

**Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time
February 16, 2020**

What eye has not seen, and ear has not heard, and what has not entered the human heart, what God has prepared for those who love him, this God has revealed to us through the Spirit.
— 1 Corinthians 2:9-10



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CHOICE

“If you choose you can keep the commandments,” Sirach tells us. God “has set before you fire and water; to whichever you choose, stretch forth your hand” (Sirach 15:15, 16). This is a great mystery: God does not control us so completely that we cannot choose our own path. We have certain boundaries, of course, but no one but we can choose our way within those boundaries.

In today’s reading from Matthew’s Gospel, Jesus reminds us of our freedom and our responsibility for our lives. He calls us to look beyond the words of the commandments, all the way to their meaning. Look beyond the adultery to the selfishness that poisons our love. Look beyond the murder to the anger that eats away at our compassion. Look beyond the perjured testimony to the lies and deception that drive our behavior.

Our vocation is to choose life for ourselves, and to choose a path through our part of the world that helps make life possible and more abundant for others as well.

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TODAY’S READINGS

First Reading — God allows us to make choices, but we are not to choose injustice or sinfulness (Sirach 15:15-20).

Psalm — Blessed are they who follow the law of the Lord! (Psalm 119).

Second Reading — God’s wisdom is mysterious and hidden (1 Corinthians 2:6-10).

Gospel — Jesus has come not to abolish but to fulfill the law and the prophets (Matthew 5:17-37 [20-22a, 27-28, 33-34a, 37]).

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MASS INTENTIONS

Monday 8:00 am	February 17 † Ray Garibaldi
Tuesday 8:00 am	February 18 † Nilda Benalizo
Wednesday 8:00 am 7:00 pm	February 19 Communal Service † Ines B. Martin † Jovito I. Cruz † Annie Cruz
Thursday 8:00 am	February 20 † Carmen Spiteri † Tessa Lencioni
Friday 8:00 am	February 21 † Krista Budesa
Saturday 8:00 am 4:30 pm	February 22 † Minviluz Nacor † Jeanne Walsh
Sunday 7:30 am 9:30 am 11:30 am	February 23 People of the Parish Italian Catholic Federation † Rita and † Stan Tanner

†Denotes deceased – (L) Living

For any available Masses listed above please see the priest before Mass with your written intention and stipend.

Sunday Collection February 9, 2020

Weekly Need:	\$ 5,000.00
Sunday Collection	\$ 4,925.00
Over/Under	\$ 75.00
Annual Appeal	\$ 887.00

If you make your offertory donation by check, without using parishioner envelopes, it would be most helpful if you placed your parishioner/envelope # in the “memo” section of the check. This helps us input your donation to the offertory data system.
We will not be responsible for donations not credited due to missing envelope numbers (or not having a Sunday collection envelope.)

Marriage Help – Retrouvaille (pronounced retro-vi) has helped thousands of couples at all stages of disillusionment or misery in their marriage. For confidential information about, or to register for the program on February 28- March 1 call (415) 893-1005 or email: sf@retroca.com or visit www.HelpOurMarriage.org

The Archdiocese of San Francisco, continues with **FORMED**, partnering with Ignatius Press, is currently available at St. Elizabeth Parish. Registration is free.

Through **Form on Demand**, you have access to a vast library of regularly updated films, talks, eBooks, and audio dramas, all of which will enrich your faith!
Register at stelizabethsf.formed.org

LITURGY AND ILLNESS

Please be aware that the obligation to attend Sunday Mass does not apply to those who are ill, especially those who suffer from contagious disease. It is a sign of consideration for others that those with flu like symptoms remain at home. For the convenience of those who are homebound, or unable to attend Mass because of illness or infirmity, Mass is broadcast each Sunday morning at 6:00 am on Channels 8, 20 (Comcast), KTSF 26.

On Saturday February 22nd at 10:00 am the Religious Education students will make their first Reconciliation.

The Parish office will be closed on Monday, **February 17th** in observance Presidents Day.



As in the past, the following regulations are in place for abstaining and fasting during Lent:

Abstinence : Everyone fourteen years of age and older is bound to abstain from meat on Ash Wednesday, the Fridays of Lent and Good Friday.

Fast: Everyone eighteen years of age and older but under the age of sixty is bound to fast on Ash Wednesday and Good Friday. On these two days, the law of fast allows one full meal a day, but does not prohibit taking some food during the day, so long as this does not constitute another full meal. Drinking liquids during the day is permitted. When health or the ability to work would be seriously affected, the law does not oblige. In doubt concerning fast or abstinence, a priest assigned to pastoral ministry or confessor should be consulted. In the spirit of penance, the faithful should not lightly excuse themselves from this obligation.

Last Years Palms

Please return your holy palms to the rectory or bring them to church. The collected palms will be burned and the ashes used for the Ash Wednesday service. Since the palms have been blessed and therefore holy objects. They should not be thrown away.

Ash Wednesday Is February 26th

