

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

**Website:**[www.Stelizabethrp.com](http://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 Epiphany of the Lord. January 4, 2026**



#### 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. 15<sup>th</sup> 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 3 4pm +Manuel Brasil

Sun/Jan 4 8:30am The People of the Parish  
10:30am +Manuel Brasil

Tue/Jan 6 12:15pm +Felix Rojas

Wed/Jan 7 8:15am +Rick Medeiros

Thu/Jan 8 12:15pm +Jacquelyn Ann Iniguez

Fri/Jan 9 8:15am +Bonifacia Cruz

Sat/Jan 10 4pm +Manuel Brasil

Sun/Jan 11 8:30am People of the Parish  
10:30am +Manuel Brasil

#### Events in the Parish

Sun/Jan 4	1pm Welcoming Church/Hall
Mon/Jan 5	6pm Men's Club Meeting/Hall
Wed/Jan 7	4:30pm Filipino American Society/CI
Sun/Jan 11	1pm Welcoming Church/Hall
Tue/Jan 13	5:45pm Women's Guild Meeting/Hall
Wed/Jan 14	10am Finance Mtg/CI
Thu/Jan 15	6 pm Pastoral Council/Hall

#### Stewardship

**Plate Offerings for December:** 12/6-7 \$5,179.  
12/13-14 \$4,680. 12/20-21 \$4,396. Christmas  
\$11,788. 12/27-28 \$4,392.

**Immaculate Conception** \$1,027. Religious  
Retirement Fund \$2,098.

**Thank you for your generosity during this holiday  
season.**

#### Highlights from last Sunday's Homily

- What does it mean to be a Holy Family?
- Are you part of a Holy Family?
- What qualities of a Holy Family do you manifest?

#### Sunday Scripture Readings

**Reading I:** Isaiah 60:1-6, **Reading II:** Ephesians 3:2-3a,5-6, **Gospel:** Matthew 2:1-12

#### Sunday Reflection

**The Way Things Are** In the Gospel Reading God sent the Magi by means of heavenly signs to the baby Jesus. In the end, the signs in heaven were not enough; but there was a special revelation about this child that added the missing element. When they did find the child, the Magi left him rich gifts. And then God warned the Magi in a dream not to return to King Herod to tell him where the baby was. Because of that dream, the Magi went home another way, and the baby was kept safe from Herod.

Just look at all the things God does for this one child! Signs in heaven, miraculously helpful strangers, special messages from God, rich gifts, and warning dreams, divine protection against powerful bad people.

God will call his people and shepherd them—but he will not force them.

How many children die who might have been saved if even one of these things had been done for them? A sign that brings help from afar, a special instruction from God, huge amounts of money, a dream that protects from bad guys—these things are not enough to keep all children from early death, but surely many children could have been saved by any of these means.

Why does God give all these things to Jesus? Why doesn't God give even some of them to all children? The answer to both questions is the same, I think. The first thing that happens after the Fall is that Abel, one of the children of Adam and Eve, dies at the hand of Cain, their other child. God could have protected Abel from Cain by any of the means God

used to help Jesus—but God doesn't do so. From the very beginning of our post-Fall world, God establishes the following policy: he will not force anybody to do what is good or omit what is evil. God will call his people and shepherd them—but he will not force them. And so countless children die because of the evil of other human beings.

But the powerless baby Jesus is God's best hope of healing human evil. Jesus is God's call of love. And that is why God's power can be used to keep Jesus from dying as a baby. He needs to die on the cross. That death is the last, most powerful call of love.

Eleonore Stump

**Discussion Question:** God sent the Magi a message that caused them to ride camels halfway across the known world. What would cause you to put forth this kind of effort?

#### Family Connection

The tradition of giving gifts at Christmas is thought by some to be rooted in the gift giving of the Magi. In many cultures, gifts are not exchanged at Christmas, but rather on the feast of the Epiphany. Whenever you exchange your Christmas gifts, take some time to reflect on this tradition of gift giving at Christmas. Think of the best gift you have received. What was it? What made it special? Was it the gift itself, the thought that went into it, or the person who gave it to you?

Read today's Gospel, Matthew 2:1-12. The gifts of the Magi—gold, frankincense, and myrrh—have come to be understood as symbols of Christ's royalty, divinity, and eventual suffering and death. They are special because in giving them, the Magi acknowledge who Jesus was to be: our Savior. We pray that we will acknowledge Jesus as Savior in all that we do and say. Conclude by singing together "We Three Kings."

**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, 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.



Save the Date!!!!  
It is time for Mardi Gras February 7 at 5pm. A Fun Night for all. More details to follow!!

#### Faith Formation Ministry

#### Quote of the Week

"Begin now...Believe me, don't wait until tomorrow to begin becoming a saint."

St Therese of Lisieux

#### Sunday, January 4th

10:30 am Children's Liturgy of the Word

No classes for Confirmation or Catechesis of Good Shepherd Level 3

(Classes resume January 11<sup>th</sup>)

#### Wednesday, January 7th

3-4:30 pm 1<sup>st</sup> Year First Communion

3-4:30 pm 2<sup>nd</sup> Year First Communion

#### Friday, January 9<sup>th</sup>

**Dine and Donate** in 2026 all day at Panda Express to support our SES Catechesis of the Good Shepherd atriums and faith formation program.

Online or in person



#### **Panda Express**

American fast food chain

Online Panda Express or the App and enter 3844629 in the fundraiser code. In person bring them the flyer or show it on your smartphone.

#### Sunday, January 11<sup>th</sup>

9:30 am 1<sup>st</sup> Year Confirmation Class/CL

10:30 am Children's Liturgy of the Word

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



**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

#### PANDA EXPRESS FUNDRAISER for FAITH FORMATION

Fundraiser for St Elizabeth Ann Seton 20% of event sales will be donated to help with retreats and conventions for enrichment When: Friday, January 09, 2026 Time: 9:30 AM to 10:30 PM Where Panda Express located at: 431 Rohnert Park Expressway Rohnert Park CA 94928 (707) 584-7276 ORDER NOW How to Order Online PandaExpress.com or the App. Enter 3844629 in the fundraiser code box or In-Person Bring paper flyer or show it on your smartphone.



## Our Mother of Perpetual Help

Dear Friends,

You are warmly invited to join us in prayer to Our Lady of Perpetual Help, seeking her loving intercession and guidance the first Wednesday of every month. Together, we lift our hearts in faith, entrusting our needs, hopes, and gratitude to our Blessed Mother, who never ceases to help those who call upon her on Wednesday, January 7<sup>th</sup> at 4:30 pm in the church. Let us come together as one family in Christ, confident that through Mary's powers, God's grace will abundantly flow into our lives. Whether you carry a special intention or simply wish to give thanks, your presence will be a blessing to all.

We will continue with our monthly meeting in the classroom and all are invited. You do not need to be Filipino to attend!

With love and blessings, FASSES  
Filipino-American Society of Saint Elizabeth Ann Seton.

### Christmas Basket 2025

St. Vincent De Paul (SVDP) wants to thank all of the parishioners for their donations of food items, SCRIP cards, and money towards the Christmas Baskets last year.

Your contributions enabled SVDP to provide seventy-eight (78) families (a total of 327 individuals) with 2,574 lbs. of food for Christmas Meals. Each family received food items, along with one of the following: ham, turkey, or chickens.

Your contributions of over 200 SCRIP cards were given out to 122 children, as gifts. They were greatly appreciated by all the families when we delivered the Christmas Baskets on Saturday, December 20<sup>th</sup>, last year.

A SPECIAL THANK YOU goes out the following who made it possible to do the Christmas Baskets:

- The bagging of the baskets was done by Tricia/Fred Petersen, and Beth/Tony Turegano;
- Phone reminders were conducted by the following SVDP members: Sherie Breining, Marcia Kostielney, Kirsten Hilton, and Julie LaPlante;
- The deliveries of the Christmas Baskets were done by the following team members:  
Team A -Nicole, Christopher, and John Ybarra  
Team B- Beth/Tony Turegano  
Team BB- Cara/Edward Giacometti  
Team C- Jim Griffen/Terry Cadigan

Team D- Sheri Breining/Nora John  
Team E - Kirsten/Carl Hilton  
Team F- Sue/John Buhagiar  
Team G- Pat /Bill Yates  
Team H- Diane Cook/Michele Bacho  
Team R- Giovanna Desimone/Julie La Plante

### **Social Justice Raffle**

Beginning next 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 \$1.00 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

### Ministry Schedule January 3<sup>rd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup>

#### 4pm Mass

Readers: Liz Ritchie, Tony Sacramento

EMS: Jovita Bishop, Janice Dyer, Victoria Gregorio

Ushers: Dianne Foppoli, Tony Turegano

Greeters: Ron Ciarasso, Tony Piazza

#### 8:30 am Mass

Readers: Phillip Alvarado, Maria Van Anne

EMS: Remie Alinas, John Buhagiar, Dave Grundman

Ushers: Sally Shami, Mary Thayer

Greeters: Patty Ramos, Diane Van Anne

#### 10:30am Mass

Readers: Scott Crossen, Marie Horwitz

EMS: Giovanna Desimone, Nora John, Nativity Mata

Ushers: Scott & Mila Morrical

Greeters: Fred & Janet Adam

#### 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, Maureen Sheridan Scott

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: Scott & Mila Morrical

Greeters: Nativity Mata , Sally Shami

**Thank you to our youth for cleaning  
the hall tables!**

## THE EPIPHANY HOUSE BLESSING

**Leader:** The Son of God made his home among us. With thanks and praise let us call upon him.

R/. Stay with us, Lord.

**Leader:** Lord Jesus Christ, with Mary and Joseph you formed the Holy Family: remain in our home, that we may know you as our guest and honor you as our Head.

We pray: R/. Stay with us, Lord.

**Leader:** Lord Jesus Christ, you had no place to lay your head, but in the spirit of poverty accepted the hospitality of your friends: grant that through our help the homeless may obtain proper housing.

We pray: R/. Stay with us, Lord.

**Leader:** Lord Jesus Christ, the three kings presented their gifts to you in a house in praise and adoration: grant that those living in this house may use their talents and abilities to your greater glory.

We pray: R/. Stay with us, Lord.

*After the intercessions the leader invites all present to say the Lord's Prayer.*

*The leader says the prayer of blessing with hands joined:*

Lord God of heaven and earth,  
you revealed your only-begotten Son to every nation

by the guidance of a star.

Bless this house  
and all who inhabit it.

Fill us with the light of Christ,  
that our concern for others may reflect your love.

We ask this through Christ our Lord.

R/. Amen.

*The leader concludes the rite by signing himself or herself with the sign of the cross and saying:*

May Christ Jesus dwell with us,  
keep us from all harm,  
and make us one in mind and heart,  
now and forever.

R/. Amen.

\*\*\*\*\*

As we begin 2026, we look back at our parish and thank many in our community!

- THE LITURGICAL MINISTERS

Extraordinary Ministers of the Eucharist, Ushers, Altar Servers, Lectors, Greeters. Our Choirs and Musicians, The Floral Arrangers, and Sacristans

- Our Faith Formation Teams

Good Shepherd Ministry, Sacrament Preparations, Youth Group, and Adult Faith Formation

- Our Office Personnel

Bookkeeper, Money Counters, Computer Helpers and Mailing Team, Office Manager

- Grounds and Facility Management

Carpenters, Landscapers, Engineers, Janitors, Gardeners, Clean-up People and I.T. Person

- Parish Organizations, Councils and Committees and More

Parish Council, Finance Committee, Social Justice Committee, Filipino American Society, Hispanic Council, Women's Guild, Men's Club, and The St. Vincent de Paul Society

### Prayer of Gratitude for Our Parish Leaders

Heavenly Father,

We come before You with hearts full of gratitude for the faithful leaders of our parish.

Thank You for their dedication, their tireless service, and the love they pour into guiding our community.

Bless them with wisdom to lead with clarity, courage to stand firm in truth, and compassion to shepherd with grace. Renew their strength when they grow weary, and fill their hearts with joy in every season of ministry.

May their lives be a reflection of Your light, and may they always feel the support, prayers, and love of those they serve.

In Jesus' name, we pray. Amen.

Coming Tuesday Jan 13<sup>th</sup>

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.  
You must  
register with  
the office  
this week!  
The Topic:

