



December 2, 2018 First Sunday of Advent

UPCOMING DATES

Wed Dec 5, St. Elizabeth Guild Meeting 1 PM
Sun Dec 16, Parish Christmas Dinner (TBA)
Jan (TBA), Finance Committee Meeting 4 PM
Tues Nov 27, St. Colman Guild Meeting 12 PM

READINGS

Jer 33: 14-16
Ps 25: 4-5. 8-9. 10. 14
1 Thes 3: 12 - 4: 2
Lk 21: 25-28. 34-36

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.

Have you remembered the St. Elizabeth church in your will?

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:

MASS INTENTIONS

Sat 4 pm: George Ayoob⁺
Sat 5 pm: Healing for Peter Kiep, Allan Barich, Emilio, Renee Sandgrass
Sun 9 am: Charlie Marback⁺
Sun 11 am: Bette Campbell⁺
Wed 9am: Lawrence Peterson [*successful surgery*]
Tue–Fri 9 am: George Ayoob⁺ & Eileen Benson⁺

LITURGICAL MUSIC CORNER

by our Music Director, Rebecca Brown

Dec. 2nd First Sunday of Advent

"Your ways, O Lord, make known to me; teach me your paths". (Ps. 25)

Gathering Song: Gathering Song For Advent

"Come, Lord Jesus, come Lord Jesus, come and give us your peace."

Psalm 25: *I Lift Up My Soul* BB # 747

Preparation of the Gifts:

You Will Show Me the Path of Life ss

Communion Hymn: *O Come, O Come Emmanuel* BB #38

Recessional Hymn: *Save Us, O Lord* BB # 667

BB: Breaking Bread Hymnal SS: Song Sheets

Our new liturgical year begins this Sunday, the First Sunday of Advent. May we strive to follow the Lord more closely this season; to wait with trust, persevere with courage, and serve with joy.

PARISH DONATIONS

Period reflected: Nov 24 – Nov 25

St. Elizabeth 1 st collection	\$1,015.00
St. Elizabeth 2 nd collection	\$291.00
St. Catherine 1 st collection	\$87.00
St. Catherine 2 nd collection	\$20.00
St. Colman 1 st collection	\$83.00
St. Colman 2 nd collection	\$132.23

Thank you for your generosity! \$1,628.23

PASTOR'S DESK

The word "serendipity" is derived from an ancient Persian legend about the three *Princes of Serendip* who went out looking for fulfillment in the form of a certain treasure. Although they did not discover what they were looking for, they kept finding things of even greater value. "Serendipity" is *the ability to stay calm in anticipation of discovering happy surprises*. The *serendipitous person is free-spirited enough to expect the unexpected*. "Stand fast in the freedom to which you have been called," says Paul. "Christ has set us free" to expect the unexpected. Christ has set us free to trust in the Mercy of Divine Providence.

The freedom to which Jesus calls us is neither a mindless, superficial optimism nor an alternative to facing life's problems. To the contrary, Jesus charges us with the responsibility of decision-making -- every day of our lives. Jesus tells us to look ahead and to weigh the consequences of our actions. He is not freeing any of us from the responsibilities of brotherhood and mutual service. The freedom to which we are called is the *freedom from the mindless worry and anxiety which is beyond our control*. In a figurative sense, it is a freedom which enables us to *distinguish between our concerns and God's concerns*. It is a liberating experience that allows us to say every day, "I know I am doing my best to meet my responsibilities, therefore I know the rest is in God's hands -- under God's control."

In today's Gospel Lesson, Jesus tells us that even when you are tired, and the burdens are many, it is possible for you to free yourself with the liberating assurance that it's in God's hands – under God's control. "When these things begin to take place," He says, "stand erect, hold your head high, because your liberation is near at hand" (Lk. 21:28).

The freest Person who ever lived was Jesus. His was the supreme exemplar of freedom. He was free even to go to His Cross. He made this point over-and-over again so there would be no mistaking it:

I lay down My life...

No one takes it from Me.

I lay it down of My own free will (Jn. 10:17,18)

Yes, Jesus was the freest Person who ever lived. Voluntarily, He made His Father's Will supreme. Consequently, His entire life was an act of love!

"Stand firm," the Apostle Paul exhorts us. "Stand erect, hold your head high," Jesus commands us. In other words, because God loves you, you can be sure of your

own integrity, your own worthwhileness. Out of this self-assurance, the love that is in you can begin to flow toward the other and be for the other, in perfect freedom.

As we move into the Advent Season and open ourselves to Jesus more fully, the terrible cold at the center of our beings gives way to the *warmth of His Loving Presence*; the *gnawing fatigue* gives way to a new physical strength; the *oppressive fear* and *anxiety* give way to a blessed peace and inner joy. This is what happens when we receive God's Power and Love through Jesus Christ.

"Come to Me, all who labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest," Jesus says. *"Take My yoke upon you, and learn from Me, and you will find rest for your souls. For My yoke is easy, and My burden is light"* (Mt. 12:28-30).

The Scriptures tell us not only how to deal with the heavy responsibilities that make demands on us, but also how we can free ourselves from them. Just as He told the people of His time He is telling us now. If you want to be truly free from the burden of aimlessness, *flutter your wings and fly into the arms of your Lord Jesus*. There you will discover what you are free for – the freedom for admission into God's Kingdom of Love!

Peace and Blessings!

Fr. Luis

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Gingerbread Men to be available at the rear of the churches. Please take one to buy Christmas gifts for children then return your gifts here and River Child Care will distribute them.

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