



October 8, 2023

27th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Upcoming Dates

Oct 22	St Colman Guild meeting 12pm
Nov 1	St Elizabeth Guild meeting 1pm
Nov 15	Finance Committee meeting 4pm

Mass Intentions

Sat 4:00 pm	Lotte Murphy [†] <i>requested by Michele McDonnell</i>
Sun 9:30 am	Patricia Power [†] , Ralph Hitchin [†] <i>requested by Susan Poirier Bart & Tillie Manick[†] requested by Francine Korn</i>

Readings

Is 5: 1-7
Ps 80: 9. 12. 13-14. 15-16. 19-20
Phil 4: 6-9
Mt 21: 33-43

Pray For Our Brothers And Sisters

Who have been called to Eternal Life: Ralph Hitchin, Patricia Power

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	\$1,106.00
	2 nd Collection	\$666.00
	<i>Thank you for your generosity!</i>	\$1,772.00

Announcements

Monte Rio Variety Show Update

We have now completed our accounting for the show and can happily report our gross (rounded) is \$158,000 and our net (rounded) is \$140,000. St Catherine's portion is over \$46,500. This is again a record year! Thank you for all who supported us with your attendance, donations, and donations in kind (including specific tasks)!

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

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

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.

Temporary Church Office Phone Number

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

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, Chris Kollaja, and Mary Helt. 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.

Spirituality Of The Readings

Courtesy of John Fole, SJ, Saint Louis University

The Real Story

There is a very powerful truth-telling device, as we saw two Sundays ago: the device called story.

Our brains love stories because they include events with “before-and-after” built right in, along with suspense, action, relationships and intercommunication; not to mention emotion and elation and disappointment and so on. These elements are the most like daily experience of any device we have in the language.

So, on Sunday we will hear several stories of a vineyard.

The first tells about “a friend” who carefully built a vinery: clearing stones, building a watchtower, planting the choicest vines (First Reading). He even “hewed out a wine press.” But the vineyard yielded bad grapes. God tells the people of Jerusalem and Judah in vivid language that they themselves are this vineyard, and that he is going to destroy it, trample it down. They would not let God's love grow up among them.

In the Gospel Jesus embroiders this tale. In just one sentence he handles the part about planting a vineyard, digging out a wine press, building a tower. Then he goes further.

In this version he says that the owner rents his rich vineyard to tenants, as was the custom, and he trusts them to raise choice grapes for him. In due season he sends his servants to collect the yield—which must have been great because the tenants dishonestly want to keep everything including the vineyard. So they beat or stone or even kill the servants!

Next, a surprising, seemingly implausible twist to the tale. The owner decides to send his own son, thinking that the tenants will surely respect him. Would you have done the

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).

same? Wouldn't you or I have said, “I will keep my family away from these criminals”?

I surely would. But not the owner. He sends his only son into the trap and the tenants kill him.

The details of the two stories are different, but is it the same story, about God punishing those who fail to produce?

Actually the two parables are not the same. There is much, much more in the Gospel. Jesus hints at this afterwards:

Did you never read in the Scriptures:
*The stone that the builders rejected
has become the cornerstone;
by the Lord has this been done,
and it is wonderful in our eyes. (Gospel)*

This is a new metaphor, and it is the key to the Gospel tale. It fills the story with dramatic new meaning.

The son sent into the vineyard is Jesus himself!

He is to be rejected and killed, just as the prophets and the owner's son were. But here is the difference: as God's son he is entirely willing to go among the sinning people. He lives by compassion, and danger takes second place.

If the main character in the Gospel were called Life, and it had its own choices to make, it would desire to turn into another being, one called Love. Life always yearns to go back to its source, the everlasting union called by that simple name, love.

Greed and disregard stop this progress. True Life gets buried. It rises again when we look to Jesus on Sundays. He is love. He is there for us in our vineyard.

God sent his own son into the trap of human life not because life is perfect, but because love is.

Discussion Questions

Courtesy of Anne Osdieck, Saint Louis University

First Reading: Isaiah 5:1-7

What are some things you could do if you discover that all the “grapes” in your spiritual garden were all turning out small or sickly?

Second Reading: Philippians 4:6-9

How do you feel about the God of peace standing guard over your mind and heart? What does St. Paul say takes the place of anxiety and the worries? Are his words true for you?

