**St. Elizabeth Ann Seton Catholic Church**

4595 Snyder Lane Rohnert Park, CA 94928

(707) 585-3708

**Website:** [www.Stelizabethrp.com](http://www.Stelizabethrp.com)

**E-Mail** stelizseton@sbcglobal.net  **Office Hours: Tues. through Fri. 9am. -1pm.**

**Church doors are open from 7:30am. - 6:30pm.**

**March 2, 2025**

**Eighth Sunday in Ordinary Time**

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**Can the Blind lead the Blind**

**Pastoral Staff and Extensions**

Rev. Thomas Diaz, Pastor, #4, Day off-Mondays

Chris Giacometti, Office Manager, #1

Mass times: Extension, #2

Jennifer Bedoka, Faith Formation, #3

**Sacraments and Devotions**

**Reconciliation:** Sundays 9:45-10:15am., and by app.

**Marriage:** One year notice to the pastor.

**Infant Baptism:** One-month notice. Next Baptismal class

 TBA

**Welcoming Church:** Sundays: 12:15pm/classroom.

**Anointing of the Sick:** Please call Fr. Tom.

**Exposition and Benediction:** Thurs. After Mass for ½ hr.

**The Rosary:** ½ hr. before weekday Masses.

**The Divine Chaplet:** Tues. after noon Mass

**Mass Schedule/ASHES and Intentions**

**Sat. Mar. 1, 4 pm.** + Ellen & Gary Stevens

**Sun. Mar. 2, 8 30 am.**  People of the Parish

 **10:30 am.** + Josephine Reginato

**Tue. Mar. 4, 12:15 pm**. + Michael Foppoli

**Wed. Mar. 5, 8:15 am.** + Dolores Flores

 **12:15 pm.** Int of Kathleen Jones

 **7 pm.** Int of The Patrick Family (Masss will be in English and Spanish/Bilingue)

**Thu. Mar. 6, 12:15pm.** + Dennis Yates

**Fri. Mar. 7, 8:15am**. + All Souls

**Sat.**  **Mar. 8, 4pm.**  Int of Fr. Tom

**Sun. Mar. 9, 8:30am.** + Angelo & Kathy Leonardi

 **10:30am.** People of the Parish

**Events of the week**

**Sun. Mar. 2,12:15** Welcoming Church

**Mon. Mar. 3, 6:30** Men’s Club Mtg/Hall

**Wed. Mar. 5, 4:30** Filipino- American Mtg/Hall

**Fri. Mar. 7, 4:30** Social Justice Mtg/Cl

 **6** Lenten Meal by the Men’s Club/Hall

 **7** Stations of the Cross by the Men’s Club **Sun. Mar. 9 5** Evening Prayer/Church

 **Readings for** **this Sunday**

**Reading I:** Sirach 27:4-7, **Reading II:** 1 Corinthians 15:54-58, **Gospel: Luke 6:39-45.**

**Scriptural Reflection**

**A Good Tree is Known by Its Fruits** In the Gospel Reading, Jesus says that every tree is known by its fruit. You can tell the difference between the good and the rotten trees by their fruits, he says; but he is really talking about us. But what are the good fruits that you bring forth to count as a good tree? You have mildness when you put up with a neighbor who is troublesome. They are the fruits of the Holy Spirit. Every person in whom the Holy Spirit dwells has the fruits of the Holy Spirit. Scripture lists nine fruits (see [Galatians 5:22-23](https://bible.usccb.org/bible/galatians/5?22)), but traditionally the Church has listed twelve.  Here is that list:

**Love
Joy
Peace
Patience
Longsuffering**

**Goodness
Benevolence
Mildness
Fidelity**

**Modesty
Continence
Chastity**

You’ll see that I have divided the twelve into three unequal parts. The first part has five fruits that have to do with your relation to the Lord. When you are a good tree, you have the Holy Spirit indwelling in you. With the indwelling Holy Spirit, you are your beloved Lord’s, and he is yours in love and joy and peace. In that loving relationship, you can also bear better the troubles of this life, and so patience and long-suffering are on the list too. The next four fruits have to do with your attitude towards your neighbor. When you are inclined to wish the good for your neighbor, you have goodness; and when you are inclined actually to help your neighbor in good ways, you have benevolence.  You have mildness when you put up with a neighbor who is troublesome, and you have fidelity when you are inclined to forego, getting revenge on him when he has been unjust to you. Finally, the last three fruits have to do with your attitudes about yourself. You have modesty when you are inclined to be content even if you are not the center of everyone’s attention. You have continence if you are inclined to discipline yourself regarding morally acceptable things. You manage to get your exercise in because you got yourself to turn the TV off, for example. And you have chastity if you are inclined to discipline yourself about those things that tempt you but that are not morally acceptable. If you have all these good fruits of the Spirit, it will be easy to recognize you as the good tree that you are! **Eleonore Stump**

**Discussion Questions:** “Brother, let me remove that splinter. … ” Before we undertake correcting others’ problems, what does Jesus ask us to check out in ourselves?

**Please pray for our infirmed:** Elizabeth Chang, Gus Chang, Patrick Dempsey, Marlene Dentoni, John Diaz, Tim Diestel, Marcella Dorado, , Alan Hennessy, Jan Hoermer, Tony Madia, Patrick Maloney, Bill Mish, Debbie Molakides, Mary Jane Nolan, Sione Palu, Nicholas Patrick, Rivas Family, Raymond Pellinacci, Theresa Rosser, Abel Sagon, Robert Scarpone, Jim Turegano, Betty Vega.

**Please pray for the soul of** Father Balaswamy Govindu, and keep his family in your prayers

**Parish Stewardship for February: 2/2 $5,088. 2/9 $4,737. 2/16 $5,794. 2/23 $4,440. On-line giving for the month of February is $1,070.75. Church maintenance $2,431. Liability Insurance $2,136.**

**Event Calendar in March**

**Fri. Mar. 7, 6** Lenten Meal by the Men’s Club

 **7** Stations of the Cross

**Sun. Mar. 9, 9:30-12** SES Café

  **5pm.** Evening Prayer

**Fri. Mar. 14, 6** Lenten Meal by the Women’s Guild

 **7** Stations

**Fri. Mar. 21, 6** Lenten Meal Filipino American

 Ministry **7** Stations of the Cross

***Faith Formation Ministry***

*Quote of the Week*

**“How precious is the family, as the privileged pace for transmitting faith.”**

 **(Pope Francis)**

***Sunday, March 2nd***

***9:30 am*** *1st Year Confirmation*

***10:30 am*** *Children’s Liturgy of the Word*

***5-6:30 pm*** *Atrium Level 3*

***5-6:30pm*** *Youth Group*

 ***Tuesday, March 4th***

***4-5:30 pm*** *Atrium L1 and L2*

***Wednesday, March 5th***

***2-3 pm*** *1st Year Sacramental Prep*

***3:30-4:30 pm*** *1st Year Sacramental Prep*

***Friday, March 7th***

***5 pm*** *Youth Retreat*

***Saturday, March 8th***

***All Day*** *Youth Retreat*

***Sunday, March 9th***

***9:30 am*** *1st Year Confirmation*

***10:30 am*** *Children’s Liturgy of the Word*

***5-6:30 pm*** *Atrium Level 3*

***5-7 pm*** *2nd Year Confirmation*

***SAVE THE DATE***

***Sun., March 16th 1st Communion for four Adolescents at 10:30 am***

***Fri., April 4th Confirmation at 5:30 pm***

***Sat., May 31st 1st Communion at 11:30 am***

**Please pray this week for our youth retreat beginning this week.**

We offer to you, Loving God, the gifts and needs of our youth. Bless them with you guiding grace as they face the challenges and opportunities in their lives.

Touch their hearts Lord with gentleness of your love. Send your spirit of hope to their lives, tht they may believe in themselves and know that they are loved.

Guide them as they continue to learn about you and the many gifts they can share with the world!

*Join us on March 5th at 4 pm. as we pray to our Mother: Our Lady of Perpetual Help. We will gather after prayer in the atrium to discuss our Lenten meal and Stations of the Cross this year. We are always looking for those who want to promote our Filipino culture. Mark your calendars and join us...No need to be Filipino to join our ministry.*

**LENT 2025 INFO AND SCHEDULE FOR ASH WEDNESDAY**

● Ash Wednesday and Good Friday are days of fast and abstinence, that is, limited to a single, full meal and abstinence from meat.

● The other Fridays of Lent are days of abstinence from meat. Abstinence does not include meat juices and liquid foods made from meat.  However, moral theologians have traditionally taught that we should abstain from all animal-derived products.

● **The law of fasting permits** only one full meal a day, but it does allow the taking of some food in the morning and a second light meal at noon orin the evening, as you prefer. Persons who are 18-59 year are obligated to fast.

**The law of abstinence** from meat applies to all persons who are 14 years old and up. However, it is highly recommended that children from ages 7 to 13 years also follow the law of abstinence.

● All Catholics who have received their first Holy Communion are encouraged to receive Holy Eucharist frequently during Lent and to receive the Sacrament of Penance so that all may be prepared to celebrate more fully the paschal mystery. The determination of these days of obligatory penance, as listed above, should not be understood as limiting the occasions for Christian penance. We will have a Reconciliation Service in April.

Masses on Ash Wednesday with the Distribution of Ashes, March 5th

8:15. 12:15 and 7 pm (Bilingue).

**THE EASTER MEALS**

What to do on the Greatest Day for Christians SVDP with the help of our parishioners will provide an Easter Basket with dinner items, which will include a Ham or chicken for **needy** families.

 We are going to collect specific food items during Lent each week for the Easter Basket starting on Wed. March 5th, and ending on Sunday, April 6th.

 We will be collecting specific food items each week during Lent, based on the following dates:

**Dates** **Size** **Item** Mar 5,8/9 4 oz. box Scalloped Potatoes Mar 15/16 15 oz. can Peas and Corn Mar 22/23 7.5 oz. box Mac & Cheese Mar 29/30 20 oz. can Sliced Pineapple Apr 5/6 15 oz. box Corn Bread Mix

Food donations can be placed in the baskets that are located in the church entrance beginning Mar 5th.

Monetary donations for the food items, hams, and chickens can be placed in an envelope marked “Easter Meal” and dropped off at the church office or the Sunday collection.

 We are going to ask parishioners to help prepare the baskets of food on Thursday, April 10th, and deliver them Saturday, April 12th. If you are interested in helping with these tasks, you can contact Larry Ruminson at 707-548-7058.

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**SOCIALS** Please join us for the SES Café next Sunday March 9th. It will be hosted by the Hispanic Club. Come for coffee, sweet treats and fellowship.

**SEAS Women’s Guild Scholarship** is excited to announce we are now accepting applications for the 2025 scholarship program. The scholarship amount is $1,000. Applications can be picked up in the parish office.

 This will be awarded to a high school senior student who plans to attend a college, university, or trade school. Eligibility: be a practicing Catholic and member of the SEAS parish and in good standing academically with their current school/education program

**Deadline:** turn into the parish office by Wednesday April 30, 2025

 **Social Justice: Immigration and Rights**

Always keep in mind that in spite of whoever occupies the executive branch of our government, there are certain rights granted by our Constitution to everyone who lives here.

 The Judeo-Christian tradition, and Catholic social teaching calls the faithful to work to safeguard the

rights of visitors and immigrants in spite of their status.

On the glass table across from the office you can find red cards, yellow cards and 9X11 sheet paper that contain information about the rights that everyone living in the United States are entitled to. These are fact sheets that anyone may take and keep, and hopefully alleviate the fear that exists today among some.

 **God Bless, The Social Justice Ministry.**

**Pastor’s Corner Rincón del Pastor**

**I have been asked many times who can be a godparent, so here we go:**

1. A baptized practicing Catholic (no mortal sins).
2. At least years old and has been confirmed.
3. If married the wedding had to be a wedding in the Catholic church or given a dispensation by the bishop.
4. Canon law provides that one godparent is sufficient but that there may be two, so long as there is one of each sex. There is no provision for more than two godparents.

**The Crying Room** is for Parents with small children only.

**Parking in front of the church** is for those with Handicapped permits, and they must be visible.

  **Me preguntan muchas veces quién puede ser**

 **padrino, así que aquí vamos:**
1. Un católico practicante bautizado (sin pecados

 mortales).
2. Tener 16 años o más y haber sido confirmado.
3. Si estaba casado, la boda tenía que ser una boda

 en la iglesia católica o con una dispensa del

 obispo.

4. El derecho canónico establece que un padrino es

 suficiente, pero que puede haber dos, siempre

 que haya uno de cada sexo. No hay disposición

 para más de dos padrinos.

**La sala de llanto** es solo para padres con niños pequeños.

**El estacionamiento frente a la iglesia** es para aquellos con permisos para discapacitados, y deben ser visibles.

 **Ministry Schedule Mar. 1st & 2nd**

 **4pm. Mass**

**Readers:** Liz Ritchie, Tony Sacramento

**EMS:** Janice Dyer, Dianne Foppoli, Linda Mish

**Ushers:**  Tony & Beth Turegano

**Greeters:** Ron & Debra Ciarasso

 **8:30 am Mass**

**Readers:** Marie Ebbing, Maria Van Anne

**EMS:** Remie Alinas, Maureen Sheridan Scott, Mary Thayer

**Ushers:** Gus & Liz Chang

**Greeters:** Allan & Caroline Kalaw

 **10:30 am Mass**

**Readers:** Scott Crossen, Marie Horwitz

**EMS:** Evelyn Estrella, Nora John, Julie La Plante

**Ushers:** Scott & Mila Morrical

**Greeters:** Fred & Janet Adam

 **Ministry Schedule Mar. 5th, Ash Wednesday**

 **8:15 am. Mass**

**Readers:** Marie Ebbing, Evelyn Estrella

**EMS:** Joanne Bishop, Giovanna Desimone, Beth Turegano

**Ushers:** Beth Turegano, Diane Cook

**Greeters:** Ron & Debra Ciarasso

 **12:15 pm. Mass**

**Readers:** Linda Anderson, Mila Morrical

**EMS:** Janice Dyer, Tony Turegano, Julie LaPlante

**Ushers:** Janice Dyer, Tony Turegano

**Greeters:** Julie La Plante, Giovanna Desimone

 **7 pm. Mass**

**Readers:** Linda Biondini, Maureen Sheridan Scott

**EMS:** Larry Biondini, Bill Yates, Dianne Foppoli

**Ushers:** Dianne Foppoli, Bill Yates

**Greeters:** Pat Yates, Olivia Salazar

**The History of Ash Wednesday**

The liturgical use of ashes originates in Old Testament times. Ashes symbolized mourning, mortality and penance. For instance, in the Book of Esther, Mordecai put on sackcloth and ashes when he heard of the decree of King Ahasuerus (or Xerxes, 485-464 B.C.) of Persia to kill all of the Jewish people in the Persian Empire (Est 4:1). Job (whose story was written between the 7th and 5th centuries B.C.) repented in sackcloth and ashes (Job 42:6). In the fifth century B.C., after Jonah's preaching of conversion and repentance, the town of Ninevah proclaimed a fast and put on sackcloth, and the king covered himself with sackcloth and sat in the ashes (Jon 3:5-6). These Old Testament examples evidence both a recognized practice of using ashes and a common understanding of their symbolism.

 Jesus Himself also made reference to ashes. Referring to towns that refused to repent of sin although they had witnessed the miracles and heard the good news, our Lord said, "If the miracles worked in you had taken place in Tyre and Sidon, they would have reformed in sackcloth and ashes long ago" (Mt 11:21).

The early Church continued the usage of ashes for the same symbolic reasons Also during this time, for those who were required to do public penance, the priest sprinkled ashes on the head of the person leaving confession.

In the Middle Ages (at least by the time of the eighth century), those who were about to die were laid on the ground on top of sackcloth sprinkled with ashes. The priest would bless the dying person with holy water, saying, "Remember that thou art dust and to dust thou shalt return

 Eventually, the use of ashes was adapted to mark the beginning of Lent, the 40-day preparation period (not including Sundays) for Easter.

 The 40 days are not figurative or approximate; they are not a metaphor; they are literal. They are tied, as the 40 days of Lent have always been for Christians, to the 40 days that Christ spent in fasting in the desert after [His baptism](https://www.learnreligions.com/the-baptism-of-the-lord-542465) by John the Baptist. If the Church, both East and West, considered it of paramount importance that the Lenten fast be exactly 40 days, why did the Western Church extend the Lenten fast back to [Ash Wednesday](https://www.learnreligions.com/when-is-ash-wednesday-542443), which falls 46 days before Easter?

the Church has never allowed *Sundays*to be kept as days of fast . . . " Thus, we arrive at the traditional formula, in the Western Church, for [how the 40 days of Lent are calculated](https://www.learnreligions.com/how-the-days-of-lent-calculated-542421): 46 days minus 6 Sundays equals the 40 days of the Lenten fast.

The Church continues today to regard every Sunday as a "little Easter."