

# September 3, 2017- Twenty-Second Sunday in Ordinary Time



## Does God want us to be happy?

How could anyone answer 'no'?  
How could anyone suppose God is loving if it is not true that he wants

us to be happy? Yet look at Christ's line in the Gospel. Deny yourself, Jesus tells his faithful followers; take up your cross and follow me.

Denying yourself seems the opposite of going for happiness, doesn't it? And the cross is an instrument of torture. Why would God want these things for his people? Does God want us to be unhappy?

A man divorcing his wife to marry a much younger, prettier woman explained his decision to his devastated wife this way: "God wants me to be happy," he told her, "and I can't be happy with you. I will be happy with her."

It seems never to have crossed the mind of this man that God might have any care for the happiness of his wife. As far as his wife was concerned, the husband's full view of the matter could be put this way: "God wants me to be happy, but God doesn't care about you."

This little story is common in its selfishness. Whether it is these familiar evils or the terrible shocking evils we see in the news, these evils show us the sickness of the post-fall human condition. We are willing to privilege our own power or pleasure over any greater goods, even at the cost of cruelty to others.

We can't be happy in this condition. **No one can be happy whose heart has deep within it a willingness to crush others to get what he wants.** Well, then, what is to be done with us? What will make us happy? What will save us from the evil that infects us and leaves us so willing to afflict others?

This is where Christ's cross comes into the story. Christ is the Way, the Truth, and the Life. (Jn 14:6) The cross of Christ is our only route to the happiness God does want for us.

Taking up our cross with Christ is healing for our sinful condition. It is the way to life, and joy.

Eleonore Stump

**Question:** You cannot take your money and possessions with you when you die. If you "lose your life" in love for others, does that give **you something to take with you?**

## Readings for this Sunday

Reading I: Jeremiah 20:7-9

Reading II: Romans 12:1-2

Gospel: Matthew 16:21-27

## Mass Schedule and Intentions this Week

Sat. Sept. 2 <sup>nd</sup>	5:00 pm	+ Pedro Palomares
Sun. Sept. 3 <sup>rd</sup>	8:30 am	+ Dante Panfiglio
	10:30 am	For the Parish
Tue. Sept. 5 <sup>th</sup>	8:30 am	+ Margaret Clifford
Wed. Sept. 6 <sup>th</sup>	8:30 am	+ Liam English
Thu. Sept. 7 <sup>th</sup>	8:30 am	+ Tom Nayder
Fri. Sept. 8 <sup>th</sup>	8:30 am	+ Kevin, Mark & Robert Mendoza
Sat. Sept. 9 <sup>th</sup>	5:00 am	Sister Provi Frassinello
Sun. Sept. 10 <sup>th</sup>	8:30 am	Special Intention
	10:30 am	For the Parish

## CALLED TO BE FAITHFUL STEWARDS

### Summary of Offerings for the Month of August

August 5 & 6	\$5,282.00
August 12 & 13	\$2,797.00
Assumption 15	\$ 606.00
August 19 & 20	\$2,778.00
August 26 & 25	\$3,494.00
Assumption 15	\$ 606.00
Peter's Pence collection	\$1,193.00
Thank You!	

### Next Sunday's 2<sup>nd</sup> Collection, Sept. 10<sup>th</sup>, is for the Formation and Education of our Future Priests.

Without the priest, there is no Eucharist and without the Eucharist, there is no Church. We could rightly add that there would also be no Sacrament of Reconciliation and no Anointing of the Sick. Thus, the recruiting and training of young men to serve in our Diocese as priests is essential for our Catholic future.

Preparing men for ordination is a lengthy and costly process, and we cannot rely on grants and the Annual Ministry Appeal to cover the entire cost. The costs may exceed \$30,000 per year per seminarian. This is an investment in the future of our Diocesan Church. While this Collection does not generate sufficient funds to pay for all our seminarians it does supplement the budget. Please contribute to this collection so that we may be able to support our seminarians as they continue their studies for the priesthood. You may want to pray and write to them.

College Seminary, **St. Gregory the Great Seminary**, 800 Fletcher Road, Seward, Nebraska 68434-8145: Christopher Girolo, Jacob Gunderson, Daniel Muniz & Mauricio Rodriguez.  
Graduate Seminary, St Patrick's Seminary, 320 Middlefield Rd., Menlo Park, CA 94025: John Plass & Thomas Stuart. **Pontifical North American College**, Vatican City, Europe 00120: Gabriel Sanchez.

**Special 2<sup>nd</sup> Collection on Sept 17th for Hurricane Harvey Relief.**

**Parish Events this Week**

Sun. Sept. 3, 10:30 am Mass Liturgy of the Word for Children  
 Tue. Sept. 5, 7:30 pm Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament  
 Fri. Sept. 8, 5:30 pm Charismatic Prayer Group

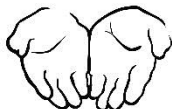
**Upcoming Events**

**Come join us for coffee, juice and doughnuts** after the Sunday morning Mass today in the large classroom down the hall.



**The Ministry Faire** will take place next **Saturday, September 9th, and Sunday, September 10th** in the Parish Hall, after all the Masses. Many of our current ministries need volunteers - just like you - to assist in their ministry work. **YOU CAN make a difference!**

Stop by the Ministry Faire, learn more about all the ministries of our active parish, enjoy refreshments sponsored by the Women's Guild, and maybe win a door prize!



**39<sup>th</sup> Annual Carmelite Benefit Dinner** The Benefit Dinner will be held next Sunday, **September 10, 2017**; hosted at the Carmelite House of Prayer, 20 Mount Carmel Dr., Oakville; from 2-6 pm. A buffet style dinner with BBQ Tri-tip and Chicken, homemade salads, savory beans, wine cake;



Sciambra Bread with excellent Napa Valley Wine on the table. Live Entertainment; silent and live auction featuring gift items and exemptional Napa Valley Wines. Door prizes. Raffle tickets with a chance to win a wine refrigerator fully stocked with Napa Valley premium wines; 1<sup>st</sup> prize, \$2,000; 2<sup>nd</sup> prize \$1,000; 3<sup>rd</sup> prize \$500; 4<sup>th</sup> prize \$250; 5<sup>th</sup> & 6<sup>th</sup> prize, \$125. Children 12 and under, free hot dog dinner. Tickets purchased at the door \$60.



**Catholic Cursillo Movement** Want a Catholic friend? Come join us. Develop friendships, enjoy singing and fellowship, hear how other Catholics are living their life of holiness and pray as a group before the Blessed Sacrament. Fellowship gatherings of Catholics are held generally twice a month in Santa Rosa and Rohnert Park. Catholic Cursillo is a movement within the Catholic Church based on friendship. We would love to be your friend. Wed. **Sept. 6<sup>th</sup> 6-8 pm** - St. Eugene's, Santa Rosa

**Sat. Sept. 16<sup>th</sup> 2-4 pm** - St. Elizabeth Seton. For further information, call Debbie Simonson in Petaluma at 904-463-1070 or Priscilla Silvey in Napa at 707-567-7957. Our website is: <http://www.catholiccursillomovementofsantarosa.com/>

**Join the Filipino-American Society as they pray the Rosary** every 13<sup>th</sup> of the month in honor of the 100<sup>th</sup> year celebration of Our Blessed Mother's apparition in Fatima. The next rosary is scheduled for Wednesday, **September 13<sup>th</sup> at 8 am (before the 8:30 am Mass).**



**Circle your calendars for a POLENTA FEED**



sponsored by our Knights of Columbus on Oct 28<sup>th</sup> at St. Elizabeth Seton Parish Hall at 6:30 pm: polenta, green salad, rolls butter, dessert. Children 7 & under (free); 8-12 \$7; 13 & over full price \$15.00. Tickets on

sale soon!

**Pastor's Corner**

**Beginning on Monday, Sept 11<sup>th</sup>** we will have morning Mass on Mondays, Wednesdays, Thursdays, Fridays and Saturday at 8:30 am. The rosary will be prayed at 8:05 am before the Saturday morning Mass with Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament, Confessions, and Benediction for ½ hour after Mass.

Tuesday's Mass will be in the evening at ????. Only two people have suggested a time, one asked for 6:30 pm and the other person for 7 pm.

After the Tuesday Mass we will have Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament, Confessions, and Benediction for an hour.

We will no longer have confessions on the second and fourth Saturdays at 4 pm.

**Humor:** God looks down and notices that Adam is all alone while all the animals have companions, so he decides to create a companion for man as well. He comes to see Adam and says to him, "Adam, you are my greatest creation and therefore, I am going to create for you the ultimate companion. She will worship the very ground you walk on, she will long for you and no other, she will be highly intelligent, she will wait on you hand and foot and obey your every command, she will be beautiful, and all it will cost you is an arm and a leg." Thinking for a few moments, Adam replies, "What could I get for a rib?"



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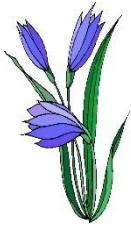
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# St. Elizabeth Seton Catholic Church

4595 Snyder Lane Rohnert Park, CA 94928

**Twenty-Second Sunday in Ordinary Time - September 3, 2017**



*"Faith lifts the soul,  
hope supports it,  
experience says it must  
and Love says...  
let it be!"*

St. Elizabeth Ann Seton

## Parish Staff

Rev. Thomas K. Diaz, Pastor  
Joe Olsen, Deacon Phone: 536-7332  
Karen Panfiglio, Secretary  
Mary Thayer, Secretary  
Cynthia Lusk, Bookkeeper  
Stephanie Bodi, Parish Council President  
Char Mayclin, Religious Education  
Robert Ito, Youth Ministry

## Mass Schedule:

**Saturday: 8:30 am. & 5 p.m. (vigil)**

**Sunday: 8:30 & 10:30 a.m.**

**Weekdays: Tuesday-Friday 8:30 a.m.**

## Office Information:

Hours: Monday-Friday 9:00 a.m.-1:30 p.m.  
Phone: (707) 585-3708  
FAX: (707) 585-1201  
Website: Email: [stelizseton@sbcglobal.net](mailto:stelizseton@sbcglobal.net)  
Religious Education Office: (707) 585-8821  
Youth Ministry Office: (707) 585-2905

## Sacramental Preparation:

Baptism: 1-month notice before Infant/child  
Baptism for preparation class. Please  
contact Deacon Joe  
Marriage: 6-months' notice. Please contact  
Fr. Tom or Deacon Joe  
Reconciliation: By appointment with  
Fr. Tom  
Anointing of the Sick: Please contact  
Fr. Tom  
Confirmation: Please contact Char at the  
Religious Education Office

## **St. Elizabeth Seton Parish Mission Statement**

We, the people of St. Elizabeth Seton Parish, as a community united in the spirit of Christ, are called to grow in our relationship with Him to proclaim His Gospel and to serve the needs of others. We are striving to become a more worshipping, loving, welcoming, and serving faith community.