

# St. Basil The Great Catholic Church

1200 TUOLUMNE STREET, VALLEJO, CA 94590

WEBSITE: [www.StBasilVallejo.org](http://www.StBasilVallejo.org)



## Mission Statement

We, the St. Basil the Great Catholic faith community, guided by the Holy Spirit and nurtured by the Eucharist, are called to share the gospel values of love, justice, forgiveness and service through the celebration of the sacraments, prayer, stewardship and fellowship with respect and dignity to all.

## Rev. Jovito D. Rata

Pastor

## Rev. Edgar Lozano-Cuevas

Parochial Vicar

## Deacon Casey Walker

## Deacon Errol Kissinger

## Deacon Mike Urick (Retired)

**Gilda A. del Rosario** - Admin. Assistant  
[stbasiloffice@gmail.com](mailto:stbasiloffice@gmail.com)

**Katie Cuevas** - Bookkeeper

## Music Ministry

**Ron Salmeron** - Facility Maintenance

**Parish Center** - (707) 644-5251  
Fax - (707) 644-1423

## Parish Office Hours

Monday to Friday  
9:00am to Noon & 1:00pm to 4:00pm

## Religious Education/Youth Ministry

(707) 644-8309  
1230 Nebraska Street, Vallejo, CA 94590

Sunday - Thursday 8:30AM - 5:30PM

**Raquel Avitia** ~ Coordinator  
[stbasilvallejo@gmail.com](mailto:stbasilvallejo@gmail.com)

**O.C.I.A. - Order of Christian Initiation  
for Adults** - Rose Jenschke

## St. Vincent de Paul

Food Assistance ~ (707) 644-0376

## St. Basil School - (707) 642-7629

1230 Nebraska Street, Vallejo, CA 94590

**Gretchen Del Rosario** ~ Principal

## St. Basil Preschool - (707) 642-5966

1225 Tuolumne Street, Vallejo, CA 94590

**Lisa Butler** ~ Director

[Sbs.preschool@gmail.com](mailto:Sbs.preschool@gmail.com)

## Sacrament of Anointing:

(Emergency calls only):

(707) 567-9500



## MASS SCHEDULE

### Saturday:

8:30 AM

5:30 PM - Vigil

### Sunday:

7:30 AM, 9:30 AM, 11:30 AM

### Daily:

7:15 AM

### Holy Days:

7:15 AM, 9:30 AM, 7:00 PM

Baptism: 3rd Saturday of the month

Prep Class - 1st Sat. of the month

(Please call the Parish Office)

## Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament

1st Saturdays - 7:00 am - 8:00 am

Fridays - 8:00 am - 8:00 pm

For more information, updates and useful links,  
please visit our website.

## Stewardship at St. Basil Parish

Grow our Gifts...Share Your Blessings

Collection for 12/07/2025 will be published  
in next week's bulletin.

Weekly envelopes to the church can be mailed or  
dropped off in the mail slot at the Parish Center.

Thank You!

Your ongoing support is essential in helping us  
meet the many needs of our parish  
and community.

## SACRAMENTS

### Sacrament of Reconciliation:

Saturdays, 4:00 to 5:00pm

### Sacrament of Baptism:

Pre-Baptism preparation class required.

Please call the Parish Office for more

information.

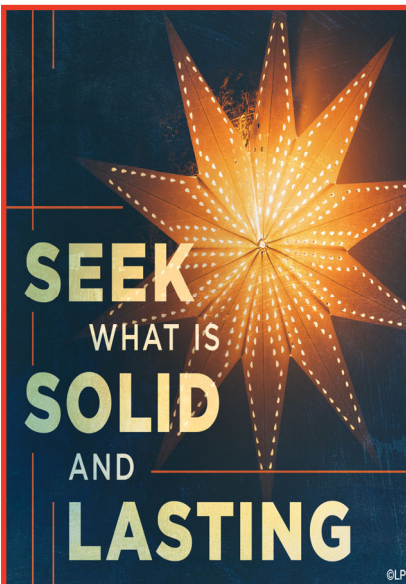
### Sacrament of Marriage: Minimum

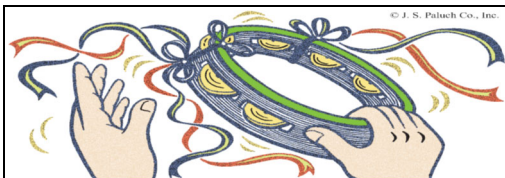
6 months advance notice required.

Please contact the Parish Office to make an  
appointment with the Marriage/Wedding  
Coordinator.

### Pastoral Care for the Sick/

**Homebound:** Please call the Parish Office  
to arrange for home and hospital visits.





### Third Sunday of Advent December 14, 2025

*Those whom the Lord has ransomed  
will return and enter Zion singing,  
crowned with everlasting joy.  
— Isaiah 35:10a*

### JUSTICE AND OBEDIENCE

*Justice* is the insurance we have  
on our lives, and obedience is the  
premium we pay for it.  
—William Penn

### THE ONE FOR WHOM OUR HEARTS LONG

Put yourself in the scene of today's Gospel passage. John the Baptist is in prison. He has heard stories of what Jesus is doing, and wants reassurance that Jesus is the long-awaited Messiah. John's disciples and those who surrounded Jesus were faithful Jews who would have known Isaiah's prophecies by heart. God would send **One** who would bring sight to the blind, healing to those who were ill, salvation to all who longed to know God's mercy and peace. Jesus' response to the disciples' question rings as powerfully in our ears today as it surely did for the people who were with him that day. His actions are precisely those that the people had been told to expect. **Jesus is the One** for whom the people have been patiently yet anxiously waiting, like the farmer who waits for the fruits of his labor.

*Jesus is the One for whom our hearts long.*

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### TODAY'S READINGS

**First Reading** - The barren deserts will rejoice and flower. Tired bodies will receive strength. Aching hearts will be made glad (*Isaiah 35:1-6a, 10*).

**Psalm** — The Lord saves us when he comes (*Psalm 146*).

**Second Reading** — Be patient, for the coming of the Lord is as sure as the rain (*James 5:7-10*).

**Gospel** — Tell of what you hear and see: The blind regain their vision, the crippled their movement, the deaf their hearing (*Matthew 11:2-11*).

The English translation of the Psalm Responses from the Lectionary for Mass © 1969, 1981, 1997, International Commission on English in the Liturgy Corporation. All rights reserved.

### WHY DO WE DO THAT? -

### CATHOLIC LIFE EXPLAINED

#### Saints or Sinners?

**Question:** Our prayer group has been reading the lives of some saints, and we were struck by how some of them thought they were such sinners. Why would someone so holy think they had such serious sin?

**Answer:** Professional athletes practice the fundamentals of their sport over and over again, reaching for better form, consistency, and performance. They focus on the basics, review past performances, and visualize greater success. Practice makes better, if not perfect!

Spiritual masters such as the saints also looked for perfection. They practiced their faith in the search for holiness, grace, and virtue. Through sacraments, prayer, study, good works, and penance, they raised their level of awareness and their sensitivity to the presence of God, the demands of the Gospel, and the workings of the Holy Spirit. They examined their consciences daily, reviewing the day for moments of failure and times that they could have been more virtuous in one way or another. They resolved to do better, be more attentive, and alert!

Therefore, anything that would distract them or interfere with their relationship with God would be like a small black spot on a bright white wall — you can't miss it! The great saints were aware of sin and the presence of evil because they were so tuned into the struggle between good and evil that was fought in their own lives, hearts, and souls.

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## WEEK 3 Advent

### Third Sunday of Advent

Good news is good news is . . . Today's messages from Isaiah (prophetic ancestor of John the Baptist and Jesus of Nazareth) and James (spiritual offspring of John and Jesus) both have messages that resonate across the five centuries that separate them: hope in the coming power and presence of God. Isaiah was attempting to comfort and encourage the people of Israel in geographic and spiritual exile. Their exile will end, Isaiah says, with God's presence shown forth through spectacular occurrences in nature. James likewise has a community in need of encouragement and hope, since they despair over the delayed parousia, the final coming of God in glory. In the meantime, James urges patient endurance. Until Jesus returns, they ought to persist without complaint, with the lives of the prophets as their guide. Then will come the time of sight, and healing, and life and . . . **Good News for the poor!**

### PATIENCE . . . NOW!

A friend walked me through his newly planted garden to help me see how it would look in spring. He finally stopped and said, "You can't picture any of this, can you?" I couldn't until I saw it in full bloom the following springtime. Then I could understand why he planted the seeds where he had. Then I saw the beauty and bounty that his planting represented. "Tell John what you hear and see," Jesus says to John's disciples. The signs of the Messiah proclaimed by the prophets are beginning to bloom. Look and see! Hear the singing of those once mute and the rejoicing of the crowds who witness these works. The beauty and the bounty of our generous God are all around.

### JUST IMAGINE

James wrote to a community experiencing hardship, like the exiled Israelites in today's first reading. Isaiah and James exhort people to trust that they will see God's presence in their midst once again, so be patient. That's easier said than done, isn't it? Saint Francis de Sales says to be patient with everyone, and most of all with ourselves. Patience means accepting suffering and delay without becoming angry or upset. Easier said than done. Praying for this virtue each day, sometimes often throughout the day, does help. Breathe in the Spirit of God and say, "Give me patience, Lord." Then exhale anger, upset, and impatience. Staring at a garden won't make a shoot spring up any faster; however, giving thanks for the seed, the water, the soil, and the Giver of all life can deepen our trust that the garden will grow. So be patient. Rejoice always. See and be the signs of God's beauty and bounty in our world today.

Tom Schmidt, Copyright © J. S. Paluch Co.

### December 13 - 14, 2025



*"Behold, I am sending my messenger  
ahead of you; he will prepare your way  
before you."*

This Advent make the decision to grow in your marriage by attending the next Worldwide Marriage Encounter Experience on  
March 4-6, 2026 in Danville,  
April 10-12, 2026 in Zephyr Point NV  
or May 1-3, 2026 in San Juan Bautista.

Go to [www.wwme.org](http://www.wwme.org) to find the Experience that is just right for you!



### Retirement Fund for the Religious

**December 13 - 14, 2025**

Give in gratitude. A donor to the Retirement Fund for Religious writes, "I still remember the lessons the sisters gave us and how they instilled in us the love of our faith." Show your thanks for the prayerful service of elderly Catholic sisters, brothers, and religious order priests. Your gift to this week's 2nd collection helps provide care, medicine, and more. **Please be generous.** To donate online, <https://www.scd.org/retiredreligious>

### **Did you know?..... from the Sister Thea Bowman Group**



This month we honor the life of Sister Jamie T. Phelps, one of the nation's most influential Black theologians and a light of the Black Catholic Movement. She recently passed away in Michigan after a brief illness at the age of 84. She was the first Black member of the Adrian Dominican Sisters, and served for 66 years. Her love and passion for the faith began early. While she was born during Segregation, her family helped integrate Holy Name Cathedral and she was educated by the Adrian Dominicans, realizing her call to religious life. Initially rejected by the order, she was later accepted in High School, and took her final vows in 1966. Sr. Phelps was an educator for many years, and furthered her education by receiving her doctorate in systematic theology from the Catholic University of America in 1989. She was a founding member of the National Black Sisters' Conference in 1968. Following her retirement, she continued to immerse herself in research and writing.

**The Sister Thea Bowman Ministry extends warm holiday wishes as well as abundant blessings for the New Year.**

### **SVdP Annual Christmas Giving Tree**

The Society of St. Vincent de Paul is reminding you that all wrapped gifts with ornaments attached and unwrapped hams are **due this weekend**. All of the gifts must be placed under the Giving Tree no later than this weekend at the 11:30 Mass on Sunday, December 14th. If you are unable to bring your gift this weekend, please bring it to the Parish Center no later than Tuesday, December 17th at 3PM. Your generosity in this endeavor is most appreciated and you are helping to give children and their families a special Christmas. **THANK YOU!**

## Simbang Gabi

The devotional nine-day series of Masses  
in anticipation of Christmas

**December 15 - 23, 2025 / 7:00PM**

### **Please pray for the recovery of the sick listed in our Book of Intentions and the following:**

Ely Abiva, Simon Daut, Erlinda Dayrit, Trisha Dumlaog, Yolanda Marac, Ofelia & Proceso Marquez Jr., Lethy Martin, Peter S., GaR, Winnie Meadows, Marybelle Ocampo, Mario Orlina, Ed Sablan, Maria G. Togonon, Daisy Vida, Eliza Perez, Mary Florendo, Alice Lopez, Cheryl Fajardo, Sister Lita Perez, Ricardo, Sr., Perpetua & Joseph Quilatan, Maria Luisa Cortez, Myrna Magat, Teresa Magno, Lourdes Martinez, Wenceslao Puzon, Rodrigo & Dionicia Olarte, Nor David Laturga, Cesar Lacorte, Jr. Princess Asinas, Vilma Macalalad, Melissa Lacorte, Roland Shorter

*(names will be listed approximately  
3 months as space allows)*

## Mass Intentions

FOR THE WEEK

**December 13**

**5:30pm**

Maria Domilyn Alvarez (TG)  
Joseph, Nancy & Karen Kuong (SI)  
Manuel & Ana Buenviaje (+)  
Faustino & Nellie Buenviaje (+)  
Maria Buenviaje (+)  
Benjamin C. Bautista (+)  
Federico Dumpit (+)  
Jaime & Benita Belen (+)

**December 14, 2025**

**7:30am**

Mass for All St. Basil Parishioners

**9:30am**

Cheryl Fajardo (SI)  
Elaine Levitt (SI)  
Bill O'Donnell (SI)  
Tom O'Donnell (SI)  
Marilou Cabrera Castro (+)  
Florante Paje (+)  
Benjamin C. Bautista (+)  
Nicolas Wanjao (+)  
Eliseo & Virginia Velasco (+)  
Simplicio & Veneranda Cubangbang (+)  
Fidela & Enrique Gonzales (+)

**11:30am**

Tom & Gloria Chan (SI)  
Manuel & Ana Buenviaje (+)  
Faustino & Nellie Buenviaje (+)  
Maria & Henry Buenviaje (+)  
Gina & Joanne Tai (SI)  
Liza Perez (SI)  
Henrietta Reyes (+)  
Tan Ching (+)  
Valentina Ganade (+)  
Federico Dumpit (+)  
Trina Nicolas (+)  
Leticia Jeminey (+)  
Bienvenido Lapid (+)  
Crescencio & Maria Gaviola (+)

**Monday, December 15 - 7:15am**

Bert & Myrna Martinez (TG)  
Annette Huang (SI)  
Linda Fung (SI)  
Benjamin C. Bautista (+)  
Federico Dumpit (+)  
Leticia Jeminey (+)  
Bienvenido Lapid (+)

**Tuesday, December 16 - 7:15am**

Myra Nati (BD)  
Jorge & Rita Vargas (SI)  
George S. Juan (+1st DA)  
Benjamin C. Bautista (+)  
Federico Dumpit (+)  
Leticia Jeminey (+)  
Bienvenido Lapid (+)

**Readings:  
864 - A**

## Mass Intentions

FOR THE WEEK

**Wednesday, December 17 - 7:15am**

Edith Tejada (+40th Day)  
Laura P. Paco (+DA)  
Sonny Corpuz (+DA)  
Woodrow Tatum, Sr. (+DA)  
Marissa Guisande Rodas (+BD)  
Federico Dumpit (+)  
Leticia Jeminey (+)  
Bienvenido Lapid (+)  
Rosalia & Fulgencio Dulay (+)  
Man-on-So-ngor Cheng (+)  
Wei-San & Li-Chuen Cheng (+)

**Thursday, December 18 - 7:15am**

Vedalyng Ignatov (BD)  
Maria Domilyn Alvarez (TG)  
Federico Dumpit (+40th Day)  
Grace Cabuco (+)  
Edwin Co (+)  
Bienvenido Lapid (+)

**Friday, December 19 - 7:15am**

Madeleine Odtohan (+40th Day)  
Encarnacion B. Buna (+DA)  
Pacita Canones (+)  
Bienvenido Lapid (+)  
Su-Jan & Zen Chou Han (+)







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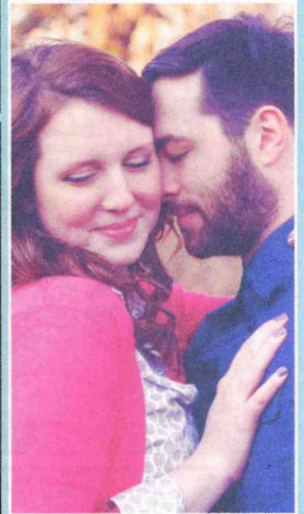
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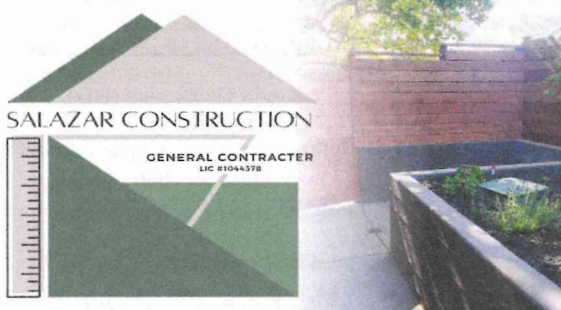
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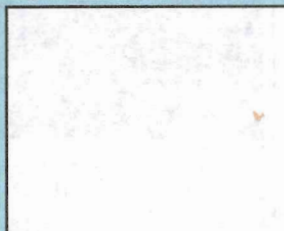
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