



January 22, 2023

3rd Sunday in Ordinary Time

Upcoming Dates

Jan 22, St. Colman Guild meeting 12pm
 Feb 1, St. Elizabeth Guild meeting 1pm
 Feb 5, Bishop Vasa presiding
 Feb 15, Finance Committee meeting 4pm
 Feb 18, Annual Crab Feed
 Mar 12, Spaghetti & Wine Dinner

Mass Intentions

Sat 4 pm: Joan Brown† requested by St Elizabeth Guild
Sun 9:30 am:
 Madeline Van Doren [good health] req by Mark Van Doren
Sun 11 am: For all parishioners

Readings

Is 8: 23 9: 3
 Ps 27: 1. 4. 13-14 (1a)
 1 Cor 1: 10-13. 17
 Mt 4: 12-23

Parish Donations

You can easily donate online by scanning the QR code at the bottom of the bulletin with your smartphone or by visiting stelizabeth.churchtrac.com/give

January 14-15	1 st Collection	2 nd Collection
St. Elizabeth	\$735.00	\$339.00
St. Catherine	\$0.00	\$70.00
St. Colman	\$20.00	\$20.00
<i>Thank you for your generosity!</i>		\$1,184.00

Pastor's Desk

One of the words used in the New Testament for "repentance" literally means "to change your mind." And, of course, it later came to mean to change your life because you have changed your mind about God and about life.

The other word, used over twenty times in the New Testament, means "to turn around." Both words are trying to tell us that there is a turning involved -- away from estrangement from God, self-centeredness, lovelessness -- and turning toward union with the God of Love.

All of this means, of course, that we've got to take that deep inward journey of self-examination -- to look at ourselves squarely in the soul, so to speak -- and to admit the need for change in our daily living.

In so doing, we draw ourselves into closer union with God.

In an ancient legend, four angels watch as God creates the universe...

"How are You doing this?" the first angel asks.
 "Why are You doing it?" the second asks.
 "When will You finish the job?" the third angel asks.
 "What is it all worth?" the fourth asks.

A fifth angel hovering over the scene simply gazes in wonder at what God is doing and then applauds in sheer delight.

The first angel who asked "How?" is a scientist.
 The second angel, who asked "Why?" is a philosopher.
 The third angel, who asked "When?" is a CEO.
 The fourth angel, who asked about "Worth," is a banker.
 The fifth angel, who gazed in wonder at God's creativity, is a child.

Are the things that matter most at the mercy of the things that matter least?

"Come on now," God tells us. "That's why I'm telling you to repent. That's why I am asking you to erase the trivia when it gets in the way of what matters most." [Speakman, F.B., "On Allowing Ourselves to Be Cheated"]

In a "Peanuts" cartoon strip, Charlie Brown is sitting at a desk in his classroom, reading from a paper that's been handed to him. "It's about a new Course," he says to the boy at the next desk. "As soon as I saw it on the list, I signed up." "What's it called?" the other boy asks. "Remedial Living," Charlie replies.

Whatever helps us to connect with God's purpose for our lives, whatever helps us to connect with each other, whatever helps us to connect with our Christian mission of peace, brotherhood, and loving service -- these are the things that matter most. We must never put these things at the mercy of those that matter the least. So let us never forget: the greatest course for Remedial Living is available to all who are willing to take that deep inward journey of self-examination, look at

themselves squarely in the soul, and admit the need for change in their daily living.

Peace and blessings,
 Fr. Luis

Announcements

See's Candy Sale Update

Thank you to all who bought candy and passed the message on to others for our Christmas holiday fundraiser. We had many online sales and response to our pre-ordered candy sold after Masses was generous. We sold all of our candy and have made a profit of over \$2,000. A very special thanks to Sherry Kulczewski, Mary Helt, Jeannine Rossi, Barbara Seymour and Linda Payne, who helped sell the candy at the Masses.

Visit from Bishop Vasa

Due to weather conditions, Bishop Vasa's visit has been rescheduled for February 5.

Spaghetti and Wine Dinner

The Spaghetti dinner that was planned for January 15, 2023 has been cancelled. We have a future spaghetti dinner planned for March 12. The days will be longer and the heavy rains will be less likely in March, so please mark your calendars for this enjoyable event!

January 21-22 Second Collection for Latin America

There will be a special second collection on the weekend of January 21-22 for the church in Latin America.

Annual Crab Feed

Mark you calendars for our annual Crab Feed on Saturday, February 18th. Time and price to be announced.

Discussion Questions

First Reading: Isaiah 8:23-9:3

1. In this First Reading Isaiah says that "Anguish has taken wing, dispelled is darkness: for there is no gloom where but now there was distress." He was speaking of the ancient lands of Zebulun and Naphtali, but how about today? From where does the "darkness" in today's world come? Can you think of some recent times when God has dispelled darkness in a significant way?

2. "The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light; upon those who dwelt in the land of gloom a light has shone." This famous saying from Isaiah is quoted by Matthew in our Gospel passage (also in the prologue to John's Gospel and elsewhere). Can you see the darkness

in the world today? How can you help bring the "light" into darkness? Can you think of new ways or places to bring the light?

Second Reading: 1 Corinthians 1:10-13, 17

1. Pope Francis says that division weakens the credibility and effectiveness of evangelization and risks stripping the Cross of its power (cf. 1 Cor 1:17). In words from his Audience below, what is one thing we could do to end these divisions, which sadly still exist in the Church today?

It is beautiful to recognize the grace with which God blesses us and, still more, to find in other Christians something we need, something that we could receive like a gift from our brothers and our sisters. The group from Canada who prepared the texts for this Week of Prayer did not invite communities to think about what they could give to their neighbor Christians, but urged them to meet with one another in order to understand what they all can receive each from the others. This requires something more. It requires much prayer, it requires humility, it requires reflection and continual conversion. Let us go forward on this path, praying for the unity of Christians, that this scandal lessens and that it may cease among us.

General Audience, January 22, 2014

2. There will always be disagreements. Other than the one the Pope suggests above, what are some other ways to handle disputes so that good or growth could come out of them?

Gospel: Matthew 4:12-23

1. As soon as Jesus heard that John was arrested he immediately went into Herod's territory and began an intense program of teaching, healing and preaching repentance. What would cause him to make such a dangerous move? Are you able to stand up and get involved for what is right when you know you will suffer pain or loss when you do? What do you think of Jesus when he acts like this? Name some others who have gone to jail for their protests against injustice.

2. "At once they left their nets and followed him." Do you think Jesus also needed friends? How long did it take Peter and Andrew to respond to his invitation of a personal encounter? What do you think was going on in their heads and hearts? Could they have been excited by the mission of communicating life to others?

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

St. Elizabeth Guild Meeting	1 st Wednesday, 1 pm	St. Hubert Hall
Finance Committee Meeting	3 rd Wednesday*, 4 pm	St. Hubert Hall
St. Colman Guild Meeting	4 th Sunday, 12 pm	St. Colman

* of February, May, August and November

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.

