 Text Line: 741741
(Text "BAY" for Crisis Support in Bay Area)
 California Youth Crisis
800-843-5200
 Santa Clara County Emergency
 Psychiatric Service (EPS)
485-885-6100
 NAMI Warm Line
 (open Mon-Fri, 10AM-6PM)
408-453-0400

The Peace Prayer of St. Francis



Lord, make me an instrument of Your peace; where there is hatred, let me sow love; where there is injury, pardon; where there is doubt, faith; where there is despair, hope; where there is darkness, light; and where there is sadness, joy.

O Divine Master, grant that I may not so much seek to be consoled as to console; to be understood, as to understand; to be loved, as to love; for it is in giving that we receive, it is in pardoning that we are pardoned, and it is in dying that we are born to Eternal Life. Amen.

We also pray for...

- those in need of healing
- those who have recently passed away
- those who suffer in silence
- those with cancer
- those who have no one to pray for them
- those beginning new journeys

SUNDAY'S SCRIPTURE PASSAGES

TODAY'S READINGS

TWENTY-SECOND SUNDAY
IN ORDINARY TIME

Reading I:

Sirach 3:17-18, 20, 28-29

Reading II:

Hebrews 12:18-19, 22-24a

Gospel:

Luke 14:1, 7-14

NEXT WEEK'S READINGS

TWENTY-THIRD SUNDAY
IN ORDINARY TIME

Reading I:

Wisdom 9:13-18b

Reading II:

Philemon 9-10, 12-17

Gospel:

Luke 14:25-33

St. Francis of Assisi Parish Feast Day!



Save the Date

Saturday, October 4, 2025

BLESSING OF THE ANIMALS

RAFFLE

Talent Show

Event T-Shirt Sponsorship Opportunities available



RUN/WALK-A-THON

LOOKING FOR VOLUNTEERS FOR OUR ST. FRANCIS OF ASSISI FEAST DAY SET-UP AND CLEAN-UP

If you would like to volunteer, you will need to follow Volunteer Compliance and be fingerprinted (if you are over 18) and take the Virtus Safe Environment Training prior to October 4. Please contact Rosie.Olivas@dsj.org

PARDON OUR PROGRESS
EXCITING CHANGES IN THE WORKS

MEMORIAL GARDEN CONSTRUCTION

Dear Memorial Garden Families,
We are preparing for construction in the Memorial Garden. We will be throwing out all flowers and plants in preparation of the new addition to the Memorial Garden. Please do not add any flowers or plants at this time. If you have plants in the garden, you may want to take them home. Otherwise, we will dispose of all items in the garden.

Thank you,
Parish Memorial Garden Management



You Can Help Your Marriage – Do you feel alone? Are you frustrated or angry with each other? Do you argue ... or have you just stopped talking to each other? Retrouvaille helps couples through difficult times in their marriages. This program has helped 10's of 1000's of couples experiencing difficulties in their marriage. For confidential information about or to register for the September program beginning with a weekend on Sept 19-21, 2025 call 408-605-4998, email: SanJose@RetroCA.com or visit our website at www.HelpOurMarriage.org

ATTENTION PARISHIONERS OF THE VILLAGES
The Villages
Annual Anniversary Dinner
September 21, 2025, 5:30PM-9PM
Choice of Menu-Cost \$43
For more information, contact
Haggertymaryann1@gmail.com



MENTAL HEALTH MINISTRY REFLECTION

September 16, 1981 was the worst day of my life. My husband committed suicide on that day and left me with a six-year-old son and a three-year-old daughter to care for. But first of all, I had to get myself the help I needed to recover from this trauma. First, I relied on going to Mass and most times I only cried because I was so depressed. Finally, I decided that I needed professional help to go forward in my future and my children's. With God's help I found a psychologist that was able to get me out of the situational depression and help me deal with the guilt that I felt it was all my fault that my husband had chosen this way to deal with his problems from his youth. It was a struggle for me and my children for sure and my family was not supportive at all. Our lives started to improve until my children became teens. Then they started to act out by running away from home and hanging out with other children who were not a good influence on them and abusing drugs due to the feeling of abandonment of their dad. So now it was time to search for professional help for them. We went for months of psychologist appointments and drug recovery programs. Happy to say that all turned out well because our son has been a sponsor for many people in the NA program and our daughter is a social worker who works for CPS (Child Protective Services) to make sure children are safe in their home environment and gives families resources to help in their care. **If you find that you need help with a mental or emotional problem, don't be afraid to ask for it.**

My goal in writing this article for Mental Health Ministry is to let psychologists, first responders, Doctors., nurses, teachers, firefighters, social workers, priests, and police officers know how much they are appreciated for the career they have chosen to deal with the trauma and drama they witness every day to make a difference for an individual or a family.

However, **there are actions and words that we can do as individuals to brighten someone's day. It can be as simple as smiling and saying hello to a stranger, helping an elderly person with a task that they are having trouble with, hosting a neighborhood event to help build community, talking and praying with another parishioner, and of course getting involved in a SFOA ministry.**

Linda Yap



ST. VINCENT DE PAUL SOCIETY
& ST. SIMON PARISH

E-WASTE COLLECTION

SAVE THE DATE

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 6
9:00AM - 1:00PM

ACCEPTED	NOT ACCEPTED
 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Televisions Computers Servers Monitors Laptops Printers Phones Stereos Cell Phones Wire/Cable 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Toys Bulbs Hair Dryers Alkaline Batteries Household Items Microwave Ovens Fans/Heaters Other Appliances

St. Simon Catholic Church
1860 Grant Road, Los Altos, CA 94024

Contact: Rose Mary Becker at
wpbecker@att.net

Sponsored by: 

ST. SIMON PARISH

RUMMAGE SALE

Parish Center Gym

Friday, August 22nd, 10am - 4pm
Saturday, August 23rd, 9am - 2pm

Great prices! Come & support our sale.
Together we can care for creation.
Reduce, Reuse, Recycle!

Clothing & Shoes! (Babies, Children's, Men's, Women's).
Jewelry & Accessories.
Kitchen Items, Housewares & Linens.
Treasures, Decor and Seasonal Items.
Toys, Bikes, Sports equipment.
Books, DVD's & More!

Items not sold are donated to local charities who provide us with a wish list.

1860 Grant Rd, Los Altos 94024
www.stsimon.church



The Jewish community at the Villages gave our parish all the olive trees on our grounds as a welcoming gift when St. Francis of Assisi first opened.

Sally Brandt (Long time parishioner with fond memories)