



October 22, 2023

29th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Upcoming Dates

Oct 22 12:00 pm	St Colman Guild meeting
Nov 1 1:00 pm	St Elizabeth Guild meeting
Nov 15 4:00 pm	Finance Committee meeting

Mass Intentions

Saturday 4:00 pm	Yvonne Spencer [health & healing] <i>requested by Linda Payne</i>
Sunday 9:30 am	Joe Callahan† <i>requested by Barbara Seymour</i>

Pray For Our Brothers And Sisters

Who are ill or in pain: Bill Aguirre, Rhonda Hallum, Barbara Stephens, Yvonne Spencer, Mike Barry

Who have been called to Eternal Life: 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	\$2,229.00
October 14-15	2 nd Collection	\$539.00
	<i>Thank you for your generosity!</i>	\$2,768.00

Monthly Collection Report for September 2023

	Collection	Online	Total
St Elizabeth	\$6,887.00	\$2,132.00	\$9,019.00
St Catherine	\$2,598.00	\$1,150.00	\$3,748.00
St Colman	\$1,397.00	\$290.00	\$1,687.00
Monthly Total			\$14,454.00

Est. Monthly Expenses \$22,000.00

Note: Monthly expenses are based upon last year's annual operating expenses on a monthly basis with an estimated amount included for building repairs and replacements.

Readings

Is 45: 1. 4-6
Ps 96: 1. 3. 4-5. 7-8. 9-10 (7b)
1 Thes 1: 1-5b
Mt 22: 15-21

Announcements

Special Second Collection

The second collection on Sunday, October 22, 2023 is for World Mission Sunday.

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)!

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 Foley, SJ, Saint Louis University

Which Side Are We On?

There seem to be two realms, God's and Caesar's. Jesus says so in Sunday's Gospel: "Give to God the things that are God's and to Caesar the things that are Caesar's."

Alright, but which realm do we live in?

Are we "Sunday Catholics," giving to God maybe an hour per week at Mass and then getting on with television and cars and work and food? And maybe with being afraid? Or with wishing things had turned out better? Do we leave it to professionals to pray to God while we live a lesser life? Have we given our life to Caesar?

Or do we try it the other way around? Perhaps we are so serious about Christianity and spirituality that we try to get away from enjoyment of any worldly thing so as to live uncorrupted. Through the history of Christianity there have been marvelous examples of this. The desert hermits. The cloistered nuns and monks. The great mystics. "A penny for Caesar and all the rest for God"?

If you push it too far, however, everything of Caesar must go away because it is not God, or on the other hand, God has to go away because science and secularism are so powerful.

Maybe Jesus made his statement to settle the argument that was posed to him by the Pharisees. Alright, here is a key. Can God and Caesar co-exist? What if each of us is created to be a channel for God's presence right in the midst of the secular world?

What if, in spite of the voices within you that say you are not worth much, in spite of the setbacks of life, the losses, the flatness, in spite of all these, what if God created you with room inside you where God, out of love for you, can be quietly present?

I can hear objections to such an idea: "God would never be at home in me, not until I do a lot better with my life." Or, "You want me to be some kind of nut, running around acting holy?" Or, "Sure, I want to let God in, but I like beer and TV too much." Or, "What does all this have to do with real life?" Or simply, "I don't want to."

But what if God were a great friend? In fact, how would it be if God were a companion who truly and actually accepts you and forgives you completely whenever you need it? Wouldn't this give you another way to look at the connection between heaven and earth?

Wouldn't it mean that God put you and me into the world to be holy in it, to be friends with the things of Caesar? To work in the world of sin in spite of our own sins?

Could it be that we ourselves are "those things that belong to God" that Jesus spoke of? "Belong," not in a possessive way, but in the way felt by people who love and are loved. That might be how we "belong." If this were so, why wouldn't we want to give ourselves to God, and then also to bring our God-filled selves to Caesar's palaces and to the dirty roads outside them and show everyone what Jesus is all about?

Which realm should we live in? Both.

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

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).

