

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 - 5:15

April 26, 2026

Fourth Sunday of Easter



The Good Shepherd

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: Sundays: 9:45-10:15am, Thu
1-1:30

Marriage: One year notice to the pastor.

Infant Baptism: 1 month notice. The
preparation session is today April 26th
3:30pm/Hall

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. 12:15-1:45pm.

Mass Schedule and Intentions for the Week

Sat/Apr 25 4pm Ints Charles McCollum

Sun/Apr 26 8:30am +Ambrosio Miguel

+ Luz de Dios

For the Church

Tue/Apr 28 12:15pm +Matthew Siu

Wed/Apr 29 8:15pm + Felix Rojas

Thu/Apr 30 12:15pm +Dennis Yates

Fri/May 1 8:15am Ints Nicholas Patrick

Sat/May 2 4pm Ints Nancy Kerrigan

Sun/May 3 8:30am For the Parish

10:30am + Josephine Reginato

Events in the Parish

Sun/Apr 26 1pm Welcoming Church

3:30pm Baptismal Prep/Hall

Wed/Apr 29 10am Finance Mtg/CI

12noon Potluck Luncheon/Hall

Sat/May 2 12 noon High Tea/Hall

Sun/May 3 4pm Sarah Hart Concert

Stewardship for April 18th & 19th Plate: \$4,435.

2nd Collection for Liability Insurance \$1,855.

Last Sunday Homily Highlights

- The disciples were broken hearted believing that Jesus was dead.
- Jesus appears to them and they listen to Him
- Emmaus was where they were escaping to.
- They recognized Jesus in the Breaking of the Bread and were excited about returning to Jerusalem and telling everyone about the good news,
- What “Good News do you tell to others about Jesus?”

Sunday Scripture Readings

Reading I: Acts of the Apostles 2:14a,36-41,

Reading II: 1 Peter 2:20b-25, Gospel: John 10:1-10.

Sunday Reflection

A shepherd once told me that sheep are completely helpless if they are unshorn, especially if they get turned on their back. Maybe you and I remember our childhood when we turned various insects on their back to watch them struggle and never achieve their proper legside down position—without help.

Another thing about sheep is their loyalty. It does shade into stupidity, the way they follow the shepherd without question. But there is something deeply symbolic of love if the shepherd is kind and careful with them.

History tells us that all the sheep were kept together in a big sheepfold where the various shepherds had brought their small herds down to Jerusalem. Without brands, without markings of any kind, how, you might ask, does each shepherd get back the sheep that belong to him or to his boss?

Well, first, the shepherd calls each of his flock by name. He has been with them on the

hillsides so that he knows just who each sheep is. The one with the nick in its ear, the one with the pretty face, the one that limps. There is a name for each one because they are not just a herd; each has a personality that is special, just like human beings.

And second, the sheep each recognize not only the name he calls them by, but the actual voice of the shepherd. It is a much loved sound to them. The one who flipped them back on their feet when he found them upside down. The one who protected them from wolves. The one who took them to fresh pastures when they had eaten the fields down to nubs. A stranger's voice could not have the gentle resonance of their own master and friend.

Alright, so why does Jesus use sheep imagery on the upcoming fourth Sunday of Easter? I suppose it is obvious but, if you will pardon the comparison, you and I are a lot like sheep. The shepherd calls us each by name—the utter God of the universe does this (of the galaxy, infinity, etc.). God is great enough that in Jesus he knows each and every one of us better than we know ourselves. The name he uses for each of us reaches way down into the full potential of our souls, calling us to be most truly who we are in ourself and in the Lord. An intimate recognition within each of us responds.

And, like the sheep, each of us knows by heart the sound of God's voice. Alright, we may misunderstand it, ignore it, resist it, slam all our gateways shut to it, but in our moments of sane and solitary wholeness our spirits know the sound of that voice. It resonates within us.

Whichever ones of us are free hearken and follow. The call is safe, in spite of wolves and wildness all around. The call lets our fear drop away, turns us right side up so that we can go follow our master and friend over rocks and even through dark valleys.

Often people insult the human race by calling it a bunch of sheep. But this Sunday, it is the greatest compliment we could get.

John B. Foley, S.J.

Discussion Question: When flocks were mingled together, each flock would recognize the sound of their own shepherd's voice and come to him, ignoring other shepherds' voices. Can you tell which "voice" in your life belongs to the Good Shepherd?

Sunday Family Connection Family Connection

Even though we have less experience with sheep and shepherds today in our society, we can still identify strongly with the image of Jesus as the Good Shepherd and as the gate for the sheep. Psalm 23 remains a popular and favorite psalm for prayer. In the image of the Good Shepherd, we know ourselves to be protected and cared for by a loving God.

As your family gathers, ask what each person knows about sheep and shepherds. Recall that shepherds and sheep have a close relationship. Sheep will only follow their own shepherd; they recognize his voice and will not follow a stranger. The shepherd's job is to protect his sheep. In some ways, the relationship between the shepherd and his sheep is like that of a parent and child.

Read together this Sunday's Gospel, John 10:1-10. Talk about how Jesus tells us that he is the gate for the sheep. The sheep enter the protection of the sheepfold through the gate. In Jesus we find protection and abundant life. Conclude by thanking Jesus for being our Good Shepherd and by praying today's psalm, Psalm 23.

Quote of the Week

"It is better to be a child of God than a king of the whole world"

St. Aloysius Gonzaga

Sunday, April 26th

9:30 am 2nd Year Confirmation Class/CL

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

After 10:30 am Mass May Crowning Practice

5 pm 1st Year Confirmation Class

*5 pm Class Catechesis of the Good Shepherd
L3/Atrium*

Tuesday, April 28th

*3:30 pm Catechesis of the Good Shepherd
L1/Atrium*

Wednesday, April 29th

3 pm 1st Year First Communion

3 pm 2nd Year First Communion

3 pm Catechesis of the Good Shepherd L3/Atrium

Sunday, May 3rd

9:30 am 2nd Year Confirmation Class/CL

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

After 10:30 am Mass May Crowning

*5 pm Class Catechesis of the Good Shepherd
L3/Atrium*



*Faith Formation Registration is open, p. 10
the QR code or packets are available at the
Formation table.*

***Night of Peace Tickets for Sarah Hart and
Francesca LaRosa are available for the May 3rd
Concert. A pasta dinner by Pasta King will be***

available after the concert. Stop by the formation table if you are interested in attending.

Email sesreled@gmail.com if you're interested in joining our ministry!

Please pray for the health intentions of:

Giovanna Desimone, Marcella Dorado, Jim Estrella, Nancy Keegan, Mary Piccioni, Jim Turegano

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

Please pray for the souls of John Clark and Claire Ribeiro and keep their families safe.

Potluck Luncheon

Where: Parish Hall

When: This Wednesday, April 29,

Time: Noon

Bring: A Main Entrée or a Dessert to share,

Looking forward to seeing you 29th. Jo, Larry & Linda



Poverello Fraternity Invites You to a Day of Reflection "St. Francis Brings Us to the Love of Jesus and life in



abundance; The rule is Love." Sunday, May 3rd, AT St. James Catholic Church (multi-use room) 125 Sonoma Mountain Parkway, Petaluma, CA 94954. 9:30 AM Check-in, 10am, Meditation on scripture. 10:30am Mass 11:45 potluck brunch- please bring something to share, drinks provided. 12:15 Sessions continue until 4pm.

TIME IS GROWING SHORT

Women's Guild Scholarship: Applications for the Women's Guild \$1000 scholarship are available in the office. All applications are due in by April 30th.

Hispanic Ministry Raffle: Tickets are on sale after Masses through May 3rd for \$20. The Raffle will be on May 10th for a treasury of \$200 in gift cards and a floral arrangement.

High Tea May 2nd: A few tickets remain for this festive event. \$25 per person. Please contact Giovanna Desimone for more information (707)953-7423

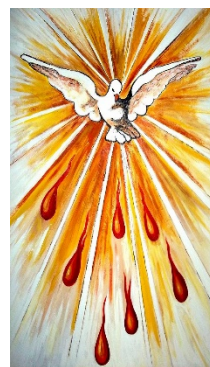
May Crowning May 3rd: All parishioners are invited to join us on May 3rd for our May Crowning at the 10:30am Mass. We are inviting families and their children to participate by attending a practice: Sunday, April 26th after 10:30am Mass, Tue. April 28th at 3:30 pm, and Wed. April 29th at 3pm. Practices will be 15-20 minutes. For more information contact Jennifer Bedoka sesreled@gmail.com.

Night of Peace Concert May 3rd at our church. Contact Jennifer Bedoka for tickets. sesreled@gmail.com. A pasta dinner by Pasta King will be available after the concert. Stop by the formation table if you are interested in attending.

Employment Opportunity under a new President, Cardinal Newman High School is looking for its next Principal/ administrative partner!

For more information visit the school page of www.srdiocese.org or email LNorcia@SRdiocese.org.

Blessings to our youth and adults who were confirmed with the Holy Spirit on Wednesday:



Carolyn Colyar, Carlos Esponzoa, Matthew Gomez, Maximiliano Mendez, Kimberly Mendoza, Kevin Douglas Miller, Melanie Norona, Emmanuel Ochoa Sanchez, Amalia Padilla Chavira, and Mateo Noe Ramirez who also made his First Holy Communion last Sunday.

In their Confirmation anointed with chrisom oil by Bishop Vasa, they received the fullness of the Holy spirit with the gifts of: wisdom, understanding, counsel,

fortitude, knowledge, piety, and awe of the Lord. Let us now see the fruits of the Holy Spirit working in them:

1. **Charity** is the essence of God's nature and the foundation of all virtues. It's selfless love in action. Try This: Volunteer at a local shelter or perform an act of service for someone without expecting anything in return.

2. **Joy** is more than just happiness; joy is spiritual gladness that persists even through difficulties. Try This: Start each morning by naming three blessings in your life, focusing on the gifts God has given you rather than what you lack.

3. **Peace** is internal tranquility regardless of external circumstances—a calm assurance of God's presence. Try This: When anxiety hits, take five minutes for centering prayer, focusing on a sacred word or phrase that brings you comfort.

4. **Patience** allows us to endure difficulties with grace and to bear with others' shortcomings. Try This: Choose one situation that regularly frustrates you (maybe a slow commute or a difficult person) and intentionally use it as an opportunity to practice patience.

5. **Kindness** shows concern for others' well-being through genuine compassion and care. Try This: Each day, perform one random act of kindness without anyone knowing it was you.

6. **Goodness** is the quality of being oriented toward virtue and righteousness in all things. Try This: Examine your entertainment choices—and find something that inspires goodness rather than desensitizing you to what's harmful.

7. **Generosity** goes beyond money to giving freely of our time, attention, and abilities. Try This: Look for someone in your community who could use help and offer your skills or resources without being asked.

8. **Gentleness** combines strength with tenderness—power used to heal rather than harm. Try This: Practice speaking words of affirmation to someone who's struggling,

remembering that gentleness can transform difficult conversations.

9. **Faithfulness** is loyalty to God and reliability in our commitments to others. Try This: Identify one spiritual practice you've neglected and commit to it daily for two weeks, even if just for a few minutes.

10. **Modesty** values humility and appropriate behavior, respecting the dignity of yourself and others. Try This: Practice giving credit to others when deserved and redirect praise toward the team rather than yourself.

11. **Self-Control** masters impulses and desires, helping us choose what's good over what's merely pleasurable. Try This: Choose one small thing to fast from this week (social media, complaining, unhealthy snacking) as a way to strengthen your self-discipline.

12. **Chastity** integrates sexuality within the person, respecting the gift of our bodies and others'. Try This: Reflect on how your relationships honor the dignity of each person and consider ways to grow in purity of heart and intention.

If we ask the Holy spirit to give these people the Fruits of the Holy Spirit...What about us who have been confirmed.

Pastor's Corner

A special thank you to our Youth Coordinator Jennifer Bedok, to Maria Van Anne the Confirmation catechist, and the team for all the hard work they have put into the Confirmation program and to those who prepared the dinner after Confirmation.

There are still a few Easter lilies for the taking and they are outside the back door.

The next AMA donors list comes out this Friday and the names of those who have recently given will be posted. Let us try to get at least 50% of the parish involved in this Annual Ministry Appeal.

Who would like to be an extraordinary minister to bring Holy Communion to the sick? We have two Ministers who bring Holy Communion to Cogir and Clearwater and three active ministers to bring Holy Communion to

the homes of those who do not get out. If they want Holy Communion every week, we need more volunteers to assist this important ministry to them.

Church kneelers: BANG! The church kneelers go down. Please be more careful when using the kneelers. There is so much banging during mass when people go down to use the kneelers. Just leave them down to communion time so people can get out of the pews.

Does anyone have 6 "plastic flower/plant pots. We need some before we transplant calla lilies down the south side of the driveway going out.

Ministry Schedule

May 2nd & 3rd

4pm Mass

Readers: Evelyn Estrella, Tony Sacramento

EMS: Gloria Bacani, Joanne Bishop, Beth Turegano

Ushers: Mark & Selina Johnson

Greeters: Luisa Bustillos, Debra Ciarasso

8:30am Mass

Readers: Phillip Alvarado, Liz Ritchie

EMS: Remie Alinas, John Buhagiar

Ushers: Gus & Liz Chang

Greeters: Alan & Caroline Kalaw

10:30am Mass

Readers: Fred Adam, Mary Denson

EMS: Jovita Bishop, Victoria Gregorio, Milagros Morrical

Ushers: Scott Ctossen, Sally Shami

Greeters: Fred & Janet Ada.

Want to advertise your business in the bulletin. Call the office

We have room for two or one of spacings below in the future for advertising at a reasonable rate!

