St. Elizabeth Ann Seton Catholic Church

4595 Snyder Lane Rohnert Park, CA 94928
(707) 585-3708
Website:www.Stelizabethrp.com
E-Mail stelizseton@sbcglobal.net
Office Hours: Tue.- Fri. 9am - 1pm
The Church is open daily 7:30 – 6:30pm

November 1, 2026, All Saints Day



Parish Staff

Pastor: Rev. Thomas Diaz #4
Office Manager: Chris Giacometti: #1
We welcome Dulcenea Flores who is running the office while Chris is away on vacation
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 Rantissi Heric (707)338-3959

Sacraments and Devotions

Reconciliation: Sundays: 9:45-10:15am, Thu 1-1:30pm
Marriage: One year notice to the pastor.
Infant Baptism: The next Baptismal Class TBA
Anointing of the Sick: Please call Fr. Tom. Usually, it is celebrated after 10:30 Sunday Mass
The Rosary: ½ hr. before weekday Masses.
Divine Chaplet: Tuesdays after the12:15 Mass
Exposition & Benediction: Thu.12:45-1:45pm.
The Welcoming Church: Wed. 6pm/Hall

Mass Schedule and Intentions for the Week

Sat/Oct 31	**4pm**	**+**Edmundo Rombeiro
Sun/Nov 1	**8:30am**	+Lydia Leano
	10:30am	People of the Parish
Mon/Nov 2	**12:15pm**	All Souls
	5pm	+Ron Foppoli
Tue/Nov 3	**12:15pm**	All Souls
Wed/Nov 4	**8:15am**	All Souls
Thu/ Nov 5	**12:15pm**	All Souls
Fri/ Nov 6	**8:30am**	All Souls
Sat/Nov 7	**4pm**	+John & Marilyn Rooney
Sun/Nov 8	**8:30am**	People of the Parish
	10:30am	+Manuel Bacani

Events in the Parish

Sun/Nov 1 **10:30am** Children's Liturgy of the Word
11:30am All Saints Carnival/The Plaza
Mon/Nov 2 **6:30pm** Men's Club Mtg/ Hall
Tue/ Nov 3 **6pm** Pastoral Council Mtg/Hall
Wed/Nov 4 **4:30pm** Filipino Ministry Mtg/Hall
Wed/Nov 4 **6pm** The Welcoming Church
Thu/Nov 5 **2:00pm** Finance Meeting
Fri/ Nov 6 **4:30pm** Social Justice Mtg/CI
Sat/ Nov 7 **10-4** Crafts Faire
5pm Tamale Orders after Mass
Sun/Nov 8 Tamale Orders after Masses
9-1 Crafts Faire

Stewardship
For the month of October

10/4 $4,969, **10/11** $4,382, **10/18** $4,628, **10/25** $4,212 **On-line Giving** $1894.25, **Average** $5,021 **Church Maintenance** $2,134, Mission Appeal, $1,957

Last Sunday's Homily Highlights

- Do you really love God with all your heart, mind, and spirit.?
- If you do, do you love your neighbor as Christ loves you?
- How do you show love for God in your daily life as actions speak louder than words?
- How do you treat the lost, forsaken, and the lowly?

Sunday Scripture Readings

Reading I: Revelation 7:2-4,9-14, **Reading II:** 1John 3:1-3, **Gospel:** Matthew 5:1-12a

Sunday Reflection

How Blessed Are You? On this feast of All Saints we hear Jesus proclaim "The Beatitudes." This may tell us about his idea of a saint. Let's look.

First, what is a "beatitude"? It is a spoken declaration of the blessedness of a person. To be blessed, in plain words, means to be given a spiritual benefit, as for instance, "May the Lord bless you with a safe journey." Or, "you are blest when you show mercy." Often there is a condition involved: "The people who keep the law will be blest" (see Proverbs 29:18),

Jesus did not invent beatitudes: the First Testament has up to 50 examples of them. By Jesus' time, people would have recognized one when it was spoken and would have been at home with it. Jesus gave nine of them in the Sermon on the Mount. But there is something strange about his. Have you noticed?

(a) The first four seem to name bad things and call them good. Blessed are the poor (in spirit), the mourners, the meek, the hungry and thirsty. Jesus seems to be saying that "it is a blessing to be weak and unhappy." Why would he use the beatitude form in this way?

Because he is radically innovative. Radical [from the Latin radix, root] means that he is rooted deeply in God, who is the profound wellspring of life and love, not in some other place nearer the surface. These first four beatitudes are actually assurances to people who suffer—the displaced, the abandoned. Jesus is saying that they too are blessed and much loved by God.

(b) The next three more resemble the ancient form: Blessed are the merciful, the clean of heart, and the peacemakers. These three sound reasonable, if a bit bland. But actually they are a spiritual step upwards from the first four. They are encouragements to people who want to take action in the world on behalf of the Kingdom. Their blessedness consists of being at work with Jesus as a companion. (c) Then come the last two, which are stunning: "Blessed are they who are persecuted for the sake of righteousness." And "Blessed are you when they insult you and persecute you. …" These sound like curses, not blessings. Who could want them? Yet they too are an enhancement of what precedes them. They presume that you might actually want to participate in Jesus' ultimate act of love, a love which cuts through false honor, wealth, and pride. Maybe you will be called to take up the cross with Jesus. Such radical love is blessed because it comes from being so close to God, whose very identity is love. So we find at least three stages of ascent in the following of Jesus: (1) suffering, (2) working for others, and (3) persecution endured as a result. The saints are examples in each of these areas because of their love for God and others. This is the very root of happiness, or "blessedness."

The question for you and me is whether we even begin to be attracted in any way to such categories. We can take a review of our lives and get an idea. If we do not fit into them, we can meditate on this question: how strong is our desire for anything at all? Can we "desire to desire" regarding an openness to Jesus and to his Father? We do not have to want persecution yet, but what do we want? Maybe it is simple: the blessedness he speaks about. John Foley, SJ.

Discussion Question: Which saint's life inspires you the most? Why?

Family Connection

One of the great gifts of our Catholic tradition is remembrance of and prayer with the saints. The Church offers us an official canon, or list, of saints. On All Saints Day, we recall and pray with these saints and continue to tell their stories to our children so that they have ample models of people of faith for their own lives.

Together as a family, name and tell the story of your favorite saints. Identify how the attitudes described in the Beatitudes are reflected in the lives of the saints and people you named.

Pray together as a family a Litany of the Saints. (For example, the leader prays, "St. Elizabeth," and the children are invited to reply, "Pray for us.") Include in your list the saints and holy people you named in your discussion. Conclude by praying that your family will follow the example of these people as disciples of Jesus.



Quote of the Week

"You cannot be half a saint. You must be a whole saint or no saint at all" and "Don't wait until tomorrow to begin becoming a saint ."

St. Therese of Lisieux

Faith Formation Schedule

Sun., November 1st

9:30am 1st Year Confirmation/CL
11:30 am All Saint Carnival

Tues., November 3rd

3:30pm Catechesis of the Good Shepherd Ages 3-6/Atrium

Wed., November 4th

3:30pm First Communion Level 1/CL
3:30pm First Communion Level 2/CL

Sun., November 8th

9:30am 1st Year Confirmation/CL
5pm 2nd Year Confirmation/CL

Volunteer Opportunities please sign up using the links below: Stamp Mass Cards,
https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C0D4AA5AF2AA0F9C52-65333187-20262027

Assist Wednesday evenings from 3:15pm-5pm
https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C0D4AA5AF2AA0F9C52-65333056-20262027

You can email **sesreled@gmail.com** or text if you want to help and get community service hours!

Tamale Making, November 13th and 14th
Please call or text 707-888-9672 if you can help.

St. Elizabeth Ann Seton's Man of the Year 2026.

Is there a man at St. Elizabeth Ann Seton that you feel does an outstanding job for the parish? The Men's Club is asking parishioners to nominate any man they consider. The man must be a registered parishioner and practicing Catholic. Please complete the form below including your phone number should we need more information. **Place**

your completed form in the box provided in the vestibule by noon this Sun.,

A Man of the Year committee will review all nominations and select the Man of the Year. The selected individual will be announced at the masses the weekend of Nov 8th. Contact Ron Ciarasso for any questions (707) 529-6932

Nomination sheets are available next to the nomination next to the SCRIP table.

Do you have a Patron Saint? A patron saint is a saint chosen personally as a special intercessor for you. Catholics believe these saints, now in heaven, can pray for us in the same way you might ask a close friend or family member to pray for you.

Please Pray this week for: Robert Beasly, Joe Arigoni, Bibi Ballesteros, Giselle Barrion, Sarah Bardoni, Catherine Delara, Diva & Gaba Delara, Giovanna DeSimone, John Diaz. Marcella Dorado Bob Dunne, Maryann Eger, Marcus Esplada, Jim Estrella, Rosita Faltado, Amanda Fernandez, Janet Fenstermacher, Kathy & Cedric Fontana, Carl Hilton, Kate Ingram, Nancy and James Keegan, Sue Kennedy, Trinidad Legaspi, Frank Manhoso, Ruth McAllister, Judith Miller, Judy Nelson, Joseph Patrick, Mary Piccioni, Vivian Pruett, Emi Jade Przyborowski, Linda Sime, Patricia Stiefers, Cecilia Tarrant, Diane Thrailkill, Beverly Thomey, Jim Turegano, Tiffany Valentine, Ken Wagy, Steve Werle, and Ray Wilcox.

Next week we clear the list of names to revise the list. If you want the name of someone who is ill on the list again please let us know.

Please pray for those who have died: Manuel Bacani. Please keep his family in your prayers.

Ministerio Hispano Tamale Sale



It is that time again! We are going to have our tamales presales starting this Sat., Oct 24th through Nov. 7th after masses. We are only making 50 dozen! So place your orders! Pick-up will be on Sun., Nov.15th after the 10:30 Mass. The proceeds will help us pay for the Mariachis we will have on Sat. Dec.12th for Our Lady of Guadalupe Mass.

Women's Guild



4th

Annual Craft Fair

Saturday 7th, 10am-4pm

Sunday 8th, 9am-1pm

Only Handmade items will be sold.
Preference for space availability will be given to parishioners.
More info to come later.
Direct questions to:
Julie LaPlante at (707)239-0604 or
Lucy Madia at (707)328-5889



Emergency Preparedness and Response Presentation Sponsored by the S.E.A.S. Men's Club **Presenter: Rohnert Park Safety Department** Please join us in the parish hall for an important emergency preparedness presentation on **Friday, November 20th, at 6:30 PM.** A Fire Marshall and a Law Enforcement Officer from the Rohnert Park Department of Public Safety will be the speakers. At this presentation, they will inform us of what we need to do as individuals to prepare for emergency situations that might take place in our community. If you are able to attend, please contact **Larry Ruminson** by calling or texting him at **707-548-7058**

Ministry Schedule Nov.: All Souls and 7th & 8th

All Souls Day

12:15

Lector: Tony Madia & Tony Sacramento
EMS: John Buhagiar, Luisa Bustillos, Vicky Gregorio
Greeters: Ron Ciarasso, Debra Ciarasso

5pm

Lectors: Linda Anderson, Liz Ritchie
EMS: Linda Mish, Beth Turegano, Bill Yates
Greeters: Barry Goff, Pat Yates

Nov. 7th & 8th

4pm Mass

Readers: Tony Madia, Tony Sacramento
EMS: Dianne Foppoli, Linda Mish, Beth Turegano
Ushers: Janice Dyer, Olivia Salazar
Greeters: Ron & Debra Ciarasso

8:30am Mass

Readers: Teresa Fonseca, Maria Van Anne
EMS: Remie Alinas, Larry Biondini, John Buhagiar
Ushers: Scott Crossen, Mary Thayer

Greeters: Barry Goff, Larry Ruminson

10:30am Mass

Readers: Fred Adam, Nora John
EMS: Jovita Bishop, Lorraine Datu, Dianne Foppoli
Ushers: Scott & Mila Morrical
Greeters: Fred & Janet Adam

Pastor's Corner

I want to thank Emmanuel Tejada for cleaning and repairing the rain gutters.

In your envelope packs you will find one for Thanksgiving Day. This collection is for St. Vincent de Paul and so make out your checks to the Society. You can drop that envelope off in the collection basket at any time or wait until Thanksgiving Day. Mass will be at 9am.

Today we celebrate the Solemnity of All Saints. For Protestants, our belief in the communion of saints can be a source of disagreement on multiple points: for example, the saints' ability to hear our prayers, their power to intercede for us before God, and the devotions that we practice in their honor. But perhaps the most basic question they have is why we single out the saints in heaven at all. Many Protestants say there's nothing really special about them, because the Bible says that *all Christians are saints*.

For example, in Colossians 1:1-2, St. Paul says, *Paul, an apostle of Christ Jesus by the will of God, and Timothy our brother,* to the saints *and faithful brethren in Christ at Colossae: Grace to you and peace from God our Father (emphasis added).* This does seem pretty convincing. Why do Catholics refer to only canonized saints in heaven as saints when Paul seems to refer to the Colossian Christians that way?

Revelation 5:8 adds*, And when [the Lamb, Jesus Christ] had taken the scroll, the four living creatures and the twenty-four elders fell down before the Lamb, each holding a harp, and with golden bowls full of incense, which are the prayers of the saints.*

Here we have "the twenty-four elders," representing the people of God from both Old and New Covenants (twelve patriarchs plus twelve apostles equals "twenty-four elders"), receiving and communicating "the prayers of the saints" ascending from earth as incense. So again, we have Christians on this side of the veil referred to as "saints." Some Catholics will argue that the term saints is being used in the sense of an aspiration. Paul wills the Colossians to be saints, so he refers to them here in accordance with their ultimate calling rather than their present state. I have never found that line of reasoning to be compelling. It doesn't seem to work for either text, especially Revelation 5:8. But even more importantly, that doesn't seem to go with Church teaching. So what gives? **When Colossians 1 and Revelation 5** refer to "the saints," it seems clear they both are referring to Christians who are presently "walk[ing] through the valley of the shadow of death," as the Psalmist says—at least, in some sense. But I find many among the non-Catholics I converse with regularly to be surprised when I tell them the Catholic Church acknowledges that all of the baptized can be referred to as "saints."

The Catechism says, In the communion of saints, "a perennial link of charity exists between the faithful who have already reached their heavenly home, those who are expiating their sins in purgatory and those who are still pilgrims on earth. Between them there is, too, an abundant exchange of all good things."

In this wonderful exchange, the holiness of one profits others, well beyond the harm that the sin of one could cause others. Thus, recourse to the communion of saints lets the contrite sinner be more promptly and efficaciously purified of the punishments for sin (1475).

An earlier passage in the Catechism makes it even more clear that all of God's faithful can be referred to as saints:

After confessing "the holy catholic Church," the Apostles' Creed adds "the communion of saints." In a certain sense this article is a further explanation of the preceding: "What is the Church if not the assembly of all the saints?" The communion of saints is the Church. The term "communion of saints" therefore has two closely linked meanings: communion in holy things (sancta)" and "among holy persons (sancti)" (948).

The Catechism continues: "God's holy gifts for God's holy people") is proclaimed by the celebrant in most Eastern liturgies during the elevation of the holy gifts before the distribution of Communion. The faithful (sancti) are fed by Christ's holy body and blood (sancta) to grow in communion of the Holy Spirit (koinonia) and to communicate it to the world.

Since the Church teaches that the faithful on earth can be called saints, why do Catholics use the term to refer to a special group of canonized persons in heaven?

St. Paul best answers this question. In Colossians 1:1-2, as we saw above, Paul definitively refers to all of the faithful at Colossae as "saints." (The Greek hagioi is comparable to sancti in Latin, meaning "sanctified," "set apart," or "holy.")

From a Catholic perspective, we would say of course Paul would refer to these Christians, and by allusion all Christians, in this way because "being set apart and made holy" is precisely what

baptism accomplishes in the life of every Christian. We “have been baptized into Christ Jesus” (Rom. 6:3), who is the source of all holiness.

But here’s the rub: the Catholic Church also acknowledges what Colossians 1:12 says: *Giving thanks to the Father, who has qualified us to share in the inheritance of the saints in light.*

The Greek word for “share” in this text is merida, which means “to partake in part or a portion.” According to Paul, the saints on earth possess in part what the saints in heaven possess in fullness. Thus, it is fitting that the Catholic Church reserves the title of saint to those it has declared to be in heaven. They alone (the saints in heaven) possess sainthood, if you will, in its fullness. They have reached the destination that we saints on earth—holy ones by virtue of the graces God gives us for the journey—are in hope striving to reach.

Meaning of All Souls' Day

All Souls' Day is a sacred occasion set aside to remember and pray for the faithful departed. This day calls us to reflect on the mystery of death and the hope of eternal life, reminding us that our loved ones continue to live in the embrace of God. It is a time to honor our relatives and all souls in purgatory, offering prayers, masses, and deeds of charity. These acts of intercession help cleanse the soul of the departed and strengthen our own journey of faith.

- **Reflection:** Meditate on the brevity of life and the promise of heaven.
- **Prayer:** Offer heartfelt prayers for those who have departed exploring God's mercy.
- **Charity:** Perform acts of kindness in memory of the dearly departed.