

St. Elizabeth Ann Seton Catholic Church
4595 Snyder Lane Rohnert Park, CA 94928
(707) 585-3708

Website: www.Stelizabethrp.com

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Office Hours: Tue.- Fri. 9am -1pm

The Church is open weekdays 7:30-7:30pm.

Saturdays & Sundays 7:30 - 5:15pm

March 22, 2026 The Fifth Sunday of Lent



Lazarus, Come forth!

Parish Staff

Pastor: Rev. Thomas Diaz #4

Office Manager: Chris Giacometti: #1

Mass times: 2

Youth Faith Formation: Jennifer Bedoka #3

Executive Board: Tony Madia/Chairperson,
Linda Biondini/Vice Chairperson, Katie
Chase, Larry Ruminson, Diane Colbrook

Floral Decorations: Cesira Heric

Sacraments and Devotions

Reconciliation: Sundays: 9:45-10:15am., see
special schedule for Wednesday of Holy Week.

Marriage: One year notice to the pastor.

Infant Baptism: 1 month notice. The next
preparation session April 26. 3:30 pm. Hall

Anointing of the Sick: Please call Fr. Tom.

Usually, after the 10:30 Sunday Mass.

The Rosary: ½ hr. before weekday Masses.

Divine Chaplet: Tuesdays after the 12:15 Mass

The Welcoming Church: Sundays 1pm.

Exposition & Benediction: Thu. 12:45-1:45pm.

Mass Schedule and Intentions for the Week

Sat/Mar 21, 4pm +Felix Roja

Sun/Mar 22, 8:30am For the Parish
10:30am +Frank & Helen Stranzl

Tue/Mar 24, 12:15pm Ints Ma Zhong Yee

Wed/Mar 25, 8:15am +Feliz Rojas

Thu/Mar 26, 12:15pm +Kathy Leonardi

Fri/Mar 27, 8:15am +Felix Rojas

Sat/Mar 28, 4pm +Lydia Leano

Sun/Mar 29, 8:30am +Angelo Leonardi

10:30am For the Parish

Events in the Parish

Sun/Mar 22, 1pm. Welcoming Church/Hall

Wed/Mar 25, 10am. Finance Mtg/CI

12pm. March Potluck Luncheon

Fri/Mar 27, 6pm. Faith Formation Lenten Dinner

7pm. Stations of the Cross

Stewardship

Plate donations for March 15: \$4,951. Catholic Relief
Services & Catholic Home Missions \$1,840.

Sunday Scripture Readings

Reading: I Ezekiel 37:12-14, Reading: II, Romans 8:8-

Gospel: John 11:1-45

Last Sunday's Homily Highlights

- What blinds you from seeing God at work in the world.
- Are we more grace-filled or negative in your words and actions?
- How can Jesus heal you of your spiritual blindness?
- Bring the light of the Lord to those around you.

Sunday Scripture Readings

Reading: I Ezekiel 37:12-14, Reading: II, Romans 8:8-

Gospel: John 11:1-45

Sunday Reflection

The Desires of the Heart When Lazarus died, Mary of Bethany must have been heartbroken.

You can see why she would have been. She loved her brother Lazarus, and she trusted and loved Jesus.

Like everybody else in her community, she knew that Jesus could heal sick people. So when her brother got sick and she knew that Jesus was nearby, she turned to him for help. Then she waited three desperate and increasingly miserable days. During those days Jesus didn't come, and Lazarus died.

In this story the Lord knows better than Mary what she herself actually wants.

And so, she was devastated. Her beloved brother was dead, and her beloved Jesus seemed to have disregarded her entirely in her time of need. She must have felt sure that she had lost the desires of her heart and lost them irretrievably.

But what the story of the raising of Lazarus shows is that a person can feel sure about such things and still be altogether mistaken.

Mary wasn't entirely wrong. She had this much accurate insight into herself: she was right in thinking that it was her heart's desire to have her brother and to be loved by Jesus.

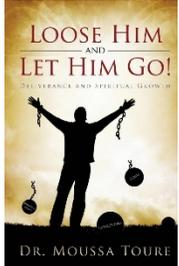
But she was mistaken about what the fulfillment of those desires would be. She thought that she could have the desires of her heart only in case Jesus came to her to heal her brother before he died.

Consequently, when Lazarus did die, Mary thought that she had lost what she wanted most.

What the story makes clear, though, is that the Lord can know better than a human person does what she most wants. We are not surprised if the Lord knows better than we do what is good for us, and we generally expect that good to be something we don't want. But in this story the Lord knows better than Mary what she herself actually wants.

When Jesus raises Lazarus from the dead, Mary has her brother, and is loved by Jesus in a way more deeply fulfilling to her and more glorious than the mere healing of her brother in his sickness would have been.

And here is the thing to notice: Jesus was in the process of giving her what she wanted most even as



she was firmly persuaded that she had lost it forever.

And so the story helps us see that the Lord can be trusted even with the deepest distress of the hearts of those who are his own. As the Psalmist promises (Ps 37:4), the Lord will give the desires of their hearts to those who put their trust in him.

Eleonore Stump

Discussion Question: Compare Jesus' statement, "Untie him and let him go," with Moses' statement to the Pharaoh, "Let my people go."

Sunday Family Connection

Jesus' promise of eternal life is a central element of our Catholic faith. Even though Easter is still two weeks away, our Gospel today invites us to acknowledge Jesus' power over death, evidenced in the raising of Lazarus, and to anticipate Jesus' conquering of death once and for all in his death and Resurrection. We sometimes use examples from nature to help describe this mystery of our faith. Jesus himself talked about the seed that dies when planted in the ground in order to produce new life (John 12:24). Using that image and others, we find hope and confidence in Jesus, the Resurrection and the life.

Gather your family today and read today's Gospel in its shorter form, John 11:3-7, 17, 20-27, 33b-45. Write Jesus' promise from today's Gospel ("I am the resurrection and the life.") on a large sheet of white paper. As your family talks about what Jesus means by this promise, decorate Jesus' words with symbols that will remind you of his promise of eternal life. Display this reminder of Jesus' promise in a prominent place in your home and keep it there until Easter. Pray that you will always remain confident in Jesus' promise of eternal life. Conclude by praying together the Apostles' Creed or the Nicene Creed.

Please pray for the health intentions of: Patrick Bohn, Sherman Chan, Gus Chang, Mary Couto, Patrick Dempsey, Giovanna Desimone, Lupita Diaz, Marcella Dorado, Anthony Eger, Evelyn Estrella,

Cedric Fontana, Kathy Fontana, Louise Galassi, Elsa Garcia, Rosa Gomez, Dave Grundman, Kathleen, Nancy Keegan, Kelly Limberg, Theresa M, Frank Manhoso, Rudy Melano, Charles McCollum, Kevin McDonough, Richard Miller, Larry Ng, Pat O'Brien, Robert Perrill, Mary Piccioni, April Piehoff, James Reynolds, Marie RIBEIRO, Lisa Rivas, Patricia_Sack, Robert Scarpone, Patricia Stiefer, Dominique & Cecilia Tarrant, Jim Turegano, and Malik Whitehorse.

If you want a name on the list, please call the office.

Please pray for the souls of: Elsa Teixeira and Jose & Nora Rivas. Keep their families in your prayers.

Faith Formation Ministry

Quote of the Week

"What can you do to promote world peace?

Go home and love your family."

Saint Teresa of Calcutta

Sunday, March 22nd

9:30 am 2nd Year Confirmation Class/CL

10:30 am Children's Liturgy of the Word

5-6:30pm Youth Group/Hall

5-6:30pm Catechesis of the Good Shepherd L3/Atrium

Tuesday, March 24th

3:30 pm Catechesis of the Good Shepherd L1/Atrium

Wednesday, March 25th

3 pm 1st Year First Communion

3 pm 2nd Year First Communion

3 pm Catechesis of the Good Shepherd L3/Atrium

Friday, March 27th

6 pm Lenten Meal

7 pm Stations of the Cross

Faith Formation is sponsoring Stations of the Cross this week

Sunday, March 29th

9:30 am 2nd Year Confirmation Class/CL

10:30 am Children's Liturgy of the Word

5-6:30pm 1st Year Confirmation Class/CL

5-6:30pm Catechesis of the Good Shepherd L3/Atrium

Email sesreled@gmail.com if you're interested in joining our ministry!



With the help of our parishioners, St. Vincent de Paul will provide an Easter Basket with dinner items, which will include a ham or chicken for needy families.

We are collecting specific food items each week during Lent for the Easter Baskets, ending this Sunday, March 22nd.

Date	Item	Size
Mar 21/22	Corn Bread Mix	15 oz. box

Thank you for your generosity, so that the needy may celebrate the Greatest Day of the Year, **Easter**.



Mary.

Incarnate

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moment when God became incarnate within the womb of Mary.

It is also recognized as the "Day of the Unborn Child," which encourages respect for life from conception. Catholics view this day as a reminder of the dignity of every human life, from the moment of conception.

Our Monthly

Please bring something for the potluck and enjoy the food and company! Linda, Jo, and Larry

CROWD-PLEASING
SPRING
POTLUCK

The Holy Week and Easter Masses - Services

Palm Sunday

Saturday, March 28, Vigil 4pm.
Sunday, March 29, 8:30 & 10:30 am.

Spy Wednesday

Confessions: April 1, 10 - 11am., 12 - 1, 5-6pm.

Holy Thursday

April 2, 7pm. Mass, Veneration to 11pm.

Good Friday

April 3: Quiet time to 1 pm., Stations of the Cross 1pm., Good Friday Liturgy 1:45 pm.

Easter Vigil and Day Saturday

April 4, 8 pm. Mass
Sunday April 5, 8:30 & 10:30 am. Masses.

Weekdays

Weekday Masses: Mon & Wed 8:15, Tue 12:15.

St. Elizabeth Ann Seton



For All Ages

Sunday April 5 after the 10:30 Easter Mass

Ministry Schedule

March 28th – April 3rd

Palm Sunday of the Passion of the Lord

4:00pm Mass

Readers: Tony Madia, Liz Ritchie

EMS: Janice Dyer, Victoria Gregorio, Beth Turegano

Ushers: Sally Shami, Tony Turegano

Greeters: Ron & Debra Ciarasso

8:30am Mass

Readers: Heigi Pillor, Dolores Sanchez

EMS: John Buhagiar, Mary Thayer, Diane Cook

Ushers: Remie Alinas, Maureen Sheridan Scott

Greeters: Larry & Jo Ruminson

10:30am Mass

Readers: Scott Crossen, Scott Morrical

EMS: Jovita Bishop, Dianne Foppoli, Nora John

Ushers: Giovanna Desimone, Milagros Morrical

Greeters: Fred & Janet Adam

Holy Thursday 7pm Mass

Readers: Heigi Pillor, Tony Sacramento

EMS: John Buhagiar, Dave Grundman, Tony Turegano

Ushers: Diane Cook, Tony Turegano

Greeters: Roxanne Bialkoski, Luisa Bustillos

Good Friday 1:30pm

Readers: Fred Adam, Linda Biondini

EMS: Jovita Bishop, Beth Turegano, Bill Yates

Ushers: Beth Turegano, Bill Yates

Greeters: Pat Yates, and ???

Saturday/Easter Vigil 8pm

Readers: Linda Anderson, Linda Biondini

EMS: Luisa Bustillos, Tony Madia, **Not Filled**

Ushers: Mark & Selina Johnson

Greeters: Debra Ciarasso, Tony Piazza

Easter Sunday of the Resurrection

8:30am Mass

Readers: Phillip Alvarado, Liz Ritchie

EMS: Remie Alinas, Diane Cook, Dave Grundman

Ushers: Diane Cook, Barry Goff

Greeters: Larry & Jo Ruminson

10:30am Mass

Readers: Marie Horwitz, Scott Morrical

EMS: Giovanna Desimone, Nativity Mata, Milagros Morrical

Ushers: Giovanna Desimone, Sally Shami

Greeters: Agustine Gonzalez, Nativity Mata



Please get your Annual Ministry Appeal envelopes in soon if possible. We will have the first listing of donors in the Easter bulletin as the next AMA financial statement will come out on April 1st. You do not have to make a payment when you pledge.

Thank you to Andy Darrow for leading us in the Taize Prayer Evening on Wednesday.

Congratulations to those baptized by water and the Holy Spirit



The Casillas Family
Liam



The Lindsey Family
Jude

The next Baptismal session to prepare parents and godparents is on Sunday April 26 at 3:30 in the hall, Unless you, parents and godparents have taken the preparation class in the last two years.

A Godparent must be a practicing Catholic.

Easter Flowers

Easter Plants: \$15 donation. Please phone the office to make arrangements as to the name of the one making the donation, the name of the one you want remembered, and sending donation during the week in an envelope or personally stopping the office.



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Pastor's Corner

I want to thank those who stop when they come into the church to use the restrooms first. It is so less distracting.

I want to thank Giovanna DeSimone's team for preparing the Easter mailing which went out on Friday.

I never see people walking across the lawn. It is there for looks and for walking across, sitting, laying on, or having a picnic lunch.

Someone has hit their car tires on the curbing, next to the hall. Please be careful! If you park your car next to the fountain area (in front of the church) you need a handicap permit.

Mrs. Kennedy has lost her caregiver and is looking for someone hours a day. If you can help, please talk to Fr. Tom. She can pay by the hour.



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Many people getting out of their cars, getting into them, going into their pockets for their keys, going into their pockets in the church, are dropping facial tissues. Please look around for your facial tissues and pick them up.

INVITATION TO MASS of the CHRISM

The Most Reverend Robert F. Vasa, Bishop of the Diocese of Santa Rosa, along with the Diocesan and Religious priests of the Diocese invite you to participate in the **Mass of the Chrism** at the Cathedral of St. Eugene in Santa Rosa on **Thursday, March 26, 2026, at 5:30 p.m.**

The **Mass of the Chrism** is celebrated once a year. The Bishop blesses the oil of Catechumens, the oil of the Sick and the oil of Chrism. This Mass is one of the principal expressions of the fullness of the ministerial priesthood that the bishop has received. It also signifies the unity the priests have with the bishop who share in the same ministerial priesthood. During this Mass, the Diocesan and Religious priests will renew their commitment of priestly service.

INVITACIÓN A LA MISA DE CRISMA

Su Excelencia Roberto Vasa, Obispo de Santa Rosa, junto con los sacerdotes diocesanos y religiosos de la diócesis le invitan a participar en la Misa de la Crisma en la Catedral de San Eugenio en Santa Rosa el **jueves, 26 de marzo 2026, a las 5:30 p.m.** La Misa de la Crisma se celebra una vez al año y en ella el obispo bendice el aceite de los

catecúmenos, el aceite de los enfermos y el aceite del crisma. Esta Misa es una de las principales expresiones de la plenitud del sacerdocio ministerial que el obispo ha recibido.



También significa la unidad que los sacerdotes tienen con el obispo que comparten en el mismo sacerdocio ministerial. Durante esta misa los sacerdotes diocesanos y religiosos renovarán sus compromisos de servicio sacerdotal.

THE VEILING

Statues and images in many churches but not here, are covered during Lent to focus attention on Christ's Passion, to encourage spiritual reflection, and heighten anticipation for Easter.



- **Focus on Christ's Passion: By hiding familiar visual reminders, the faithful are drawn inward to meditate on Jesus' suffering and death, emphasizing penance and preparation for Easter.**
- **Spiritual "fasting" for the eyes: Just as Lent involves fasting from food, veiling images encourages a temporary abstinence from visual consolation, sharpening spiritual awareness.**

- **Heightened anticipation: The absence of images creates a sense of longing, mirroring humanity's desire for the Resurrection and the unveiling of Christ's glory.**

The tradition likely originates from historical practices in Europe, where large cloths were used to cover altars and images during Lent, symbolizing mourning and repentance.