

St. Elizabeth Ann Seton Catholic Church

4595 Snyder Lane Rohnert Park, CA 94928
(707) 585-3708

Website: www.Stelizabethhp.com

E-Mail stelizseton@sbcglobal.net

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

The Church is open daily 7:30am – 8:00pm

September 6, 2026
23rd Sunday in Ordinary Time



Parish Staff

Pastor: Rev. Thomas Diaz #4

Office Manager: Chris Giacometti: #1

Mass times: #2

Youth Faith Formation: Jennifer Bedoka #3

Executive Board: Tony Madio/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 1-1:30

Marriage: One year notice to the pastor.

Infant Baptism: 1 month notice. The next preparation session is on Sept. 20th noon-2pm.

You must register in the office for the class.

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

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

Adult Initiation Sessions: Starting Oct 14th, 6pm,

Last Sunday's Homily Highlights

- We all have crosses
- If you are to be my disciple, you need to carry your cross
- Jesus is not attacking Peter who wants to save Him from death but Satan who is tempting Him so He will not show His love by dying for us and giving us hope with resurrection
- How does the devil tempt us in life for in the temptation in the desert he left Jesus only to return later?
- When was later for you

Sunday Scripture Readings

Reading I: Ezekiel 33:7-9, **Reading II:** Romans 13:8-10,
Gospel: Matthew 18:15-20

Sunday Reflection

What happens when someone misbehaves and hurts you? What should you do, punch 'em out? No.

Jesus lays out a detailed plan in the Gospel about how to help a person, especially in the Christian community, who has done you harm. This strategy applies whatever the damage was: saying unfair things behind your back, embarrassing you in public, stealing, unfaithfulness, you name it.

First, go to the person and let her or him know that you believe you have been hurt by what they did or said. This is not an opportunity to "let my anger out," to get my rights, or worse, to hurt them in return. It is an attempt to repair the relationship, no matter whose fault it was. It is an effort to help, not hurt.

Of course, in Sunday's story, Jesus is presuming that there is a basis of love between you and the other person. Another way to say it is that you are both members of "the church."

What if going to the person does not succeed? Jesus says you should next take two or three witnesses along. They will back you up if your interpretation of the problem is correct. If the person still does not listen, keep trying, he says. Tell the church. Continue to work on it until the matter is smoothed out. Let truth and forgiveness rule.

The underlying reason behind this whole strategy is hinted at in the First Reading. There the Lord says that Ezekiel must speak out to a person when they are doing evil and especially if they have been warned by the Lord.

The point is not to punish them, or to turn Ezekiel into a police interrogation unit. The point is to try and help them back from the danger to their own self and to the community. "Frighten the poor sheep back," the poet Hopkins puts it. You speak out.

A personal story. I had a terrible disagreement with a colleague/friend a number of years ago. We were working together on a musical event and it seemed to each of us that the other had done something unforgivable, hurtful and unprofessional. Believe me, I do not know who was right and who was wrong. But we spoke about it one-on-one and gradually came back into each other's good graces. We remained very good friends. Still.

The same thing happened a number of summers later. I was the one who "blew up" because of the wrongs I absolutely knew were being done to me. I even sent a peeved email. My friend sent a scorcher in return! Then we worked together to create the event! We knew instinctively what had happened. "We were both tired and quite stressed out, weren't we," my friend said. "So we each did our stressed-out thing. But we were both trying to help the performance be wonderful." As you can guess, we remain great friends.

I think this is how it can work when Christians are "all too human" and hurt each other. It is not a matter of who broke the rules. All the rules are summed up in

a single saying. "You shall love your neighbor as yourself". How good it is. John Foley, SJ.

Discussion Questions

Have you ever had to correct someone with kindness? How did it go?

Sunday Family Collection

As you gather as a family this week, discuss the procedures for resolving disputes in your family. What kinds of things produce disagreements in your family? Do children frequently request the assistance of adults when a disagreement arises? How do the adults respond? In today's Gospel, Jesus teaches his disciples the way in which they are to handle conflict within the Christian community of the Church. Read together this Gospel, Matthew 18:15-20. Invite family members to summarize the steps that Jesus proposes for resolving conflict. How might today's Gospel inform your family's handling of disagreements? If you have time, your family might choose to role play how Jesus' teaching about conflict resolution might be applied to a disagreement that sometimes occurs in your household.

In today's Gospel, Jesus also promises that he will help those who pray to him with their needs. Pray together that each member of your family will learn to handle conflict in a Christian manner. Pray together *the Peace Prayer of Saint Francis*.

Lord, make me an instrument of your peace:

***where there is hatred, let me sow love;
where there is injury, pardon;
where there is doubt, faith;
where there is despair, hope;
where there is darkness, light;
where there is sadness, joy.***

***O divine Master, grant that I may not so much
seek***

***to be consoled as to console,
to be understood as to understand,
to be loved as to love.***

***For it is in giving that we receive,
it is in pardoning that we are pardoned,
and it is in dying that we are born to eternal
life.***

Mass Schedule and Intentions for the Week

Sat/Sep 5	4pm	+George Turegano
Sun/Sep 6	8:30am	+Marie Aggio
	10:30am	People of the Parish
Tue/Sep 8	12:15pm	Ints. of Dr Clare Siu
Wed/Sep 9	8:15am	+David Aggio
Thu/Sep 10	12:15pm	Ints. of Seth Wood
Fri/Sep 11	8:15am	Ints of Charles McCollum
Sat/Sep 12	4pm	Ints of Joe Arrigoni
Sun/Sep 13	8:30am	+Abel Sagon
	10:30am	People of the Parish

Events in the Parish

Mon/Sept 7,	6:30pm	Men's Club Mtg/Hall
Tue/Sep 8,	5:30pm	Women's Guild Mtg/ Hall
Sun/Sep 13	11:30am	Parish Picnic

Stewardship for the month of August

8/2 \$5,209, 8/9 \$6,615, 8/16 \$4,287, 8/23 \$4,503, 8/30 \$4,755, On-line donations: \$1,257.75. Mission Appeal: \$5,325.35, Church Maintenance: \$1,946. Average Sunday regular collection \$5,279.20 Next Sunday the 2nd Collection will be for Building Maintenance

Please pray this week for these people

Joe Arrigoni, Bi Bi Ballesteros, Giselle Ballion, Catherine Delara, Diva & Gaba Delara, Giovanna DeSimone, John Diaz. Marcella Dorado, Maryann Eger, Marcus Esplada, Jim Estrella, Rosita Faltado, Amanda Fernandez, Janet Fenstermacher, Kathy & Cedric Fontana, Carl Hilton, Nancy Keegan, Sue Kennedy, Trinidad Legasti, Frank Manhoso, Ruth McAllister, Judith Miller, Joseph Patrick, Mary Piccioni, Vivian Pruett, Emi Jade Przyborowski, Linda Sime, Cecilia Tarrant, Diane Thrailkill, Jim Turegano, Tiffany Valentine, Kenneth Wagy, and Steve Werle.

To put a name on the list, please call the office



Quote of the Week

"If you judge people you have no time to love them" Mother Teresa

If you would you like to learn more and walk with our older youth as they learn more about their faith?

We will have a workshop later in September. Stay tune for details.

Faith formation will be starting within the next few weeks and schedules were emailed out on September 2nd. If you do not get an email, please email Jennifer at sesreled@gmail.com or text her at 707-888-9672. Schedules will also be available near the office and after masses starting

Sunday, September 13th

9:30am First Year Confirmation Parent Mtg/CL

10:30am Children's Liturgy of the Word/ Atrium

Wednesday, September 16th

3:30pm First Communion Level 1/CL

3:30pm First Communion Level 2/CL

Sun., September 20th

9:30am 1st Year Confirmation/CL

5pm 2nd Year Confirmation Level 2/CL

Tuesday, October 13th

3:30pm CGS

Level 1 Ages 3-6 3:30-5pm/ L1 Atrium

All Parents, Catechists and Aides, please check your emails regarding Signup Genius.

Mass Cards will be available after Masses on September 13th. Please get your stamp card stamped starting 9/13.

[SEAS Women's Guild](#) invites YOU to join us On Tuesday, 9/8 at 5:30pm for our first meeting of the year. We offer a variety of social, fundraising, and service projects throughout the year. We meet once a month, and our meetings generally only lasts about an hour. We would love to see you there.

[All ages welcome](#)

[Picnic News](#) Please sign up for our Parishioner Appreciation Picnic and bring your families after the 10:30 Mass next week The picnic is here on our grounds and is for you. Also, come wearing your **red**, white & **blue** to celebrate America's 250!

[SAVE THE DATE](#)

The Women's Guild

MERRY CHRISTMAS

4th Annual Craft Fair

November 7th, 10am-4pm

November 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



[Special Liturgical Day this Week](#)



The Catholic Church celebrates the birth of the Blessed Virgin Mary on its traditional fixed date of September 8, nine months after the December 8 celebration of her Immaculate Conception as the child of Saints Joachim and Anne.

The circumstances of the Virgin Mary's infancy and early life are not directly recorded in the Bible, but other documents and traditions describing the circumstances of her birth are cited by some of the earliest Christian writers from the first centuries of the Church.

These accounts, although not considered authoritative in the same manner as the Bible, outline some of the Church's traditional beliefs about the birth of Mary.

The "Protoevangelium of James," which was probably put into its final written form in the early second century, describes Mary's father Joachim as a wealthy member of one of the Twelve Tribes of Israel. Joachim was deeply grieved, along with his wife Anne, by their childlessness. "He called to mind Abraham," the early Christian writing says, "that in the last day God gave him a son Isaac."

Joachim and Anne began to devote themselves extensively and rigorously to prayer and fasting, initially wondering whether their inability to conceive a child might signify God's displeasure with them.

As it turned out, however, the couple were to be blessed even more abundantly than Abraham and Sarah, as an angel revealed to Anne when he appeared to her and prophesied that all generations would honor their future child: "The Lord has heard your prayer, and you shall conceive, and shall bring forth, and your seed shall be spoken of in all the world."

After Mary's birth, according to the Protoevangelium of James, Anne "made a sanctuary" in the infant girl's room, and "allowed nothing common or unclean" on account of the special holiness of the child. The same writing records that when she was one year old, her father "made a great feast, and invited the priests, and the scribes, and the elders, and all the people of Israel."

"And Joachim brought the child to the priests," the account continues, "and they blessed her, saying: 'O God of our fathers, bless this child, and give her an everlasting name to be named in all generations' . . . And he brought her to the chief priests, and they blessed her, saying: 'O God most high, look upon this child, and bless her with the utmost blessing, which shall be for ever.'"

The protoevangelium goes on to describe how Mary's parents, along with the temple priests, subsequently decided that she would be offered to God as a consecrated Virgin for the rest of her life, and enter a chaste marriage with the carpenter Joseph.

[Pastor's Corner](#)

Macaroni Salad Makers: Thank you for contacting me for volunteering. We will be gathering on Friday at 6:30pm in the hall kitchen. For chopping and mixing everything up! We will make two kinds of macaroni salad.

As some of you can see the landscaping has continued. I thank Scrip for assisting in paying for part of the project when the bill comes in.

The Annual Ministry Appeal envelopes have been trickling in. We now have 201 participants, which is second in the diocese. This equals 34%, and so just think we have 66% who still need to give. the total given back to us for rebate at this time is \$37,825. This is Number 1 in the diocese. The Appeal assists us in paying our insurances, totaling \$56,267 this new fiscal year. So, we still have a way

to go. Envelopes are in the vestibule. Every dollar helps!

Registration forms for the Welcoming Church this year are available across from the office for our Adult faith formation which begins on Wed., Oct 14th.

I want to thank Linda Biondini for the floral arranging this week in the sanctuary.

If the diocese ever had a Man of the Year Award, who should receive it in our parish? Maybe we should start something, and I will leave it up to the Men's Club.

Pope Leo Pope Leo XIV has recently taken a firm stance toward the Society of St. Pius X (SSPX), a traditionalist Catholic group founded in 1970 by Archbishop Marcel Lefebvre as a protest against the reforms of the Second Vatican Council. The SSPX, with about 600,000 members in 50 countries, has long resisted changes such as vernacular Mass



and ecumenical dialogue, maintaining a strict adherence to pre-Vatican II liturgical and doctrinal practices.

Pope Leo's Appeal

On **29 June 2026**, the day before the SSPX's planned episcopal consecrations without papal mandate, Pope Leo XIV issued a letter to the Superior General of the Priestly Fraternity of Saint Pius X, Fr. Davide Pagliarani. In it, he:

- Recognized the devotion to liturgical life and fidelity to Tradition among SSPX members.
- Urged them to "turn back" from the schismatic act of consecrating bishops without papal approval.
- Warned that such acts would deprive faithful of the licit and, in some cases, valid reception of the sacraments.
- Called for dialogue and understanding, praying that the SSPX would reconsider.
- Stressed that "to tear the seamless garment of Christ" is a sin of extreme gravity

Escalation to Excommunication

On **6 July 2026**, Pope Leo XIV excommunicated six men consecrated as bishops by the SSPX at its seminary in Switzerland, along with all SSPX members. This was a disciplinary measure against the schismatic consecrations, which the Church considers invalid and contrary to its authority.

Context

The SSPX's defiance dates back to 1970, when Lefebvre consecrated four bishops without papal mandate, leading to the group's initial excommunication. Over the decades, the SSPX has maintained its own seminary and liturgical practices, but its 2026 actions prompted the most severe papal response yet.

Two Acts of Contrition: Both are good, but they have different spiritual effects

<u>Type</u>	<u>Motivation</u>	<u>Theology</u>
Perfect Contrition	Pure Love	Sorrow that comes from loving God above all else. and grieving that you have hurt Him.

My God, I am sorry for my sins with all my heart. In choosing to do wrong and failing to do good, I have sinned against you whom I should love above all things. I firmly intend, with your help, to do penance, to sin no more, and to avoid whatever leads me to sin. Our Savior Jesus Christ suffered and died for us. In his name, my God, have mercy.

Or

<u>Type</u>	<u>Motivation</u>	<u>Theology</u>
Imperfect Contrition	Fear of Loss	This sorrow based on the fear of Hell or the "loss of heaven."

O my God, I am heartily sorry for having offended Thee, and I detest all of my sins because of dread the loss of Heaven and the pains of Hell, but most of all because they offend Thee, my God, who art all good and deserving of all my love. I firmly resolve with the help of Thy grace to confess my sins, to do penance, and to amend my life. Amen.

Why it matters: While *Imperfect Contrition* is enough for a valid Confession, *Perfect Contrition* (combined with the intent to go to Confession) can restore a soul to a state of grace in an emergency where a priest is not immediately available

Ministry Schedule September 12th-13th

4:00pm Mass

Readers: Linda Anderson, Linda Biondini

EMS: Janice Dyer, Evelyn Estrella, Tony Turegano

Ushers: Liz Ritchie, Beth Turegano

Greeters: Ron & Debra Ciarasso

8:30am Mass

Readers: Maureen Sheridan Scott, Maria Van Anne

EMS: Remie Alinas, Diane Cook, Dave Grundman

Ushers: Scott Crossen, Mary Thayer

Greeters: Alan & Caroline Kalaw

10:30am Mass

Readers: Fred Adam, Mary Denson

EMS: Jovita Bishop, Victoria Gregorio, Nora John

Ushers: Scott Morrical, Milagros Morrical

Greeters: Augustine Gonzalez, Sally Shami

One of the most beautiful and often overlooked "tidbits" in Catholic tradition is the meaning of the word **Eucharist**. It comes from the Greek *eucharistia*, which means **"thanksgiving"**

In the New Testament, Jesus is described as "giving thanks" before breaking bread at the Last Supper. This act of gratitude became the proper name for the Lord's Supper in the early Church. Over time, the term "Eucharist" came to refer not only to the bread and wine but also to the whole sacramental celebration — the Mass — in which the faithful give thanks to God for His presence, His gifts, and His ongoing grace.