



November 6, 2022

32nd Sunday in Ordinary Time

Upcoming Dates

Nov 16, Finance Committee meeting 4pm
 Nov 27, St. Colman Guild meeting 12pm
 Jan 4, St. Elizabeth Guild meeting 1pm

Mass Intentions

For all parishioners

Readings

2 Mc 7: 1-2, 9-14
 Ps 17: 1, 5-6, 8, 15 (15b)
 2 Thes 2: 16 3: 5
 Lk 20: 27-38

Parish Donations

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

October 29 - 30	1 st Collection	2 nd Collection
St. Elizabeth	\$636.00	\$346.00
St. Catherine	\$184.00	\$301.00
St. Colman		
<i>Thank you for your generosity!</i>		\$1,467.00

Spirituality Of The Readings

Courtesy of John Foley, SJ, Saint Louis University

Love After Death

I have been with a fair number of people in the midst of their dying. Each time the event has seemed miraculous. Someone I had known and spoken with, and loved, someone whose every movement came from a mysterious source of life within them--burning bright as a candle in darkness--that someone has vanished. The body is the same one I knew before. The mouth is the same one that talked and laughed. But in the blink of my eye, the insides are gone.

“Where did she go?” “Where did he go?”

The manner in which you and I get around here on earth is by means of walking, using arms and legs and thus changing locations. In death the “going somewhere” is

accomplished by cessation of all motion whatever. The “going” is at a much, much deeper level.

Only the thing called “hope” can give us a clue, and it is hope, not surety. One of the brothers in the First Reading says it this way: “It is my choice to die at the hands of men with the hope God gives of being raised up by him.”

Our God is God of life, the Gospel says; “to him all are alive,” even the dead! How could this be?

Because God keeps love safe.

We only have to glance at the crucifixion to see that Jesus too chose to die this way. He knew his Abba so well that he maintained hope even when everything screamed against it.

What?

Yes. Real love is the rich roam of earth that nurtures great trees. Roots dig deep down in the soil for nourishment and moisture. The green selves grow out of the earth. And notice something obvious: the earth does not grow out of the trees!

Life grows out of love, not visa versa as we too often think

It is difficult to say the last sentence correctly. Let me try again. Love is a force much deeper than life. When life ceases, love stays. It becomes the home, the embracing arms that enfold us. Love is the substance, life is the outgrowth. So the “place” dead persons go, leaving their bodies behind, is into the heart of love, into the arms of God who is love.

Here is how the poet Hopkins put it:

Hither then, last or first,
 To hero of Calvary, Christ’s feet—
 Never ask if meaning it, wanting it, warned of it—
 men go.*

Christ’s feet are where you and I are promised to be, into the perfect fullness of love he achieved. Oh yes, we have to release our tight grip on the treasures we hoard, things we might be grasping instead of love.

If we have a hard time during our lives of “meaning it and wanting it,” as the poet says, even so, we are still always folded into the luxuriant soil of God’s love. Sometimes we refuse it, and then our roots will dry out in the sun. Love will still forgive us and invite us and help us back.

John Foley, SJ

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.

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!

Confessions

Fr Luis is available to hear Confessions after 9 am Mass on Fridays and before weekend Masses. Please call the rectory at 707-869-2107 to confirm with him, so that he knows to arrive early on the weekend, or stay late on Friday. Alternatively, a more convenient time can be scheduled with him by calling the rectory.

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.

Discussion Questions

First Reading: 2 Maccabees 7:1-2, 9-14

1. Who are “resurrection people” for you? Jesus, of course. Archbishop Romero? All the martyrs in El Salvador? Rev. Jacques Hamel, 85 yr. old French priest, killed by ISIS on 7/26/16? The ones who died to bring social justice to their country like Rev. Gregorio Lopez Gorostieta of southern Mexico, whose death is one of the latest in a series of abductions, attacks and highway robberies against Roman Catholic clerics in the state which is dominated by drug cartels? Who else?

2. What are some burdensome earthly trials besides martyrdom that people might be able to endure because of the hope of the resurrection? What suffering could such hope allow you to endure?

Second Reading: 2 Thessalonians 2:6-3:5

1. Does Paul pray that his ministry and that of his friends speeds forward or that the Word of the Lord does the same through their efforts? Discuss. What is the difference?

2. Are you saving the world in your ministry? Are you part of God’s plan to save the world? How might this happen?

Gospel: Luke 20:27-38

1. When you encounter Christ in the Sacraments, in your fellow human beings, in community, might you get a taste of eternity? If God is love, when you experience real love might you get a taste of the risen life?

2. The Sadducees thought the present life was the standard for eternity. What does Pope Francis say God has in store for us, that turns the Sadducees’ way of looking at eternity on its head?

This is why Jesus affirms: “he is not the God of the dead, but of the living: for all live to him” (Luke 20:38). And the most important tie is with Jesus: he is the alliance, he is the Life and the Resurrection, because with his crucified love he defeated death. In Jesus God gives us eternal life: he gives it to everyone, and everyone can, thanks to him, hope to live a life even more real than this one. The life that God has in store for us is not simply a better version of this one: it goes beyond our imagination, because God continually surprises us with His love and mercy.

Pope Francis, Angelus, Nov. 10, 2013

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

