



# February 19, 2023

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

### Upcoming Dates

Feb 26, St. Colman Guild meeting 12pm  
 Mar 1, St. Elizabeth Guild meeting 1pm  
 Mar 15, Finance Committee meeting 4pm

### Mass Intentions

**Sun 9:30 am:** Joan Brown<sup>†</sup> requested by the St Elizabeth guild.

### Readings

Lv 19: 1-2. 17-18  
 Ps 103: 1-2. 3-4. 8. 10. 12-13 (8a)  
 1 Cor 3: 16-23  
 Mt 5: 38-48

### Pray For Our Brothers And Sisters

**Who are ill or in pain:**  
 Miranda Muniz, Harry Vogl

### **Who have been called to Eternal Life:**

Joan Brown

### Pastor's Desk

St. Therese of Lisieux is one model of faith whose "little way" of love can be used by any Christian as a means for loving our enemies and praying for our persecutors. When moving through postulancy and novitiate in her Carmelite community. Therese faced many challenges -for one, she was so young that she could not fully profess vows at the typical end of her novitiate, and she struggle throughout her time in community to show love to all members.

This filled her with doubt and guilt, and out of periods of intense prayer. Therese arrived at her "little way". She did small acts of goodness and love for each person, particularly those who she found most difficult to love. She walked the path

of her vowed obedience not simply through words but through intentional deeds. She prayed for those she struggled to love. Therese's "way" is an achievable model for Christian people and communities today. While we may want to mirror God's love through big, heroic, loving acts at the end of the day it is the smaller, simpler, daily interactions that reveal who we truly are as Christian disciples. Sent forth by Christ Jesus to live the way of love, let us challenge one another to actively commit to the mission of Christ.

Peace and blessings.  
 Fr. Luis

### Announcements

#### **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.

### Discussion Questions

*Courtesy of Anne Osdieck, St. Louis University*

#### **First Reading: Leviticus 19:1-2, 17-18**

1. "Be holy, for I, the Lord, your God, am holy." Does the Lord tell us what holiness is? What does this reading say about being holy? Is holiness related to how we interact with others?
2. If all of us "loved our neighbors as ourselves" do you think there would be wars, prisons, hunger and poverty? One way the Lord says to love our

neighbor is "You shall not bear hatred for your brother or sister in your heart. ... Cherish no grudge against any of your people." Is this an easy thing to do? Have you tried it? Will you try again? Is grace (the Spirit of God dwelling in you) there to help you?

### **Second Reading: 1 Corinthians 3:16-23**

1. St. Paul says "the Spirit of God dwells in you." Do you remember this? How about when you have important decisions to make? Or when you are in serious trouble? When good things happen? Or is that not very often?

2. He also says " ... for the temple of God, which is you, is holy." And is your neighbor holy too? If this is the case, do you treat all the people in your life as though they are holy temples?

### **Gospel: Matthew 5:38-48**

1. Why would Jesus tell you to "Love your enemies?" Who can do that? Did Jesus tell us about a new revolutionary kind of acting when he showed us how to love our enemies? How far was he willing to go for them with his radical self-emptying? How far was the Father willing to go for his children?

2. Pope Francis speaks about the "extremism of charity." Why does he say it is the heart of the Gospel?

*... Having been touched by love, we are called to love without waiting for others to love first. ... Love your enemies and pray for those who persecute you. This is the Christian innovation. It is the Christian difference. Pray and love: this is what we must do; and not only with regard to those who love us, not only with regard to our friends or our own people. The love of Jesus knows no boundaries or barriers. The Lord demands of us the courage to have a love that does not count the cost. ... Yet his commandment of love is not simply a*

*challenge; it is the very heart of the Gospel. Where the command of universal love is concerned, let us not accept excuses or preach prudent caution. The Lord was not cautious; he did not yield to compromises. He asks of us the extremism of charity. This is the only legitimate kind of Christian extremism: the extremism of love.*

*Pope Francis homily for 7 Sun Ord A 2020*

### Parish Donations

You can easily donate online by scanning the QR code at the bottom of the bulletin with your smartphone or by visiting [stelizabeth.churchtrac.com/give](http://stelizabeth.churchtrac.com/give)

February 11-12	1 <sup>st</sup> Collection	2 <sup>nd</sup> Collection
St. Elizabeth	\$713.00	\$287.00
St. Catherine	\$254.00	\$191.00
St. Colman	\$55.00	\$80.00
<i>Thank you for your generosity!</i>		\$1,580.00

### Monthly Collections: January 2023

St. Elizabeth	\$7,853.00
St. Catherine	\$415.00
St. Colman	\$390.00
Online Collections	\$3,749.00
<b>Monthly Total</b>	<b>\$12,407.00</b>
<b>Est. Monthly Expenses</b>	<b>\$22,000.00</b>

*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.*

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

### 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.

