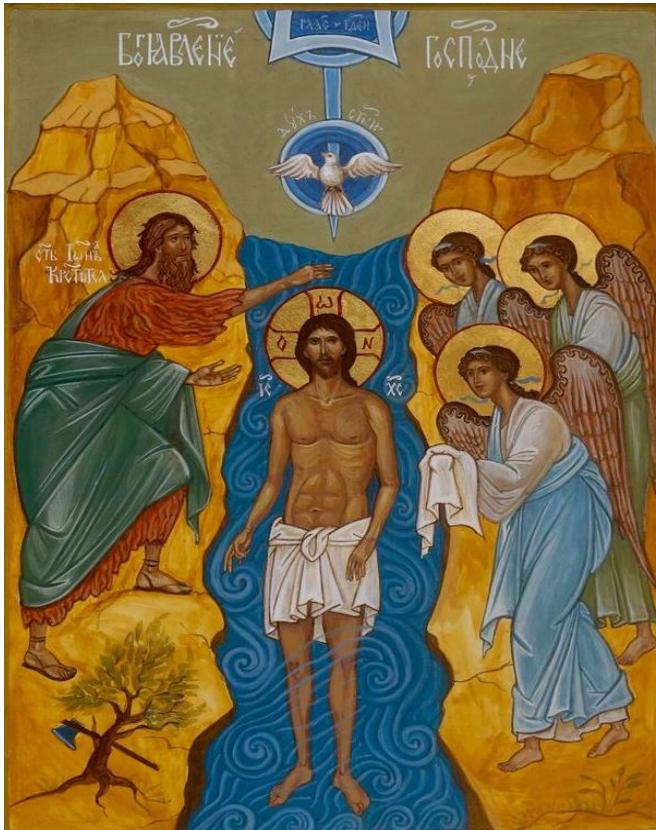


St. Elizabeth Ann Seton Catholic Church
 4595 Snyder Lane Rohnert Park, CA 94928
 (707) 585-3708
Website:www.Stelizabethrp.com
E-Mail: stelizseton@sbcglobal.net
 Office Hours: Tue.- Fri. 9am - 1pm
 The Church is open weekdays 7:30-6:30pm.
 Saturdays & Sundays 7:30 - 5:15pm.

The Baptism of the Lord January 11, 2025



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, Julie La Plante

Floral Decorations: Cesira Heric

Sacraments and Devotions

Reconciliation: Sun. 9:45-10:15am, Thu. 1-1:30

Marriage: One year notice to the pastor.

Infant Baptism: 1 month notice. The Baptismal
 Preparation for parents will be Feb. 15th 5-
 6:30pm

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 the 12:15 Mass

The Welcoming Church: Sundays 1pm.

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

Mass Schedule and Intentions for the Week

Sat/Jan 10	4pm	+Manuel Brasil
Sun/Jan 11	8:30 am	People of the Parish
	10:30am	+Manuel Brasil
Tue/Jan 13	12:15pm	+Bileynnie Encarnacion
Wed/Jan 14	8:15pm	+Felix Rojas
Thu/Jan 15	12:15pm	For All Priests
Fri/Jan 16	8:15am	Ints. Krista Rackerb
	9:15am	+Carmen Tursi
Sat/17	4pm	People of the Parish
Sun/18	8:30am	+Abel Sagon
	10:30am	

Events in the Parish

Sun/Jan 11	1pm	Welcoming Church/Hall
Tue/Jan 13	1pm	Bible Reflection/Hall-Cl
	5:45pm	Women's Guild Mtg/Hall
Wed/Jan 14	10am	Finance Mtg/Cl
Thu/Jan 15	1pm	Mardi Gras Mtg/ Cl
	6pm	Parish Council Mtg/Hall-Cl

Stewardship

Plate Donations: 1/3 & 4 \$4,730. Solemnity of Mary \$1,835. Thank you for your generosity and let us keep making 2026 a year of giving for the needs of others.

The second collection this week is for Building Maintenance. We are waiting for a company to review, and replace the sprinklers for the church with a bill around \$8,000

Homily Highlights from last Sunday, the Epiphany

- As the Kings were guided by the star, who guides you in life?
- Seeing Infant Jesus, made the Kings' day as they traveled for a long time and gave Him homage.
- What homage do you bring to the Lord for all He has done for you?

Sunday Scripture Readings

Reading I: Isaiah 42:1-4,6-7, **Reading II:** Acts of the Apostles 10:34-38, **Gospel:** Matthew 3:13-17

Here and Now When the Lord was baptized, a voice came from heaven saying "This is my beloved Son; with you I am well pleased." There could hardly be a more important message than this identification of Jesus, could there?

But why did this important message come through a voice from heaven? A voice from heaven can be heard only by those who are *there then*. What about everybody else? Surely, it is important for all human beings to know that Jesus is God's beloved Son.

And the same sort of puzzle arises from the **First Reading**. It says that the Messiah will open the eyes of the blind, and the Gospels testify that Christ really did so. But he opened the eyes of only a few blind people, those blind people who were *there then*. What about all the other blind people, in other places, in other times? Why didn't Jesus just heal all blindness everywhere with one impersonal command: let all the blind people of the world be healed?

And so here is one thing we can learn from these Readings. In the voice from heaven, in the miracles of Christ, God shows that he is committed to the good of particularity. God does not send the news about

the Messiah as an impersonal message directed impartially to all humankind. He identifies Jesus as his Son by a voice from heaven heard by particular people at a particular time. Similarly, Christ does not issue an impersonal decree about nameless blind people taken as a group. Christ heals some particular blind people who happened to be at a particular place at the particular time when Christ was also there.

So you might feel that you are just an unnoticed member of your company or an invisible one of the many ordinary people in your town. But you stand out as the particular person you are, where the Lord is concerned. God does not deal with people as faceless members of a collective. He calls, and he heals one particular person at a time, as each individual comes to him.

But then you yourself—not your Church or your group, but *you*—need to come to the Lord, to face him, to know him, to love him, and to let him heal you. Come as yourself, as you are, *here and now*.

Eleonore Stump

Discussion Question: If enlightening the world isn't in the cards for you, is there one dark corner you can brighten somehow?

Family Connection

At Jesus' baptism, God affirms his Son's mission for salvation. God announces his pleasure with Jesus and, in Matthew's Gospel, announces to all that, "This is my beloved Son" (Matthew 3:17). With this affirmation, Jesus is able to resist the temptations described next in Matthew's Gospel and to begin his public ministry. As family members, we can support one another in our Christian living by affirming the importance of each person in our eyes and in God's. Confident that through our Baptism we too were made children of God, we can resist temptation and share in Christ's mission.

Gather as a family to read today's Gospel, Matthew 3:13-17. Recall that God's message about Jesus was meant for us, "This is my beloved Son." It was also an affirmation for Jesus about his role in God's plan.

Place each family member's name on a slip of paper and put the names in a bowl. Invite each person in the family to choose another family member's name and to prepare a message for that person, affirming their importance in God's eyes and in your family life. Pray together that your family will continue to support one another in your baptismal promises to be disciples of Jesus and then invite each person to read aloud the message they prepared. Conclude by praying together the Lord's Prayer

Please pray for the health intentions of: Sherman Chan, Gus Chang, Mary Couto, Ginger Crawford, Patrick Dempsey, Lupita Diaz, Marcella Dorado, Anthony Eger, Evelyn Estrella, Jeanne Fields, Cedric Fontana, Kathy Fontana, Louise Galassi, Elsa Garcia, Dave Grundman, Theresa M, Nancy Keegan, Patricia Lauterjung, Kelly Limberg, Frank Manhoso, Charles Mc Collum, Larry Ng, Pat O'Brien, Robert Perrill, Mary Piccioni, Lisa Rivas, Patricia

Sack, Robert Scarpone, Dominique & Cecilia Tarrant, Jessica Thompson, and Malik Whitehorse.

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

Coming this

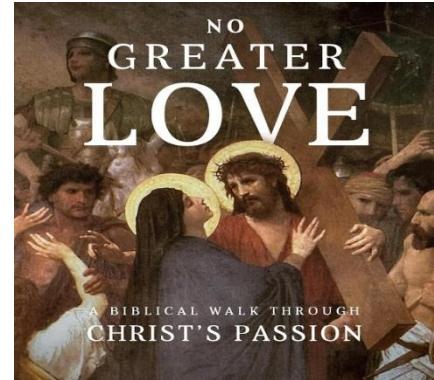
Tuesday Jan

13th Adult Bible

Study and
Reflection 1pm in
the Hall for an
hour

Bring your own
bowl, utensil,
napkins and
water.

Beef stew/bread
will be provided.



For those not registered please call Fr. Tom,

Extension 4 by Sunday night

The Topic: No Greater Love, Christ's Passion

Faith Formation Ministry

Quote of the Week

"You aspire to great things? Begin with the little ones."

St. Augustine

Sunday, January 11th

9:30 am 1st Year Confirmation Class/CL

10:30 am Children's Liturgy of the Word

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

5-6:30pm pm Catechesis of the Good Shepherd

L3/Atrium

Tuesday, January 13th

3:30-5 pm Catechesis of the Good Shepherd

L1/Atrium

Wednesday, January 14th

3-4:30 pm 1st Year First Communion

3-4:30 pm 2nd Year First Communion

3-4:30 pm Catechesis of the Good Shepherd

L3/Atrium

Sunday, January 18th

9:30 am 1st Year Confirmation Class/CL

10:30 am Children's Liturgy of the Word

5-6:30pm Youth Group/Hall

5-6:30pm pm Catechesis of the Good Shepherd

L3/Atrium

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**NEW OPENINGS AVAILABLE !!**

for Level 1 (Ages 3-6)

### Catechesis of the Good Shepherd



Atrium sessions begin January 13, 2026

Tuesdays from 3:30pm to 5:00pm

Contact Jennifer Bedoka to register  
(707) 888-9672 or [sesreled@gmail.com](mailto:sesreled@gmail.com)

Email [sesreled@gmail.com](mailto:sesreled@gmail.com) if you're interested  
in joining our ministry

## Social Justice Raffle

Beginning this weekend through January 25th your social

justice ministry will be having a fundraiser to purchase food, to prepare meals for the needy of our community during the 2026 calendar year.

We will raffle off a roll of \$1 lottery scratchers. There are 240 tickets in the roll. We will sell only 60 tickets, and the price will be \$20 per ticket the tickets sell out quickly – we will buy a second roll and repeat the same raffle. and so on....

So, I hope you're all feeling lucky – and know that your participation in this raffle is for a wonderful cause.

THANKS, AND GOD BLESS

The Social Justice Committee.

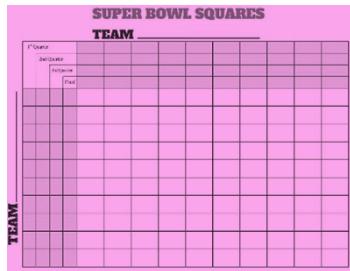


The Men's Club will be sponsoring a Super Bowl Squares pool this year. Each Square is \$20.00 and



\$1000.00 will be distributed as follows:

1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup>, 3<sup>rd</sup> Quarters each \$200. Final score will be \$400. \$1000.00 will benefit our Kitchen renovation. We will be selling the Squares at each mass beginning with the weekend masses of 1/17 & 18.



The Mardi Gras Committee is asking parishioners to donate either a new item, such as appliance, show tickets, sports item, etc.; certificate for restaurants, goods or services or items that can be added to a gift basket that we can use in our Mardi Gras Silent Auction. Please contact Tony Madia at 707-889-3362 to arrange for delivery.

Tickets will be on sale after Masses on the 17<sup>th</sup> and 18<sup>th</sup>.

Larry Ruminson

from all the volunteers at St. Vincent de Paul for your hard work and diligence in preparing and

staging the gift Baskets at Christmas. God bless you!

From St. Vincent de Paul and the Parish!



In the Catholic Church parents are obliged

to ensure that their infants are baptized within the first few weeks after birth. This is rooted in the belief that baptism removes original sin and initiates the child into the Christian community. If a child is in danger of death, baptism should be performed immediately. So why do parents wait so long?

The Church emphasizes the importance of not delaying baptism unduly. The Catechism of the Catholic Church states that failing to baptize a child shortly after birth denies them the grace of becoming a child of God. Historically, many parents baptized their children soon after birth due to concerns about infant mortality, which has influenced the Church's teaching on the urgency of baptism.

Some Christian denominations oppose infant baptism, arguing that it lacks explicit biblical support and that individuals should choose baptism when they are old enough to understand its significance. However, the Catholic Church emphasizes that the act of baptism is not solely dependent on the individual's personal faith at the time of baptism, especially for infants who cannot yet express faith. The Church believes that God's grace operates independently of the individual's understanding, making infant baptism a vital sacrament for all children.

In summary, the Catholic view on infant baptism is that it is a sacrament of grace, essential for salvation, and rooted in both scripture and tradition. It reflects the Church's commitment to ensuring that all individuals, regardless of age, have access to God's grace and the opportunity to grow in faith within the Christian community.



**As we celebrate the Lord's Baptism this weekend, let us just bring up a few things about Baptism of Infants**

**How many godparents are needed?**  
**For the sacrament of infant baptism in the Catholic Church, only one godparent is required. If two godparents are chosen, one must be male the other female. This requirement is in place to ensure that the godparents are able to serve as a good example for living the Catholic way of life and to maintain continuity between Baptism and Confirmation. A Godparent should be a sponsor at Confirmation down the road**

**To be a godparent in the Catholic Church:**

- Age:** The godparent must typically be at least 16 years old, although this can vary based on diocesan regulations.
- The individual must have received the Sacraments of Baptism, Confirmation, and First Eucharist in the Catholic Church.**
- Active Participation:** Godparents should be registered and practicing members of a Catholic parish, demonstrating a commitment to their faith through regular attendance at Mass and participation in church activities.
- Not a Parent:** A person cannot be a godparent to their own child. This is a clear stipulation in Canon Law.
- Moral Integrity:** The godparent must lead a life consistent with Catholic teachings, meaning they should not be under any canonical penalties (such as excommunication) and should not engage in public sin.
- If married, the marriage must be recognized as valid by the Catholic Church.** This means that the marriage should have taken place in the Church or with permission if it occurred elsewhere.
- A baptized non-Catholic may serve as a "Christian witness" alongside a Catholic godparent, but this is only permissible if the Catholic godparent is present.**
- If the chosen godparent cannot attend the baptism, another Catholic may act as a proxy.**

These requirements ensure that godparents are prepared to support the spiritual upbringing of the child they are sponsoring, fulfilling their role as a guide in the Catholic faith.

**Ministerial Schedule**  
**January 10<sup>th</sup> & 11<sup>th</sup>**

**4pm Mass**

**Readers:** Linda Biondini, Heigi Pillor  
**EMS:** Gloria Bacani, Luisa Bustillos, Dianne Foppoli  
**Ushers:** Olivia Salazar, Beth Turegano  
**Greeters:** Ron & Debra Ciarasso

**8:30am Mass**

**Readers:** Dolores Sanchez, Maria Van Anne  
**EMS:** Armando Arguello, Diane Cook, Patty Ramos

**Ushers:** Liz Chang, Barry Goff

**Greeters:** Caroline Kalaw, Mary Thayer  
**10:30am Mass**

**Readers:** Scott Crossen, Nora John

**EMS:** Jovita Bishop, Victoria Gregorio, Milagros Morrical

**Ushers:** Lorraine Datu, Milagros Morrical

**Greeters:** Nativity Mata, Sally Shami

**January 17<sup>th</sup> & 18<sup>th</sup>**

**4pm Mass**

**Readers:** Linda Anderson, Liz Ritchie

**EMS:** Janice Dyer, Tony Madia, Linda Mish

**Ushers:** Mark & Selina Johnson

**Greeters:** Roxanne Bialkoski, Luisa Bustillos

**8:30am Mass**

**Readers:** Phillip Alvarado, Maureen Sheridan Scott

**EMS:** Larry Biondini, John Buhagiar, Dave Grundman

**Ushers:** Remie Alinas, Sally Shami

**Greeters:** Larry & Jo Ruminson

**10:30am Mass**

**Readers:** Scott Morrical, Tony Sacramento

**EMS:** Jovita Bishop, Giovanna DeSimone, Victoria Gregorio

**Ushers:** Dianne Foppoli, Milagros Morrical

**Greeters:** Fred & Janet Adam



**Pastor's Corner**

As many people have made resolutions for this year, I wish that some would make a resolution to show up for Mass a few minutes earlier. I am glad people are coming to Mass but it can be distracting when they come in late.

Also, the last pews that are roped off are for those who come in late. The ropes are removed when Mass begins for them.

Please return your missalettes where you find them.

Because of flu and colds the sanitizer bottles have returned at the main entrance. If you are sick please stay home.

If you donated a Poinsettia for Christmas, you may take it home after the 10:30 Mass or they will be free for the taking at noon. Please also clean up the fallen leaves when you take it.