

St. Elizabeth Seton Church



4595 Snyder Lane
Rohnert Park, CA 94928
(707) 585-3708 (*phone*)
(707) 585-1201 (*fax*)

**Second Sunday of
Advent
December 6, 2009**

PARISH STAFF

Father John Griffin.....Pastor
Karen Panfiglio & Mary Thayer Parish Secretaries
Mary Grubb..... Bookkeeper
Father John Griffin.....RCIA Catechumenate
Char Mayclin Pastoral Ministry Leader
Tony Sacramento.....Diocesan Pastoral Council Rep.
Alicia Slaugh..... Religious Education
Michael Cresta Senior Youth Director
Liz Ritchie.....Junior Youth Group Director
Char MayclinParish Council President
John & Diane Lisciandro..... Charismatic Prayer

MASSES

Tuesday to Friday

8:30 am

Saturday

5:00 pm

Sunday

8:30 am & 10:30 am

Office Hours

Monday to Friday

9:00 am to 12:00 pm

Website: www.st-elizabeth-seton.com

Email: stelizseton@sbcglobal.net

Religious Education Offices

Call and leave message: 585-8821

Youth Group Office: 585-2905

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION (CONFESSION)

Second and Fourth Saturdays of the month
at 4:00pm in the Church or by appointment.

BAPTISM & MARRIAGE

Parish policies for Baptism and Marriage
are available on the table in the
Gathering Area and at the parish office.
Please call the office for appointments.

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 others. We are striving to become a worshipping, loving, welcoming and serving faith community.

SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT
DECEMBER 6, 2009

Pastor's note: Our Advent Retreat earlier this week was well attended and my thanks to Fr. Tom Allender S.J. for his inspirational presentations.

My appreciation too to Gloria Fahy and her family for all their support during Fr. Tom's visit. We have already engaged him for the first week of Advent 2010, and it appears that he will arrange his talks around the theme of the Blessed Eucharist. It is good to see that we have visitors from other local parishes who come each year to hear him speak.



Our next session of the Advent Series, entitled "Christmas Journey," will be held on Thursday evening, Dec. 10th, @ 7:00 pm in one of the classrooms. The focus of this presentation by Fr. Michael Himes is "The Second Coming is Now." This largely DVD presentation, has many clever insights which Fr. Himes puts forward in an interesting manner.

I bring to your attention that the **Joint Penance Service** for Christmas will be conducted at St. Joseph Parish Cotati on **Tuesday evening, December 15th, 2009, @ 7:00 pm.** There are usually several priests present who assist with the reception of the Sacrament of Reconciliation.

Fr. John

P. S. Masses on **Tuesday, December 8th, 2009, Feast of the Immaculate Conception** are at 8:30 am & 7:30 pm.

The Second Offering next weekend, December 12th & 13th, will be for the benefit of the "**Religious Retirement Fund.**"

December 6, 2009 – Second Sunday in Advent
Spiritual Reflection

In today's readings we hear four voices encouraging people to imagine a good future that God has in store for them. They all invite us to imagine the best and then act accordingly.

In the first reading the prophet asks the people to change their wardrobe – to throw away the dress of sorrow and distress and wrap the cloak of God's integrity around them. Things are going to look up, they should be dressed appropriately and have courage again in the future. So, too, the psalmist asks people to imagine a time when they will no longer be in bondage sowing in tears, but will return full of joy carrying a harvest of goods.

In his letter to the Philippians, Paul takes a similar line. He compliments the people for helping him in his work, tells them how much he loves them, and invites them to prepare for that day "when you will reach perfect goodness." Finally, John the Baptist in the Gospel story is travelling around the Jordan district announcing to anyone within earshot the great day to come when "all mankind shall see the salvation of God."

None of these voices assaults people with the bare truth, which could serve only to deepen their helplessness. At the heart of them all is the voice of hope which encourages people to change their ways and grow because good things will come of it. People are invited to imagine the best there is in God and in themselves and give that best the opportunity to take charge of their lives.

SCRIP for Christmas

- Remember **SCRIP** for all of your holiday shopping; grocery
- items, purchasing gifts, gift cards or a dinner out. Purchase
- early at all Masses and during office hours or email
- rclblais@comcast.net (with SCRIP in the subject line) or by
- phone at 585-7853. **The last SCRIP order is on December 13th.**



Immaculate Conception
Tuesday, December 8th, 2009

A Holy Day of Obligation,
Masses are at 8:30 a.m. and 7:30 p.m.

Diocese of Santa Rosa, Chancery Office

December 2009

My Dear People,

In the Gospel of Matthew, Jesus instructs us to make our faith visible so that others will be led to God: *“Just so, your light must shine before others, that they may see your good deeds and glorify your heavenly Father”* (Mt. 5:16). Women and men religious heed this call by their witness to gospel values and their commitment to serving those around them. Through their ministries, religious have founded Catholic schools and hospitals and launched initiatives that support the neediest among us. In our often troubled world, they remain a visible sign of Christ’s love.

Throughout their lives, women and men religious invest in faith and the future of others, usually with little concern for themselves. Today, many are frail, elderly, and in need of assistance. Often their religious institutes struggle to provide adequate care. The current economic downturn, which has affected so many people, also impacts elderly religious.

Our Diocese will be holding the annual appeal for the **Retirement Fund for Religious on December 12th and 13th, 2009**. This fund furnishes immediate support again religious and helps their religious institutes implement long-term retirement strategies. Through the ongoing generosity of Catholics to this collection, many religious institutes have been able to seed and stabilize retirement savings. Others have collaborated in creating elder care solutions that benefit senior religious while serving the wider community. Half of this collection will be used to help fund the needs of our retired Diocesan priests.

I understand that times are challenging and many of you face increased financial burdens. I ask you simply to let your own light shine and give what you can. Most importantly, please pray for all religious, that they may continue to be beacons of faith and hope who lead others to Christ.

Assuring you of my prayers, I am

Your Brother and Servant in the Lord,

Most Reverend Daniel F. Walsh, Bishop of Santa Rosa

CONFIRMATION 2010
Beginning January 5, 2010

The SES Confirmation Team Leaders, Ed Charbonneau and Maricclair O'Connell have put together the SES Confirmation class schedule for 2010. Classes will begin on January 5, 2010, at 7pm with the first meeting to be held in the Cry Room adjacent to the Church. We ask that at least one parent attend this first meeting with their Candidate. The Confirmation Mass is scheduled for Saturday, May 1st, 2010, at the 5pm Mass. We are expecting to limit the class to registered parishioners and, to avoid any confusion, your student must be a Sophomore (10th grade) or Junior (11th) at least 15 years old. We would appreciate it if you could forward an email to Maricclair at mcoc@sonic.net with the name and age of your student, address and high school he/she attends; or you can leave a message at 318-3919 at your earliest convenience. We will forward to you Registration and Sponsor forms, preferably by email, so you can bring them with you to the first class or drop them off at the Church office.

Christmas Eve Family Mass

Children of St. Elizabeth Seton parish may participate in the celebration of Christmas Mass on December 24. Students may sing in the choir, act in the Nativity play, act as a greeter or be a reader of the Word. Sign up sheets are available in the gathering area of the Church.



Living Spirit Music on CD



To help the debt reduction fund, **Thuy Griesser, Brook Norris, and Living Spirit Choir** have produced a CD of original Christian music to share with the community. We hope that this music will be an inspiration to you and your families and that it will inspire you to go out and share the Living Spirit of God with all people. **All of the profit from CDs sold at the Church goes to our debt reduction fund.** We hope that you will buy one (or more) to help our church and to share with others.

Mass Intentions
December 8 – 13, 2009

Tuesday	December 8, 2009	8:30 am	Concepcion Bethany, dec.
Wednesday	December 9, 2009	8:30 am	Thom Robertson, dec.
Thursday	December 10, 2009	8:30 am	Barbara Seyms, dec.
Friday	December 11, 2009	8:30 am	Patricia Clemons, dec.
Saturday	December 12, 2009	5:00 pm	Carol Archbold, dec
Sunday	December 13, 2009	8:30 am	Lani LaBadie, dec.
Sunday	December 13, 2009	10:30 am	Capurro Family, dec.

St. Joseph Catholic Church Advent Parish Mission

Sunday, December 6, thru Wednesday, December 9, 2009.

Fr. Michael Sears will conduct Masses, healing services, and confessions. For more information, contact St. Joseph Church, 795-4807.

The Giving Tree

The "***Giving Tree***" is in the gathering area of the church. It holds ornaments that describe a child or youth of a needy family in our area. Take an ornament, purchase a gift/gift card, and place your unwrapped gift with the tag attached under the tree before December 16th. The Youth Groups will wrap the gifts that volunteers, organized by the St. Vincent DePaul Society, will deliver. **Please help us help our neighbors!**



An Advent and Christmas Journey

Thursday, December 3rd & Thursday, December 10th @ 7:00 p.m.



Spend one hour a week taking an in-depth look at the spirituality and theology of Advent and Christmas. Each week participants will watch and listen to Boston College theologian Fr. Michael Himes share his insights on a DVD. There will then be time for discussion, conversation, reflection and prayer. The first session

Dec. 3rd, will be entitled "Hope in the Darkness," and on Dec. 10th, the program is entitled "The Second Coming is Now." These sessions will be held at St. Elizabeth Seton Church.

**CALLED TO BE FAITHFUL STEWARDS
OF THE LORD'S BLESSINGS**

Summary of Offerings for the Month of
November 2009

Plate Offering:

October 31 & November 1	\$3,206.00
November 7 & 8	\$4,281.00
November 14 & 15	\$2,801.00
November 21 & 22	\$2,461.00
November 28 & 29	\$3,537.51
All Souls	\$1,083.00
All Saints	\$ 957.00
Campaign for Human Development	\$1,358.00
SCRIP for the Month of November	\$ 244.95

THANK YOU!
**Please Remember St. Elizabeth Seton in your
Will and Living Trust.**

Third Sunday of Advent

Zep 3:14-18a

Phil 4:4-7

Luke 3:10-18

Second Offering

Next weekend, **December
12 and 13** there will be a
second offering for the
Retirement Fund for
Religious.



Joint Penance
Service @ St.
Joseph's
Church Tues-
day, Dec. 15 @
7:00 p.m.

Liturgical Musicians

December 8 and 12 and 13

Dec. 8

Tuesday
7:30pm Mass
Linda/small
group

Dec. 12

Saturday
5:00pm
Living Spirit

Dec 13

Sunday
8:30AM
Crystal/Mariclair
10:30 AM
SES Choir



Parish Envelopes

St. Elizabeth Seton Parish envelopes for **2010**
are now available in the gathering area.

R & S Lawn Care
Stan Ottolini and Roman Enriquez
(Two College Students for Hire)

Cell: (707) 548-6312
Home: (707) 206-0855
Lawn Care, Hauling Green Waste, Weeding,
Yard Clean up,
Odd Jobs
(Reasonable Rates)