



December 9, 2018

Second Sunday Of Advent

UPCOMING DATES

Sun Dec 16, Parish Christmas Dinner 5 PM
 Tues Dec 25, Christmas Day
 Tues Jan 1, New Years
 Wed Jan 2, St. Elizabeth Guild Meeting 1 PM
 Jan (TBA), Finance Committee Meeting 4 PM
 St. Colman Guild Meeting (TBA)

READINGS

Bar 5: 1-9
 Ps 126: 1-2. 2-3. 4-5. 6
 Phil 1: 4-6. 8-11
 Lk 3: 1-6

PRAY FOR OUR BROTHERS & SISTERS

Who are ill or in pain: Nilda Falero, Don Schaffert, Lawrence Peterson, Claudette West, Alan Barich, Ed & Eileen Copeland, Andrew Cebalo, Nina Cantacessi, Posie, William Donnellan, Ernest Souder, Robert Cebalo, Kathleen Sheridan, Sister Gabrielle, Virginia Loosli, David Cross, Helen Johnson, Billy Henthorn, Steve Arcia, Jim & Mary Crowther, Lorelie Fulwider, Fr. Andrew Metcalf, JoAnn Coules, Dinah Smith, Lorna Marie Hastings, Laverne Jones, Joanne & Bill Rodgers, John Breig, Linda Schmidt, Michell Jackson, Jim Ward, Nini Sanchez, Jacqueline Donovan, Art McNulty, Terry Devlin, Mary Hall Smith, Stan Moorman, Maggie Nelson, Stella Dunne, Nina Cantacessi, John Hoffman, Mary Tamargo, Don La Plante, Sarah & David, Ed Fulwider, Vicki Gonzalez, Jesus Chavez Torres.

Who have been called to Eternal Life: George Ayoob, Charlie Marbach, Joe Mercieca, Elaine Benson, Suzi Schaffert, Janet Guidotti, Keith Poulsen, Doris Porras, Helen Leseberg, Bette Campbell, Margaret Maher, Carole Williams, Fr. Philip Ryan, Joseph Kobler, Rebecca Jane Ruiz, Janine Bekker Carrig, Margie Sanchez, Matthew Gonzalez, Billy Ferree, Tom King, Tom Kelly, Axel Avera, Victor Theander, John Sanchez, Don Covello.

MASS INTENTIONS

Sat 4 pm: All refugees and migrants
Sat 5 pm: All parishioners
Sun 9 am: George Ayoob⁺ requested by John Clifford
Sun 11 am: Mila Castillo [*health*]
Tues 9 am: Christine Mason⁺ requested by MaryAnn
Tues-Fri 9am: George Ayoob⁺ req. by John Clifford

LITURGICAL MUSIC CORNER

by our Music Director, Rebecca Brown

Dec. 9th Second Sunday of Advent

"Prepare the way of the Lord, make straight his paths; all flesh shall see the salvation of God."

Gathering Song: Gathering Song For Advent
"Come, Lord Jesus, come Lord Jesus, come and give us your peace."
 Psalm 126: *The Lord has done great things for us; we are filled with joy*
 Preparation of the Gifts: *A Voice Cries Out BB # 44*
 Communion Hymn: *Leading Us Home ss*
 Recessional Hymn: *People Look East BB # 40*
 BB: Breaking Bread Hymnal SS: Song Sheets

We pray that our music will help you to "prepare the way of the Lord" in your hearts, and that you will experience the peace of Christ as we look forward to His coming!

PARISH DONATIONS

Period reflected: Dec 1 – Dec 2	
St. Elizabeth 1 st collection	\$822.00
St. Elizabeth 2 nd collection	\$244.00
St. Catherine 1 st collection	\$258.00
St. Catherine 2 nd collection	\$62.00
St. Colman 1 st collection	\$30.00
St. Colman 2 nd collection	\$161.23

Thank you for your generosity! \$1,577.23

Is the Lord's work one of your heirs?

To be placed on our Sunday Bulletin email list, send your request to: ChurchElizabeth@comcast.net

The deadline for Bulletin submissions is Wednesday at 5pm. Submit them (proofread and spell-checked) via email or the following meetings at St. Hubert's Hall:

St. Elizabeth Guild Meeting (1st Wednesday at 1 pm)
Finance Committee Meeting (3rd Wednesday at 4 pm)
St. Colman Guild Meeting (4th Tuesday at 12 pm)

PASTOR'S DESK

The late *Muriel Lester* was an amazing woman. As a teenager, she quit the busy rounds of social life in London and rented a humble room because she wanted to serve the poor. Out of this small beginning came "*Kingsley Hall*," one of the best-known rehabilitation centers in London restoring health and hope to a great many people. Because Muriel Lester was especially concerned about the problems associated with alcoholism, she built Kingsley Hall in the midst of an area containing no less than thirty saloons. She was so effective at bringing rehabilitation and hope to others that people came from all over the world to study and learn from her. As she moved into advanced years, her concern about the world deepened. A letter she wrote to a friend which reflects her concern reads in part:

"How can the world recover? Is it moving its last time around the sun? I know God has other worlds and, probably, wonderful beings -- managing better than we to preserve their worlds from the absurd super-sensitivity and pride that start us grumbling and pitying ourselves -- and resenting others so much that eventually, it leads to the murder and torture of children via war. I will interrupt this letter while I get ready for Church. I must not hurry at all -- ever-else the pain comes. What a lot we learn as our bodies grow older and more stubborn! But what a wonderful increase of joy and serenity!"

This letter reflects a deeply sensitive Christian woman's concern about our world and her feeling about the end of the world (which the Bible talks so much about). But the really poignant thing about the letter is the postscript, added by her nurse. It reads, "*Half an hour after writing this letter, Muriel Lester died. She was writing about the end of the world not knowing that while she wrote, she was making her own last turn around the sun.*"

In today's Gospel Lesson, John the Baptist heralds the coming of the Messiah, "proclaiming a baptism of repentance" (Lk. 3:4). Jesus began His public ministry with words that echoed John's. "From that moment," Matthew tells us, "Jesus began his preaching with the message, 'Repent, for the Kingdom of Heaven is close at hand'" (Mt. 4:17).

Jesus' message, "The Kingdom of Heaven is close at hand," is an emphatically historical message. It says that history is moving with a purpose; that, as Muriel Lester imagined, history is moving toward a time of *healing and reconciliation*; and as we learn in today's Gospel Lesson, history is moving toward a meeting with the coming Kingdom when the whole of creation will be renewed.

The works Jesus commanded -- cure the sick, raise the dead, heal the lepers, expel demons -- were real acts to be performed within the everyday world plagued with disease and evil. Jesus offered no alternative to history. Rather, he called men and women to confront history; to advance history to its Kingdom destiny. And we are thankful for the Muriel Lester's of the world who pay much more than lip service to Jesus' command. Rather, they are living exemplars of our Christian duty to fulfill the needs of others.

Peace and Blessings!
 Fr. Luis

PS. Please remember to sign up for the Christmas Party which is 5 pm Sunday, December 16th at the Highland Dell, Monte Rio. Please sign up or call the office.
Menu: Prime Rib, Fish and Portobello Mushroom!

ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Cissell family will be fundraising after the 5pm & 9am Masses this weekend to support their homeschool co-op. They will be selling prayer pillowcases and raffle tickets for a Bavarian Madonna statue. Baked goods will be available in hopes of donations, no donation is too small. All donations will go to the Santa Rosa Catholic Homeschool Co-op to support the children's programs. Your support is greatly appreciated!

Gingerbread Men to be available at the rear of the churches. After you've purchased and wrapped your gingerbread men, it would be very helpful if the gifts are delivered to River Coast Child Care office at First and Church Streets in Guerneville (building with white picket fence, kitty-corner from the Vets Hall).

Catholic Cursillo Fellowship Gathering

The Catholic Cursillo Movement of the Diocese of Santa Rosa invites all Catholic Cursillistas to an Ultreya from 2 to 4 p.m. January 19 at St. Elizabeth Seton Church, 4595 Snyder Lane, Rohnert Park. If you are a Catholic who has ever lived a Cursillo weekend, or if you are interested in learning about the Catholic Cursillo Movement, you are welcome to attend this Ultreya. Gathering 2:00, Small group sharing 2:15, Witness Rollo and Reflection 2:45, Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament and Benediction 3:15, Refreshments and Social 3:30.

For further information call:
 Molly Touchette at 707-292-8389
 Olga Dorado at 707-755-0022