

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 4th 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

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New Parishioner New Phone Number: _____

New Address _____

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August 25, 2024
21st Sunday in Ordinary Time

Special Events

Aug 25	Pancake Breakfast <i>at St Hubert Hall</i>
Aug 25 12:00 pm	St Colman Guild Meeting
Sept 21	Annual Santa Rosa Religious Education Congress
Sept 28	Eucharistic Retreat <i>more info to come</i>
Oct 6 9:30 am	Blessing of the Animals <i>at the St Elizabeth outdoor church</i>

Mass Intentions

For all parishioners.

Readings

Jos 24: 1-2a. 15-17. 18b
Ps 34: 2-3. 16-17. 18-19. 20-21. 22-23 (9a)
Eph 5: 21-32 or Eph 5: 2a. 25-32
Jn 6: 60-69

Pray For Our Brothers And Sisters

Those in need of prayers:

Carolyn, Annie E, Doug

Those called to Eternal Life:

Mike Miller

Parish Donations

You can donate online by scanning the QR code at the bottom of the bulletin or by visiting stelizabeth.churchtrac.com/give

Collection Period	1 st Collection	\$1,279.00
August 17-18	2 nd Collection	\$512.00
	<i>Thank you for your generosity!</i>	\$1,791.00

Announcements

Pancake Breakfast

Join us for our summer ending pancake breakfast at St Hubert Hall after Sunday morning Mass.

The Annual Santa Rosa Religious Education Congress

The Diocese of Santa Rosa invites everyone to attend the annual Santa Rosa Religious Education Congress on Saturday, September 21, 2024. This event is free. This year's theme is "Prayer, Our Relationship with God". Workshops are in English and Spanish. Come hear great speakers. For more information check out the diocesan website www.srdiocese.org

Eucharistic Retreat

Eucharistic Retreat will be held on Saturday, September 28th. Further details will be coming soon!

Outdoor Mass Schedule & Blessing of the Animals

Outdoor Mass will be extended this year through Sunday, October 6th (weather permitting) which we will have the Blessing of the Animals.

Annual Ministry Appeal 2024

The work of the Annual Ministry Appeal (AMA) is at heart your work, the work to which you are oriented by your Baptism: the service of God through service of your brothers and sisters in Christ. By making a gift to the Annual Ministry Appeal, One Family in Mission, you are able to touch souls and change lives throughout our diocese. Thank you to all who have already pledged, moving us closer to our goal as a parish community. Every gift is sincerely appreciated!

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 McDonnell, 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.

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 15th of the following month.

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

St. Colman Guild Meeting 4th Sunday, 12 pm St. Colman

Pastor's Desk

Greetings to all who are with us this weekend! We are still enjoying great summer weather. I hope people are making time to spend outdoors and get some vitamin D before winter comes.

Next week, from August 26th through the 30th, I will be taking a personal break so there will be no daily Mass.

In today's gospels, we hear about people who had staying power when things got hard and people who turned away from the truth when it got too difficult, or the path forward seemed unknown. In the earlier parts of this chapter in John, we hear Jesus' teaching about the Eucharist and about him being the Bread of life.

These teachings were challenging for many to comprehend and believe. He overheard his disciples murmuring about the difficult time people were having accepting them.

Jesus already knew that some people would reject him, others would abandon him, and some would even betray him. He approached the disciples and shared that his words spoken to them were "Spirit and Life" Some of the Disciples found these teachings too hard and returned to their past way of life simply because the mission was no longer appealing to them. As the twelve apostles watched some of their friends leave, Jesus asked them if they wanted to go as well. Simon Peter answered, "Master, to whom shall we go? You have the words of eternal life. We have come to believe and are convinced that you are the Holy One of God."

Most of the apostles eventually were martyred for following these truths and preaching the message of Christianity. They did not abandon the truth of the Gospel for an easier road, and their lives built the foundation for the Christian community. Following the examples of those who came before, let us not be afraid to take the harder path, especially if it means a better future for generations to come.

Peace and blessings!
Fr. Luis

Spirituality Of The Readings

Courtesy of John Foley, SJ, Saint Louis University

Distressing Words

For the last several weeks Jesus has been using his words to distress the disciples. That's right.

Last week he said that if they want eternal life they have to eat his flesh and drink his blood! His followers could not possibly have understood this.* They muttered. "This saying is hard; who can accept it?"

And they left.

This Sunday he makes it even harder. Since Jesus knew that his disciples were murmuring about his words, he said to them,

*Does this shock you?
What if you were to see the Son of Man ascending
to where he was before?*

*It is the Spirit that gives life,
while the flesh is of no avail. ...*

*As a result of this,
many of his disciples returned to their former way of life and no longer accompanied him. (Gospel)*

A sad scene, and puzzling too. Why is Jesus saying such things to his followers, and how is anyone supposed to understand it?

The following unwritten guideline might help in reading the Gospel of John, from which our Sunday reading is taken.

There, whenever an event or saying does not seem to make complete sense, we can understand that it is masking deeper meanings. In other words, often a delicious significance is hidden behind events that are described in a bewildering way.

If this can be our axiom, let us try to apply it to a saying from this week's Gospel: Jesus was ...

ascending to where he was before.

Ok, where was he "before"?

He was in the bosom of the Holy Trinity. God's love leaned out to us in Jesus' life, death and resurrection. He "descended" to us.

But he will have to "go back to the next life," because he was a human being, even though he was God. He is telling them this: if body and blood shock you, wait till you see me ascend into heaven!

And what about the words,

it is the Spirit that gives life, the flesh is to no avail.

In the readings from the past few weeks we have seen that Jesus' ascension would never be a desertion of us but would be his presence on earth in a new form. The third person of the Trinity was going to dwell within any people who believe.

The third person will dwell in us?

If so, where will our beloved Jesus be? Well, since the members of the Trinity are at one in everything, then they are completely present within each other. So Christ is within the Holy Spirit. That Spirit offers to live deep within each believer, within each person who says yes to its presence. The same thing can be said for the Father.

Fine, but how do we acquire this Holy Spirit? Definitely through Baptism. And, of course—as in Jesus' command from last week—through eating and drinking his body and blood. Communion makes us "become what we have eaten," the body of Christ. We are to let Christ have flesh again, in our hearts and in our actions.

The Spirit is to be the soul within the Body of Christ, and we are to be the body.

When we are part of the "Body of Christ," we therefore have eternal life, as he told his followers. Peter sums it up. "We have come to believe and are convinced that you are the Holy One of God."

Mass this Sunday will be meant to give us the power to live the Body of Christ into the world.

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.



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