



# July 2, 2023

## 13<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time

### Upcoming Dates

July 5	St. Elizabeth Guild meeting 1pm
July 9	Pancake Breakfast
July 23	St. Colman Guild meeting 12pm
July 27	112 <sup>th</sup> Annual Monte Rio Variety Show
Aug 16	Finance Committee meeting 4pm

### Mass Intentions

For all parishioners.

### Readings

2 Kgs 4: 8-11. 14-16a  
 Ps 89: 2-3. 16-17. 18-19 (2a)  
 Rom 6: 3-4. 8-11  
 Mt 10: 37-42

### Pray For Our Brothers And Sisters

**Who are ill or in pain:** Luke Poirier Martinsson

### 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	\$942.00
June 24-25	2 <sup>nd</sup> Collection	\$874.00
<i>Thank you for your generosity!</i>		\$1,816.00

### Announcements

#### Special 2<sup>nd</sup> Collection

On July 2<sup>nd</sup>, the 2<sup>nd</sup> collection is for Peter's Pence.

#### Pancake Breakfast

Our next pancake breakfast is July 9<sup>th</sup>, tell your family and friends, all are welcome!! Thanks, Linda

#### Capital Campaign

The renovation of our Parish rectory and its foundation repair has been progressing for the past month. It is our hope that this beautiful building, which has been part of our Parish and community history for over a century, will regain some of its former luster. As we repair it, not only

structurally, but also visually, with new bathrooms, flooring, some new windows and paint, we hope to restore it and add the safety needed to carry this lovely Parish home into the next 100 years.

It is not difficult to realize that the upkeep and maintenance of our Churches, Hall and Rectory is an expense. Large projects can not be paid for by weekly collections alone. Therefore, the Finance Committee and the Parish Council, along with Fr. Luis, have decided to embark upon a Capital Campaign to replace our savings which is being spent on this renovation. We are asking our Parishioners to consider an investment in our Parish by digging deep in their pockets and making a pledge to help us pay for this work. Please look for the pledge cards in assisting you in making a pledge. Once you have completed your pledge card, please drop it in the collection basket or, turn it in to any council member. This will enable us as a church community to know what financial support we can expect over the next few years. We are confident in your love for our Parish, your devotion to our community, and the passion of your faith.

Each Parish council member will be speaking at the end of Mass at our three churches for the next several weeks. Each of us will give, what we hope will be, some thoughtful insight as to why we believe that raising money via a Capital Campaign is important at this time for our church community.

#### 112<sup>th</sup> Annual Monte Rio Variety Show - Thursday, July 27

Our legacy fundraiser has supported St Catherine's (our Monte Rio mission church of St Elizabeth's) since 1911. We are looking forward to our event for those that can join us. While we are sold out, there may be some movement in ticket holders who for many reasons may not be able to join us. If you are interested in being placed on a wait list, please email Michele at [mmcdonell@gmail.com](mailto:mmcdonell@gmail.com).

Beginning at our Masses on July 1<sup>st</sup>, the Variety Show team will have raffle tickets available with a list of 5

incredible offerings. We will also have a list of our auction items and bidding information which will start on July 21<sup>st</sup>.

And, of course, we have merchandise for purchase to show your support of our event and/or keep warm while enjoying the entertainment!

More info: <http://www.monterioshow.org>

#### Temporary Church Office Phone Number

Until our church office at the rectory is restored, the temporary office phone number is (707) 486-8645.

#### Monthly Collection Report

The Parish Council has decided to publish the collections on a monthly basis beginning January of 2023. This collection report will show both the collections at Mass but also our online collections. It also shows the estimated expenses that are required to operate our Parish and Mission Churches. We hope to update this on or after the 15<sup>th</sup> of the following month.

#### Spirituality Of The Readings

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

#### He Said What?

Had you ever noticed the number of flat-out contradictions in scripture? For example,

- the last shall be first;
- lose your life to find it;
- take the lowest seat if you want to have the highest;
- the Son of Man came to serve, not to be served;
- a virgin will conceive;
- an old married couple will give birth to a child.

and so on.

We might have said that if we want to be first, we would have to get into the front of the line, not the end. And, if we want to be alive, we must make some moves not to lose our lives. And so on. These are common sense, aren't they?

Instead, this Sunday's readings are introducing us, gently and partially, to ways in which such common sense opinions do not go deep enough. Try this on:

*We have to be like lifeless, empty earthen vessels, so that God can pour life and love into us.*

#### 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 (707) 486-8645 (temporary office phone number).

In the First Reading a distinguished lady in the little village of Schunem shows great hospitality to the prophet Elisha, even to the point of building and furnishing a little room on the second floor of her house, with a bed, table, chair, and lamp for him for whenever he visits. Another contradiction: she is childless, yet Elisha promises that in one year she will be fondling her own baby son. She is shocked. But the promise comes true.

Then, when the boy becomes a young man, he suddenly dies (2 Kings 4:18-37). Elisha comes from twenty miles away and brings him back to life.

Life is given twice where there was no hope of life: death triumphing but life restored. It is contradictory, but is this the way of the Lord?

Then in the Second Reading, St. Paul writes to the Church in Rome that they are baptized into Christ's death and are buried with him!

A grim statement. But then Paul says, if we die with Christ, we shall also live with him, shall live a life in God (Second Reading).

Die in order to live?

In the Gospel Jesus makes a most enigmatic, not to say contradictory, statement: "Whoever finds his life will lose it, and whoever loses his life for my sake will find it."

No matter how we try to explain away that statement and neuter its content, it still means what it says. Losing your life is the only way to possess it. Letting go is the only way to hold on. How can such contrary claims simultaneously be true?

I want to suggest a metaphor. A glass has to start out empty in order to succeed as a glass. If it is sealed up, or if it is solid, or if it is already full, nothing can be poured in.

Does this sound like one more contradiction? No. A container has to be empty if it is to be filled.

The same goes for us. We have to be like empty earthen vessels, so that God can pour life and love into us. This is the source of all the "contradictions" in the Gospels and certainly in the readings this Sunday.

We have to empty out if we are to be filled up with God's gifts.

*John Foley, SJ*

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

St. Elizabeth Guild Meeting	1 <sup>st</sup> Wednesday, 1 pm	St. Hubert Hall
Finance Committee Meeting	3 <sup>rd</sup> Wednesday*, 4 pm	St. Hubert Hall
St. Colman Guild Meeting	4 <sup>th</sup> Sunday, 12 pm	St. Colman

\* of February, May, August and November

