

ST. ELIZABETH, Guerneville

ST. CATHERINE OF SIENA, Monte Rio • ST. COLMAN, Cazadero

(707) 869-2107 • 14095 Woodland Drive, Guerneville, CA 95446

Office Hours: Tue - Fri 9:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.

Father Luis Peñaloza, PASTOR

Baptisms: By appointment. Preparation classes required.

Marriages: Engaged couples are required to meet with the priest 6 months before the wedding date.

Confessions: By appointment. Call the Rectory.

Religious Education: RCIA. Call the Rectory.

Contact the Rectory at St. Elizabeth, 707-869-2107

Email: churchelizabeth@comcast.net

www.rrchurches.com



St. Elizabeth, Guerneville

Mass Schedule

Sunday: 9:30 a.m.

Weekday Masses: Tue - Fri. 9:00 a.m.

Outdoor church July 4th weekend through
Labor Day weekend.



St. Colman, Cazadero

Mass Schedule

Sunday 11:00 a.m.

*Outdoor church
Memorial Day
through Labor Day*

St. Catherine of Siena, Monte Rio

Mass Schedule

Saturday 4:00 p.m.



WELCOME to the communities of St. Elizabeth, St. Catherine of Siena & St. Colman! If you would like to become a member of one of our churches, please fill out the form below and place it in the collection basket or mail to St. Elizabeth,

14095 Woodland Drive, Guerneville, CA 95446.

Email: churchelizabeth@comcast.net

www.rrchurches.com

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ ZIP: _____

New Parishioner New Phone Number: _____

New Address _____

Need envelopes Moving - remove name



January 5, 2025

Epiphany of the Lord

Upcoming Dates

Sun, Jan 5 **Town Hall Meeting**
at St Hubert's Hall
after the 9:30 am Mass
(+coffee and donuts)

No Mass at St Colman's

Sun, Jan 12 **Candlelight Concert**
4:00 pm **by Michael John Poirier**
at St Elizabeth's

Mass Intentions

Fri, Jan 10 **Carol Porter**[†]
9:00 am *requested by Susan Moeckel*

Readings

Is 60: 1-6
Ps 72: 1-2. 7-8. 10-11. 12-13
Eph 3: 2-3a. 5-6
Mt 2: 1-12

Pray For Our Brothers And Sisters

Those called to Eternal Life:

Allen Mitchell

Announcements

Candlelight Concert by Michael John Poirier

Please come enjoy songs and stories of hope on Sunday, January 12 at 4:00 pm at St Elizabeth church.

See's Candy Fundraiser Results

We raised over \$2,600 with our See's Candy fundraiser. Thank you to all who generously supported this initiative and those that helped with the sales: Sherry K, Barbara S., Michele P, Linda P, and Jeannine R.

Children's Mass Library

Do you have young children with you at Mass? Feel free to borrow a book from our new Children's Mass Library located in the vestibule! Please remember to return any books after Mass. The books are intended to help children learn more about the Mass, connect with familiar bible stories, and enrich their faith.

Connecting Hearts - SR Diocese Survey

To help us improve communication across the Diocese, we invite you to complete a brief survey. Your feedback will guide us in enhancing our communication strategies to better serve everyone. The survey is available on our website <https://srdiocese.org/>

Parish Council

Our church has a Parish/Pastoral council. It consists of 8 members -Linda Payne, Barbara and Otto Kobler, Maryanne Gustafson, Susan Poirier, Patrick McDonell, Ana Maria Padilla and Marti Lownes. The committee meets monthly with Fr Luis, to discuss current and future projects and plans for the parish, and we advise Father on agenda items as needed. Please feel free to reach out to any council member with questions or concerns about our parish.

Pastor's Desk

Greetings to all, and happy Epiphany. This Sunday is the feast of Epiphany, we think of three kings and gifts of gold, frankincense and myrrh. Those men who came on pilgrimage to find this newborn king are probably more correctly called magi or wise men. They might have been priests, and some Scripture scholars even think they might have been astrologers following that star, but probably not kings.

After the magi met Jesus, they went home by a different way. This change of path likely symbolizes conversion for them. Finding Jesus transformed their lives.

What about our lives? Does this feast transform our lives too? Perhaps the mystery escapes our full understanding. In a sense, today's feast is remarkable in that it shows how from the beginning of the life of Jesus, through these wise men, he was reaching out. Through these wise men or magi, he was being manifest to the Gentiles, which these wise men were. In other words, Jesus was there for the wise men to find, and Jesus was open to everyone, not just the local shepherds. It is important for us to see this; Jesus didn't come only for the local people. Already then, as an infant, as the Son of God, he came for everyone he came for us.

Isaiah tells us to "rise up in splendor" because our "light has come," the glory of the Lord shines upon us. What is that light?

The light is God's glory. Jesus brings that light to the world, to us, to the Gentiles to all. Our faith in Jesus becomes the light, too. It is not just private but is meant to lead to life together, life in community. Do not worry; that does not mean

For questions about future parish events, please contact Linda Payne at: (707) 953-9166 or cocomokidd@aol.com

St. Colman Guild Meeting

4th Sunday, 12 pm

St. Colman

Resuming February 2025

you all must become priests, brothers, or sisters. It means living as people who care for each other, who watch out for each other, who help each other. It means being there when you are needed, being light in darkness for others. Yes, it isn't always easy. We all have many responsibilities, family, work, politics, etc. but we are truly meant to be making God's light available to others.

It doesn't always mean with money. Remember it is a caring smile that can make someone's day brighter. A kind word can do the same. Think about it. How can I pass on God's light? It doesn't need to be grandiose or hugely public. As a family, talk about how you each can pass on the light of God to one another and to others.

The epiphany is a meaningful feast following Christmas when Jesus came into the world for us. Now we are reminded that Jesus came for all of us, we are brothers and sisters, the family of God. Let us make our best effort to live up to bring bearers of Christ's light because we are one family with him.

Peace and blessings,
Fr. Luis

Spirituality Of The Readings

Courtesy of John Foley, SJ, Saint Louis University

King?

The Wise Men, or "Magi," cross into one more kingdom in their long journey. Courteously they visit the monarch of that kingdom, not knowing he was the infamous Herod.

I suppose every amenity took place: formal welcome, diplomatic over-do, huge meals, fine drinks. Such excesses must take place, even in a commonplace kingdom.

Finally, when the moment arrives, our Magi pose the question that is so much on their minds. "Where is the newborn king of the Jews? We have read the signs and know of his birth." They trust Herod for the truth, since, obviously, this infant will be the next in line, replacing Herod.

What seems like a sincere question strikes terror into the Herodian heart. So he maintains his diplomatic balance, temporizing with a promise to find the answer, and skillfully ends the meeting for that night.

But, within him are the words, *Newborn King? No, no, no! I AM THE KING! My lineage is the answer to this menacing child.* Herod's insides shout for him to do something!

Do something!

He goes to the chief priests and scribes. He charms them with a seemingly idle interest, an "honest" question. Do you experts, busy studying day and night, do you know anything

about the predicted Messiah figure we used to hope for? If he were to be born today, I wonder, where might that be?

"In Bethlehem of Judea," they respond, "where the great King David was born." These experts know the scriptures well, as Herod does not. The Messiah will be David's successor, shepherd of the people Israel, fulfillment of everything the Jewish people have awaited for centuries. The Herodian head swirls.

At last he forms a plan.

Kill him.

Herod will identify the town to these Magi and they will search out and find the baby for him! He makes his way across the halls and utters the words:

"Bethlehem is the place! The child is in Bethlehem! All you have to do is find him. Oh, and of course, let me know where he is. Why? So that I too may do him homage."

Death is the homage Herod has in mind.

His lust for power will banish the command of love, in order for him to stay in control. He is most willing to compete directly even with God and with Christ. He is accepting in advance the same deal Satan will offer to Jesus in the desert thirty years later.

"You can control the whole world, if you will only fall down and worship me. Help me defeat God."

Satan was a power-monger too.

The funny thing is that, for Jesus, "power" is not at all the same thing Herod and Satan are grabbing for. They want to become bigger and bigger, to out-stretch infinity. But his goal is to become less and less, to become transparent, just as love is. Heavy selfish greed cannot demolish this heavenly plan, but it surely can seem to.

To Herod it certainly seems to.

The child's weakness demonstrates what God has in mind as an answer to evil: tender, unfearing openness to love.

In our sinfulness, we scoff at such a plan. Mary, Joseph, and Jesus will never win out, will they? Evil will triumph in the end, won't it? The cross will do what Herod could not, but that Satan could.

Will it?

Check out Christmas!

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.



Stories

To Bless The Family

Music

To Calm The Soul

Praise

For The God Who Heals Us

Sun • Jan 12 • 4 PM

St. Elizabeth

14095 Woodland Drive • Guerneville



**Michael
John
Poirier**

www.leavealighton.org

101 REASONS TO USE
JIM LAUFENBERG AS YOUR
SAN FRANCISCO AND RIVER REALTOR®



1 NEIGHBORHOOD KNOWLEDGE. I AM A HOMEOWNER IN SAN FRANCISCO AND RUSSIAN RIVER.

2 TOP CALIBER. #1 AGENT IN SAN FRANCISCO'S TOP-SELLING OFFICE.

3 TOUGH NEGOTIATORS. COMMITTED TO GETTING YOU TOP DOLLAR.

4 LOYALTY. BUILDING TRUST FOR LIFE.

5 DEPENDABILITY. I'M ON THE SPOT WHEN YOU NEED ME.

6-101 CALL TODAY TO LEARN MORE!

415-269-4997
jim@sf-realty.com



CAZADERO SUPPLY

AUTOPARTS • AUTO REPAIR • HARDWARE
TOOLS TIRES

Don Berry - Owner

(707) 632-5257 cazaderosupply.com
6152 Cazadero Hwy. • Cazadero

PADILLA CONCRETE

RESIDENTIAL & COMMERCIAL
Bonded & Insured
Specializing in Stamped Concrete & Stonework

- ♦ Patios
- ♦ Driveways
- ♦ Retaining Walls
- ♦ Foundations

Lic. #1088402

ANTONIO PADILLA
(707) 490-7134
info@padillaconcrete.org
FREE ESTIMATES

Pleasant Hills Memorial Park AND MORTUARY

1700 Pleasant Hill Road
Sebastopol CA 95472
707-823-5042

Parent - Sorensen Mortuary
(FD-1415)
301 S. Main St.
Sebastopol
(707) 829-5433

St. Jude Children's Research Hospital

Finding cures. Saving children.
stjude.org/givetoday

OTC, Gifts, Cards, Publix Fax & Copier, Toys, Seasonal, Art, Medicare Consultations, Supplies... Friendly Staff...

LARK Rexall DRUGS

16251 Main Street - Guerneville, CA 95446 - P (707) 869-9055
Taking Care of the River Community

Pray for Peace

SUMMIT FUNDING Inc.
THE HOME LOAN EXPERTS

Otto Kobler
Branch Manager / Sr. Loan Officer
NMLS ID# 225957 | CA BRE ID# 00981742

Office: (707) 522-6300 x1
Fax: (707) 522-6303
okobler@summitfunding.net

3550 Round Barn Blvd., Suite 310
Office 310 & 312
Santa Rosa, CA 95403
www.summitfunding.net/okobler

Branch NMLS ID# 379493 | Summit Funding, Inc. NMLS ID# 3199

To Advertise here, call

Mission Publications

888-253-4358

We Accept

VISA MasterCard AMERICAN EXPRESS

GOD BLESS OUR ADVERTISERS!

The merchants who advertise make our bulletin possible.

When you patronize our advertisers, please thank them for supporting our parish.