

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](mailto:stelizseton@sbcglobal.net)

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

The Church is open weekdays

7:30–6:30pm.

Saturdays & Sundays 7:30 - 5:15pm.

## **March 1, 2026, Second Sunday of Lent**



### **The Transfiguration of Jesus**

#### **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:** Sunday: 9:45-10:15am, Wed.  
5-6pm., Thu 1-1:30pm.

**Marriage:** One year notice to the pastor.

**Infant Baptism:** 1 month notice. The next  
preparation session TBA

**Anointing of the Sick:** Please call Fr. Tom.  
Usually, it is celebrated after Sunday Masses.

**The Rosary:** ½ hr. before weekday Masses.

**Divine Chaplet:** Tuesdays after the 12:15 Mass

**The Welcoming Church:** Sundays 1pm.

**Exposition & Benediction:** Thu. 12:15-  
1:45pm.

#### **Mass Schedule and Intentions for the Week**

**Sat/Feb 28** 4:00pm + Ibrahim Diab & Mike Sweeney

Sun/Mar 1 8:30am + Felix Rojas

10:30am For the Parish

Tue/Mar 3 12:15pm +Mr. & Mrs. Buvelot

Wed/Mar 4 8:15am Ints. of Nicholas Patrick

Thu/Mar 5 12:15pm + Monica Guglielmina

Fri/Mar 6 8:15am + Felix Rojas

Sat/Mar 7 4:00pm + Abel Sagon

Sun/Mar 8 8:30am + Ginger Crawford

10:30am For the Parish

#### **Events of the Week**

**Sun/Mar 1** 1pm Welcoming Church

**Mon/Mar 2** 6pm Men's Club Mtg/Hall

**Tue/Mar 3** 1pm Last Bible Study Session

**Wed/Mar 4** 4:30pm Filipino Ministry Mtg/Hall

**Thu/Mar 5** 4:30pm Social Justice Mtg/Cl

**Fri/Mar 6** 6pm Filipino American Society Lenten  
Meal/Hall

7pm Stations of the Cross

**Stewardship Plate offerings for the Month of  
February 2026:** Feb. 2<sup>nd</sup> \$5,448, Feb. 8<sup>th</sup> \$5,135, Feb.  
15<sup>th</sup> \$4,450, Feb. 22<sup>nd</sup> \$4,930, On-line giving \$1,521.25,  
Liability Insurance \$2,118. Church Maintenance  
\$2,265. Ash Wednesday Faith Formation \$3,329.  
Sunday collection average: \$5,370 Thank you for  
your continued generosity!

#### **Last Sunday's Homily Highlights**

- A temptation is not a sin unless you entertain it.
- The devil wants us to panic and give in to temptations.
- When we panic, we cannot think straight.
- We just need to tell the devil "To go to Hell" and tell him that "I am for the Lord" and call on Jesus to give you strength.

#### **Sunday Scripture Readings and Reflection**

**Reading I:** Genesis 12:1-4a, **Reading II:** 2 Timothy 1:8b-10

**Gospel:** Matthew 17:1-9

**The Giver** Last week we saw that Jesus was tempted just like the rest of us are. It was so human.

This week we will see him transfigured into dazzling light.

Not so human. More like a heavenly display. Which is the real Jesus? There are two Ignatian insights that shed light on this question and on Sunday's readings.

**First**, sometimes in the spiritual life there is a flash of the future that is displayed in the present.

Example: some years ago, your author was walking somewhat sadly along the streets of his neighborhood, unable to sleep, but wishing that he could still believe in God in a significant way.

Suddenly without warning he found his insides coming out of him, so to speak, and he said out loud, Oh God, Oh Jesus, I love you. Who knows how long this experience lasted—maybe ten seconds or ten minutes—but suddenly it was over. he was back to his ordinary state, wishing he could know and love God better!

**The Transfiguration was one way for Jesus to reassure us and them that agony would not negate his divinity**

If you can envision that, you might see that your author had experienced a transfiguration. His usual and in this case, dull, fearful approach to the Father and the Son was transformed, transfigured, showing what was really there, but which he was not at that point able to receive fully. Why not? I do not know. It is just that we human beings have to wait and be stretched before we are ready to see God in a more personal way. But lest we become discouraged and give up, God might give us a short vision of how things really are, at their core.

So, insight number one is, sometimes God will give a person a sneak preview of what the relationship to him is really like, but the preview is only temporary because it is more than the person can realize for long

This Sunday's feast of the Transfiguration provides a glimpse of how Jesus is unified with the God of the Trinity. Of course, the second person was always unified with the Trinity and became human at the same time. But it was for Jesus a preview because the resurrection and glorification had not taken place yet. He and we have to wait.

**Second**, when a graced view occurs, you and I want very much to hang on to the gift because it is so wonderful. We tend to forget about the giver, who is the main point. We become attached to the feel-good part. Maybe that is why Jesus says in today's reading, "do not tell this experience to anyone." He does not want the transfiguration to be a carnival attraction ("hey, look how white his clothes are! Incredible!"). It is a "prefiguring" of the risen Jesus.

Our love relationship with Jesus/God is what counts, and particular feelings act as symbols of it. "This is my beloved Son, with whom I am well pleased; listen to him" (Not "get a big kick out of it"). Look for the relation. Let everything else lead to it.

To summarize: one, sometimes God gives us glimpses of our relationship with Jesus that are too much for us, but that can encourage us. The Transfiguration may have been one of these for the two apostles. The purpose of the glimpse is to keep them or us involved in the relationship, to let those involved glimpse the real Jesus, not just to give them an individual thrill.

So, don't give up. Let us follow Lent along step by step. The encouragement this Sunday is great.

John Foley, SJ

**Discussion Question:** Jesus invited three of his disciples (and us) to gaze at him in his transfiguration. Do you ask yourself every night if you gazed at Jesus during the day?

**Sunday Family Connection**

For the second Sunday of Lent, we move from Jesus' retreat to the desert to his Transfiguration. Each year on the first Sunday of Lent, our Gospel tells the story of Jesus' temptation in the desert. On the second Sunday of Lent each year, we hear the story of Jesus' Transfiguration.

The story of Jesus' Transfiguration is told in the three Synoptic Gospels: Matthew, Mark, and Luke. In each of those Gospels, the Transfiguration follows Jesus' first prediction of his death and his teaching about the costs of discipleship. Jesus' Transfiguration is a promise of Jesus' glory, his Resurrection.

On a mountain in today's reading, a voice affirms that Jesus is God's Son in words reminiscent of the voice at Jesus' baptism. In addition, the appearance of Moses and Elijah on the mountain connects this story with God's relationship to the people of Israel. Moses and Elijah represent the Law and the Prophets, respectively. Together with Jesus, they represent God's complete Word.

The Transfiguration occurs in the presence of just three of Jesus' disciples: Peter, James, and John. In Matthew's Gospel, those disciples are among the first whom Jesus calls. The three men are identified as an "inner circle" among Jesus' disciples when Jesus asks them to accompany him to the Garden of Gethsemane just before his arrest.

**Please pray for the health intentions of:**

Sherman Chan, Gus Chang, Mary Couto, Patrick Dempsey,

Lupita Diaz, Marcella Dorado, Anthony Eger, Evelyn Estrella, Cedric Fontana, Kathy Fontana, Louise Galassi, Elsa Garcia, Rosa Gomez, Dave Grundman, Kathleen, Nancy Keegan, Patricia Lauterjung, Kelly Limberg, Theresa M, Frank Manhoso, Rudy Melano, Charles McCollum, Kevin McDonough, Larry Ng, Pat O'Brien, Robert Perrill, Mary Piccioni, April Piehoff, James Reynolds, Lisa Rivas, Patricia Sack, Robert Scarpone, Dominique & Cecilia Tarrant, Jim Turegano, and Malik Whitehorse.

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

**Please pray for the soul of Adele Rico and keep her family in your prayers**

*Our ministry invites you to join us in prayer to Our Lady of Perpetual Help! 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, March 4th at 4 pm in the church. 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 be Filipino to attend.  
Happy Lent,  
**Filipino-American Society of St. Ann Seton.**



Do you pray each day? We are looking for parishioners to be prayer partners to students who will be receiving their sacraments this year. Please take time to think if this is something you can do for our Communicants and Confirmandi.

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



May God bless Marc and Megan Antonelli on the Baptism of their daughter Madelyn Renee Antonelli.



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 Basket, ending on Sunday, March 22nd.

<u>Dates</u>	<u>Item</u>	<u>Size</u>
Feb 28/Mar 1	Green Beans	14 oz. can
Mar 7/8	Corn	15 oz. can
Mar 14/15	Sliced Pineapple	20 oz. can
Mar 21/22	Corn Bread Mix	15 oz. box

#### Ministry Schedule

March 7<sup>th</sup> & 8<sup>th</sup>

**4:00pm Mass**

**Reader:** Linda Anderson, Tony Sacramento

**EMS:** Gloria Bacani, Luisa Bustillos, Linda Mish

**Ushers:** Mark & Selina Johnson

**Greeters:** Ron & Debra Ciarasso

**8:30am Mass**

**Readers:** Phillip Alvarado, Dolores Sanchez

**EMS:** Remie Alinas, Diane Cook, Mary Thayer

**Ushers:** Liz Chang, Liz Ritchie

**Greeters:** Alan & Caroline Kalaw

**10:30am Mass**

**Readers:** Scott Crossen, Marie Horwitz

**EMS:** Giovanna DeSimone, Victoria Gregorio

**Ushers:** Scott & Milagros Morrical

**Greeters:** Augustine Gonzalez, Sally Shami

#### **Pastor's Corner**

I want to thank the 87 families who are participating in the Diocesan Annual Appeal so far. I should have more information as to who they are, the number of pledges, and the amount pledged as a parish next week. All pledge envelopes can be put into the collection baskets through March. Afterwards, you will need to mail your pledge directly to the diocese. The envelopes are in the pamphlet rack in the vestibule and across from the office.

There is an added time for the **Sacrament of Reconciliation this week:** 5-6 pm. on Wednesday.



Once again, our Parish demonstrated generosity and love with the clothing drive sponsored by the Social Justice Committee

which ended last Sunday. Over 20 bags and boxes were delivered to Catholic Charities for distribution.

Thank you and may God bless us all.

#### Faith Formation Ministry

#### Quote of the Week

*"Charity is the form, mover, and root of all virtues"*

St. Thomas Aquinas

**Sunday March 1<sup>st</sup>**

**8-2pm** Confirmation Convention in Vacaville

10:30am Children's Liturgy of the Word

11:45am 2<sup>nd</sup> Year Confirmation Sponsor Mtg/Atrium

**5-6:30pm** Youth Group Hall

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

L3/Atrium

#### **Monday, March 2nd**

**6-7pm** Catechesis of the Good Shepherd Lenten

Meditation L3/Atrium

#### **Tuesday, March 3rd**

**3:30-5pm** Catechesis of the Good Shepherd

L1/Atrium

#### **Wednesday, March 4th**

**3-4:30pm** 1st & 2<sup>nd</sup> Year First Communion

**3-4:30 pm** Catechesis of the Good Shepherd

L3/Atrium

#### **Sunday March 8th**

**9:30am** 2nd Year Confirmation Class/CL

**10:30am** Children's Liturgy of the Word

**5-6:30pm** Youth Group Hall

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

L3/Atrium

**Anyone interested?** In cleaning up around the hall stage, boxes of large linoleum tiles never used in the hall are available for the taking. Please see me about getting them.

**Any volunteers** to take down the basketball hoops in the hall? Please let me know and if you know of anyone who wants them, let me know.

**Castinos Restaurant Supply** here in Rohnert Park has begun to work with us about the renovation of the hall kitchen.

**A resurrected sound system** is going in hopefully next week into the hall as portable amplifiers and speakers will not have to be used.

## **As the United States approaches the 250th anniversary of the Declaration of Independence,**

the moment invites more than celebration. It calls for discernment. Gratitude for the blessings of a nation must be held alongside an honest recognition of the fractures shaping civic life—not only in America, but across democracies worldwide.

In the pastoral letter *In Charity & Truth: Toward a Renewed Political Culture*, Archbishop William Lori, Archbishop of Baltimore, points out that today's political crisis is not merely institutional. It is moral and spiritual.

While laws and structures matter, they cannot substitute for virtue. It begins with a return to Jesus Christ.

The Archbishop insists that authentic political life depends on recovering a clear vision of the human person—created in the image of God, endowed with inviolable dignity, and called into responsibility for others.

**Circle your Calendars March 18<sup>th</sup>  
7pm. Taize Prayer Service**

## **Lenten Evenings of Reflection at St. Elizabeth Ann Seton**

**Wednesday, March 11<sup>th</sup>**

**Getting the most out of the 2<sup>nd</sup> half of Lent, Part I**

**Mass: 5pm.**

**Soup: 6pm. Split Pea and Ham**

**Reflection: 7pm in the hall**

**Thursday, March 12<sup>th</sup>**  
**Getting the most out of the 2<sup>nd</sup> half of Lent, Part II**  
**Mass: 5pm.**  
**Soup: 6pm. Tomato Basil Blue Cheese Soup**  
**Reflection: 7pm.in the hall**



**with Fr. John Auther, S.J.**

**Presenter: Fr. John Auther, S.J.**, is currently a retreat director at the Jesuit Retreat Center in Los Altos, CA. He is an engaging speaker of great humor and spiritual insight. In over 40 years as a Jesuit, his ministries have included being a parish pastor, spiritual direction, and campus and prison ministries. He founded The Center for Ignatian Spirituality in San Diego, to train spiritual directors. Believing that powerful things from God happen on retreats that don't happen at other times, Fr. John has always viewed retreat ministry as a wonderful way to serve the Lord.

**Go to [youtube.com Fr. John Auther, S.J.](https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCv8v8v8v8v8v8v8v8v8v8v8) for some of his presentations.**

**MAKE THIS LENTEN SEASON COME ALIVE!**