

# Disciples Stewards

St. Elizabeth Catholic Church & School

Granite City, Illinois ♦ Diocese of Springfield in Illinois

Fourth Sunday of Advent ♦ December 18, 2022



## God keeps His promises

Through the prophet Isaiah, the Lord reaffirms the promise of a savior for his people, a savior born under unusual circumstances who would clearly be God's chosen one. After many years had passed since that promise – years in which the Lord continued to guide and prepare his people – we hear of its fulfillment in Matthew's Gospel. In this final week of Advent, let us rejoice and praise God for he is faithful and keeps his promises.

Isaiah prophesies that the Lord will give his people a sign: A virgin shall conceive and give birth to a son and will name him Emmanuel. Paul introduces himself to the Romans as one 'called to be an apostle and set apart for the gospel of God,' specifically among the Gentiles. In the Gospel, Matthew recounts how the birth of Jesus Christ came to pass, in accordance with Isaiah's prophecy.


2300 Pontoon Road  
Granite City, IL 62040


Phone 618-877-3300


Fax 618-877-9800


After-Hours Emergencies  
314-266-8387

Web: [stelizabethgc.org](http://stelizabethgc.org)

 [@stelizabeth.gc](https://www.facebook.com/stelizabeth.gc)

 [@stelizabeth.gc](https://www.instagram.com/stelizabeth.gc)

 [@stelizabeth\\_gc](https://twitter.com/stelizabeth_gc)

 [@stelizabethgc](https://www.youtube.com/stelizabethgc)

### PASTORAL STAFF

**Rev. Alfred Tumwesigye, Pastor**  
Office x1002 | Residence x1201  
[pastor@stelizabethgc.org](mailto:pastor@stelizabethgc.org)

**Deacon Michael Halbrook**  
Faith Formation & Liturgy  
x1005 | [mhalbrook@stelizabethgc.org](mailto:mhalbrook@stelizabethgc.org)

**Bret Ware**  
Parish Secretary & Office Admin  
[secretary@stelizabethgc.org](mailto:secretary@stelizabethgc.org)

**Jackie Jones, Bookkeeper**  
x1003 | [jjones@stelizabethgc.org](mailto:jjones@stelizabethgc.org)

**Cathy Cassy, Director of Music**

### SCHOOL & PRE-SCHOOL

School Phone: (618) 877-3300 x2  
School Fax: (618) 877-3352  
Pre-School: (618) 877-3300 x2003

**Michelle Williams, Principal**  
[mwilliams@stelizabethgc.org](mailto:mwilliams@stelizabethgc.org)

**Loretta Joyce, School Secretary**  
[ljoyce@stelizabethgc.org](mailto: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 19**

**Monday of the Fourth Week of Advent**  
No Mass

**Tuesday, December 20**

**Tuesday of the Fourth Week of Advent**  
6:00 p.m. Mass:  
Margaret Hellrich+  
by Bud & Charlotte Charbonnier

**Wednesday, December 21**

**Wednesday of the Fourth Week of Advent**  
8:15 a.m. Mass:  
Geraldine Ropac+ by Norma Lesko

**Thursday, December 22**

**Thursday of the Fourth Week of Advent**  
8:15 a.m. Mass:  
Phyllis Syzdek+ by Don & Kathy Byrd

**Friday, December 23**

**Friday of the Fourth Week of Advent**  
8:15 a.m. Mass:  
Bill Loftus+ by Agnes Friedel

**Saturday-Sunday, December 24-25**

**The Nativity of Our Lord Jesus Christ**

4:30 p.m. Saturday Mass: ☩  
Mark James+ by Lois Glasgow

11:00 p.m. Saturday Mass: ☩ ☪

Merry Trtanj+ by Dr. Albert Trtanj

8:00 a.m. Mass:

Ed Jacobs+ by Vickie Jacobs

10:30 a.m. Mass:

Parishioners of St. Elizabeth

☩ Denotes liturgy when incense will be used

☪ Denotes liturgy that will be streamed online

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

## Be with Jesus

### Adoration

Thursdays 9 am - 9 pm

### Holy Hour

Sundays 7:30-8:30 pm



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: 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.

**Next Sunday: The Nativity of Our Lord**

The readings for each of the four Masses of Christmas vary, but each approaches the birth of our Lord from different angles of the prophesy and the birth. The Mass of the Eve, the Mass at Midnight, the Mass at Dawn, and the Mass during the Day each remind us of the pivotal event of God-made-flesh in our world and in all of History. Jesus is born. Come, let us adore.

### 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 staff, teachers, and leadership team of Saint Elizabeth Parish**. Honor a loved one with the altar flowers. Contact the Parish Office.

### 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.

### 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

Contact the parish office  
to add yours to the list.





## Christmas Flower Offerings

Joseph & Mildred Dallas	John Love
Paul & Margaret Kacera	Louis & Neva Jackstadt
Walter & Lee Ziegler	Dorothy & Richard Kerch
Ramona Loftus	Ann Jackstadt-VanDyke
Paula Borg	Anthony Range Sr.
Patricia Fultz	Ruby Range
Thomas Loftus	Gary Range
Eli Brandibas	Angie Hartman
Norma Kessler	Bob Range
Ralph & Bertha Wesbecher	The Knobbe Family
Vi & Frank Kessler	The Goodin Family
Samuel Shambro	Judy A. Modrusic
Kutzera & Shambro Family	Patsy Bohn
Matthew Dittrich	Poneta/Arth Family
John & Oda Lee Baumgardner	Jesse & Lorraine Gonterman
Richard & Anna Rosales	Lawrence & Eugenia Hahn
Deceased Family of Al & Maxine Czerniejewski	Bill Loftus
Men of MCB II	Mejaski & Loftus Families
Deceased Parents & brother of Craig & Kathleen Nelson	Joe & Mildred Dallas
Campos/Boyd Family Members	John & Leona Groboski
Dortch Family	Joseph Lanier Brule
Jones Family	Newton Tapp, Jr.
Clark & Duffy Families	Walter Waligorski
Melvin Wilmsmeyer	G.Rosalie Saugrain
Helen Klenklen	Garret H. Perdue
Mark James	Robert Joshu
Lawrence Jaros	Lorraine Joshu
Clifton & Mary Blankenship	Ronald Briggs, Jr.
	Angela Briggs
	Mike & Emily Mejaski
	Tom & Ann Loftus



DIocese of Springfield in Illinois  
OFFICE OF THE BISHOP

Dear Friends in Christ,

For the past 143 years, the Catholic Children's Home (CCH) has served as a beacon of hope for thousands of children in need of safe harbor and a place to call home.

The CCH continues this mission by meeting the emotional, social, academic and basic material needs of all the children sent for residential care or special education services. This includes an innovative program designed to serve the needs of children with immense challenges of autism.

The children served by the CCH have been chronically abused, designated "unmanageable" by their schools or simply have no home. They are some of the most vulnerable in our society. Our Lord says, "What you have done for the least of my people, you have done for me." (Matthew 25:38) The CCH will continue to serve the special needs of these children in the name of Jesus Christ.

The holiday season is a particularly difficult time for these youths as many of them are without a family. Those who have a family are often lacking the special care they need. Please keep these children in your prayers throughout this holy season of Advent and Christmas.

In the spirit of Christ's incredible love for all children, I ask that you continue to support the work of the Catholic Children's Home and generously contribute to the special Christmas collection. "Let all that you do be done in love." (1 Corinthians 16:14)

May God fill your hearts with love, grace and a spirit of giving during these blessed days of Advent and Christmas.

With every best wish and gratitude, I am  
Sincerely yours in Christ,

*+ Thomas John Paprocki*

Most Reverend Thomas John Paprocki  
Bishop of Springfield in Illinois



**This Week on  
FORMED®**



**The Story of  
the Nativity:  
The Truth of Christmas**

Enjoy this fast-paced, thought-provoking look at the true story of the Nativity as we enter into the joyful season of Advent. Christmas is so much more than a humdrum story we've heard since childhood. Join top scholars, speakers, and authors as they explain the gravity of Christ's miraculous birth.

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](http://signup.FORMED.org) and select our parish name.

**Mercy Minute**

"I am reliving these moments with Our Lady. With great longing, I am waiting for the Lord's coming. Great are my desires. I desire that all humankind come to know the Lord. I would like to prepare all nations for the coming of the Word Incarnate. O Jesus, make the fount of Your mercy gush forth more abundantly, for humankind is seriously ill and thus has more need than ever of Your compassion." (Diary, 793).



## The 'O' Antiphons Explained

The Church has invoked the titles of Christ in the O Antiphons for at least 1,300 years. These seven ancient prayers have been prayed by over millions of Christians. The medieval monasteries used to ring their largest bell as the choirs of monks intoned Mary's Magnificat and these Advent antiphons. They are invoking Christ in seven messianic titles.

They are seven heart cries for Jesus to come anew in our life. Each one of them is preparing us to invite the Christ child more completely in this blessed season.

Like a final crescendo, these O Antiphons are intoned during Evening Prayer on the seven days leading up to Christmas Eve.

Each night at Evening Prayer (Vespers) starting on December 17, through the end of Advent, they form luminous bookends around Our Lady's Magnificat, like seven prayers she prayed during her week-long journey from Nazareth to Bethlehem.

All seven are in the oracles of the Old Testament prophet Isaiah, who gives us many memorable images of the Messiah. They are rich meditations on the One who is to come. They are a magnificent theology that uses ancient biblical imagery drawn from the messianic hopes of the Old Testament to proclaim the coming Christ as the fulfillment not only of Old Testament hopes, but present ones as well.

Although there are seven titles in the O Antiphons, only one has remained firmly in popular Chris-

tian culture, thanks to an Advent hymn: O Come, O Come Emmanuel. This messianic title is the final of the seven O Antiphons.

Their repeated use of the imperative "Come!" embodies the longing of all for the Divine Messiah.

**December 17**

O Wisdom of our God Most High, guiding creation with power and love: come to teach us the path of knowledge!

**December 18**

O Leader of the House of Israel, giver of the Law to Moses on Sinai: come to rescue us with your mighty power!

**December 19**

O Root of Jesse's stem, sign of God's love for all his people: come to save us without delay!

**December 20**

O Key of David, opening the gates of God's eternal Kingdom: come and free the prisoners of darkness!

**December 21**

O Radiant Dawn, splendor of eternal light, sun of justice: come and shine on those who dwell in darkness and in the shadow of death.

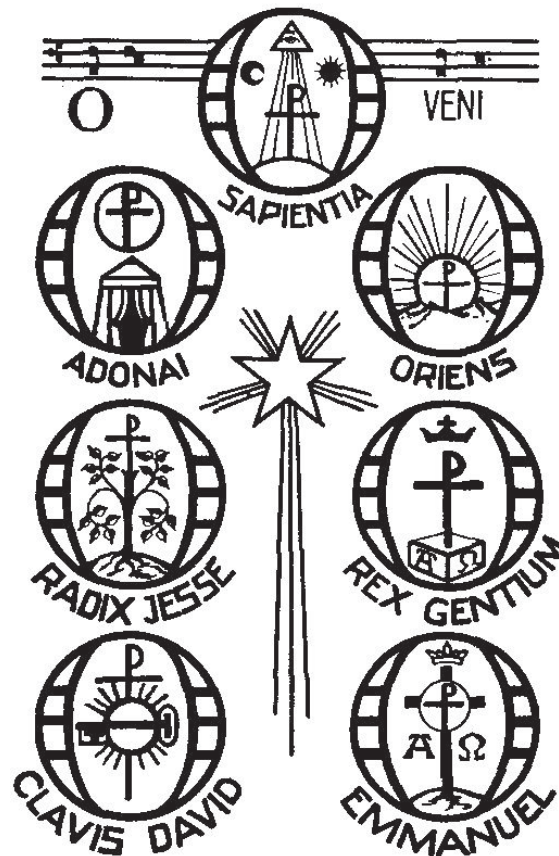
**December 22**

O King of all nations and keystone of the Church: come and save man, whom you formed from the dust!

**December 23**

O Emmanuel, our King and Giver of Law: come to save us, Lord our God!

- Adapted from articles at Ascension Press & USCCB.org





## PARISH LIFE & HOSPITALITY

### LADIES CLUB NEWS

Thank you to Carol Kessler and Bootsie Schrenk for their planning and hosting our Advent Party. It was very nice and the food and decorations made for a lovely event. Thank you to the ladies that helped serve and clean up.

Father was gifted with a cash box that he had to pull the roll of money from. We all enjoyed watching. Pam Winn was the lucky winner of the quilt provided by our talented quilters.

As mentioned at the meeting we are blessed to have a parish of helpers. Ladies Sodality is a small group that can accomplish much with the help of ladies of the parish, the men's club, the maintenance team, the school staff and students, the choir members, and the office staff.

We thank you all, Merry Christmas!

Meetings are held on the 4th Tuesday of each month right after Tuesday evening mass. No December meeting. See you all in January.

### LADIES SODALITY COOKIES & SWEET TREATS SHOP

We are open this weekend in the Harmony Room. Why not stop by for an extraordinary variety of delicious homemade cookies and sweet treats. Just think no crowded malls, no parking meters, and no taxes, just the friendliest customer service in town. May we suggest our various cookie assortments as that special gift to complete your Holiday Season.

We look forward to seeing you again this weekend. Your Friendly Bakers, Marilyn, Maggie, Carol & Bootsie.

### KNIGHTS CORNER

As we draw nearer to Christmas the Knights are gearing up for 4 big events they are hosting at the Columbus Hall (formerly K.C. hall). We have the children's and adult Christmas parties on Dec 17.  Knights of Columbus  
All kids attending the Catholic schools are invited, sign up at the school, and children of parishioners sign up at offices. Adult party opens at 5:30 p.m. We then have the spelling bee on Jan 21st followed by the Special Olympics on Saturday, February 4th. The best way to help us is for men 16 and over to join our cause and receive the joys of partaking in some of these events. As our number decrease some of these programs may not exist in the future. God bless you all, 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.*

### DECEMBER 150 CLUB WINNERS

Congratulations to our 150 Club winners for December, #81 Premo & Kay Clay.

### LECTOR BOOKS FOR 2023

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

### HYMNS & CAROLS

The choir and cantors will be singing hymns and carols before each of the Christmas Masses, Please come to enjoy and sing with us. The choir loves when you join in song with us.

Christmas Eve:

4:10 pm Choir Hymns and Carols  
10:40 pm Congregational Carols

Christmas Morning:

7:45 am, Congregational Carols  
10:15 am, Congregational Carols

Christmas and New Year Blessings of Hope, Peace and Joy! Cathy and the Choir!

### JR. HIGH & HIGH SCHOOLERS

#### YOUTH GROUP MEETING

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

#### GC ROCK

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.

# 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](http://StartMyExodus.com)

## EXODUS

## Parish & School Events

### 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

### Monday, December 19

### Tuesday, December 20

### Wednesday, December 21

7 p.m. - BINGO (Columbus Home)

### Thursday, December 22

9 a.m. - 6 p.m. - Adoration

7:00-8:15 p.m. - RCIA (PLC Library)

9 p.m. - Exodus Fraternity (Harmony)

### Friday, December 23

Parish Office Closed (Christmas Holiday)

### Saturday, December 24

Masses: 4:30 & 11 p.m.

### Sunday, December 25

Masses: 8:00 & 10:30 a.m.

No PSR, Choir Practice, or Exposition & Holy Hour

## Mark Your Calendars

### PLEASE NOTE:

The Parish Office will be closed on Friday, December 23, Monday, December 26, and Monday, January 2. Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!

### 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

### January 15

Mosaic Baby Bottle Kickoff

# ST. ELIZABETH SCHOOL



## OPTIMIST STUDENTS OF THE MONTH

Zachary C and Abigail H were selected as the Granite City Optimist December Students of the Month. Zachary and Abigail are members of Mrs. Meghan Lance's third 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.

Zachary is nine years old and is the son of Cale and Jennifer. P.E. is Zachary's favorite class. He says that the P.E. teacher, Mr. Kahn, puts together the best games for the students to play. They are always fun and full of action. Zachary's free time is very busy. He plays soccer as a member of the

Elks Navy Blue team and is a member of the Bear Den of Cub Scout Pack 8103. Right now he is getting his pinewood derby car ready to race at the Pinewood Derby next month. He also plays Warframe on his PS4. Christmas will soon be here, and if Zachary was the person in charge of filling Santa's sleigh with gifts for all the St. Elizabeth students, he would make sure to include lots of fruits and vegetables. This would ensure that his classmates would have a healthy and happy new year. Zachary has two possible careers that he would like to try in the future: a video game designer and a furniture maker.

Eight-year-old Abigail Hardesty is the daughter of Andrew and Angie. Abigail is a huge fan of Mrs. Lance's math class. She finds it challenging, and it keeps her interest. One of her favorite math operations is rounding numbers to specific place values. Outside of school hours, Abigail keeps busy taking care of and playing with her 5 dogs. She plays soccer for team Red and is a second year Brownie in Girl Scouts. She looks forward to the Girl Scout cookie sale each year, selling lots of boxes of cookies for her troop. If it was Abigail's responsibility to stuff Santa's bag with gifts for her classmates, she would fill it with lots of cash for everybody. After graduating from high school, Abigail would like to go to college to study to be a veterinarian.

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!



## PRAYERS FOR OUR PRIESTS

The following priests of our Diocese are celebrating birthdays soon: 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 1/3- Rev. Peter Harmon 1/9- Rev. John Titus 1/17- Rev. Augustine Koomson 1/18- Rev. John Renken 1/20- Rev. Steven Sotiroff 1/25- Rev. Don Roberts, Rev. David Lantz 1/27- Rev. Larry Anschutz, Rev. Donald Blickham 1/30- Rev. John Burnette

The following are priests of our Diocese who have died. Please remember them in your daily prayers: 12/18- Rev. Max Koch, Rev. John J. Engright 12/19- Rev. William P. O'Sullivan, Rev. Hugolinus Kiener, O.F.M. 12/20- Rev. August Hohl, Rev. Paul Hebenstreit 12/21- Rev. Blasius Winterhalter, Rev. John Brennan, Rev. David Zimmermann 12/22- Rev. James Finn, O.F.M. 12/23- Rev. Clement T. Stoltz 12/24- Rev. Joseph Hoffman, Rev. Victor C. Goyke 12/25- Rev. Brendan M. Keane 12/26- Rev. Lubert Riesen 12/27- Rev. Joseph Meckel 12/28- Rev. Timothy Smith, Rev. Bernard H. LaBonte, Rev. Richard Peradotto



## 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 11, 2022

	Actual	Goal	Over/(Short)
Week 24 Regular Income	\$8163.00		
110 Envelopes, Avg. Gift \$74.21			
One-Time Donation	\$2,000.00		
Loose	\$245.00		
Online Giving	\$1,032.00		
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$11,440.00</b>	<b>\$8,871.00</b>	<b>\$2,569.00</b>
<b>YTD TOTALS</b>	<b>\$192,541.24</b>	<b>\$221,904.00</b>	<b>(\$20,362.76)</b>

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	\$660.00
Building Repair/Maintenance	\$65.00
Special Projects	\$35.00
Mission & Ministry	\$35.00
Christmas Offering	\$80.00
Christmas Flower Offering	\$345.00
Funeral Stipend	\$100.00
Immaculate Conception	\$916.03
Sol. of Mary Mother of God	\$105.00
Votive Offering	\$88.00
Retirement Fund for Religious	\$894.00
Catholic Childrens Home	\$125.00
Camp. for Justice & Hope	\$10.00
Calvary Catholic Cemetery	\$110.00
Other Not Specified	\$70.00

### Parish Tithing Reporting

Our parish tithes 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 December 11, 2022

	Current	/	YTD
Walmart	\$1,525	/	\$42,550
National	\$4,070	/	\$54,380
Total Sales	\$5,595	/	\$96,930
Annual Gross Profit to-date	\$3,946.00		
Approx. Credit Card Fees	(\$340.00)		
Approx. Net Profit to-date	\$3,606.00		

Please continue to purchase scrip as much as possible.

Remember that this is free money  
for our school & parish!

## 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 st-elizabethgc.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.

### Upcoming Special Collections

Christmas Day:  
Catholic Childrens Home, Alton

**"When Joseph awoke, he did as the angel of the Lord had commanded him and took his wife into his home." - Matthew 1:24**

Putting our complete trust in the Lord without expecting anything in return. Striving to put God first in all things and follow Him wherever He may lead us. Joseph was a model of these pillars of our faith. As we prepare for the birth of our Lord, pray for the strength and courage to be a model of discipleship, just as Joseph was.

### 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 donate 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.

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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.

