



# January 28, 2024

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

### Upcoming Dates

Jan 28 12:00 pm	St Colman Guild Meeting
Feb 4, 9:30 am	St Elizabeth Guild Farewell Mass
Feb 7 1:00 pm	St Elizabeth Guild Meeting
Feb 17 4:00 pm	Annual Crab Feed
Feb 21 4:00 pm	Finance Committee Meeting

### Mass Intentions

For all parishioners

### Readings

Dt 18: 15-20  
Ps 95: 1-2, 6-7, 7-9 (8)  
1 Cor 7: 32-35  
Mk 1: 21-28

### Pray For Our Brothers And Sisters

Who are ill or in pain: Pete

### Announcements

#### ***Guild Farewell Mass, Sunday February 4***

St Elizabeth's Guild has been struggling the last few years asking parishioners for help with our projects and fundraisers and trying to encourage new members but it has been challenging and to no avail. Our current members have been working very hard for many years to support the needs of St Elizabeth and our Pastors but between the ages and health of our group it had become apparent that we can no longer continue our work without more help. We are all in agreement with this decision but have heavy hearts because we all would liked to have been able to support our Church and community as we have been. It has been decided to disband St Elizabeth's Guild, target date the end of February 2024. We thank the parishioners who have given us their time and help over all the years, it hasn't gone unappreciated. We hope you will all join us on Sunday

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

February 4, 2023 at the 9:30am mass at St Elizabeth for our last mass honoring the living and deceased members of the Guild as we say farewell to our long standing club and all of our collective efforts making it successful for many years. We will continue to pray for our parishioners and Fr Luis and wish all the best for our beautiful Church. We will be purchasing a statue of St Elizabeth, Mother of St John, for the outside of St Elizabeth and hope it arrives for Fr Luis's blessing on the mass of February 4.

Francine Korn  
Guild President

#### ***Annual Crab Feed***

Our annual Crab Feed will be held on February 17th, 4:00 to 7:00 PM. Tickets are \$75.00 per person and seating is somewhat limited so get your tickets early. Fliers available at the back of all the churches. Crab, Pasta, Salad, Bread, Dessert and Raffle too! If you'd like to volunteer please let me know ( set up, serving and cleanup). I am also looking for underwriters for the crab again this year, and your help would be greatly appreciated! Contact me for tickets, volunteering or underwriting; Linda 707 953-9166 or email [cocomokidd@aol.com](mailto:cocomokidd@aol.com)

Thanks for all your support in all our endeavors!

Sincerely,  
Linda

#### ***Russian River Food Pantry-St Vincent de Paul (part 3 of 4)***

The St Vincent de Paul Food Pantry gets food and supplies from many different resources. Safeway is extremely generous in providing bread and bakery products, and ordering by the caseload for products that are on sale. They have a program called Feed the Hungry, and they are definitely doing their part for our community. We want to make a shout out to all the Safeway employees that support our program, and go the extra step to help us fill our food needs. The Redwood Empire Food Bank provides us with 50% or more of our food products. A special shout out to Fran, Katrina, John, Ben Carlos and Ken for making the monthly trips to the REFB to fill our shelves. We get our products from the REFB at discount prices, and must rely on

donations to cover these costs. We want to send a special thank you to Mike's Produce for the beautiful Christmas baskets filled with fruit and goodies, that they have donated for many years.

#### ***Capital Campaign***

The renovation of our Parish rectory and its foundation repair has been progressing for the past few months. 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 to assist 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.

If you need assistance with your pledge or donation toward the Capital Campaign, please call Chris Kollaja at 415-308-6768 or email at [ckollaja@gmail.com](mailto:ckollaja@gmail.com).

#### ***Parish Council***

Our church has a Parish/Pastoral council. It consists of 9 members -Linda Payne, Barbara and Otto Kobler, Maryanne Gustafson, Susan Poirier, Patrick McDonell, Chris Kollaja, Mary Helt and Martha "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.

#### ***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.

#### **Pastor's Desk**

*Greetings, to all! January is almost done and the month of February is just one more week. I hope everyone are well and continue to enjoy this rainy day and hopefully we will have enough water to have a wonderful summer this year.*

Today's Gospel is about Jesus is teaching with authority and not just as a regular Pharisees would teach. We want Jesus to fill with awe and hope-----not only for ourselves but for others, so they might hear us and find Jesus' healing within our words and actions.

Our baptism is the source of such healing love, such authority on the earth. We are given the Holy Trinity as the bases of our lives so that we, too, may work for justice in a strangely dangerous world.

Our authority in voice and actions comes from the stirring again our baptism on earth. We have much work to accomplish: healing the divisions of hatred: establishing hope for our children; tending to the divorce and widows; opening up educational models for the next generation to learn more about Jesus, the source of life.

Our lives are given the grace of God in the waters of our baptism so that we may build up the church and find consolation in our human hearts.

Our work begins first in our prayer. Our common efforts to become the church of healing begins with listening to Jesus Christ, whose authority is rich, loving and wise.

In today's Gospel, it is the unclean spirit who knows, who Jesus is and what he offers. From my experience in ministry, it is always the marginalized who know who Jesus is first. It is the broken, the lost, and the weary who first capture a glimpse of Jesus' divine life.

This comes because people who suffer the most truly need God. They need the remedy and the wholeness. their hearts are ready to find such divine wisdom. Ours can be as well if we learn to live beyond our egos and pride. When we get out of our own way, we may discover the true and ancient authority of Jesus Christ made new in our own hearts and in our generations. God's love is generous and outpouring. God's fidelity is for all who long for hope. God's authority is constantly being made known in us who speak the truth and who work for a just and loving world. When the world finally looks the way God intended, we will all be astonished in the glow of God's tenderness and mercy.

Peace and blessings!

Fr. Luis

