

# St. Elizabeth Ann Seton Catholic Church

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

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

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



## March 19, 2023, Fourth Sunday of Lent

### Staff

**Pastor:** Rev. Thomas Diaz – Extension #4

**Office Manager:** Chris Giacometti - Extension #1

**Youth Faith Formation:** Jennifer Bedoka, [sesreled@gmail.com](mailto:sesreled@gmail.com) -  
Extension #3

**Executive Pastoral Board:** Giovanna DeSimone, Jennifer  
Bedoka, Patty Turner

**This Coming Week's Mass Schedule** - Extension #2

**Monday**, Tuesday and Thursday 12:15 pm., **Wednesday 8:15 & 5 pm.**, Friday 8:15 am., Saturday 9 am. and 4 pm. (vigil)

Sunday 8:30 & 10:30 am.

Sacraments and Spirituality

**Reconciliation:** **Saturday after the vigil Mass – 5:30 pm.**  
(during Lent), Sunday 9:45 -10:15 am. **Wednesday 4:30-4:50 pm.**

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

**Baptism:** Two-month notice for a child's baptism. The next Baptismal Class is on March 26<sup>th</sup> at noon in the hall.

**Adult Baptism:** Please call the office.

**Anointing of the Sick:** Please contact the office.

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

**Adult Faith Formation:** Wednesdays at 6:45 pm. in the hall. Topic, morals, ethics, and Catholic Conscience.

### Devotions

**The Rosary:** Tuesday through Saturday 1/2 hour before morning/noon Masses.

**The Divine Mercy Chaplet:** Tuesday after the 12:15 Mass

**Stations of the Cross: Friday at 7 pm**



## **Sunday Scripture**

Scripture readings begin on page 80. **Reading 1**  
1 Samuel 16:1b, 6-7, 10-13a. **Reading 2**  
Ephesians 5:8-14 **Gospel:** John 9:1-41.

## **Sunday Reflection**

### **The Blind Man Who Wanted for Nothing**

The Psalm says, "The Lord is my Shepherd. There is nothing I shall want." But the Gospel Reading tells the story of a man born blind. How is the Psalm supposed to be made consonant with the Gospel Reading? Doesn't the man born blind have something that he lacks?

The disciples of Jesus are anxious about this blind man too, and they try to ally their anxiety by finding some explanation for his blindness. "Why was this man born blind?" they ask Jesus. "Did this man sin or was it his parents?" If it was *anybody's* sin, then they can reasonably hope that such suffering won't come to their families, at least if they all try hard not to sin.

But this is an appalling way to think about suffering, isn't it? It is terrible to suppose that all suffering is punishment for sin. What kind of God inflicts blindness on a newborn as a punishment for sin?



Jesus dismisses their attitude entirely. This man's blindness has nothing to do with the sins of anyone, Jesus says. It's something about the future, not something about the past, that explains his blindness.

God let this man be born blind that the works of God might be manifest through him.

But Jesus' explanation looks at least as bad as the thought of the disciples, doesn't it? What kind of God inflicts blindness on a newborn so that the works of God can be manifest in him later?

But think about that blind man himself. At the outset of the story, he is an impoverished, outcast nobody of a beggar. Then the mighty works of God are manifest in him, and he takes the Lord as his Shepherd. The result is that he himself becomes glorious. When the story ends, he has become an icon of faith and courage. He has stood up to the worldly power of his world and witnessed to the goodness of God in very challenging circumstances. He has become an example to us all.

Who would not want to be like him? And that is why it was true for him that the Lord was his

shepherd, even though he was born blind. In the end, the Lord was his Shepherd, and there was nothing he did want, just as the Psalmist says.  
Eleonore Stump

**Discussion Question:** Define personal and national "darkness" as it exists in the world today. St. Paul says that you are light. If you could, what darkness in the world would you dispel?

## **Weekly Mass Schedule and Intentions**

### **Saturday, Mar. 18**

4:00 pm. +Lydia Leano

### **Sunday, Mar. 19**

8:30 am +Joni Griffin

10:30 Ints. of the People of the Parish

### **Monday, Mar. 20 The Feast of St. Joseph**

12:15 pm. Int of Diane & v Bob Colbrook

### **Tuesday, Mar. 21**

12:15 pm Ints. of Midge Holling

### **Wednesday, Mar. 22**

8:15 am +Patricia Mucci

5 pm. Ints. of Michael Christopher Grossman

### **Thursday, Mar. 23**

12:15 pm +Alfonsa Genido

### **Friday, Mar. 24**

8:15 am. +Marilyn Brown

### **Saturday, Mar. 25 The Annunciation**

9 am. +Dante Lumaquin

4 pm. +Richard Wong

### **Sunday, Mar. 26**

8:30 am. +Angelo & Kathy Leonardi

10:30 am. Int. of the People of the Parish

**Stewardship: Plate Donations: 3/12 \$3,867. Building Maintenance \$1,553. The 2<sup>nd</sup> Collection today is for Catholic Relief Services & Catholic Home Missions.**

**Catholic Relief Services** touches the lives of more than 190 million people in more than 100 countries to *promote human development* by responding to major emergencies, fighting disease and poverty, and nurturing peaceful and just societies based on need, not creed, race or nationality.

**Catholic Home Missions** is the name for dioceses and parishes in the United States which cannot provide basic pastoral services to Catholics without outside help. Basic pastoral services include Mass and sacraments, religious education, and ministry training for priests, deacons, religious sisters and lay people.

For many decades, the Church in the United States has sent missionaries overseas. The home missions are dioceses and parishes here in the United States that need the same kind of support.

**Please pray for those who need our prayers:**

Beatriz Alfaro, Linda Anderson, Yolly Aranzaso, Landyn Badger, Gregory Basham, Doris & Gilbert Buvelot, Cheryl Burton Campers, Kendal Campers, Veronica Campers, Robert Colbrook, Patrick Dempsey, James Diaz, The Hill Family, Michael Humphry, Mary Kelly, Marcella Dorado, Kevin Estrella, Nolan Grande, Mary Gregg, Delia Mandia, Char Mayclin, Mila Miguel, Daniel Montelongo, James Parks, Maureen Poggetti, Robert Scarpone, Loretta Scobee, Cecilia & Dominique Tarrant, and Ray Taylor.

**Weekly Events**

**Sun. Mar. 19** 9:30 am. St. Vincent de Paul Mtg.  
10:30 am. Liturgy of the Word  
5:00 pm. Confirmation 1<sup>st</sup> year  
6:30 pm. Confirmation 2<sup>nd</sup> year  
**Wed. Mar. 22** 6:45 pm. Welcoming Church  
**Fri. Mar 24** 6:00 pm. Lenten Meal/ Fr. Tom  
7:00 pm. Stations of the Cross

**Faith Formation Ministry**

**Please email [sesreled@gmail.com](mailto:sesreled@gmail.com) with any questions.**

**Sunday, March 19th**

**10:30 am** Children's Liturgy of the Word/CL  
**5 pm** Confirmation 1<sup>st</sup> Year/CL  
**6:30 pm** Confirmation 2<sup>nd</sup> Year/CL

**Sunday, March 26th**

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

*There is not Faith Formation Classes next week since our local school district has Spring Break. Faith Formation wishes you all a great week! See you in Church.*

**A Prayer Partner?**

First Communion Students and Confirmation Candidates need your prayers to receive their sacraments in the next few months...Next week you will be able to pick someone to pray for each day as they grow closure in their relationship with God.

**SAVE THE DATE**

Confirmation will be April 19<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 pm  
First Communion will be May 20<sup>th</sup> at 12:30 pm

**Parent Teacher Meetings**

*Sacramental Prep Level 2 and Confirmation families need to sign-up for a parent teacher meeting, please sign-up on sign-up genius.*

**Today is Laetare Sunday** This day's theme comes from the entrance antiphon reflecting on Isaiah 66:10-11: "Rejoice, Jerusalem, and all who love her. Be joyful, all who were in mourning; exalt and be satisfied at her consoling breast." *Laetare* is the first word — meaning "rejoice" — in the Latin text. On Laetare Sunday (as similarly with the Third Sunday of Advent's Gaudete Sunday) the Church expresses hope and joy in the midst of our Lenten fasts and penances by wearing rose rather than purple. This change in color indicates a glimpse of the joy that awaits us at Easter, just before we enter into the somber days of Passiontide.

Laetare Sunday is the Church's way of giving us a "shot in the arm" as we approach the darkness and horror of the days through Good Friday and Holy Saturday. It's an opportunity to savor and keep in the back of our minds what awaits us on Easter Sunday — the reality that Jesus Christ is risen from the dead, and that our hearts will always be filled with joy!

**Feast of St. Joseph**



Normally, March 19<sup>th</sup> is the feast day of St. Joseph but because the 19<sup>th</sup> is on a Sunday his feast day is put a day later. **We will have a Mass on Monday**

**to honor St. Joseph at 12:15 pm**

**Prayer to St Joseph by Pope Francis**

**Hail, Guardian of the Redeemer,  
Spouse of the Blessed Virgin Mary.**

**To you God entrusted his only Son;  
in you Mary placed her trust;  
with you Christ became man.**

**Blessed Joseph, to us too,  
show yourself a father  
and guide us in the path of life.**

**Obtain for us grace, mercy, and courage,  
and defend us from every evil. Amen.**

**Lent is half over and have you prayed and given to the Annual Ministry Appeal. Make your financial sacrifice a prayer from the heart and not your head during this Lent,**

**Saturday, March 25<sup>th</sup>, The Annunciation  
Mass is at 9am.**



The Church celebrates the Solemnity of the Annunciation of the Lord. This feast day helps us to recognize the gift of new life from

its very beginning. March 25<sup>th</sup> also marks the anniversary of the papal encyclical *Evangelium vitae* (The Gospel of Life). The prophetic papal encyclical *Evangelium vitae* (The Gospel of Life) was written by Pope St. John Paul II in 1995 to reaffirm the value and inviolability of every human life and to appeal to all people to respect, protect, love, and serve every human life. You can get this encyclical on the internet by typing: [evangelium-vitae.html](http://evangelium-vitae.html)

**Pastor's Corner**

**I want to thank** the Filipino American Ministry for the Friday Lenten Meal and for leading the Way of the Cross. Also, to thank them and the Women's Guild for assisting with a reception after the Easter Vigil Celebration to welcome our new members in the faith.

The next Lenten meal will be **Creamy Clam/Fish Chowder** prepared by Fr. Tom.

**We have hired a janitorial service** for the church only, Jan-Pro, and they will begin shortly. When using the hall/kitchen, keys must be signed out through the office. Please keep the tables clean by not wiping them down but washing them. A vinyl table cloth should be used on the tables. Please sweep-up any messes and empty the garbage cans into the receptacles behind the kitchen. Also, keep the kitchen clean and do not leave food in the refrigerator. We have a janitor that works weekly to do any major cleaning.

Some type of food or drink was spilled on the church floor. Please, no food or drink in the church. If babies need snacks, please take them to the crying room. The only food and drink to take in the church is the Body and Blood of Jesus.

**Events and News Outside the Parish**

**TAIZE PRAYER AROUND THE CROSS**

Explore an evening of deep prayer, meditative song, silence, and candlelight.

Monday, March 20, 7 pm. Resurrection Church

**St. Vincent de Paul High School News**

**Admissions Department News:** Have you heard about the unique program we have at St. Vincent de Paul? We are successfully giving students the opportunity to build 21st century skills in a traditional Catholic college prep curriculum. Our Arts and Athletics departments thrive while our Campus Ministry re-enforces our Catholic values on a daily basis. Email Mrs. Pedersen at [Admissions@svhs-pet.org](mailto:Admissions@svhs-pet.org) to find out how your high school aged child can benefit. *It's not too late for Fall 2023!*

**Mustang Athletic Club Golf Tournament:** Save the date! June 9, 2023 - play in our golf tournament or just join the celebratory dinner event in DeCarli Gymnasium. For more information, email [MAC@svhs-pet.org](mailto:MAC@svhs-pet.org). All proceeds benefit our Mustang Student-Athletes!

**Check out our Visual & Performing Arts Department this Spring!** The Drama Dept. is presenting the high school edition of the play "Clue" on April 20<sup>th</sup> and 21<sup>st</sup> in Tillman Hall. Take time to visit **Gallery One**, downtown Petaluma from April 27<sup>th</sup> to May 5<sup>th</sup> where they will be hosting the St. Vincent de Paul High School Art Show.

**Summer Sports Camps:** Registration is now open for our Camp of Champions. Each week June 12<sup>th</sup> - August 6<sup>th</sup>, different sports and skill building opportunities are offered. Camps are open to boys and girls in 3<sup>rd</sup> through 9<sup>th</sup> grades.

**Ministry Schedule for March 25<sup>th</sup> & 26<sup>th</sup>**

**4 pm. Saturday the 25<sup>th</sup> Reader:** Marie Ebbing

**Eucharistic Ministers:** Joanne Bishop, Luisa Bustillos, Dianne Foppoli

**Ushers:** Beth Turegano, Tony Turegano

**Greeters:** Roxanne Bialkoski, Carmen Crisafulli

**Sunday, March 26<sup>th</sup>**

**8:30 am. Reader:** Char Mayclin

**Eucharistic Ministers:** Patty Ramos, Mary Thayer, Larry Biondini

**Ushers:** Liz Ritchie, Maureen Sheridan Scott

**Greeters:** Pam Burgess, Juan Carlos Aranda

**10:30 am. Reader:** Linda Biondini,

**Eucharistic Ministers:** Giovanna DeSimone, Nora John, Bill Yates

**Ushers:** Lorraine Datu, Bill Yates

**Greeters:** Giovanna DeSimone, Pat Yates