

St. Elizabeth Ann Seton Catholic Church

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New Website Address: [www. Stelizabethrp.com](http://www.Stelizabethrp.com)

Office Hours: Tuesday-Friday: 9-1:30 p.m.

The church is open daily from 7:30 a.m. – 7:30 p.m.

September 25, 2022

26th Sunday in Ordinary Time



Staff

Pastor: Rev. Thomas Diaz

Assisting Clergy: Rev. Loren Allen

Office Manager: Chris Giacometti - Extension # 1

Youth Faith Formation: Jennifer Bedoka,
sesreled@gmail.com - Extension #3

This Week's Mass Schedule - Extension #2

Wednesday & Friday: 8:15 am.

Tuesday & Thursday 12:15 pm.

Saturday 4pm. (Vigil), Sunday 8:30 & 10:30 am.

Exposition and Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament:
After Friday morning Mass for 15 minutes

Sacraments and Spirituality

Reconciliation: Sunday 9:45 -10:15 am. and by
appointment

Divine Mercy Devotion: Tuesday 12:45 p.m.

Marriage: One-year notice. Please call Fr. Tom
to begin preparation.

Baptism: Two-month notice for a child's baptism.

Our next Baptismal class is on Oct. 30th at noon.

Adult Baptism: Please call the office.

Anointing of the Sick: Please contact the office.

Devotions

The Rosary: Tuesday-Friday morning 1/2 hour before Mass

The Divine Mercy Chaplet Tuesday 12:45 p.m.

Pastoral Council Leadership

Giovanna DeSimone, Jennifer Bedoka, Patty Turner

Sunday Readings

Please note that the Scripture readings begin on page 215. **First Reading:** Amos 6:1a, 4-7. **Second Reading:** 1 Timothy 6:11-16. **Gospel:** Luke 16:19-31

Reflection on Sunday's Reading

Amos is the prophet of social justice. Through him, God condemned all kinds of injustice among the people of Israel. In the reading this Sunday, Amos lashed out at the extravagant and luxurious lifestyle of the people, unmindful of the needs of the poor in their midst. To them, he pronounced God's sentence: "Therefore, now they shall be the first to go into exile, and their wanton revelry shall be done away with."

b) The Psalm (Ps 146: 7-10) is a song of hope for the sake of the poor, the captives and strangers. Despite man's injustice and indifference to their plight, the Lord is their refuge and protection, and the sure source of freedom and victory. Hence, it invites us to "Praise the Lord, my soul."

In his Letter to Timothy (1Tim 6:11-16), Saint Paul exhorts him to be a good leader of the people entrusted to him: "Pursue righteousness, devotion, faith, love, patience and gentleness." In truth, this exhortation applies to every Christian. We cannot be complacent and unmindful of the events surrounding us, for no one knows the day of reckoning. Hence, the Apostle's challenge: "I charge you... to keep the commandment without stain or reproach until the appearance of our Lord Jesus Christ..."

The Gospel (Lk 16:19-31) is the Parable about the Rich Man and Lazarus. Jesus tells this parable to warn people against the sin of omission. In the final judgment, the question will be on how we have responded to the commandment of love. Simply avoiding evil is not enough. We are expected to bear abundant fruits of love, kindness, mercy and generosity towards our brothers and sisters in need.

Many people who go to confession think only of sins of commission. They confess the sins they have done. That is why they would readily believe that they do not need to go to confession because they were able to avoid doing bad. But being a good Christian does not consist only of avoiding sinful acts. Rather, it mainly consists of doing good and helping others. Failing to do so is more serious sin, that is, the sin of omission. In fact, as the Gospel tells us, it is the sin of omission that can bring us down to eternal damnation. At the Last Judgment in Matthew 25, the question is not about the sins we have committed. Instead, the question is about the good things we should have done: did we feed the hungry? Did we give drink to the thirsty, clothing to the naked and welcome to strangers? This is well illustrated in the parable this Sunday – there was no mention about the rich man being unjust or dishonest, and yet he was condemned to hell because he did not attend to the needs of Lazarus at his gates.

God created us as His children in freedom. He wants us to be free from any enslavement of sin and worldly things. That is why, in many of his teachings, Jesus insisted on detachment and renunciation: "Renounce your possessions and follow me." The rich young man wanted to attain eternal life, but could not have it because he was

not free – he could not renounce his possessions. The rich man in the Gospel this Sunday could not renounce his wealth as well. And in his enslavement to material comfort and pleasure, he was blinded by them and chose to ignore Lazarus at his gates. He was not free. But enslavement to material things can happen not only to the rich, but also to the poor. There are many poor people who are preoccupied in looking for their next meal that they have no more time to think of God. They also are slaves to material things. That is why we have to always check ourselves, lest we become slaves to sin and worldly things without noticing it in time.

Death is final. This is clear in the case of the rich man in the parable. After death, there is no more chance for conversion or reparation. And for those condemned to hell, the separation from God and His kingdom is absolute: "Between us and you a great chasm is established to prevent anyone from crossing who might wish to go from our side to yours or from your side to ours." This is a very strong and scary warning to us. Many people take the present life for granted. But we are reminded that this life is the prescribed time and opportunity for preparation for eternal life. If we cannot be trusted with passing things in this life, we cannot also be trusted with eternal things in the life to come. Moreover, this life gives us all the chances and graces for conversion and spiritual maturity. When our life in this world is over, all these chances are gone, and there is no way we can undo the final sentence. Let us not waste a single minute in this life. Let us grab every opportunity that comes to do good works and grow in holiness.

"If they will not listen to Moses and the prophets, neither will they be persuaded if someone should rise from the dead." This highlights the great value of the legitimate teachers in the Church. God appointed official teachers of the faith: Moses, the prophets, the apostles and their successors, namely, the bishops united with the Pope. That is why many people are fooled and misled by false prophets who can perform healings and other signs. These signs are not what really matter in our spiritual life. What truly matter are the authentic teachings of Jesus being proclaimed by the Church Magisterium. Disregarding these teachings will surely lead us astray, putting us in real and grave danger of losing our eternal destiny. Hence, the Blessed Mother urges us in her message to become "faithful, prompt and obedient" followers of her Son Jesus.

Mass Schedule of Intentions

Saturday, September 24

4:00 pm. +Ethel & Skip Medlin

Sunday, September 25

8:30 am. Ints. for a daughter, Ednaly & Nativity

10:30 am. + Carrie Ginn

Tuesday, September 27

12:15 pm. + Rev. Thomas Hayes, O.P.

Wednesday, September 28

8:15 am. +Earl Nelson

Thursday, September 29

12:15 pm. Ints. of the Stammer Family Jeffrey & Erin

Friday, September 30

8:15 am. +Socorro, Jasso and Natividad Perez

Saturday, October 1

4 pm.+ Fleming Sagon and Fong Tai Wong

Sunday, October 2

8:30 am. +Hugo H. Hawkins
10:30 am. +Paul Cleary

Please phone the office to schedule a Mass intention for future months.

Please pray for those that need our prayers: William Callas, Marilyn Coffin, Salome Dede, Giovanna Desimone, Marcella Dorado, Erin Dorado, Brian Fung, Alfonsa Genido, Nolan Granda, Fran Guzman, Natalie Harmon, Kate Ingram, Jeannine Jacobs, Lydia Mandano, Frank Manhoso, Michelle Meehan, Mila Miguel, Joseph Nocifra, Rory O'Neil, Larry Ruminson, Sharon Patrick, Robert Scarpone, Frank Stranzl, Dominique Tarrant, George Tatum, Jon Thayer, Emma Torres, and Ted Vega.

Stewardship: Plate and donations for Sept. 18th \$2,904 collection for Liability Insurance \$865.

Annual Ministry Appeal 2022 through August. Goal: **\$18,744.** Money received: **\$40,872.** Money that will be returned to the parish so far: **\$22,128.** Parishioners pledging 173. Percentage of parish participation **34%.**

Let us get at least to 40% participation!
Have you participated? I thank all those who have.
Fr Tom

Gatherings this Week



Our September Potluck lunch will take place next Wednesday September 28th at noon in the Parish Hall.

Please bring a dish to share and bring a friend or two. Contact Jo Ruminson at (707) 584-3779 or email at tirmsu@aol.com

Faith Formation Ministry

Please email sesreled@gmail.com with any questions.

Sunday, September 25, 2022

10:30 am Children's Liturgy of the Word/Hall
5 pm Youth Group/Parish Hall

Tuesday, September 27, 2022

3:30 pm CGS-Faith Formation L1 & L2

Thursday, September 29, 2022

4 pm CGS-Faith Formation L2

Sunday, October 2nd

5 pm 1st Year Confirmation
6:30 pm 2nd Year Confirmation

Faith Formation



Aides are needed for our Atrium on Thursdays from 4pm to 6pm, please reach out by email if you are interested in growing your own relationship with God!

Faith and Life Theme: God, Heaven, and Guardian Angels was our theme this week in Faith and Life Class. We talked about our soul, who God is, and about who watches over us...

Faith Formation Ministry asks that all children arrive on-time so your child/ren get an enriched experience. The children were busy in their Atriums. Marie Ebbing is one of our lead Catechists in Level Two and we have working with the children on learning grace, courtesy, and patience. We try and make every part of the Atrium special, so we learn to take turns and restore the material for others to enjoy.

The children our learning to keep outside distractions out of the Atrium and to focus on their work and prayer life.

SAVE THE DATE We welcome all parishioners, children and their families to join us in prayer on the 1st Friday of the month (October 7th) at 6:30 pm to pray the Rosary



Children's Rosary
A PRAYER GROUP MOVEMENT FOR CHILDREN

together as a parish family.

Pastor's Corner

I want to thank Fr. Loren Allen for shepherding the parish while I am away. I will return on Wednesday during the late morning. Then On Friday I will be leaving for Eureka for a wedding on Saturday and return Saturday night. I thank Fr Lawrence Mutiso who will be celebrating the 4 pm. Mass on Oct 1st. I will be back late Saturday night.

Oct 1st. is the feast day of St. Thérèse of Lisieux, also called St. Teresa of the Child Jesus or the Little Flower

(born January 2, 1873, Alençon, France—died September 30, 1897, Lisieux; canonized May 17, She was a Carmelite nun, although outwardly unremarkable, was later recognized for its exemplary spiritual accomplishments. She was named a doctor of the church by Pope John Paul II in 1997. She is a patron saint of missions and of florists. St. Thérèse of Lisieux has become one of the most popular saints in the past 100 years, and whenever her name is brought up, so too is her "Little Way."

However, not everyone is familiar with this phrase.

What is the "Little Way"?

She wrote about this spiritual pathway in her autobiography *Story of a Soul*.

Throughout her life St. Thérèse wanted to become a saint. Yet, in her eyes, her life wasn't all that extraordinary. She compared herself to other saints and thought she could never reach the same heights of sanctity

You know it has ever been my desire to become a Saint, but I have always felt, in comparing myself with the Saints, that I am as far removed from them as the grain of sand, which the passer-by tramples underfoot, is remote from the mountain whose summit is lost in the clouds.

Instead of being discouraged, St. Thérèse trusted in God and believed that it was in her “littleness” that she could become a saint.

*I concluded that God would not inspire desires which could not be realized, and that I may aspire to sanctity in spite of my littleness. For me to become great is impossible. I must bear with myself and my many imperfections; but **I will seek out a means of getting to Heaven by a little way—very short and very straight, a little way that is wholly new.***

This “Little Way,” consisted in performing “little virtues,” not seeking grandiose sacrifices to God, but little acts of holiness.

You must practice the little virtues. *This is sometimes difficult, but God never refuses the first grace—courage for self-conquest; and if the soul correspond to that grace, she at once finds herself in God’s sunlight.*

Frequently she would recall the image of a little child and how we should be that child, trusting in our loving Father, always striving for Heaven, even when we make mistakes.

*You make me think of a little child that is learning to stand but does not yet know how to walk. In his desire to reach the top of the stairs to find his mother, he lifts his little foot to climb the first step. It is all in vain, and at each renewed effort he falls. Well, be like that little child. **Always keep lifting your foot to climb the ladder of holiness, and do not imagine that you can mount even the first step. All God asks of you is good will. From the top of the ladder He looks lovingly upon you, and soon, touched by your fruitless efforts, He will Himself come down, and, taking you in His arms, will carry you to His Kingdom never again to leave Him. But should you cease to raise your foot, you will be left for long on the earth.***

SAVE THE DATE

LET US HAVE SOME FUN AND LAUGHS

AT ST. ELIZABETH ANN SETON



When: Saturday, October 15, 2022

Time: 7 pm to 9 pm

Where: The Parish Hall

Cost: It is free!

Bring a dessert to share

More info next week

Circle your calendar for the



Blessing of Animals on Tues., Oct 4th

. It is the Feast of St. Francis of Assisi and so bring your pet(s) to the Church Fountain Plaza at 5pm.

Good St. Francis, you loved all of God’s creatures. To you, they were your brothers

and sisters. Help us to follow your example of treating every living thing with kindness. St. Francis, Patron Saint of animals, watch over my pet and keep my companion safe and healthy. Amen.



Who is this? We need photos of parishioners when they were young. We will publish the photo and you guess who it is in the parish. Call the office only between the hours of 1pm to 3pm on Sunday September 25th with your guess. Only calls received during this time period will

be considered. First person to guess correctly will win a \$25 gift certificate to Safeway. Join the fun.

The young gentleman in last week’s bulletin was none other than Bill Lorenz. He was identified by Estella Sterner who won a \$25 Safeway gift card. Who will be next?