

St. Elizabeth Ann Seton Parish
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Office Hours: Tues. through Fri. 9am. - 1pm

Church doors open from 7:30am - 8pm.

July 27, 2025,
17th Sunday of 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 Madia/Chairperson, Linda Biondini/Vice Chairperson, Katie Chase, Larry Ruminson, Julie La Plante,

Sacraments and Devotions

Reconciliation: Sundays: 9:45-10:15am.

Marriage: One year notice to the pastor.

Infant Baptism: 1month notice. Next class Sun, Aug, 24th 1-3 pm,

Anointing of the Sick: Please call Fr. Tom.

The Rosary: ½ hr. before weekday Masses.

The Divine Chaplet: Tues. after noon Mass

Exposition-Benediction: Thurs. after noon Mass

Mass Schedule and Intentions

Sat/Jul. 26 4 Ints. of Tony & Beth Turegano

Sun/Jul. 27 8:30 For the People of the Parish

10:30 +Pat Balitbit

Tue/Jul. 29 12:15

Wed/Jul 30 8:15

Thu/Jul 31 12:15 + Veronica Garcia

Fri/Aug 1 8:15 Ints. of Bishop Vasa

Sat/Aug 2 4 Ints. of Charles McCollum

Sun/Aug. 3 8:30 People of the Parish

10:30 +Arturo Rico

Thoughts from last Sunday's Readings

- **Hospitality to Strangers:** In the first reading, Abraham welcomed three visitors. This showed the importance of being open and welcoming to others.

- **Service and Work:** The Gospel told the story of Martha and Mary. Martha's busy work and Mary's attentive listening showed different ways to serve Jesus.
- **Listening to Jesus:** Mary sat at Jesus' feet in the Gospel. This highlighted the importance of taking time to listen to Jesus' teachings.
- **Balance of Work and Prayer:** Martha and Mary show the need to balance work and prayer. Both are important in our faith journey.

Sunday Readings

Reading I: Genesis 18:20-32a

Reading II: Colossians 2:12-14

Gospel: Luke 11:1-13

**Father, hallowed be your name,
your kingdom come.**

**Give us each day our daily bread
and forgive us our sins**

**for we ourselves forgive everyone in debt to us,
and do not subject us to the final test."**

Ask, Ask, Ask, Ask In the Gospel Reading, Jesus teaches his disciples how to pray; he gives us the Lord's prayer.

The first thing to notice about the Lord's prayer is that it is full of petitions.

The first petition is that God's name would be hallowed. The second is that God's kingdom would come. The third is that God would give us our daily bread. And so on.

The Lord's prayer isn't just a litany of praise to God, then. It isn't just an expression of a pious wish that God's will be done. It isn't only a surrender of one's own will to God. Just look at the request for daily bread. It presents to God what we want God to give us. Having desires and presenting them to God are required by the Lord's prayer.

The second thing to notice is that people don't generally get what they ask for.

Ask and you will receive, the Lord says. But how many people around the world pray the Lord's prayer and go without food that day? And food is only the beginning. In every mass we ask God for healing: "Only say the word and my soul shall be healed." Then we lug our sinful, sick, and sorrowful souls around another day.

So here is the third thing to notice. Jesus doesn't promise that we will get the very thing we ask for. He says that if we ask, we will receive; but he doesn't mention what we will receive.

If you think about it, you can see the point. If a sick person could heal himself, he would be the doctor, not the patient. The patient's job is to want to get well. It is the doctor's job to figure out how to get him well.

In the same way, the Lord's prayer requires us to trust God enough to tell him what we want—over and over and over. Our job is to ask continually. God's job is to

figure out what to give us that will really fill us and heal us.

So, we might not get what we ask for. But as long as we keep asking, the Lord promises that we will receive—grace, pressed down, shaken together, running over, and gently given, from the God who loves us. Eleonore Stump

Discussion Questions: How do I trust in God when my prayers are not answered right away? How does the Lord's Prayer shape my relationship with God?

Family Connection to the Readings Today

When someone in our family is going through a hard time, we can't just sit by and watch. We try to do everything we can to let him or her know that he or she is not alone. Sometimes we even try to find a special gift for him or her, something that will help that person to understand how important he or she is to us. Talk about times in your family when this has happened.

Like a good father, God saw that his children needed help. He decided to offer his beloved children a special gift to reveal his love. What did God give us? Not a thing, but a person—the Father's beloved Son, Jesus. Jesus, in turn, taught us to approach God as we would approach a loving father. He gave us the words of a prayer that we call the Our Father, or the Lord's Prayer.

Read aloud Luke 11:1-13. Talk about how Jesus teaches us to be persistent in prayer. Think of times when family members were persistent about something until they were able to achieve a goal or receive what they sought. Talk about what it means to be persistent in prayer. Help your children understand that prayer is not like sitting on Santa Claus's lap, asking for what we want until we get it. Emphasize that prayer is a way of striving to recognize how God is reaching out to us in love and responding by presenting him with our needs.

Conclude this time together by joining hands and praying the Lord's Prayer.

Parish Stewardship for July 20: \$3,868, The Mission Appeal for our brothers and sisters in the Diocese of Kigoma: \$4,950. Fr. Joseph thanks you for your generosity.



In a joyful affirmation that the marriage of a man and woman is a pilgrimage of hope, the Bishops of California have

declared Saturday, July 26, 2025, the Jubilee of Marriage, to be celebrated as part of the Church's broader Pilgrims of Hope Jubilee Year. This special day honors married couples as "pilgrims of hope" and encourages those who aspire to the sacrament of marriage. They are a profound sign of hope for both the Church and the world.

Each California diocese commemorates the Jubilee of Marriage, encouraging opportunities for families to strengthen their marriages, deepen their faith, and

celebrate the blessings of married life. More information about diocesan celebrations and how to participate is available at cacatholic.org/marriage.

"The vocation of marriage is not only a personal covenant between a man and a woman, but a public witness to love, faith, and perseverance," said California Catholic Conference President, Bishop Oscar Cantú. "We invite all couples and families to participate in this day of joy, reflection, and service."

Families are encouraged to celebrate the Jubilee of Marriage in simple yet meaningful ways:

Pray Together

Seek the intercession of SS. Anne and Joachim, the parents of the Blessed Virgin Mary. Couples can also learn how to receive a plenary indulgence as part of this spiritual observance.

Share a Special Meal

Host a family dinner, look through wedding photos, and reflect on how your marriage has shaped your lives, your faith, and your family's journey.

Serve Together

Take part in a family service project that reflects the love at the heart of your marriage. Volunteering in your parish to help those in need, as well as participating in other worthwhile works of mercy, are powerful expressions of married and family love that overflow into society.

The Jubilee of Marriage marks the culmination of the California bishops' year-long Radiate Love campaign, a statewide movement dedicated to renewing and celebrating the sacrament of marriage. With 12 bishops united in mission, the campaign sparked widespread engagement – over 100,000 video views of bishop reflections, more than 1,000 email sign-ups, and thousands of in-person connections through prayer cards and events. Hundreds of parishes across California embraced the initiative with special prayers and blessings.

Radiate Love

A Prayer for Marriage Heavenly Father

We praise and thank you for your great gift of the Sacrament of Marriage.

Help all married couples witness to this beauty of a life of love, joy, patience and generous self-giving. Help families to exercise faithfulness and mercy to be one in heart, mind and body, accepting children lovingly as gifts from you.

Strengthen our love so it endures not only through the triumphs but also through the heartbreaks of married life. And bless our homes and our families so that others will see your generosity and faithfulness guiding our lives. Deepen our communion at home and with the Church

so that we may radiate love as a living sign of hope. We ask these blessings in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen

Faith Formation Ministry

Quote of the Week

*"Pray, Hope, and Don't worry."
(St. Pio of Pietrelcina)*

Is your child ready to receive Jesus?

Help your child prepare for Jesus by registering for our two year First Communion Preparation program on Wednesdays from 3-4:15 pm.

Your child will explore their Catholic faith through classes mixed with fun, crafts, learning, and prayer.

Your child can explore their faith through our Catechesis of the Good Shepherd program (Ages 3-6, 6-9, and 9-12) and contemplate who they are in their environment.

Registration forms are in the vestibule and in front of the office. Please turn in forms to the rummage drop off areas after mass or to the office. Email any questions to sesreled@gmail.com.

Registration closes August 10th.

Faith Formation Training

For Catechesis of the Good Shepherd

Faith Formation had our 1st week of toddler training for Catechesis of the Good Shepherd where we explored the spirituality and religious potential of the youngest child and to ponder the life of the family in relationship with God. We

would like to thank the Women's Guild, Hispanic Ministry, Filipino-American Ministry, Giovanna DeSimone and Fr. Tom for providing nourishment for our formation.



Sun. July 26: 5-7pm & Sun. July 27: 8-11:30am

sporting gear & memorabilia, toys, puzzles, crafts, housewares
kitchen items

Sat. Aug. 2: 5-7pm & Sun. 3: 8-11:30am.

bikes, exercise equipment, camping gear, wall art, books

Please join us for the July Potluck this Wednesday at noon



in the hall. Please bring an entrée or dessert to share.

Linda, Jo and Larry

The Men's Club Chicken Dinner on Saturday, August 2nd at 5:15

in the Church Hall. This will be a parish fundraiser therefore there will be a charge.

Tickets will be sold after the Masses.

Tickets will not be sold at the door.



You need a ticket for entry. Attendance will be limited to 150. **Cost: \$25 per person Children under 12 free**
Menu: ½ chicken, beans, coleslaw, bread, dessert.
There will be a 50/50 raffle and door prizes!

Please pray for our infirmed: Sherman Chan, Gus Chang, Mary Couto, Patrick Dempsey, John Diaz, Marcella Dorado, Louise Galassi, Dave Grundman, Theresa M, Nancy Keegan, Patricia Lauterjung, Kelly Limberg, Frank Manhoso, Larry Ng, Robert Perrill, Mary Piccioni, Robert Scarpone, Dominique and Cecilia Tarrant, Jessica Thompson, Malik Whitehorse, and Janice Wright. If you want a name on the list, please call the office. We thank the prayer group for praying for these intentions.

Please pray for the soul of Pat Balitbit and keep her family in your prayers.



Grace

The Catholic teaching on grace emphasizes that grace is a free and unmerited gift from God that plays a crucial role in salvation and the believer's relationship with God. Key points include:

Types of Grace: There are two main types of grace: sanctifying grace, which enables believers to live a holy life, and actual grace, which provides assistance for specific actions.

Religious education has taught generations of Catholics that grace is a free gift of God's favor. It is received through the sacraments and makes our salvation possible. Unfortunately, this popular conception of what grace is is sometimes misconstrued, presenting grace as a commodity rather than a reality experienced in our lives. From this view, "receiving grace" through the sacraments may be interpreted as getting more grace, as if sacraments were transactions imparting a quantifiable spiritual good.

These transactional descriptions of grace tend to portray sin and grace as competing entities on the spiritual side of our existence. The souls of holy persons are full of grace, these depictions suggest, while the souls of unrepentant sinners are so stained by sin that grace can find no home.

For those of us caught somewhere in the middle, venial sins diminish and sacraments increase our souls' stores of grace. Avoiding mortal sin is of paramount importance because such acts sap the soul's supply of grace, thereby fracturing our relationship with God. Father Thomas O'Meara describes this way of thinking as "grace as the electric company." Sacraments give us grace (the lights come on), we sin and lose grace (the lights go out), and sacramental confession and forgiveness cleanse sin and restore grace (the lights come on again). This framework was particularly influential in the church before Vatican II and continues to persist in the minds of many Catholics.

Father James Keenan, writing about the anxieties of his own Catholic childhood, reveals the limits of this transactional model. According to the electric company model of grace, if a person neglects to confess a significant sin, its stain remains and grace cannot refill the soul. If he or she then forgets the unconfessed sin, believing it absolved, the stain of that sin remains on the soul indefinitely, thereby making impossible a direct ascent to life in heaven after death. Luckily, it would seem, a postmortem layover in purgatory could eventually provide the necessary soul cleansing. However, beyond the personal spiritual anxiety this transactional view can induce, it also problematically distorts the Catholic sacramental system. Sacraments, as it turns out, do not convey certain quantities of grace on the soul so much as they enliven us to the very conditions of our existence.

While grace is a free gift from God, Father Michael Himes reminds us, God has nothing other to give nor wants anything other to give than the gift of God's self. This gift is most profoundly realized in Jesus Christ's incarnation and is repeated and made new in every sacramental moment.

Because God is love, grace is a gift of love that invites us into relationship with God, the source of our existence. When we speak of loving more or less, we don't refer to quantities but to the quality and strength of our relationships. Sacraments, then, are not transactions of a spiritual commodity but relational encounters in which the God who created us out of love, for love, and in order to love us offers us the divine gift of self-giving love: grace.

US Catholic Publications

Ministry Schedule July 26th & 27th

4pm. Mass

Readers: Evelyn Estrella, Heigi Pillor

EMS: Gloria Bacani, Luisa Bustillos, Bill Yates

Ushers: Janice Dyer, Dianne Foppoli

Greeters: Pat Yates, Olivia Salazar

8:30 am Mass

Readers: Phillip Alvarado, Liz Ritchie

EMS: Remie Alinas, Patty Ramos, Diane Cook

Ushers: Barry Goff, Mary Thayer

Greeters: Larry & Jo Ruminson

10:30 am Mass

Readers: Marie Horwitz, Scott Morrical

EMS: Lorraine Datu, Julie LaPlante, Nativity Mata

Ushers: Nativity Mata, Mila Morrical

Greeters: Julie La Plante, Lorraine Datu

Ministry Schedule Aug. 2nd & 3rd

4pm. Mass

Readers: Tony Madia, Heigi Pillor

EMS: Evelyn Estrella, Beth Turegano, Dianne Foppoli

Ushers: Janice Dyer, Dianne Follppoli

Greeters: Tony & Julie Piazza

8:30 am Mass

Readers: Maureen Sheridan Scott, Liz Ritchie

EMS: Dave Grundman, Patty Ramos, Mary Thayer

Ushers: Diane Cook, Mary Thayer

Greeters: Patty Ramos

10:30 am Mass

Readers: Linda Biondini, Scott Morrical

EMS: Julie LaPlante, Jovita Bishop, Mila Morrical

Ushers: Lorraine Datu, Mila Morrical

Greeters: Fred & Janet Adam

Pastor's Corner

I want to thank Marie Felis for the flowers for the sanctuary.

...Richard Bohan for helping with the landscaping along with Tony Turegano, David Grundman and his friend Neil.

I will be away this Sunday afternoon through Wednesday morning working on another wedding out of state. We will have Mass on Tues. and Wed, with Fr. Christopher.

