



September 6, 2020

23rd Sunday In Ordinary Time

To receive our weekly Church Bulletin by email, send your request to ChurchElizabeth@comcast.net

UPCOMING DATES

Sept 16, Finance Committee meeting 4pm
Sept 27, St. Colman Guild meeting 12pm

PRAY FOR OUR BROTHERS & SISTERS

Who are ill or in pain: Gary Carver, Rose Rodenberger, Francine Korn, Paul Aguilar, Jim Jennaro, Sonja Falero, Carolyn Falero Young, Bill Hatch, Cathy Olsen, Kim Warburton, Bill Harmon, Mike Hogan, Hernan Enrique Caceres, Veronica Natalia Chavez, Maria Sol Montel, Veronica Rodriguez, Luz Alejandra Bringas, Carolina Silvia Brizuela Perez, Rodolfo Martin Arruabarrena, Dorothy Maceira, Jack Burger, Charlotte & Neil Berry, Jim Rossi, Raul & Iris Bisbal, Frank Falero, Guillermina Hernandez, Gabe Snodgrass, Thomas Gregory, Nini Johnston, Don Creech, Nilda Falero, Don Schaffert, Ed 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, 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, Sarah & David, Ed Fulwider, Vicki Gonzalez, Jesus Chavez Torres

Who have been called to Eternal Life: Renee Snodgrass, Ruben Montano, Robert D. Goudy, Bart Strady, Frank Danzart, Nettie Herbert, Don La Plante, Lee Torr IV, Helen Mik, Len Heinz, Emilio Porta, Allan Barich, Despo Pullaro, Claudette West, Susan Manick Dodge, Dana Couey-Harmon, Allo Castano, Cecilia Heinz, Lawrence Peterson, Evelyn Shuster, John Seymour, George Ayoob, Charlie Marbach, Joe Mercieca, Elaine Benson, Suzi Schaffert, Janet Guidotti, Doris Porras, Helen Leseberg, Bette Campbell, Margaret Maher, Carole Williams, Fr. Philip Ryan, Joseph Kobler, Janine Bekker Carrig, Matthew Gonzalez, Billy Ferree, Tom King, Tom Kelly, Axel Avera, Victor Theander, John Sanchez

MASS INTENTIONS

Sat 4 pm: Steve Arcia⁺ requested by Rose Bohney
Sun 9 am: Phil and Sue Van Doren [Health] requested by Mark Van Doren. Howard & Bernadette Kidd [health] requested by Mark Van Doren
Sun 11 am: Sally Johnson & Daniela Hernandez [quick recuperation]

READINGS

Ez 33: 7-9
Ps 95: 1-2. 6-7. 8-9
Rom 13: 8-10
Mt 18: 15-20

PASTOR'S DESK

I'm glad everyone IS safe and back to our own homes, it has been a challenging year so far and the year is not yet over. It is good that we are gathering together during the Labor Day weekend, the last day of summer. We give thanks to God for the safety of our churches and homes. We pray for those who lost their homes, we give thanks for the firefighter who are local as well as those who came to assist in the fires in California.

As I have said that "Labor Day," is the last day of summer and usually we end our outside celebration of the Mass and go back to our indoor Church; however because of the pandemic we will continue to celebrate mass outside as long as we can. I am open to any suggestion or any ideas how we can continue the mass outside especially during rainy and winter time.

I am praying that soon we can be able to celebrate mass inside and of course with the protocol in place such as following the social distancing, wearing a mask and limiting the time spend inside a close room.

Sure, "God is everywhere," right under our very noses. But, as St. Paul and St. John imply, to say ***God is in all things is not the same as to see God in all things.*** This is not to deny that people come to an awareness of God's presence in diverse ways. Indeed, every serious effort to come to grips with Ultimate Truth is deserving of our sincere attention and respect. Our Christian mission is not to put down but to uplift. Our Christian mission is not to discredit someone else's way but to affirm our own. Our Christian mission is to project, in the way we live, the unique glimpse of God that Jesus shares with those who accept Him.

Seen from a Christian perspective, God is no mere "security blanket" only for times of distress. Nor is He a mere *philosophical abstraction* to which we dutifully waft our prayers and our community worship. Seen from a Christian perspective, the vision of God comes down-to-earth in the person of Jesus Christ. Seeing God in the life and ministry of Jesus Christ is not only to find Him but also to discover who He is -- and thus learn what we are to become -- to learn what being created "in His image" means. Seeing God in the life and ministry of Jesus Christ is to discover that God is Love.

The Church is a Community of Resurrection Faith, a *community of maturity*. A mature person is one of understanding, coming to terms with his or her life. And the maturity of the Church is revealed in the fact that we have come to terms not only with life but, through the Resurrection of our Lord, with death itself. *A mature person does not need distractions to ward off fear, or superstitions to invoke good luck. Mature persons do not hang on to some party-line that promises safety and security. A mature person pursues the path of knowledge that reveals the truth.* And we, the Church, are grown up now. That doesn't mean we are complete, for God knows, and we know how desperately we need to grow in maturity. That doesn't mean we know everything, for God knows, and we know how ignorant we are. That doesn't mean we are independent and self-sufficient, for God knows, and we know, how dependent we are on one another and our Fellowship in Jesus Christ.

How can I help during these hard times?

You can now easily donate online by using the donate button at rchurches.com. Another great way to help is by selecting us as your charity when shopping online at Amazon -a small percentage of each purchase will benefit our parish. Just visit smile.amazon.com/ch/82-4690577 to get started! Please also remember St. Elizabeth Parish in your will and estate planning.

Peace and blessings!

Fr. Luis

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

by Anne Osdiek, St. Louis University

First Reading: Ezekiel 33:7-9

1. Does God still send watchmen or women or prophets to address injustice in the world today? Who are they? Are they always successful and do they live long, happy lives?

2. Do we have a shared responsibility for others and the world? Are you a "watchperson" in some way? What strikes you as unjust as you watch? Can you think of new ways of bringing justice and divine love into the lives of those people you love? Into your workplace? Into other places in your life?

Second Reading: Romans 13:8-10

1. What commandment sums up all the rest? What is it that fulfills the whole law?

2. Which ranks highest: how much you love? how much you do? how smart or powerful you are? According to Jesus' parable of the Good Samaritan (Luke 10: 29-37), who is your neighbor?

Gospel: Matthew 18:15-20

1. Can you rely on God to grant your request in some way when you and another person agree to pray about something? Do you trust that promise?

2. Do you always remember that "if two or three of you agree on earth about anything for which they (you) are to pray, it shall be granted to them (you)"? Pope Francis sent out the following message in March to a virtual audience following on Vatican News Media.

In these days of trial, as humanity trembles at the threat of the [coronavirus] pandemic, I would propose that all Christians join their voices together to heaven.

Pope Francis, Midday Prayer
March 25, 2020

St. Elizabeth Guild Meeting	1 st Wednesday, 1 pm	St. Hubert Hall	Canceled until further notice
Finance Committee Meeting	3 rd Wednesday, 4 pm	St. Hubert Hall	Sept 16
St. Colman Guild Meeting	4 th Sunday, 12 pm	St. Colman	Sept 27