

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: _____

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New Parishioner New Phone Number: _____

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Need envelopes Moving - remove name



December 15, 2024

Third Sunday of Advent

Special Events

Dec 18	RCCS gift return deadline
Dec 22	Help Decorate St Elizabeth's after the 9:30 am Mass Parish Christmas Dinner at the Highland Dell Lodge
Dec 24	Christmas Vigil Mass at St Elizabeth Carols at 4:00pm, Mass at 4:30pm
Dec 25	Christmas Day Mass 9:30am at St Elizabeth 11:00am at St Colman

Mass Intentions

Sunday Dec 15 9:30 am	Grace Schermerhorn and Rose Chromy requested by Gilda & Gary Andreacchi, Tina Anson, Mike & Nancy Herbert, Robert (Jeff) & Doris Herbert, Thomas & Jamie Herbert, Kim & David Monasterio, Terry & John Neill. Brian Scott [†]
Friday Dec 20 9:00 am	Masima Evelyn Ruiz [†] requested by Ron Ruiz

Readings

Zep 3: 14-18a
Is 12: 2-3. 4. 5-6 (6)
Phil 4: 4-7
Lk 3: 10-18

Pray For Our Brothers And Sisters

Those called to Eternal Life: Allen Mitchell

Announcements

See's Candy - Still selling inventory after Masses!

Thank you for the generous response to our Christmas holiday fundraiser. Our online store is closed but we have many items available after Masses until all is sold out. If you have any questions contact Michele McDonell phone/text: (707) 486-1739.

River to Coast Children's Services

Special thanks to those who participated this year! Remember all gifts must be returned by Dec 18th. For more information call River to Coast Children's Services at (707) 869-3613 or email info@rccservices.org.

Help Decorate St. Elizabeth Church

Immediately following the 9:30am Mass on December 22, we invite everyone to stay and lend a hand to help put up our Christmas decorations.

Christmas dinner at Highland Dell December 22nd

\$75.00/person appetizers, dinner and dessert. For more information or for tickets please contact Linda (707) 953-9166 cocomokidd@aol.com

Christmas office hours and daily Mass

Our office will be closed Wednesday December 25 through Friday December 27. There will be no daily Mass on Thursday December 26 or Friday December 27.

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.

Annual Ministry Appeal 2024

The work of the Annual Ministry Appeal (AMA) is at heart your work, the work to which you are oriented by your Baptism: the service of God through service of your brothers and sisters in Christ. By making a gift to the Annual Ministry Appeal, One Family in Mission, you are able to touch souls and change lives throughout our diocese. Thank you to all who have already pledged, moving us closer to our goal as a parish community. Every gift is sincerely appreciated!

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

This Sunday we welcome our Hispanic community who is joining us for the celebration of Our Lady of Guadalupe. I want

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

to thank Jose, Josephina, Carlos, Ana Maria, Maricruz for making this happen. After the mass we will have a reception at the Hall, with the traditional meal of tamales and a Mexican dessert called Buñuelos and more! Everyone is welcome!

This Sunday is the third Sunday of Advent which is also called in Latin “Gaudate Sunday” Rejoice Sunday. The readings are centered on joyful anticipation and hope as we prepare for the coming of our Lord.

In the first reading from the book of Zephaniah, we hear a beautiful proclamation of hope and restoration: “Sing aloud O daughter of Zion: Shout O Israel!” This joyful summons is addressed to people who have faced trials and challenges, yet it stirs a sense of hope.

God is in our midst, bringing deliverance and mercy. Despite the difficulties we may meet, this reminder encourages us to focus on the light of God’s presence rather than the darkness of our circumstances.

Isaiah these sentiments in today’s psalm, calling us to” give thanks to the Lord, “for he is our strength and our song.

The act of gratitude is powerful, it shifts our perspective.

Instead of dwelling what is lacking, we are prompted to celebrate the goodness of God in our lives. Joy and gratitude are intertwined; as we outwardly express thanks, we cultivate a spirit of joy within us.

So, as we celebrate the Christmas season, please remember to be grateful rather than dwelling what is lacking. As I have said Joy and gratitude are interwoven; let us cultivate a spirit of joy within us.

Peace and blessings!
Fr. Luis

Spirituality Of The Readings

Courtesy of John Foley, SJ, Saint Louis University

Let It Sing

“Brothers and sisters: rejoice in the Lord always. I shall say it again, rejoice.”

St. Paul commands this in the Second Reading. The word for rejoice in Latin is gaudete, so quite naturally this Sunday is called Gaudete Sunday.

Why all this exultation? Are we finally getting a break from the somberness of Advent? Yes, but there is more to it than that.

Remember that Advent is like a retreat for the worldwide Church. In this upcoming third week we will pray about our lives in the context of the great beauty God has put in us and around us.

Can you imagine this?

One line in the First Reading puts it in dramatic terms. Zephaniah says that the Lord “will sing joyfully because of you, as one sings at festivals.”

Because of you! Have you ever in your life imagined that God might be singing because of you? Have you ever let your image of God expand that far? Have you ever let God be one who sings you into existence, in the most profound sense of the word sing?

In one of the books of Narnia by CS Lewis, the children are taken back to the very moment of creation. They hear the voice of Aslan (the Christ figure) singing into the wilderness. When the voice goes high, birds, clouds, blue sky appear. At a certain lengthy turn of melody the mountains raise their heads laboriously. A low hum vibrates forth the depths of seas. Creation seems to be made out of melody.

Maybe it is.

Scientists still contend about it, however. What is the physical universe composed of, particles or waves? (I think that is the choice they give us.) Einstein and many others tried to reconcile these, but no luck.

If I could come even close to describing what is called “string theory,” we might have a choice theory about the universe’s makeup. Maybe you have seen TV shows about string theory on PBS or elsewhere, a model that some scholars actually do believe unites the two hypotheses. Such “strings” act a lot like sound does. Like the vibrations that come forth from a violin string.

Instead of saying that particles or waves or uncertainty or whatever else are the basis of matter and force-fields, and so on, these scientists instead postulate string-like particles: infinitesimal, ever changing, wriggling thingumabobs. By their dancing shapes these string circles generate (or constitute, or become, or whatever is the right way to say it) everything that is.

How about this for a possibility: God’s gladness sings out joyfully at every instant, and his song is the earth, the galaxies, the people and plants and chemicals and soaring hawks and encircling planets, droplets of dew and heavy black holes, youthful beauties, ancient wisdoms, and everything else that exists.

In other words, we are God’s song. Apply this, please, to Sunday’s Gospel.

There people in long rows gather to be baptized in expectation of the Savior who is to come. Each segment (the crowd, the tax collectors, the soldiers) ask John the Baptist the exact same question: “Teacher, what should we do?”

“Let your life sing,” he answers. Let it sing.

Let your life be what it is: God’s joyous, interleaved and always consonant melody, sounding outwards in deepest joy. Share your cloak and your food, collect only what is owed, do not extort.

Do these things and you will be sounding the true melody of your life!

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.





*Please join us for the
Celebration of the Feast of
Our Lady of Guadalupe*

*Sunday, December 15, 2024
9:30am Bilingual Mass*

*There will be authentic made tamales and other
traditional treats after Mass and the procession
around St. Hubert's Hall*

*For further information please call:
Linda Payne at: (707) 953-9166 or
Ana María Padilla at: (707) 490-7132*

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