

# ST. ELIZABETH, Guerneville

ST. CATHERINE OF SIENA, Monte Rio • ST. COLMAN, Cazadero

(707) 869-2107 • 14095 Woodland Drive, Guerneville, CA 95446

Office Hours: Tue - Fri 9:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.

**Father Luis Peñaloza, PASTOR**

**Baptisms:** By appointment. Preparation classes required.

**Marriages:** Engaged couples are required to meet with the priest 6 months before the wedding date.

**Confessions:** By appointment. Call the Rectory.

**Religious Education:** RCIA. Call the Rectory.

Contact the Rectory at St. Elizabeth, 707-869-2107

Email: churchelizabeth@comcast.net

www.rrchurches.com



## St. Elizabeth, Guerneville

### *Mass Schedule*

Sunday: 9:30 a.m.

Weekday Masses: Tue - Fri. 9:00 a.m.

Outdoor church July 4<sup>th</sup> weekend through  
Labor Day weekend.



## St. Colman, Cazadero

### *Mass Schedule*

Sunday 11:00 a.m.

*Outdoor church  
Memorial Day  
through Labor Day*

## St. Catherine of Siena, Monte Rio

### *Mass Schedule*

Saturday 4:00 p.m.



**WELCOME to the communities of St. Elizabeth, St. Catherine of Siena & St. Colman!** If you would like to become a member of one of our churches, please fill out the form below and place it in the collection basket or mail to St. Elizabeth,

14095 Woodland Drive, Guerneville, CA 95446.

Email: churchelizabeth@comcast.net

www.rrchurches.com

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City: \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP: \_\_\_\_\_

New Parishioner       New Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_

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January 26, 2025  
3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time

**Upcoming Dates**

Sat, Feb 22 Crab Feed  
4:00 pm at St. Hubert's Hall

**Mass Intentions**

Sat, Jan 25 **Jeremiah Price** [illness]  
4:00 pm requested by Michele McDonell

**Readings**

Neh 8: 2-4a, 5-6, 8-10  
Ps 19: 8, 9, 10, 15  
1 Cor 12: 12-30  
Lk 1: 1-4; 4: 14-21

**Pray For Our Brothers And Sisters**

**Those in need of prayers:**

Claire Elizabeth

**Those called to Eternal Life:**

Ramona Lopez Luque

**Parish Donations**

You can donate online by scanning the QR code at the bottom of the bulletin or by visiting [stelizabeth.churchtrac.com/give](http://stelizabeth.churchtrac.com/give)

Collection Period	1 <sup>st</sup> Collection	\$15,114.00
December 2024	2 <sup>nd</sup> Collection	\$2,645.00
	<i>Thank you for your generosity!</i>	\$17,759.00

**Parish Expenses**

December 2024	\$18,234.00
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**Second Collection Schedule**

On these dates, 10% of the second collection will benefit:

<b>Jan 25-26</b>	<b><i>The Church in Latin America</i></b>
Mar 5	Central and Eastern Europe

**Announcements**

***Crab Feed: Crustacean Sensation 2025***

This year, the crab feed will be held on Saturday February 22 from 4:00 pm to 7:00 pm at St Hubert's Hall in Guerneville. The menu consists of a boatload of crab, Caesar salad, pasta and dessert. There will even be raffle prizes!

Tickets are \$85.00/person but you'll need to act fast because they're flying out the door!

Sponsorships are \$500/\$1000 your support in the form of a donation would be greatly appreciated!

For tickets or more information contact Linda Payne at (707) 953-9166 or email [cocomokidd@aol.com](mailto:cocomokidd@aol.com)

***Children's Mass Library***

Do you have young children with you at Mass? Feel free to borrow a book from our new Children's Mass Library located in the vestibule! Please remember to return any books after Mass. The books are intended to help children learn more about the Mass, connect with familiar bible stories, and enrich their faith.

***Connecting Hearts, a SR Diocese Survey***

To help us improve communication across the Diocese, we invite you to complete a brief survey. Your feedback will guide us in enhancing our communication strategies to better serve everyone. The survey is available on our website <https://srdiocese.org/>

***Parish Council***

Our church has a Parish/Pastoral council. It consists of 8 members -Linda Payne, Barbara and Otto Kobler, Maryanne Gustafson, Susan Poirier, Patrick McDonell, Ana Maria Padilla and Marti Lownes. The committee meets monthly with Fr Luis, to discuss current and future projects and plans for the parish, and we advise Father on agenda items as needed. Please feel free to reach out to any council member with questions or concerns about our parish.

For questions about future parish events, please contact Linda Payne at: (707) 953-9166 or [cocomokidd@aol.com](mailto:cocomokidd@aol.com)

St. Colman Guild Meeting 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday, 12 pm St. Colman Resuming February 2025

## **Spirituality Of The Readings**

*Courtesy of John Foley, SJ, Saint Louis University*

### ***Two New Eras***

Two men unroll parchment scrolls and each reads his to the people. Their proclamations signal the beginning of a vast new era. One man is Ezra the scribe, and the other is Jesus of Nazareth. Four centuries separate their readings.

Let's look.

We find Ezra in the First Reading. He is in Jerusalem after the return of the Jewish exiles from captivity in Babylon. What is the "captivity in Babylon," you ask? Perhaps it will help to have more of that story.

Ancient Israel was captured by the Babylonian empire 586 years before Christ. They took Jerusalem itself. They demolished the great temple built by Solomon centuries before and deported all productive citizens to Babylon, leaving peasants to run the holy city. If they could.

After fifty years or so of their captivity, Cyrus the Great, king of Persia (now Iran), came into possession of Babylon and he let the captives go. Many had switched their faith by this time in favor of foreign gods and customs, but the remainder, perhaps 5000, made ready to return home. By this time a lot of them had never even seen Jerusalem.

There were great caravans. Ezra—priest, scribe and teacher—led one of them on the four-month journey across the desert.

They arrived to find Jerusalem a ruined city with widespread moral decay.

Reconstruction of an urban center is immensely difficult, as we know from our own day. Ezra worked long and hard to bring back the ecclesiastical and civil fiber of Jerusalem and the nation.

At last a new temple was finished in 516 BC, and the ruined city walls were rebuilt.

Now Ezra stood up on a high wooden platform built for the occasion so he could be heard and seen, and he "read plainly" from the scroll that held "the book of the law." He started reading at daybreak and continued until midday!

Not only did they have their city again, but also they now had heard the Word of God again. And finally there was again a temple where they could worship.

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### ***Confessions***

Fr Luis is available to hear Confessions after 9 am Mass on Fridays and before weekend Masses. Please call the rectory to confirm with him, so that he knows to stay late on Friday or arrive early on the weekend. Alternatively, a more convenient time can be scheduled with him by calling the rectory at (707) 869-2107.

Their new era had begun!

Four centuries later we find Jesus of Nazareth making a similar return. He is going back to Galilee, the region where he grew up (Gospel). He has been baptized and has spent time in the desert. His trip is now "in the power of the Spirit," Luke says, and it takes him to his home town of Nazareth. Like Ezra, he takes up a scroll, this one containing the book of Isaiah—much of which, coincidentally, had been written during the Jewish exile.

He reads the passage, which says that the Spirit of the Lord has sent him to "bring glad tidings to the poor, ... to let the oppressed go free," to proclaim a time of favor from the Lord (Is 61:1-2). This is what Ezra had done in the First Reading, but Jesus' mission is much, much more.

A far greater new era has begun.

Jesus sits down, at the same level as the people. He says almost casually, "today this scripture passage is fulfilled in your hearing."

His mission is to rebuild their hearts, not just their city, to return them to God, who is their real home. Would they accept this startling new epoch?

Will we?

Stay tuned for more next Sunday.



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