

Disciples Stewards

St. Elizabeth Catholic Church & School

Granite City, Illinois ♦ Diocese of Springfield in Illinois

Third Sunday of Advent ♦ December 11, 2022



Rejoice. The coming of the Lord is at hand.

On Gaudete Sunday we rejoice with all the earth in anticipation and preparation for Jesus' birth and the coming of his kingdom. We, like John the Baptist, are blessed and included in the kingdom of heaven, not because of what we do but what Jesus does for us.

In the first reading, Isaiah describes how the earth will rejoice when the Lord comes to save his people. In the second reading, James encourages patient hearts, for the return of the Lord is at hand. In the Gospel, Jesus praises John the Baptist as God's messenger and assures John's disciples that he is the one John has been seeking.


2300 Pontoon Road
Granite City, IL 62040


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Fax 618-877-9800


After-Hours Emergencies
314-266-8387

Web: stelizabethgc.org

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PASTORAL STAFF

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Office x1002 | Residence x1201
pastor@stelizabethgc.org

Deacon Michael Halbrook
Faith Formation & Liturgy
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Bret Ware
Parish Secretary & Office Admin
secretary@stelizabethgc.org

Jackie Jones, Bookkeeper
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Cathy Cassy, Director of Music

SCHOOL & PRE-SCHOOL

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School Fax: (618) 877-3352

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mwilliams@stelizabethgc.org

Loretta Joyce, School Secretary
ljoyce@stelizabethgc.org

CALVARY CATHOLIC CEMETERY

2910 S. State Route 157
Edwardsville, IL
(618) 656-5464

ORGANIZATIONAL LEADERS

Finance Council: Charlotte Charbonnier

School Board: Adam Meyenburg

Parent/Teacher Org.: Shelly Perich

Ladies Sodality: Tammi Mooshegian

Holy Name Men's Club: Rob Hutson

Men at Prayer: Tom Cholevik

Funeral Dinners: Pam Ames

Athletic Director: Matt Schwendemann

Maintenance Team: Bud Charbonnier

**Strong in Faith
since 1871**

Saint Elizabeth of Hungary, pray for us.

PARISH MISSION STATEMENT

As the Roman Catholic parish of St. Elizabeth, striving to become saints, we commit ourselves to the discipleship and stewardship way of life as commanded by Jesus Christ and revealed by Sacred Scripture and Tradition. We are committed to implementing the Four Pillars of Discipleship and Stewardship of our diocese:

Hospitality: To maintain a warm and welcoming environment, and invite others to join us in prayer, especially Sunday Mass;

Prayer: To journey the path to Heaven together through celebration of the sacraments and ever-deepening lives of prayer;

Formation: To continue sharing, learning, and accepting the teachings of our Lord and His Church; and

Service: To share our Lord's Love by reaching out to all in service, especially the afflicted.

PRAYER & LITURGY

LITURGICAL SCHEDULE

Monday, December 12

Our Lady of Guadalupe

No Mass

Tuesday, December 13

St. Lucy, Virgin & Martyr

6:00 p.m. Mass:

Lonnie DeRuntz+ by Lois Glasgow

Wednesday, December 14

St. John of the Cross,

Priest & Doctor of the Church

8:15 a.m. Mass:

Helen Lack+ by Norma Lesko

Thursday, December 15

Thursday of the Third Week of Advent

8:15 a.m. Mass:

Carolyn Campos+

by Bud & Charlotte Charbonnier

Friday, December 16

Friday of the Third Week of Advent

8:15 a.m. Mass:

Bill Loftus+ by Gary & Marilyn Wilbur

Saturday, December 17

Saturday of the Third Week of Advent

No Mass

Saturday-Sunday, December 17-18

Third Sunday of Advent (Gaudete Sunday)

4:30 p.m. Saturday Mass:

Mary Ellen Becherer+ by Nancy Santana

8:00 a.m. Mass: ☩

Merry Trtanj+ by Dr. Albert Trtanj

10:30 a.m. Mass:

Parishioners of St. Elizabeth

Mass offerings are available (\$10), as are memorials on the 14 Day Candle / Sanctuary Lamp, and Altar Flowers. Contact the parish office.

December is dedicated to the Immaculate Conception

Pope Francis' Prayer Intention for December: For Volunteer Not-for-Profit Organizations

We pray that volunteer non-profit organizations committed to human development find people dedicated to the common good and ceaselessly seek out new paths to international cooperation.

This Sunday: Third Sunday of Advent

Is 35:1-6a, 10; Jas 5:7-10; Mt 11:2-11

Patience, retelling, and joy. This Sunday is "Gaudete" Sunday, from the word that begins the Entrance Antiphon for the Mass. "Gaudete" means "rejoice", and we rejoice to be halfway through the Advent season. We are growing in our patience as we wait; we retell the greatness of our God; and we rejoice that He is coming!

Next Sunday: Fourth Sunday of Advent

Is 7:10-14; Rom 1:1-7; Mt 1:18-24

We hear the great prophesy of Emmanuel, "God is with us," and then the angel reassuring Joseph and calming his fears of taking Mary into his home. Mary and Joseph provide models for us of hearing God's plans through His Word and acting in accord with them.

14 DAY SANCTUARY LAMP

The 14-day Sanctuary Lamp burns constantly before the Tabernacle to remind us of Jesus' presence.

This week, it also reminds us to pray for **Mary Danheiser+ by Norma Lesko**. To offer the 14-day candle in honor of a loved one, contact the Parish Office.

ALTAR FLOWERS

This week, the Altar Flowers are **for the dearly departed parishioners of Saint Elizabeth Parish**. Honor a loved one with the altar flowers. Contact the Parish Office.

FIRST FRIDAY MEMORIALS

Bill Loftus

Deceased Members of Ladies Sodality

Lisa Dellamano

Richard A. Willaredt

Deceased Members of St. Elizabeth Choir

Gene Cassy

Jim Dedera

Pieper Family

Crawshaw Family

Cassy Family

Binney Family

Chad Sigite

Rose Vierdag

Charles Dickey

Angela & Ronald Briggs, Jr.

Robert & Lorriane Joshu

Billy Adams

Jim Gray

Lesko & Danheiser Families

Pawlak & Sertich Families

Joseph & Victoria Krystopa

Pfaff & DeRuntz Families

John & Theresa Straubinger

Winters & Huff Families

Votoupal- Bursik Family

Connie B. Hayes

Jim Noeth & Brothers

Noeth & M. Papp Families

Jim Alsop

Leonard Hylla

Lisa Garcia- Fensterman

Bob Scaturro

Dortch Family

The Kierski Family

James Dittman

Michael & Leona Banach

Deceased Members of

St. Elizabeth Men's Club

Czwornog and Ostrenga Families

Ida Gragg & Patti Jackson

Tony & Mary Bellue

Brian Foreman

Merry Trtanj

Carl Williams

Cliff Jones

Rene Zayner

Dennis Riggs

Alma & Greg Voss

Be with Jesus

Adoration

Thursdays 9 am - 9 pm

Holy Hour

Sundays 7:30-8:30 pm



An Act of Spiritual Communion

My Jesus, I believe that You are present in the Most Holy Sacrament. I love You above all things, and I desire to receive You into my soul. Since I cannot at this moment receive You sacramentally, come at least spiritually into my heart. I embrace You as if You were already there and unite myself wholly to You. Never permit me to be separated from You. Amen.

Contact the parish office to add yours to the list.

Gaudete! Rejoice!

The third Sunday of Advent, when we light the rose (pink) candle of the Advent wreath, is named based on the first word of the Introit (Entrance Antiphon) at Mass - Gaudete, which means Rejoice!

The season of Advent originated as a fast of forty days in preparation for Christmas, commencing on the day after the feast of St. Martin (12 November), whence it was often called "St. Martin's Lent"-- a name by which it was known as early as the fifth century.

In the ninth century, the duration of Advent was reduced to four weeks, the first allusion to the shortened season being in a letter of St. Nicholas I (858-867) to the Bulgarians, and by the twelfth century the fast had been replaced by simple abstinence.

St. Gregory the Great was the first to draw up an Office for the Advent season, and the Gregorian Sacramentary is the earliest to provide Masses for the Sundays of Advent.

Through all of this, Advent still preserved most of the characteristics of a penitential season which made it a kind of counterpart to Lent, the middle (or third) Sunday corresponding with Laetare or Mid-Lent Sunday. On it, as on Laetare Sunday, rose-colored vestments were allowed instead of violet.

Gaudete Sunday, therefore, makes a breaker like Laetare Sunday, about midway through a season which is otherwise somewhat of a penitential character (albeit not as much as Lent), and signifies the nearness of the Lord's coming.

Gaudete Sunday is further marked by a new Invitatory Antiphon at the start of the Office of Readings prayed by bishops, priests, deacons, and religious each morning. The Church no longer invites the faithful to adore merely "The Lord who is to come", but instead to hail with joy "The Lord who is now nigh and close at hand" for the remainder of Advent. The antiphons at Evening Prayer now turn to begin to re-echo the prophetic promises.

The joy of expectation is emphasized by the constant Alleluias which occur in both Office and Mass throughout the entire season. In the Sunday Mass, the Introit "Gaudete in Domino semper" strikes the same note, and gives its name to the day. The second reading again incites us to rejoicing, and bids us prepare to meet the coming Savior with prayers and supplication and thanksgiving, while the Gospel, the words of St. John Baptist, warns us that the Lamb of God is even now in our midst, though we appear to know Him not.

The spirit of the Office and Masses all through Advent is one of expectation and preparation for the Christmas feast as well as for the second coming of Christ, and Gaudete Sunday provides a break for the joy and gladness in the Promised Redemption which should never be absent from the heart of the faithful.

- Adapted from an article at newadvent.org,
the Catholic Encyclopedia.

Christmas Card Mailing List

PRIESTS AND RELIGIOUS

Father Alfred Tumwesigye
3235 Edgewood Ave.
Granite City, IL 62040

Father Zachary T. Edgar
1009 N. 8th St.
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Father Christopher Comerford
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Decatur, IL 62523

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Springfield, IL 62703

Father Charles A. Edwards
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Rochester, Illinois 62563-0047

Father Pat Jakel
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Highland, IL 62249

Father Robert Jallas
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Edwardsville, IL 62025

Father Donald Wolford
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Wood River, IL 62095

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Bethalto IL 62010-0100

Father John Nolan
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Chatham, IL 62629

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Decatur, IL 62526

Sister Jacklyn Pritchard
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Allison Park, PA 15101

Sister Stephanie Turck
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Alton, IL 62002

HOMEBOUND

Vicky Freeman
3900 Sullivan Dr. Apt 306
Swansea IL 62226

Anita Winters
39 Dorothy Apt. 107
Troy IL 62294

Brenda & George Nord
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Granite City, IL 62040

Barbara Gibson
223 Greenway Dr
Granite City, IL 62040

Dorothy Byrd
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Granite City, IL 62040

Jean Schwarzkopf
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Granite City, IL 62040

Charlie Stimac
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Granite City, IL 62040

Lotus Hommert
4108 Melrose
Granite City, IL 62040

Helen Withers
1717 Spring
Granite City, IL 62040

Emily David
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Granite City, IL 62040

Lucile Friederich
101 Evergreen Ln Apt 314
Glen Carbon IL 62034

Cliff (Rose) Jones
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Granite City, IL 62040

Kathy Pfaff
2593 Lynch
Granite City, IL 62040

Freda Hicks
137 Voight Place
Granite City, IL 62040

Jackie Kolenda
2350 Emert Ave
Granite City, IL 62040

Emilio Campos
38 Villa Drive
Granite City, IL 62040

This Week on FORMED®



**I Am Who I Am
Lectio: God
Episode 1**

Who is God and what does he mean when he says "I Am Who I Am"? Join Dr. Elizabeth Klein in her latest Lectio series as she begins to unpack the mystery of who God is.

Thanks to our Men's Club, parishioners have access to free Catholic programming on FORMED on smart TV, streaming device, computer, and mobile device.

Go to signup.FORMED.org and select our parish name.

Mercy Minute

"O sweet Mother of God, I model my life on You. You are for me the bright dawn; In You I lose myself enraptured. O Mother, Immaculate Virgin, in You the divine ray is reflected, Midst storms, 'tis You who teach me to love the Lord, O my shield and defense from the foe." (Diary, 1232).



HOT TOPICS - ADJUSTMENT

We're rethinking our approach to Hot Topics, due to lack of interest in the last one on November 17. Some suggestions include a monthly dinner topic on Sunday evenings, leading into Vespers & Holy Hour. If you have ideas, please call or email Deacon Michael. Thank you!

THE NEW EVERMODE INSTITUTE IN SPRINGFIELD - WILL IT IMPACT YOU?

The new Evermode Institute in Springfield – how it will impact you – In March of 2022, the Diocese of Springfield announced plans to create The Evermode Institute in Springfield. What will it entail and how will it benefit Catholics in the Diocese of Springfield in Illinois and even across the country? We talk with Father Augustine Puchner, the Prior of the new Springfield based community of Norbertine Fathers who are leading this exciting endeavor. Go to dio.org/podcast or search Dive Deep on all the major podcast platforms to listen and subscribe



JUNIOR HIGH & HIGH SCHOOLERS

YOUTH GROUP MEETING

We're going to time our Youth Group meetings after the monthly youth & family Mass. We're scheduling for the spring semester now. Watch for more info soon!

GC ROCK

Sunday, December 4- Gathering at Holy Family Community Center Rock Room. Prepare Christmas Cards for shut-ins.

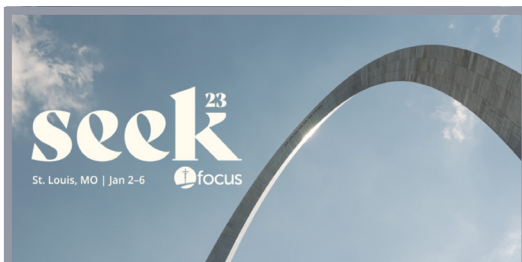
Saturday, December 10- Assist at Billie's Kids Christmas all morning . Time & Place will be posted on our FB page!

Sunday, December 18- Gathering @ Holy Family Community Center/ Rock Room 6:30-8pm

Watch our FB Group (GC Rock Youth Group) or GroupMe for any changes or additions. Questions? Call Woody 618-876-7551 or Bret in the St. Elizabeth Parish office.

LUMINARY WALK 2022

Mark your calendars for our annual parish luminary walk, next Sunday, December 18. Pick up a white luminary bag, decorate it, and return it to the parish office or sacristy by December 16.



#SEEK23 IN ST. LOUIS JANUARY 2-6

World-class speakers, fellowship, prayer, entertainment, and more will encourage participants to answer a new call to greatness, holiness, joy, and mission through the SEEK Conference. This five-day event, hosted by FOCUS takes place at the America's Center Convention Complex in St. Louis, Jan. 2-6 (although attendees can attend single days). SEEK23 attendees will step away from daily distractions and participate in prayer, adoration, Scripture, and the sacraments celebrated by hundreds of priests and bishops, Thomas John Paprocki of the Diocese of Springfield in Illinois. Registration is open at seek.focus.org. Catholics in the Diocese of Springfield in Illinois also receive a discount as a neighboring diocese of the Archdiocese of St. Louis (you will receive it when you type in your zip code).

MEN:

Are you ready to get more out of your faith than just sitting in a pew and passively being Catholic?



Exodus 90 starts January 9th: StartMyExodus.com

EXODUS

EXODUS 90 2023

Men: Talk with Bret in the parish office or Deacon Michael about coming to see what it's like at one of our Fraternity meetings on Thursday evenings - or just ask them for more info.

PARISH LIFE & HOSPITALITY

IT'S THE MOST WONDERFUL TIME OF THE YEAR

Ladies we hope you had as much fun at our Christmas Party as we had serving as your hostesses. It was wonderful to see the beautiful ladies that were able to join us again this year. Celebrating with Friends creates "Special Memories".

We would also like to thank you for your generosity towards the Church Women United "Gift Layettes". Here's a good suggestion for a New Years' Resolution! Circle the 4th Tuesday of the month on your new 2023 calendars and try to attend a meeting or two in the coming year.

We'd love to have you join us!

Wishing You and Your Family a Very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

God Bless,
Carol & Bootsie

LADIES, PLEASE START YOUR OVENS

Our Cookies & Sweet Treats Sale is next weekend, Dec. 17th & 18th. This is our last fund raiser of the year and we are asking our talented bakers to create any irresistible cookie you choose, and it will be greatly appreciated. For those of you who might be a little nervous about baking, don't let your worries get the best of you. Remember Moses started out as a basket case. Did you also know that "Stressed is Desserts spelled backwards". So, turn your life around and eat a cookie! Good Things come to those who bake,

- Marilyn - Maggie - Carol - Bootsie

LECTOR BOOKS FOR 2023

Lectors, please pick up your annual lector's workbook from the sacristy. Thank you for your service!

ADVENT RECONCILIATION SERVICE

Avail yourself of the Sacrament of Reconciliation in preparation to celebrate Christ's birth at Christmas. Join us for our annual Tri-Cities Advent Reconciliation Service here at St. Elizabeth this Friday, December 16 at 6 p.m.

KNIGHTS CORNER

Many of the reasons that we get to not become a Knight is that men just don't have time as they are too busy. Let's look at it in a different perspective. There are 30 days a month, each day has 24 hours and each hour contains 60 minutes. If an individual spends 70 minutes a month to spend with the Knights, that would be less than 1% of ones' time to members of our council. It also provides you with a small section of time to pray, communicate, establish friendships, gain wisdom and knowledge from some of the wonderful seniors we have. Personally, I have never regretted becoming a Knight. There are just so many good things I have witnessed this council do. Ask any Knight or call parish office for more info. Yours in Christ, Grand Knight Tom Cholevik



The Knights of Columbus is for men 18 years or older who are "practical" (practicing) Catholics in union with the Holy See. Ask a Knight, or come and see what being a Knight is all about.

Parish & School Events

Sunday, December 11

9:15-10:15 a.m. - PSR (Parish Life Center)
6 p.m. - Choir Practice (Church)
7:30-8:30 p.m. Exposition & Holy Hour with Vespers & Benediction

Monday, December 12

Tuesday, December 13

Wednesday, December 14

7 p.m. - BINGO (Columbus Home)

Thursday, December 15

Santa's Cottage (Cafeteria)
9 a.m. - 6 p.m. - Adoration
School Christmas Concerts (Gym)
1:30 p.m. Matinee
6 p.m. - K-4th, Choir, Piano
7:15 p.m. - 5th-8th, Choir, Band
7:00-8:15 p.m. - RCIA (PLC Library)
9 p.m. - Exodus Fraternity (Harmony)

Friday, December 16

Santa's Cottage (Cafeteria)
6 p.m. Tri-City Advent Penance Service (Church)

Saturday, December 17

Knights of Columbus Pancake Breakfast (Columbus Home)
Ladies Sodality Cookies & Sweet Treats Sale after all Masses

Sunday, December 18

Ladies Sodality Cookies & Sweet Treats Sale after all Masses
9:15-10:15 a.m. - PSR (Parish Life Center)
6 p.m. - Choir Practice (Church)
6:30-7:15 p.m. - Luminary Walk
7:30-8:30 p.m. Exposition & Holy Hour with Vespers & Benediction

Mark Your Calendars

Christmas Masses

Holy Day of Obligation

Sat., December 24: 4:30 & 11 p.m.
Sun., December 25: 8:00 & 10:30 a.m.

Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God

Holy Day of Obligation

Sat., December 31: 4:30 p.m.
Sun., January 1: 8:00 & 10:30 a.m.

Friday, January 6

Holy Name Men's Club Fish Fry, 4-7 p.m.

Sunday, January 8

Holy Name Men's Club Epiphany Pancake Breakfast, 8:30 a.m. - 12 Noon

St. Elizabeth School
CHRISTMAS CONCERTS

Thursday, December 15th
St. Elizabeth Gymnasium

K-4th Grades
Choir
Piano
6:00 pm

5th-8th Grades
Choir
Band
7:15 pm

Matinee performances at 1:30 pm

ST. ELIZABETH SCHOOL

CANDY CANE PARADE FLOAT



OPTIMIST STUDENTS OF THE MONTH

Adalynn S. and Cade H. were selected as the Granite City Optimist November Students of the Month. Adalynn and Cade are members of Mrs. Becky Corbett's second grade class. Each honoree will receive a certificate from the Optimists, and St. Elizabeth School will receive an unrestricted donation of \$100.00 in their names.

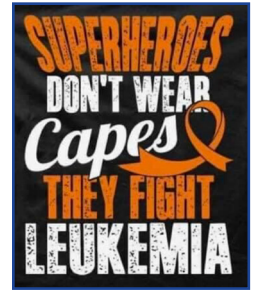


Adalynn is seven years old and is the daughter of Matt and Kristen. Adalynn says the best part of her school day is science time. Her favorite science topic so far has been the study of weather. Once the school day is over, the greatest part of her day becomes the time she spends with her baby brother. When asked what she was thankful for this past Thanksgiving, she said that her two brothers were at the top of her list. She is very active in sports, playing soccer, basketball, baseball, and doing gymnastics. Adalynn would like to have a job as a hairstylist as her future career.

Seven-year-old Cade is the son of Michael and Amy. Cade looks forward to Mrs. Corbett's math class, and he is enjoying working on his times tables. After school, he heads to a pond by his home where he likes to go fishing. The pond has all kinds of fish and turtles. His family makes a delicious soup from the turtles that he catches. He participates in several sports including coach-pitch baseball, ice hockey, and basketball. During this month of thanksgiving, Cade is grateful for his brother, his family, and his dog. When Cade grows up, he would like to be a chemist.

The Granite City Optimist Organization is an international society dedicated to helping the youth of the world. For more information about the Granite City Optimists, contact Paul Hellrich at 618 407-3011. The Optimists are always looking for new members who would like to aid in their mission to help the youth of the community. Come join us!

#ZionStrong PACK THE GYM NIGHT



DEACON MICHAEL WITH OUR CONFIRMATION & 1st COMMUNION CLASS



PRAYERS FOR OUR PRIESTS

The following priests of our Diocese are celebrating birthdays soon: 12/13- Rev. David Zimmerman 12/16- Rev. Ronnie Lorilla 12/21- Rev. James Neuman Rev. David Beagles 12/23- Rev. Steven Janoski 12/29- Rev. Richard Chiola Rev. Daniel Bergbower 12/31- Rev. Charles Edwards

The following are priests of our Diocese who have died. Please remember them in your daily prayers: 12/10- Rev. Joseph Locher, Rev. Patrick Kearney, Rev. Oscar Schubert 12/11- Rev. John Blaise Raho, C.M., Rev. Mike Ryan, Rev. Michael Hurley, Rev. J.W. Merscher, Rev. August Forster, Rev. Maurice Gavin 12/12- Rev. Amos Emil Giusti, Rev. Terence J. Tracey 12/13- Rev. Walter J. Deppisch, Rev. Rene Du-four, O.M.I. 12/14- Rev. Frederick Niebling, Rev. Elias Koppert, O.F.M. 12/16- Rev. Patrick Ducey 12/17- Rev. John P. Harkins, Rev. Anton Jaschke 12/18- Rev. Max Koch, Rev. John J. Engright



PRAYERS FOR OUR MILITARY

Please reach out to the parish office and let us know of any active military persons for whom you would like the parish to pray. Thank you!

Almighty and Eternal God, protect the members of our Armed Services as they discharge their duties. Protect them with the shield of your strength and keep them safe from all evil and harm. May the power of your love enable them to return home in safety, to all who love them. May they ever praise you for your loving care. Through Christ our Lord. Amen.

Nolan Yehling- USAF, Whiteman AFB; Justin Niles- USAF, South Korea; Brandon Weidner- US Coast Guard, Sault Sainte Marie, MI; Kody Presswood- U S Army, Naples, Italy

STEWARDSHIP

Our Financial Stewardship December 4, 2022

	Actual	Goal	Over/(Short)
Week 23 Regular Income	\$7,729.00		
109 Envelopes, Avg. Gift \$70.91			
One-Time Donation			
Loose	\$346.00		
Online Giving	\$1,257.00		
TOTAL	\$9,332.00	\$8,871.00	\$461.00
YTD TOTALS	\$181,101.24	\$204,033.00	(\$22,931.76)

Weekly and YTD Goals are calculated based on our annual fiscal year budget submitted to the Diocese and what is required to break even.

Other Gifts:

Tuition Assistance	\$415.00
Building Repair/Maintenance	\$445.00
Special Projects	\$220.00
Mission & Ministry	\$145.00
All Saints Day	\$5.00
Votive Offering	\$107.00
Camp. for Justice & Hope	\$5.00
Calvary Catholic Cemetery	\$60.00
Christmas Offering	\$166.00
Christmas Flower Offering	\$911.00
Immaculate Conception	\$171.00
Sol. of Mary Mother of God	\$136.00
Retirement Fund for Religious	\$61.00
Catholic Childrens Home	\$106.00
BINGO Profit	\$10,000.00
Other Not Specified	\$388.00

Parish Tithing Reporting

Our parish tithe to the Diocese to support the administration, ministries, and work of our Diocese is 10% of our regular monthly income.

October tithe: \$3,993.00

Scrip Progress

Two weeks ended November 27, 2022

	Current	/	YTD
Walmart	\$4,125	/	\$41,025
National	\$1,795	/	\$50,310
Total Sales	\$5,920	/	\$91,335
Annual Gross Profit to-date	\$3,684.00		
Approx. Credit Card Fees	(\$320.00)		
Approx. Net Profit to-date	\$3,364.00		

Please continue to purchase scrip as much as possible.
Remember that this is free money
for our school & parish!

Upcoming Special Collections

December 11-12:
Retirement Fund for Religious

"You too must be patient. Make your hearts firm, because the coming of the Lord is at hand." - James 5:8

Patience is another one of those things many of us struggle with. We want things to go according to our plan and our schedule; we like things to be convenient. Any change brings anxiety and fear. Through daily prayer God reveals to us what He wants us to do with the gifts He has given us. We are able to better align ourselves with God's will and His plan, which is far better than anything we can come up with on our own

GIVE ONLINE

There are online options to maintain stewardship. Consider online giving through GIVE CENTRAL. No checks or envelopes needed. No remembering to tithe when you are out of town. <https://www.givecentral.org/location/412/allevents>

GC ROCK IS STILL STEWARDING SUPPLIES TO THE HOMELESS

GC Rock's sock bins continue to help those in need, collecting items like clean white socks and any size new or gently used men's white undershirts. You can also done small packs of baby wipes, purse-size tissue packs, toilet paper, ChapStick, any travel size toiletries, new combs, gently used or new bath washcloths. We take these items to the monthly outreach on the open lot at Community Care so they can be freely given to those who need a helping hand. Thank you from GC Rock for your generosity.

BULLETIN SUBMISSIONS & ADVERTISING

Published weekly by St. Elizabeth Catholic Church & School and printed by Schwartzkopf Printing in Alton, Illinois. To recommend content for inclusion in the bulletin, email bulletin@stelizabethgc.org prior to Tuesday at Noon. For information on bulletin advertising, contact Bret Ware in the parish office.

SACRAMENTS

Reconciliation: If you have been away from the Church and the Sacrament of Reconciliation for a while, feel free to contact the parish office for guidance & materials to help you prepare to return to the Sacraments. In addition to Confessions offered from 3-4 p.m. on Saturdays, you could also schedule an individual time for Reconciliation.

Anointing of the Sick: Anointing of the Sick is appropriate for any upcoming surgery, prolonged illness, or in the event of emergency or danger of death. Please call the office if you or a loved one needs to be anointed.

Infant & Child Baptism: For children under the age of 8, please submit the forms at stelizabethgc.org/baptism and sign up for a Baptism Preparation class at least a month before your desired date of Baptism. For questions or emergencies, please contact the Parish Office or Deacon Michael. Baptisms are usually celebrated after the 10:30 Mass most Sundays or at 7 p.m. some Wednesdays.

Matrimony: To begin preparation for Holy Matrimony, please contact Father Alfred or Deacon Michael at least six months (recommended twelve months) before your desired date. At least an introductory interview must be completed before a date can be set.

Sacraments of Initiation (Baptism, Confirmation, first Holy Communion) for children 8 and over, or for adults: Contact Deacon Michael via the Parish Office.

PASTORAL CARE

Entering the Church: If you are new to the Catholic faith and interested in learning more about the church or about entering the church, welcome! Contact the parish office for a meeting with Father Alfred or Deacon Michael.

Communion to the Homebound: If you or a family member are, or are going to be, homebound, whether at home or in a care facility, please notify the parish office. Medical and care facilities are unable to inform us of their Catholic residents and patients. We would be happy to arrange to visit and bring you Holy Communion. Please contact the parish office for arrangements.

Declarations of Nullity: In some cases, a man or a woman desires healing through a declaration by a Church tribunal (a Catholic Church court), which does not deny that a relationship existed, but simply states that the relationship was missing something that the Church requires for a valid marriage, falling short of at least one of the essential elements required for a binding union. (Commonly called an 'annulment.') Father Alfred, Deacon Michael, and Laura Black are available as Advocates before our diocesan tribunal for those needing assistance with declarations of nullity. Call the parish office to set up an appointment.

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<p>GCS CREDIT UNION (618) 797-7993</p>	<p>St. Elizabeth MENS CLUB Meetings Monthly (Except July & August) 1st Tuesday at 7:30 p.m. In School Cafeteria All Men Of Parish Welcome</p>	<p>CARROLLTON BANK</p>	<p>Havera EYE CARE SPECIALISTS Dr. Mark Havera, Optometrist 1801 Pontoon Rd., Granite City (618) 931-2700</p>											
<p>St. Elizabeth Ladies Sodality Meetings in the Harmony Room 4th Tuesday 6 p.m. Snack 6:30 p.m. Meeting except June, July, & December ALL LADIES ARE WELCOME</p>	<p> The Flower Emporium 618-931-6593 620 E. Chain of Rocks Rd., Granite City, IL</p>	<p>Columbus Home TRI-CITIES COLUMBUS HOME ASSOCIATION MEETING PLACE OF THE KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS 4225 OLD ALTON RD GRANITE CITY, IL 62040 618-877-4250</p>	<p>Everyone Welcome, Come Enjoy Open to the Public!</p> <p>Kitchen is Open Hrs. 4:30-9 p.m. Sat. • Mon. • Tue. • Wed. • Thurs. • Fri. Sun. 12:30-2 p.m. and 4:30-9 p.m.</p> <p>Bingo (8 times a week) Lounge Bowling Machine Shuffle Board Gaming Room Banquet Rooms Nightly Food Specials</p>											
	<p>DIOCESAN VICTIM ASSISTANCE COORDINATOR and liaison between the Diocese and anyone with an allegation of sexual abuse of a minor. Alison Smith (217) 321-1155</p>	<table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th></th> <th>52 Weeks (Annual)</th> <th>26 Weeks (Semi-Annual)</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Standard Box approx. 1-1/2" wide x 1" high</td> <td>\$550</td> <td>\$350</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Double Box Tall: approx. 1-1/2" w x 2-1/8" h OR Wide: approx. 3" wide x 1" high</td> <td>\$1,000</td> <td>\$600</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Large (Quad) Box approx. 3" wide x 2-1/8" high</td> <td>\$2,000</td> <td>\$1,200</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>		52 Weeks (Annual)	26 Weeks (Semi-Annual)	Standard Box approx. 1-1/2" wide x 1" high	\$550	\$350	Double Box Tall: approx. 1-1/2" w x 2-1/8" h OR Wide: approx. 3" wide x 1" high	\$1,000	\$600	Large (Quad) Box approx. 3" wide x 2-1/8" high	\$2,000	\$1,200
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My Parish Prayer

Almighty God, My parish is composed of people like me.
I help make it what it is. It will be friendly if I am. It will be holy if I am.
Its pews will be filled if I help fill them.
It will do great work if I work. It will be prayerful if I pray.
It will make generous gifts to many causes if I am a generous giver.
It will bring other people into its worship if I invite and bring them.
It will be a parish family of loyalty and love, of fearlessness and faith,
and of compassion, charity, and mercy if I - who make it what it is -
am filled with these same qualities.
Therefore, with the help of God,
I will dedicate myself to the task of being all the things I want my parish to be.
Bless my journey Lord God, that I might follow Jesus and build the Church for your glory. Amen.

