



November 13, 2022

33rd Sunday in Ordinary Time

Upcoming Dates

Nov 16, Finance Committee meeting 4pm
 Nov 27, St. Colman Guild meeting 12pm
 Dec 11, Parish Christmas Dinner 5pm
 Jan 4, St. Elizabeth Guild meeting 1pm

Mass Intentions

Sat 4pm: Book of remembrance, Jonathan Dunne†, Paul and Sheila Juillys [health], Linda Dubouis.
Sun 9:30 am: Book of remembrance, Jonathan Dunne†
Sun 11 am: Book of remembrance, Paul and Sheila Juillys [health]

Readings

Mal 3: 19-20a
 Ps 98: 5-6, 7-8, 9
 2 Thes 3: 7-12
 Lk 21: 5-19

Pray For Our Brothers And Sisters

Who are ill or in pain: Marty Tierney

Parish Donations

New feature: Scan the QR code to make a donation.

November 5 - 6	1 st Collection	2 nd Collection
St. Elizabeth	\$1,056.00	\$351.00
St. Catherine	\$310.00	\$150.00
St. Colman	\$184.00	\$212.00
<i>Thank you for your generosity!</i>		\$2,263.00

Pastor's Desk

In Christ, there is a hope and a source of security not available to the secular mind, which sees life as a combination of human activity and blind chance. If good things come your way, you should eat, drink and be merry, for tomorrow you die. If you are unlucky and it seems your world is falling apart, try to pick up the pieces. Some people can and some can't, and that's life.

Our Lord has another way. He does not promise the absence of pain and problems. Instead, He offers a Presence and a Power that changes weakness into strength and fear into faith. Even when your world shakes, the broken pieces will be reshaped into something even better than the original.

The struggle in life to set things straight can be arduous. We go along for a time, trusting God, and then, suddenly, the bad news hits us squarely between the eyes, and that old feeling of insecurity and helplessness returns.

A tonic for these times is Jesus' clear command to "stand erect, and hold your heads high." Brooke Hayward, the daughter of the actress Margaret Sullivan who led a tragic life and died in 1960, has written a book called "Haywire." It is the story of the author's life with her parents -- two powerful personalities who brought much misery down on their children. They had a son they put into a psychiatric clinic because he was "ornery."

They had a daughter who died at 21 -- a suspected suicide. And here is Brooke, another daughter, still trying to work through the pain and the anger of the very destructive relationship she had with her parents. For her, the act of writing the book (it took two and one-half years to complete) was a way of working through her past to the point where she could begin to have positive feelings about life. In an interview about the book, she described how healthy it had been for her to write it and how much more secure she felt about her life after thinking it all through and trying to understand.

Then the interviewer closed the conversation with this question: "Does one ever forgive one's parents for all those wasted years?"

Brooke Hayward answered, "Oh God! Oh God, yes! One does! One must!"

When the sky turns black, disaster strikes, and your world seems like it's falling apart, stand erect and hold your head high! Do not be afraid! The Good News of God's great love for you and His promise never to abandon you is greater than any circumstance that may threaten to destroy your spirit. Amid the chaos, confusion, pain, suffering, and betrayal that enter your life, there is always this question: "Do you continue to forgive, reconcile, and love?"

Let us answer: "Oh, God! Oh God, yes! We do, and we must!"

For without love, there is no security!

Peace and Blessings!

Fr. Luis

Announcements

The St. Elizabeth Guild

There will be no Guild meeting in the month of December. The Guild members wish all of you and your loved ones a happy holiday season. As always our January gathering is our officer's installation meeting and our regular meetings will resume in February on the first Wednesday of the month. Please think about joining our small group and helping us with our work for our beautiful church. Any questions please call Francine Korn 707 869-9341.

Parish Christmas Dinner

Save the date! This year's Christmas Dinner will Sunday, December 11th 5pm at the Highland Dell in Monte Rio. Good Food and Fun to be had by all! More information to follow.

See's Candy Christmas Treats 2022

See's Candy Sale is back! This year, the church has pre-purchased best sellers from 2020 and 2021 seasons and will have them available for purchase the weekend before Thanksgiving. We will also have a Storefront on line for individual purchases, which will include items available after Mass in addition to other best sellers that could not be purchased in advance. Our link is:

https://www.yumraising.com/secure/stecc_st_elizabeths_christmas_treats45/Mic_McD9043/candy (we will get this out via an email via church trac).

Our goal is to raise \$2,500!

Spirituality Of The Readings

Courtesy of John Foley, SJ, St. Louis University

A Copernican Revolution

Listen to this consoling sentence from Sunday's First Reading

*You who fear my name,
 for you there will arise
 the sun of justice
 with its healing rays.*

Justice. Healing rays! We have wanted this for a long time now!

But what about fearing his name, as in the first line? A lot of us have fear. Especially now, with Ukraine and elections, etc.

Well, scripture is not talking about the fear we experience in horror films. Not that strange noise when you are alone in the house (fears, as well-motivated, especially in the present time). No, the Hebrew text uses an older meaning of "fear": there it refers to a "reverential wonder," an awe before that

which is very much bigger than us. This kind of "fear" is crucial for you and me.

Only then when we have it can we begin relating to God, to start maturing in our relation with the Most High. Only then do we begin to suspect what it really means to say that God is Love.

Saying that God is Love requires a continuing revolution in our lives, like the one Copernicus brought about. Remember? He showed that the sun does not revolve around the earth but that the earth revolves around the sun. Well, spiritually, most of us are pre-Copernican. We think God's job is to circle around us, as if we, who are small asteroids, were at the center of the universe. We often declare that God is just someone to assist us, to answer our prayers, to make us peaceful, to make our side win the ball game, and so on.#

Nothing is really wrong with any of these.

Yet we stand in terrible need of a Copernican revolution. God does not exist to serve me. Just the opposite. God is center of the universe! God quietly maintains all that is: stars, galaxies, lands, oceans, cities, humans hearts, butterfly wings, and so on. We owe reverence to God. It takes a spiritual transformation to think in this way.

What would happen if you or I tried it?

First, we would be living truth instead of pretense. What truth? That human beings are created to welcome this true God within each of them as the source and goal of who they are. If God is greatest, why would we make something else the center of our life?

Second, the "sun of justice with its healing rays" would shine upon us. God's love would appear to us as truth instead of as just a bauble to play with, or just a way to find a parking place. We would begin to see God as the gentle source of life and the affectionate mother of the entire universe.

Third—believe it or not—since Advent is coming very soon, we will be preparing to receive our tender invitation shown forth in a child. In pre-Advent (now) we are supposed to be receiving God's grandeur in an awe filled and fear-invoking stage ... in order that soon we will be humble enough to prepare for the baby.

This is why the First Reading and the Gospel thunder on about the day of reckoning when "nation will rise against nation, and kingdom against kingdom," etc. Isn't that what we are experiencing today?

Can we climb down from our thrones and pray in hope for those unjust wars!

How can I help during these hard times?

You can now easily donate online *by scanning the QR code with your smartphone* or using the donate button at stelizabeth.churchtrac.com. Another great way to help is by selecting us as your charity when shopping online at Amazon -a small percentage of each purchase will benefit our parish. Just visit smile.amazon.com/ch/82-4690577 to get started! Please also remember St. Elizabeth Parish in your will and estate planning.



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

* of February, May, August and November