

Disciples Stewards

St. Elizabeth Catholic Church & School

Granite City, Illinois ♦ Diocese of Springfield in Illinois

Fifth Sunday of Lent ♦ March 26, 2023

Entering Passiontide - Why is the Cross Covered?

Covering, or “veiling,” the crosses, statues and images with violet cloth begins with the Fifth Sunday of Lent. It is an older custom that remains to today.

Originally, Lent was a season when public sinners were cast out from the church and had to make public displays of penance. As the understanding that we are all sinners became the norm and “known” sinners were no longer kept from the Lenten liturgies, a new tradition developed. In medieval times, a “hunger cloth,” a huge violet cloth, hung in front of the altar to keep the faithful from seeing the altar. The hunger cloth gave all of the laity a “fast of the eyes.”

The covering of images came later, perhaps continuing the idea of fasting the eyes.

In the 1962 liturgical calendar and prior, Lent was somewhat divided. The last two weeks were considered “Passiontide,” a time to turn the attention from our Lord’s forty day fast and journey in the desert to His passion and death. In these older calendars, the *Fifth* Sunday of Lent was called “Passion Sunday” and is when the images in the church were covered.

Even in the revised liturgy, these last two weeks continue to dwell more closely on the sufferings of Christ, but the name of Passiontide was removed. The older cal-



endar’s Passion Sunday is now combined with Palm Sunday in the current calendar, so the official title is “Palm Sunday of the Passion of Our Lord.” That is what we will celebrate next Sunday.

Still, the covering of sacred images is a tradition that can be retained. The rubrics in the third edition of the *Roman Missal* state: “In the Dioceses of the United States, the practice of covering cross-

es and images throughout the church from this Sunday may be observed. Crosses remain covered until the end of the Celebration of the Lord’s Passion on Good Friday, but images remain covered until the beginning of the Easter Vigil.”

Although the terms “Passion Sunday” and “Passiontide” are no longer used, there is still another remaining sign one might note in the liturgies the next two weeks: The Prefaces for the Eucharistic Prayer change from the Prefaces for Lent to the Prefaces for the Passion.

The cloths that cover the images are plain fabric with no decoration. Before the vigil Mass or Evening Prayer I of the Fifth Sunday of Lent all statues and images except the Stations of the Cross and stained-glass windows are veiled. Older liturgical books reference papal permission in 1878 to keep St. Joseph uncovered in March since it is his feast month. The coverings are removed without any ceremony before the Easter Vigil begins.

The Triduum is near! Last Sunday, Laetare Sunday, we saw rose vestments and we rejoiced at the halfway point of Lent, and this Sunday we have a visual reminder that we are just two weeks from Easter. Hopefully the covering of images helps lead us to greater contemplation as we walk with Jesus through His passion, death, and resurrection.


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Fax 618-877-9800


After-Hours Emergencies
314-266-8387

Web: 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

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Cathy Cassy, Director of Music

SCHOOL & PRE-SCHOOL

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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, March 27

Monday of the Fifth Week of Lent

No Mass

Tuesday, March 28

Tuesday of the Fifth Week of Lent

6:00 p.m. Mass:

Gayle Meuren+ by Cathy Mangi

Wednesday, March 29

Wednesday of the Fifth Week of Lent

8:15 a.m. Mass:

Bill Loftus+ by Mark & Donna Yehling

Thursday, March 30

Thursday of the Fifth Week of Lent

8:15 a.m. Mass:

Mary Carich+ by Ladies Auxiliary #1098

Friday, March 31

Friday of the Fifth Week of Lent

8:15 a.m. Mass:

James Barry+ by Norma Lesko

Saturday, April 1

Saturday of the Fifth Week of Lent

Lonnie DeRuntz+ by Mark & Donna Yehling

Saturday-Sunday, April 1-6

Palm Sunday of the Lord's Passion

4:30 p.m. Saturday Mass:

Parishioners of Saint Elizabeth

8:00 a.m. Mass: ☪

Barbara Byrd+ by Richard P. Willaredt

10:30 a.m. Mass:

Bill Loftus+ by Cathy Cassy

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

March is dedicated to Saint Joseph

Pope Francis' Prayer Intention for March:

For victims of abuse: We pray for those who have suffered harm from members of the Church; may they find within the Church herself a concrete response to their pain and suffering.

This Sunday: Fifth Sunday of Lent

Ez 37:12-14; Rom 8:8-11; Jn 11:1-45

In the first reading, Ezekiel prophesies that God will raise his people from their graves. In his Letter to the Romans, Paul promises that those who live in the Spirit will receive life through the Spirit. In the Gospel, Jesus raises his friend Lazarus from the dead, and many people come to believe in him.

Next Sunday: Palm Sunday

Mt 21:1-11; Is 50:4-7; Phil 2:6-11; Mt 26:14-27:66

In the introductory reading from Matthew's Gospel, Jesus enters Jerusalem. The prophet Isaiah speaks as the suffering servant who has trusted in the Lord while submitting to persecution. In the second reading, Paul speaks of Jesus' total self-gift and God's subsequent exaltation of Jesus. In the Gospel, we hear of Judas' betrayal, the Passover supper Jesus shared with his disciples and, finally, Jesus' death on the cross.

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 **George Friedel+ by the Friedel Family**. To offer the 14-day candle in honor of a loved one, contact the Parish Office.

ALTAR FLOWERS

There are no flowers in the sanctuary through Lent. To honor a loved one with the altar flowers after the Lenten season, 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 Dederá

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.

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.

Praying the Divine Mercy Novena



We offer the Divine Mercy Novena by praying the Divine Mercy Chapel together daily starting after the Liturgy of the Lord's Passion on Good Friday, for the nine days concluding on Divine Mercy Sunday.

The Divine Mercy Chaplet is traditionally prayed at, or as close as possible to, 3 p.m., the hour of our Lord's death upon the cross.

Join us in the church every day during the novena for the Divine Mercy Chaplet, but especially on Divine Mercy Sunday, April 16.

From *TheDivineMercy.org*:

The message of The Divine Mercy is simple. It is that God loves us – all of us. And, He wants us to recognize that His mercy is greater than our sins, so that we will call upon Him with trust, receive His mercy, and let it flow through us to others. Thus, all will come to share His joy.

The Divine Mercy message is one we can call to mind simply by remembering ABC:

A - Ask for His Mercy. God wants us to approach Him in prayer constantly, repenting of our sins and asking Him to pour His mercy out upon us and upon the whole world.

B - Be merciful. God wants us to receive His mercy and let it flow through us to others. He wants us to extend love and forgiveness to others just as He does to us.

C - Completely trust in Jesus. God wants us to know that all the graces of His mercy can only be received by our trust. The more we open the door of our hearts and lives to Him with trust, the more we can receive.

This message and devotion to Jesus as The Divine Mercy is based on the writings of Saint Faustina Kowalska, an uneducated Polish nun who, in obedience to her spiritual director, wrote a diary of about 600 pages recording the revelations she received about God's mercy. Even before her death in 1938, the devotion to The Divine Mercy had begun to spread.

The message and devotional practices proposed in the Diary of Saint Faustina and set forth in this web site and other publications of the Marians of the Immaculate Conception are completely in accordance with the teachings of Church and are firmly rooted in the Gospel message of our Merciful Savior. Properly understood and implemented, they will help us grow as genuine followers of Christ.

Spend time to learn more about the mercy of God, learn to trust in Jesus, and live your life as merciful to others, as Christ is merciful to you.



Holy Week & the Triduum at St. Elizabeth

April 1-2: Palm Sunday of the Lord's Passion

After all Masses: Ladies Sodality Palm Sunday Bake Sale

Adoration, Vespers, Benediction: 7:30-8:30 p.m. Sunday

THE HOLY TRIDUUM

The holiest "Day" of the Year: 1 liturgy over 3 days

Thursday, April 6: Holy Thursday

Evening Mass of the Lord's Supper at 6 p.m.*

Silent Adoration until Midnight; Night Prayer at 11:45 p.m.

After Mass, for Adoration or Night Prayer, enter the doors at the end of the hall nearest the Harmony Room.

Friday, April 7: Good Friday

Reminder: See "Good Friday Fast" below

Stations of the Cross at 2:30 p.m.

Liturgy of the Lord's Passion at 3 p.m.*

Followed by the beginning of the Divine Mercy Novena

Saturday, April 16: Holy Saturday

Blessing of the Easter Foods at 10 a.m., Church vestibule

Stop by with baskets of Easter foods: Ham, breads, eggs, butter, for a brief blessing of the first foods of the Easter season.

Easter Vigil in the Holy Night of Easter at 8:30 p.m.*

Divine Mercy Novena Day 2 at 3 p.m., Church

EASTER SUNDAY

Masses: 8 a.m.* & 10:30 a.m. on Easter Sunday

Divine Mercy Chaplet each day at 3 p.m., in the Church.

Adoration, Vespers, Benediction: 7:30-8:30 p.m. (Church)
Sunday Vespers concludes the Holy Triduum

* Streamed on our Facebook Page & YouTube Channel

Good Friday Fast Reminder

Those ages 18-59, in reasonable health, are required to fast on Good Friday. Those 14 and older must abstain from meat. Children, adults with physical and mental illness, pregnant women and those nursing are all exempt. The USCCB stresses that "common sense should prevail" and that no one should jeopardize their health to fast. Canon Law does mention that for young children not fasting, parents should still communicate the meaning and penance.

Lent ends at the beginning of the Triduum (Evening Mass on Holy Thursday), but Lenten fasting and personal commitments usually continue until Easter. Papal document *Paschalis Solemnitatis* recommends this in order that we "with uplifted and welcoming heart be ready to celebrate the joys of the Sunday of the resurrection."

This Week on FORMED®



**The Hour of our Death
Eternal Rest, Episode 3**

The Anointing of the Sick is one of the seven sacraments of the Church. This session, we discover the role of this sacramental anointing in the spiritual struggle during serious illness, the final stages of our temporal life, and the hour of our death.

Thanks to our Men's Club, parishioners have access to free Catholic programming on FORMED on any device.

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

Mercy Minute

"Novena to The Divine Mercy which Jesus instructed me to write down and make before the Feast of Mercy. It begins on Good Friday. 'I desire that during these nine days you bring souls to the fountain of My mercy, that they may draw therefrom strength and refreshment and whatever grace they need in the hardships of life, and especially at the hour of death... I will deny nothing to any soul whom you will bring to the fount of My mercy. On each day you will beg My Father, on the strength of My bitter Passion, for graces for these souls.'" (Diary, 1209).



YOUNG DISCIPLES TEENS

Teens, join us AFTER 10:30 Mass on Sundays April 2 & May 7.

Sign up for updates:
Text "YDS-TEENS" to 84576



You asked, we're delivering! Order your YDS Teens t-shirt by March 27 at: stelizabethg.org/yds-shirt

**THURSDAY NIGHT CHANGE:
WATCH "The Meaning of Holy Week"
ONLINE INSTEAD OF IN-PERSON**

Due to unexpected travel, Deacon Michael will be out of town and unable to present "The Meaning of Holy Week" as planned this Thursday, March 30. Instead, our RCIA Elect will hold their retreat evening in preparation for the Easter Vigil.

You can instead review a 2021 recording of Deacon Michael's presentation via a link from the top of stelizabethg.org/HolyWeek

**MARK YOUR CALENDARS!
SAVE THE DATE:**

- Totus Tuus in Granite City, June 25-30
Youth during the days Monday-Friday
Teens in the evenings Sunday-Thursday
- STELLAR Vacation Bible School July 24-28



A Lenten Mission with
Deacon Patrick O'Toole

The Journey of
Discipleship

Don't miss the final night of our Lenten Mission this Friday night in the church. If you've missed any weeks, you can catch up online at stelizabethg.org/mission



Have You Heard?

**WE ARE IN THE MIDST OF A
NATIONAL EUCHARISTIC REVIVAL!**

The Church needs healing, and the world needs Jesus. The Holy Spirit is inviting us to return to the source and summit of our faith—the Eucharist.

YEAR OF DIOCESAN REVIVAL

June 19, 2022 – June 11, 2023

This first year of the Revival invites diocesan staff, bishops, priests, & deacons to respond to the Lord's personal invitation and equips them to share this love with the faithful through eucharistic congresses and events.

YEAR OF PARISH REVIVAL

June 11, 2023 – July 17, 2024

The second phase will foster Eucharistic devotion at the parish level, strengthening our liturgical life through faithful celebration of the Mass, Eucharistic Adoration, missions, resources, preaching, and organic movements of the Holy Spirit.

NATIONAL EUCHARISTIC CONGRESS

July 17 – 21, 2024, Indianapolis, Indiana

At this historic event, more than 80,000 Catholics of all ages will gather in Indianapolis to reconsecrate their hearts to the source and summit of our faith.

YOU ARE INVITED

To celebrate the Year of the Eucharist going on in our diocese right now and the 100th



anniversary of the transfer of the See city of our diocese from Alton to Springfield, a Eucharistic Congress is taking place **Saturday, October 28 at the BOS Center in Springfield.** This major event will include talks from nationally recognized Catholic speakers, adoration, confession, and Mass where the arena will be packed with thousands of Catholics from across the diocese. You are invited. Doors open at 10:30 a.m. with the first speaker starting at 1 p.m., and Mass begins at 4 p.m. Stay tuned for how to get free tickets and mark your calendar. There will be no Masses at parishes on Saturday, Oct. 28. We want you in Springfield!

PARISH LIFE & HOSPITALITY



LADIES, PLEASE START YOUR OVENS

This is just a quick reminder that our Palm Sunday Bake Sale is just one week away. Whatever delectable bakery items you choose to create this year will be greatly appreciated. We will start setting up in the Harmony Room at Noon on Saturday, April 1. You can deliver your bakery items at any time after noon on Sat., or before both Masses on Sun., April 2.

As you might know, we have a special new project in the works at our Parish this year. We would love to help our children and teachers to reach their goal for new school windows. All proceeds from our bake sale will be donated to our school to assist with the expenses for the much-needed new windows. Please help us to make a difference, and give your generosity a new purpose this year. Remember we make a living by what we get, but we make a life by what we give.

God bless,
Marilyn, Carol & @Bootsie

LADIES SODALITY NEWS

Please remember our next meeting is March 28th after the 6pm mass. Join other ladies of the parish for fun, fellowship, and planning. All women of the parish and school are welcome to attend.

WE 'KNEAD' FLOUR

Our Ladies Sodality would like to ask for donations of 5 pound bags of flour to be used for the bake sale. Please bring any donations to the meeting on March 28th or drop at the parish office. Thank you!

HOLY COMMUNION UNDER BOTH SPECIES

As we approach Easter, we plan to offer the Body and Blood of Christ under both species to the faithful at Mass on Holy Thursday and Easter Vigil.

Additionally, if you are a person who routinely prefers to receive communion on the tongue, please approach Father or one of the Deacons down the center aisle only. The same will apply when the cup returns, they will be offered down the center aisle at Mass only. Thank you for understanding.

EASTER EGG HELP WANTED

Our Parish Egg Hunt will be held on Saturday, April 1 at 11AM. Our planning team is in need of donations of plastic eggs and candy treats! Please drop any donations to us at the parish office. Thank you!

LENTEN NIGHT OF REFLECTION

Reflect on the wondrous love of Christ in our Lenten Night of Reflection. Featuring the Father McGivney Concert Choir with Thomas Halbrook as organist, this concert will help prepare your heart for the holiest week of the year by tracing Jesus' steps to Calvary through music and readings from Scripture. *What Wondrous Love* will be held on Tuesday, April 4th (Tuesday of Holy Week) at 7 p.m. at the Old Cathedral of St. Louis (209 Walnut St.) This event is open to the public and admission is free.



MADISON COUNTY CATHOLIC CHARITIES DINNER

Madison County Catholic Charities 22nd Annual 'Help on the Move' fundraiser dinner: Saturday, April 29, 6-11 p.m. at Bluff City Grill, Alton. Dinner, activities, and music featuring Flip the Frog. Dinner tickets \$50 each; Raffle tickets \$25 or buy 2 get 1 free. Visit cc.dio.org.



KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS CORNER

Applications are out for high school and college scholarships. They can be obtained by going to the Columbus Home lounge, email to kofcscholarship@yahoo.com or texting me at 618-789-0337. Scholarships have doubled from \$500 to \$1,000 for high school and \$1,000 to \$2,000 for college. Requirements are included with application. The members of the council are so proud and happy that we could increase these scholarships. Yours in Christ, Grand Knight, Tom Cholevik



THIS WEEK

Sunday, March 26

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

Monday, March 27

Tuesday, March 28

7 p.m. - Ladies Sodality Meeting (Harmony Room)
7:30 p.m. - Knights of Columbus Meeting (Columbus Home)

Wednesday, March 29

7 p.m. - BINGO (Columbus Home)

Thursday, March 30

9 a.m. - 9 p.m. - Adoration
7 p.m. - RCIA Retreat (PLC Library)
9 p.m. - Exodus Fraternity (Harmony)

Friday, March 31

Easter Break begins (School)
4-7 p.m. - Fish Fry (Cafeteria)
6 p.m. - Stations of the Cross & Lenten Mission Talk (Church)

Saturday, April 1

9 a.m. - Rosary Prayer (Abortion Business)
11 a.m. - Easter Egg Hunt
Palm Sunday Bake Sale after all Masses

Sunday, April 2

Palm Sunday Bake Sale after all Masses
9 a.m. - Men at Prayer (Choir Room)
11:30 a.m. - 1 p.m. - Young Disciples Teens (The Upper Room)
NO PSR (Palm Sunday & Easter break)
6 p.m. - Choir Practice (Church)
7:30-8:30 p.m. Exposition & Holy Hour with Vespers & Benediction (Church)

ST. ELIZABETH SCHOOL



Last Friday morning at Mass, our 8th graders asked Father Alfred for a blessing before they took their Illinois State Constitution Test that day.

Congrats to the Royals who swept last Saturday's Speech Meet with all 1st places! And congrats to Selah who took 1st in the Regional Spelling Bee to move on to State!



Thank you to the 8th graders who joined in prayer at the abortion facility with Father Alfred for 40 Days for Life on Monday.



PRAYERS FOR OUR PRIESTS

The following priests of our Diocese are celebrating birthdays soon: 3/26- Rev. Daren Zehnle 3/27- Rev. John Nolan 4/2- Rev. Wayne Stock Rev. Robert Johnson 4/7- Rev. Kevin Mann SJC 4/13- Rev. Thomas Donovan Rev. Rafal Pyrchla 4/14- Rev. Thomas Gallenbach 4/15- Rev. Louis Schlangen 4/16- Rev. Paul Having 4/18- Rev. Joseph Havrilka 4/21- Rev. Donald Wolford Rev. Steven Pohlman 4/23- Rev. Steven Arisman 4/24- Rev. James O'Shea 4/26- Rev. Philip Kraft

The following are priests of our Diocese who have died. Please remember them in your daily prayers: 3/26-Rev. Pater Mackin Rev. Robert Heintz 3/27- Rev. Charles Marogna Rev. Patrick McCabe Rev. Michael McGovern Msgr. Joseph Cullen O'Brien 3/29- Rev. Joseph Still

Seeking Royals Alumni



We're building a list of St. Elizabeth School Alumni. If you're a graduate of or attended St. Elizabeth School, please fill out our online form here: stelizabethgc.org/alumni

If you know any alumni, please share this with them too. Thank you!

FR. MCGIVNEY

SCHOOL CALENDAR

mcgivneygriffins.com/school-calendar



ATHLETICS

NEWS & SCHEDULE

il.8to18.com/McGivneyGriffins/

SHADOW DAYS FOR 7th GRADERS

7th Grade Shadow Days are scheduled on Wednesdays and Thursdays in March and April. Your student is paired with a McGivney Freshman for the day, attending classes, house, lunch, and PE. A Shadow Day allows your 7th grader to see what it would be like to be a student at McGivney. If your student isn't quite ready to shadow yet, Shadow Days are also offered in the Fall to 8th grade students. Visit mcgivneygriffins.com/admissions or email Lisa Rolves at lrolves@mcgivneygriffins.com.

FATHER MCGIVNEY CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL GRIFFINS SEEKING HEAD BOYS BASKETBALL COACH

Father McGivney Catholic School is seeking candidates for the following positions for the Fall Season of the 2023-2024 school year:

Coaching Positions: Head Boys Basketball Coach. Please send a cover letter, resume, and three letters of recommendation to Jeff Oller at joller@mcgivneygriffins.com by April 1. Details about the job can be found on our website: <https://mcgivneygriffins.com/employment-opportunities/>



PRAYERS FOR OUR PRIESTS

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- Staff Sergeant, US Space Force, Colorado Springs, Colorado

STEWARDSHIP

Our Financial Stewardship March 19, 2023

	Actual	Goal	Over/(Short)
Week 38 Regular Income	\$5,819.00		
106 Envelopes, Avg. Gift \$54.90			
One-Time Donation			
Loose	\$414.00		
Online Giving	\$1,931.00		
TOTAL	\$8,164.00	\$8,871.00	(\$707.00)
YTD TOTALS	\$310,427.26	\$337,098.00	(\$26,670.74)

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:

Special Projects/Windows	\$3,350.00
Tuition Assistance	\$135.00
Building Maintenance	\$285.00
Easter Flowers	\$250.00
Catholic Charities	\$60.00
Church in Central/Eastern Eur	\$20.00
Mission & Ministry	\$25.00
Catholic Relief Services	\$491.00
Votive Offering	\$56.00
Other Not Specified	\$3.00

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.

February tithes: **\$3,280.00**

Scrip Week ended March 19, 2023

	Current	/	YTD
Walmart	\$1,100	/	\$3,825
National	\$2,990	/	\$11,715
Total Sales	\$4,090	/	\$15,540
Annual Gross Profit to-date			\$744

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

"Jesus said to her, 'Did I not tell you that if you believe you will see the glory of God?'"
- John 11:40

Many of us say that we believe in God. We attend Sunday Mass and participate in parish events. But when life gets hard and the pressure is on, when things aren't going our way, do we really believe? Do we really put our trust in the Lord? When we live a life of gratitude, recognizing all that we have been given, we really do see that God is providing for our needs. Living a grateful and generous life allows us to see God's active presence in our daily lives and we become "partakers of the divine nature."

GIVE ONLINE

Are you tired of writing a check or remembering to have your envelope when you head to Mass? Concerned about how to support the parish when you are out of town? There are online options to maintain your stewardship, returning to God a portion of his blessings. Consider online giving through GIVE CENTRAL. For more information, visit. <https://www.givecentral.org/location/412/all events>



\$700,000	anticipated project cost
- 324,000	already set aside by the school
- 100,000	committed by the BINGO Committee
- 50,000	committed by parish organizations
- 50,000	committed in add'l school fundraising
\$176,000	to be raised

Please help as you're able with our most important property facilities project at the moment. Anything helps - all money and all prayers - above and beyond your ongoing church donations.

Given last week: \$3,490.00
Given to-date: \$9,595.50
Remaining need: \$166,404.50

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.

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.

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	<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.

