

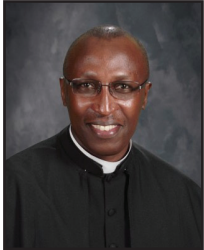
Disciples Stewards

St. Elizabeth Catholic Church & School

Granite City, Illinois ♦ Diocese of Springfield in Illinois

Twenty-second Sunday in Ordinary Time ♦ September 3, 2023

From our Pastor, Father Alfred



Praised be Jesus Christ! It is with gratitude and appreciation, on behalf of Saint Elizabeth Parish's/School's Pastoral Leadership Team, to thank every one of you who welcomed and offered hospitality to our beloved Bishop Thomas John Paprocki who visited us last weekend August 26/27, 2023. For some of us who had the opportunity to visit with him personally, we got different positive impressions, and will never forget how charitably he took the time to express his faith with us and extend his gratitude for all our hard work and accomplishments. Personally, I was so impressed by his appeal to each one of us (disciples and stewards) in his homily, by asking us to commit that: *"we will invite people proactively to join us in prayer, especially Sunday Mass; we will provide well-prepared celebrations of the sacraments and other occasions for prayer as signs of hope and paths of grace to heaven; we will study the Bible and learn more about Jesus and our Catholic faith; and we will serve each other, especially those in need, by practicing charity and justice."* I therefore hope that the bishop's visit to our parish/school made a lasting and favorable impression on you as well.

As a Pastor, I've learned to be blessed by the familiar faces in the congregation at every mass, but to be double blessed when noticing a new guest especially in the face of our beloved Bishop Thomas John Paprocki, it was supper delightful. Whether you had the pleasure of physically attending the bishop's celebrated very uplifting and beautiful Holy Masses, or not, in this week's bulletin, he has graciously shared with us a follow-up letter expressing his gratitude following his Parish Pastoral Visit last weekend at Saint Elizabeth Parish/school, and also you will see a text of his homily. May his word and time shared with us be always a source of courage in our commitment to being and making disciples and stewards in our life's journey, and his blessing upon us instill in our hearts that warmth of charity and enkindle in our hearts the fire of divine love. We now have the calling to attract people and make impact on them, as Jesus commanded us: *"Go, therefore, and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you. And behold, I am with you always, until the end of the age."* (Matthew 28:19-20).

Thank you, Bishop Paprocki, for celebrating the Holy Eucharist with us. Thank you for the precious 24 hours shared with us. In your parish pastoral visit you showed how much you care and love us, and your spiritual manner was refreshing and hopeful. Your visit to our Saint Elizabeth Church/School was well appreciated by everyone! Thank you for meeting with us, and we look forward to seeing you back in the future.

Fr. Alfred Tumwesigye



Look Inside: A letter from Bishop & his homily from last weekend, info on our Chicken Dinner in 2 weekends, some great photos, and a lot more!


2300 Pontoon Road
Granite City, IL 62040


Phone 618-877-3300


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

Rev. Alfred Tumwesigye, Pastor
Office x1002 | Residence x1201
pastor@stelizabethgc.org

Deacon Michael Halbrook
Faith Formation & Liturgy
x1005 | mhalbrook@stelizabethgc.org

Bret Ware
Parish Secretary & Office Admin
secretary@stelizabethgc.org

Jackie Jones, Bookkeeper
x1003 | jjones@stelizabethgc.org

Chris Spanberger
Director of Religious Education (School)
cspan@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

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.: Natasha Reidl
Ladies Sodality: Tammi Mooshegian
Holy Name Men's Club: Rob Hutson
Men at Prayer: Tom Cholevik
Funeral Dinners: Pam Ames
Athletic Director: Joe Philips
Maintenance Team: Bud Charbonnier

**Strong in Faith
since 1871**

Saint Elizabeth of Hungary, pray for us.

A Letter from Bishop Paprocki



DIOCESE OF SPRINGFIELD IN ILLINOIS
OFFICE OF THE BISHOP

August 29, 2023

Reverend Alfred Tumwesigye
Saint Elizabeth Parish
2300 Pontoon Road
Granite City, Illinois 62040

Dear Father Alfred,

Special thanks to you and to every member of Saint Elizabeth parish after my recent visit to your church and school. I was happy to join you for all of the weekend's events and liturgies and was impressed throughout by the generosity and faithfulness of all those that I had the chance to meet. It was a joy to participate in each of the Masses and to see everyone involved in welcoming people, preparing, serving, singing, or lecturing for those liturgies. I was not able to personally thank everyone who worked hard to extend their hospitality to us (and not just to us!), but I hope to express my gratitude to everyone with this letter.

Saturday evening, I had the chance to tour your school and offices, as well as join many of your staff and council members for evening prayer and dinner. Many of these leaders also gave of their time Sunday afternoon to talk about everything happening around Saint Elizabeth parish and to express their thoughts and hopes for your future efforts to live and proclaim the Gospel around Granite City. I'm afraid this letter will also be inadequate to recount the full extent of our conversation, but I want to highlight a few things that truly inspired and encouraged me. I saw first-hand the closeness of your parish so visible at harmony cafe after each Mass, but also in things as varied as your ministry to those facing the loss of a loved one, and your proactive accompaniment to those who do not yet have a full relationship with Christ.

Your generosity to Our Lord was visible at every liturgy, and especially in all of the extra prayers, devotions, small-groups, and formation that individual members, families, and your faculty and staff engage in. Lastly, I cannot fail to mention the charitable, pro-life, and educational work that your parish offers to the entire area. Let me finish by saying that each of you has already been entrusted with Christ's work in both large and small ways, *know* of my prayers that you find more and more joy in following Him! I hope to urge all of you to follow Our Lord and seek to complete the mission He has entrusted to you, and to Saint Elizabeth parish.

Sincerely yours in Christ,

Most Reverend Thomas John Paprocki
Bishop of Springfield in Illinois

BISHOP PAPROCKI'S HOMILY FROM LAST WEEKEND

Homily for Parish Pastoral Visit
St. Elizabeth Church, Granite City, Illinois
21st Sunday of Ordinary Time – Year A

August 26-27, 2023

† Most Reverend Thomas John Paprocki
Bishop of Springfield in Illinois

My dear brothers and sisters in Christ,

It is good to be with you for this pastoral visit to Saint Elizabeth Parish in Granite City. After celebrating Masses and delivering the homily at the Masses yesterday and this morning, I will meet with your parish councils to hear about all the good things that are happening here at your parish to implement our [Fourth Diocesan Synod](#).

My visit this weekend is also an opportunity to share with you my hopes and my vision as your bishop for the future of our diocese, building on and implementing our Diocesan Synod held in 2017 on the theme of discipleship and stewardship.

Following our Diocesan Synod, I published my third pastoral letter, *Ars vivendi et moriendi in Dei gratia*, Latin for, “The Art of Living and Dying in God’s Grace,” [the full text of which is posted on our diocesan website](#). In this letter, I provide a summary of the Fourth Diocesan Synod and some pastoral commentary on the twelve declarations that were adopted.

I also offered some theological reflections on the art of living and dying in God’s grace.

In my previous pastoral letter, called, *Ars crescendi in Dei Gratia*, Latin for, “The Art of Growing in God’s Grace,” I wrote, “The art of growing in God’s grace is the key to growth in the Church. Building a culture of growth in the Church starts with inviting people to experience the love of Jesus Christ.” I also proposed some constructive steps to build a culture of growth in the Church. These steps for growth were designed to build on the foundation that I laid in my first pastoral letter, *Ars celebrandi et adorandi*, “The Art of Celebrating the Liturgy Properly and Adoring the Lord in the Eucharist Devoutly.”

In my third pastoral letter, I said that the “art of living and dying in God’s grace is the key to everlasting happiness in eternal life. The Christian faithful die to sin through the saving waters of baptism. By dying to their selfish desires through acts of mortification and self-sacrifice, the Christian faithful grow in love of God and neighbor. The whole Christian life aims at reaching this goal of everlasting happiness in eternal life by turning from sin and growing in virtue through God’s grace.

As an expression of how to reach this goal of everlasting happiness, we adopted a new mission statement at our Fourth Diocesan Synod for all of us as members of this Diocese. It says, “The mission of the Roman Catholic Diocese of Springfield in Illinois is to build a fervent community of intentional and dedicated missionary disciples of the Risen Lord and steadfast stewards of God’s creation who seek to become saints. Accordingly, the community of Catholic faithful in this diocese is committed to the discipleship and stewardship way of life as commanded by Christ Our Savior and as revealed by Sacred Scripture and Tradition.”

To further this mission, the Diocese of Springfield in Illinois is committed to implementing the Four Pillars of Discipleship and Stewardship, namely, hospitality, prayer, formation and service. In other words, we will invite people proactively to join us in prayer, especially Sunday Mass; we will provide well-prepared celebrations of the sacraments and other occasions for prayer as signs of hope and paths of grace to heaven; we will study the Bible and learn more about Jesus and our Catholic faith; and we will serve each other, especially those in need, by practicing charity and justice.

Through prayer, discernment, and consultation with others, it has become evident that the Lord is inviting us to embrace more fully our call to discipleship out of which necessarily follows a life of stewardship.¹

My brothers and sisters in Christ: In today’s Gospel passage (Matthew 16:13-20), when Jesus asks the disciples the general question as to what people are saying about Him, the disciples select the celebrities from their tradition: Elijah, John the Baptist, or Jeremiah the prophet, all of whom are known as announcers of a new age. When Jesus makes the question more personal and asks, “But who do you say that I am?”, it is Peter who makes the leap of faith and declares Him to be “the Christ, the Son of the living God.” Peter’s response lays the foundation for building the Body of Christ in this world. Jesus calls Peter “the rock” upon which He will build His Church, providing the means for all disciples to spread the Good News of God’s love and salvation throughout the world.

All of us are asked to answer the question Jesus poses: “Who do you say that I am?” Because he is both God and man, Jesus is both human and divine in his relationship to us. Thus, He may be friend, confidant, teacher, redeemer, and founder of the Catholic Church, the Body of Christ on earth. Most importantly, He is our Lord and Savior.

BISHOP PAPROCKI'S HOMILY FROM LAST WEEKEND

I concluded my third pastoral letter by telling a personal anecdote, which I would like to share with you now to close this homily.

Once when I was catching a flight to concelebrate an out-of-town wedding for a friend of mine, I had gift-wrapped a figurine of the Blessed Mother as a wedding present for the newlyweds and put the gift in my carry-on bag. When I got to the airport and put my bag on the conveyer belt for security screening, the TSA agent looked at the x-ray of my bag and called out, "Bag check." I immediately realized the problem: the figurine was made of leaded crystal and the security agent must have thought it was some sort of weapon. The TSA supervisor came over, saw me standing there wearing my clerical suit and Roman collar, then looked at the x-ray image of the figurine and exclaimed, "For heaven's sake, it's the Blessed Mother, let him through!" Of course, I was greatly relieved, and while the incident still makes me laugh, I have often thought that this little vignette is exactly the scenario I hope for when I die: I pray that I will arrive at the gates of heaven with the Blessed Mother at my side. Seeing me standing there with Our Lady beside me, Saint Peter will exclaim, "For heaven's sake, he's with the Blessed Mother, let him through!"

Staying close to our Blessed Mother throughout life provides faithful assurance that she will lead us to her Son Jesus at the hour of our death, so that we may die in God's grace and enjoy everlasting happiness in eternal life.

May God give us this grace. Amen.

¹ United States Conference of Catholic Bishops, *Stewardship: A Disciple's Response*, 1992, p. 8; <http://www.usccb.org/upload/stewardship-disciples-response-10th-anniversary.pdf>

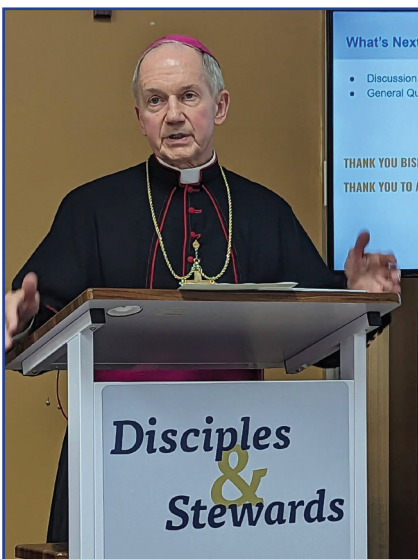
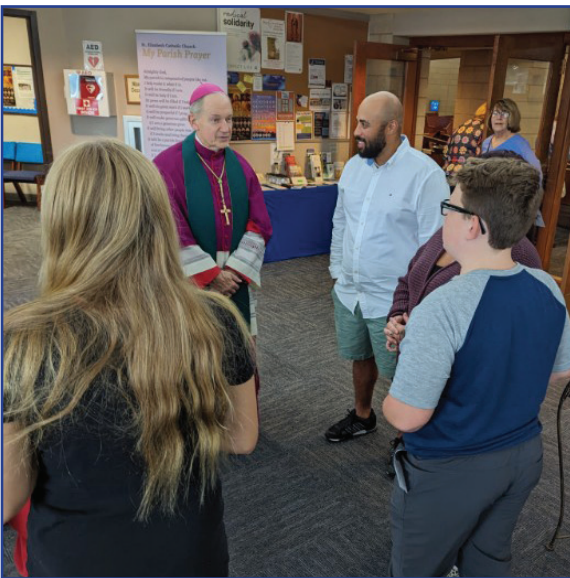
Bishop Paprocki's Pastoral Letters can be found at dio.org/bishop/pastoral-letters



**Thank you, Bishop Paprocki,
for your visit and your time with us!**



Thank you to EVERYONE who helped plan, prepare, and offer hospitality for Bishop's visit!



PARISH MISSION STATEMENT

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, September 4

Monday of the 22nd Week in Ordinary Time

No Mass

Tuesday, September 5

Tuesday of the 22nd Week in Ordinary Time

6:00 p.m. Mass:

Lonnie DeRuntz+ by the DeRuntz Family

Wednesday, September 6

Wednesday of the 22nd Wk in Ordinary Time

8:15 a.m. Mass:

Romana Lofink+ Kevin & Toni Diercks

Thursday, September 7

Thursday of the 22nd Week in Ordinary Time

8:15 a.m. Mass:

Sam Shambro+ by Andy & Joann Yurko

Friday, September 8

Feast of the Nativity of the

Blessed Virgin Mary

8:15 a.m. Mass:

Ann Fabisher+ by Beth Dittman

Saturday, September 9

Memorial of St. Peter Claver, Priest

No Mass

Saturday-Sunday, September 9-10

23rd Sunday in Ordinary Time

4:30 p.m. Saturday Eve Mass:

Geraldine Ropac+ by Norma Lesko

8:00 a.m. Mass: ☩

Mel Stroud+ by Pam Ames

10:30 a.m. Mass: ☩

Parishioners of Saint Elizabeth

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

September is dedicated to

Our Lady of Sorrows

Pope Francis' Prayer Intention for September: For people living on the margins: We pray for those persons living on the margins of society, in inhumane life conditions; may they not be overlooked by institutions and never considered of lesser importance.

This Sunday: 22nd Sunday in Ord. Time

Jer 20:7-9; Rom 12:1-2; Mt 16:21-27

In the first reading, Jeremiah bemoans the suffering he endures because of his faithfulness to the word of the Lord. In the reading from Romans, we are urged to offer our bodies as a living sacrifice and be transformed. In the Gospel, Jesus urges his disciples to take up their cross and follow him.

Next Sunday: 23rd Sunday in Ord. Time

Ez 33:7-9; Rom 13:8-10; Mt 18:15-20

Ezekiel, in today's first reading, is appointed watchman to guide his people in the ways of the Lord. In the second reading, Paul describes to the Roman Church how love fulfills the entire law and satisfies every commandment. The Gospel includes Jesus' instructions for navigating conflict and correcting those who sin. He concludes by saying that he is present when people gather in his name for prayer.

14 DAY SANCTUARY LAMP

This week, the 14-day Sanctuary Lamp reminds us to pray for **the Noeth Family+ by Sandy Davis**. To offer the 14 day candle in honor or a loved one, contact the Parish Office.

ALTAR FLOWERS

This week, the Altar Flowers are for **Glen Hommert+ by Lois Hommert**. 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

Deceased Members of Holy Name Men's Club
Czwrnog & Ostrenga Families

Kierski Family

Bill Loftus

John & Theresa Straubinger

Carl Williams

Alan Winters

Keith Winters

Brinker & Soboleski Families

Delores Brinker

Paula Gushleff Kolist

DeRuntz & Pfaff Families

Louise Harrison

Kenneth Jaimet

Deceased Members of St. Elizabeth Choir

Gene Cassy

Jim Deder

Cassy Family

Pieper Family

Crawshaw Family

Charles Dickey

Binney Family

Alma & Greg Voss

Chad Sigite

Lisa Garcia-Fensterman

Jim Alsop and Family

Gus & Angeline Scaturro

Dortch Family

Richard A. Willaredt

Lisa Dellamano

Rosalie Boyd

Joseph & Victoria Krystopa

Michael & Leona Bonach

Richard Horbelt

Gus & Angie Scaturro

Johnson Family

Jones & Harbin Families

Lesko & Danheiser Families

Mary Mennerick

Glen Hommert

Marvin Wiedemer

Mark Malone

Bill Mathes

Angela & Ronald Briggs Jr.

Robert & Lorraine Joshu

Jesse & Lorraine Gotherman

Jim Noeth & Brothers

Noeth & M. Papp Families

Brian Foreman

Tony & Mary Bellue

Jim Dittman

Pattie Jackson

Ida Gragg

Pawlak & Sertich Families

Deceased Members of Ladies Sodality

Betty Lampitt

Connie Hayes Family

Bursik/Votoupal Family

Be with Jesus

Adoration

Thursdays 9 am - 9 pm

Holy Hour

Sundays 7:30-8:30 pm



WELCOME SEMINARIAN DEVIN!



We're excited to welcome Seminarian Devin Flach into our parish in addition to Deacon Daniel McGrath! They'll both be with us for the weekends this academic year as their studies continue at Kenrick-Glennon Seminary in St. Louis. Some of you will remember Seminarian Devin as one of the team leaders of the Totus Tuus who spent a week with us and our youth of our Granite City parishes this summer. Welcome back, Devin!

Dear St. Elizabeth Parish,

My name is Devin Flach. I grew up in Montrose, Illinois, where my parents still live, and my two older brothers and their wives are close by. For kindergarten through high school, I attended Dieterich Schools, and, after high school, I attended Lake Land Community College and Southern Illinois University in Carbondale for two years each, attaining my bachelor's degree in crop, soil, and environmental management.

Although I was born and raised Catholic, it was in college when the Lord revealed His love to me in a much deeper way, and it came from a variety of places, but the major one was praying with His suffering and death for me. From there, I began asking all kinds of questions, and fell in love even more deeply with the beauty and richness of our Catholic faith. This, over time, our Lord used to draw my heart to discern the priesthood, so I entered seminary after graduating college, and I am now in my second year. I look forward to worshipping God with you in the very way He has given us: the Holy Mass.

Know of my prayers for all of you.

In Christ,
Devin Flach



CHICKEN DINNER! SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 17

11 a.m. - 5 p.m. Sunday, September 17

\$12 for Adults

\$6 for Kids up to 13

2 and under free

All you care to eat dine in
OR 3 piece carryout

Chicken, Mashed Potatoes, Gravy, Green beans, Applesauce, Bread and Dessert, Coffee, Tea, Water

What's Holding You Back? Join us in Springfield.

A special day to come together to celebrate our faith and the Eucharist is happening **Saturday, October 28 at the BOS Center in Springfield.**

This "Eucharistic Congress" is a special gathering around spiritually uplifting and motivating talks, the opportunity to visit with fellow Catholics and Catholic vendors, adoration of the Blessed Sacrament, opportunities for Confession, and more!

The day will also include the opportunity to see two related films: the documentary **God is Alive**, showcasing incredible stories of faith and miraculous events in Central Illinois, and **The Chair**, highlighting the beauty of the Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception in Springfield and the history of the diocese.

The day culminates with the very essence of the Year of the Eucharist: the celebration of Holy Mass, with an arena full of Catholics from across the diocese eager to hear the Word of God and receive Jesus present in the holy Eucharist

You can drive on your own, or take the opportunity to ride in the charter bus from St. Elizabeth with fellow parishioners, so that you don't even have to worry about the drive or parking



near the event in Springfield for the day!

Nationally popular Catholic speakers include Biblical scholar Dr. Scott Hahn; Sister M. Karolyn Nunes, FSGM; Father Chase Hilgenbrinck, former professional soccer player & vocations director for the Peoria Diocese; and Father Denis Robinson, OSB.

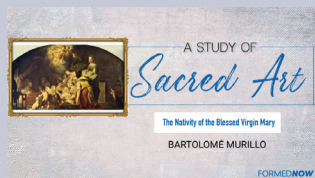
The day starts at 10:30 a.m. and is filled with film screenings, speakers, and then

culminates with the celebration of Mass at 4 p.m.

There will be NO Masses or other events in our parish or any other parish in our Diocese on Saturday, October 28 - we'll all be celebrating the Congress in Springfield that day. Join us there!

This event is FREE to attend, but you must contact the parish office to request one of our available tickets. Our charter bus should leave around 8 a.m. that morning and return that evening about 7 p.m. We are asking for riders to pay a portion of the cost, \$25 per rider. Please do not let this be a hindrance. Others are available to help cover the cost if necessary. Contact the office for help. Call the parish office & join us in Springfield October 28!

This Week on FORMED®



The Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary | Sacred Art

By studying Sacred Art, we fuel our prayer and contemplation. In this episode, Dr. Ben Akers sits down with Taylor Kemp to examine the theological nuances contained in Bartolome Murillo's depiction of the Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary.

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

"Mother of God, Most Holy Mary, my Mother, You are my Mother in a special way now because Your beloved Son is my Bridegroom, and thus we are both Your children. For Your Son's sake, You have to love me. O Mary, my dearest Mother, guide my spiritual life in such a way it will please Your Son." (Diary, 240).



Called to Communion?

Journey into the fullness of the Catholic faith

Has God been calling you - or someone you love - into full Communion with our Catholic Church, or to the Sacraments of Initiation?

Start exploring the opportunity to journey into the Church with Baptism, Confirmation, and First Holy Communion next year at Easter.

For those who are already baptized in another Christian tradition, it could be a shorter journey to entering the church at some point sooner.

For those baptized and raised Catholic but just needing to complete their Sacraments of Initiation (Confirmation & First Communion), we can work from where you are.

Call the parish office for more information and to set up an informational discussion.

And join us for The Rescue Project to begin the journey together this fall:

We live our lives according to the stories we believe...

What if there is a different story?

The Story is the gospel.

the **RESCUE** project

MEAL | EPISODE | DISCUSSION
All Adults and Teens are welcome!



PARISH SCHOOL OF RELIGION

Parish School of Religion (PSR) is our approach to helping youth of our parish learn our faith when they're not receiving religious instruction in a Catholic school setting. This week, Deacon Michael sent emails to parents of PSR students from last year and other parents we had heard from with interest in PSR. We're looking for feedback on the approach for the program this year. Options we're considering are traditional weekly classroom instruction, offering the option of in-home/in-family instruction using the curriculum we switched to last year, or a hybrid of the two. Learning is available for Kindergarten through high school! If you also have a child and would like more information, please call the parish office or email Deacon Michael at mhalbrook@stelizabethgc.org.

THE RESCUE PROJECT IS COMING

Mark your calendars, get ready, and start to invite friends and neighbors to this wonderful and engaging introduction to our Christian faith. *The Rescue Project* will be shared on Thursday evenings from September 14 through November 2. Dinner, movie, and discussion are included. Free for all. Come any or all nights!

YOUNG DISCIPLES TEENS

Our next gathering will be Sunday, September 17 after 10:30 Mass in the Upper Room in the PLC. We'll discuss our kickball tournament idea and painting & decorating our room, and play Stump the Deacon. Bring your questions & bring a friend! UPDATE: We won't eat pizza, since we can head right to the Chicken Dinner afterward.

National Catholic Youth Conference - NCYC is a powerfully unique three-day experience of prayer, community, evangelization, catechesis, service and empowerment for Catholic high school teenagers that will be hosted on November 16-18 at the Lucas Oil Stadium in Indianapolis. The event includes inspiring keynote speakers, breakout sessions on a variety of topics for teenagers and the celebration of Holy Mass with people from all over the country. If you're interested in us going with a small group from the parish, let Father, Deacon, Bret, or Mrs. Norma know.

PARISH LIFE & HOSPITALITY, SERVICE

CALLED TO SERVE? COME & SEE

Any man discerning a vocation to the diaconate (being ordained to serve as a deacon) is invited to a weekend experience at the Villa Maria in Springfield, Friday September 8, (4 p.m.) thru Saturday September 9, (2 p.m.). Meet the men currently in formation, proctor classroom lecture, and enjoy meals and social time. You'll also attend Mass with the deacon candidates and wives and participate in the Liturgy of the Hours Morning and Evening Prayer. Wives of men discerning a vocation are also invited and strongly encouraged to attend. Register at:

stelizabethgc.org/diaconate

QUILT RAFFLE

It is time again to purchase quilt raffle tickets for the 2023-2024 drawings. You have a chance to win six beautiful quilts sewn by our very talented quilters. Our first drawing will be at the August meeting so turn your tickets into the church office or place in collection basket at mass prior to the drawing. Thank you for your support of the Ladies Sodality fund raiser.

BAZAAR BASKET BOOTH

Summer is almost over and fall is right around the corner. We're requesting donated items for the fall Bazaar. We need approximately 190 baskets for the raffle. You may donate a completely made themed basket or baskets. If you only donate items or baskets we will be happy to put them together.

All donated items should be new and not have an expiration date before 2024. Cash donations and gift cards are welcome as well. Items may be dropped off in the bin by the choir room or at the Parish Office. Please call Mary Riggs at 618-542-7855 or Chris Domagalski at 618-304-2575.

Basket ideas or suggestions: Wine, coffee, date night, movie night, adult / children's reading baskets, baking (cookie cutters, mitts, etc.), tea, beer/liquor, spa, BBQ/Grilling, hunting, fishing, swimming, pets, Lotto, gift cards, comic books, sports, game night, pasta, Legos, Disney, superhero, golf.

ANNUAL RESPECT LIFE MASS & ROSARY WALK

This year's annual Diocesan Respect Life Mass and prayer procession is scheduled for Saturday, October 7 at Holy Family Parish in Granite City. Bishop Paprocki will celebrate Mass at 9 a.m., followed by a prayer procession around the abortion facility in Granite City. Lunch and speaker will follow the procession.

RESPECT LIFE ESSAY CONTEST

The American Life League is having an essay contest for middle and high school students. For essay prompts and information to submit essays go to: <https://www.all.org/clsp/2023-pro-life-essay-contest>. Essays must be submitted by November 6.

SUICIDE PREVENTION TRAINING & CANDLELIGHT VIGIL

Presented by The National Shrine of Our Lady of the Snows and the St. Clair County Suicide Prevention Alliance: Wednesday, September 6, Question, Persuade, Refer (QPR) Suicide Prevention Training 5:30-6:30 p.m. at the Shrine Visitors Center. "We Remember You" Candlelight Vigil 7 pm at the Shrine's Lourdes Grotto. If you or someone you know has been affected by suicide or concerned for another, please join us for our Suicide Prevention Training and Candlelight Vigil to honor those we have lost to suicide. No charge. For more information, call 618-394-6281 or visit snows.org.

ANDREW DINNER

Monday, September 11, at St. Peter & Paul in Alton, an evening for young men, juniors in high school through early thirties, who are interested in hearing more about the priesthood. It's a low-key evening, no one will be actively pushing you to apply to the seminary. Adoration, Evening Prayer & welcome from Bishop, Dinner, Vocation stories & discussions. Call the parish office for more information & to RSVP ASAP.

PRAY FOR VOCATIONS

May the Holy Spirit continue to inspire all to their call to their vocation. Pray for an outpouring of good and holy priests, deacons, religious, and marriages!

THIS WEEK

Sunday, September 3

9 a.m. - Men at Prayer (PLC Library)
7:30-8:30 p.m. - Exposition & Holy Hour with Vespers & Benediction (Church)

Monday, September 4

Labor Day

Parish Office & School Closed

Tuesday, September 5

School Safety Week

7:30 p.m. - Holy Name Men's Club (Cafeteria)

Wednesday, September 6

School Safety Week

7 p.m. - BINGO (Columbus Home)

Thursday, September 7

School Safety Week

6 p.m. - Exodus Fraternity Meeting (PLC)

Friday, September 8

School Safety Week

Saturday, September 9

Sunday, September 10

9 a.m. - Men at Prayer (PLC Library)
1 p.m. - Secular Franciscans (PLC)
7:30-8:30 p.m. - Exposition & Holy Hour with Vespers & Benediction (Church)



K of C CORNER Good news! At our last meeting we decided that instead of having a Halloween party we are going to change it up a little bit and are going to have a Halloween dance. It will be on Saturday Oct 28th. Times to be announced. This dance is mainly going to be for the children of the parishes. Some of the events during the dance will be dancing to the Hokey Pokey, Duck song, musical chairs, the potato game, that will be interesting. More details will be announced as we get closer to the event. Jimmy Johnson was honored and thanked for his many years of service in the Navy with a Quilt of Valor. Thank you again Jim for your service. We are also working out on having a family movie night. Once again, more details to come. Our meetings are the 4th tuesday of every month, starting with the Rosary at 7 p.m. and meeting starting at 7:30. All adults are welcome to attend. God bless you all never forget that he is with everyone of you all the time. Tom Cholevik, Grand Knight.



Knights of
Columbus®

ST. ELIZABETH SCHOOL



Bishop on a tour of our school - he commented that the gym would be a fantastic location for roller hockey!



Bishop chats with the Grinstead boys and is interviewed for the school newspaper.



Mrs. Williams presents Bishop Paprocki with cards from our school students.



Bishop Paprock blesses all of the students present at the 10:30 Mass, and any of the backpacks they brought, for the new school year.



PRAYERS FOR OUR PRIESTS

The following priests of our Diocese are celebrating birthdays soon:
9/6- Rev. Suresh Sambaturu 9/7-Rev. James Isaacson SJ Rev. Adam Zawadzki 9/8- Rev. Anthony Chowrappa 9/9- Rev. Daniel Willenborg 9/10- Rev. Nicholas Husain 9/11- Rev. John Beveridge 9/12- Rev. Joseph Kerber 9/24- Rev. Henry Schmidt+ 9/27- Rev. James Flach Rev. Michael Haag 9/28- Rev. Thomas Meyer 9/29- Most Rev. Victor Balke Rev. Bernard Meyer

The following are priests and deacons of our Diocese who have died. Please remember them in your daily prayers: 9/1- Rev. William Groesch 9/4- Rev. Thomas Masterman Rev. Jame M. Huck 9/5- Rev Geoffrey Egan Rev. Charles O'Reilly Rev. Thomas Connolly Msgr. James A. Suddes 9/7- Rev. A.J. Van Speybroeck 9/8- Rev. Anthony Rustige Rev. Anton Kersting Rev. Vincent Jalinsky 9/9- Rev. Frederick Neveling Rev. Alphonse J. Bertman Msgr Michael F. Donahue Rev. Francis C. Schlepphorst

CELEBRATING SUNDAYS FOR CATHOLIC FAMILIES

Each week we hope to share a bit of information that can help families get more out of Mass. This is from a book called 'Celebrating Sunday for Catholic Families' by Kerri Mecke-Lazano. It includes the Gospel, a reflection, a question to ponder before AND after Mass as well as a section called Living the Word to consider how you can take the Gospel with you for the rest of the week. Please use them to help you and your family get more out of the Mass each week!

HEARING THE WORD: Read Matthew 16:21-25: Jesus began to show his disciples that he must go to Jerusalem and suffer greatly from the elders, the chief priests, and the scribes, and be killed and on the third day be raised. Then Peter took Jesus aside and began to rebuke him, "God forbid, Lord! No such thing shall ever happen to you." He turned and said to Peter, "Get behind me, Satan! You are an obstacle to me. You are thinking not as God does, but as human beings do." Then Jesus said to his disciples, "Whoever wishes to come after me must deny himself, take up his cross, and follow me. For whoever wishes to save his life will lose it, but whoever loses his life for my sake will find it."

REFLECTING ON THE WORD
Jesus never said following him was going to be easy. He said he is the only source of complete joy, he will give us eternal life in heaven, but he never promises that our lives would have no burdens. Jesus tells us we must "take up our cross and follow him." Follow him where? Well, where did he go? To be crucified. But the story doesn't end on Good Friday. We follow him all the way to Easter Sunday. Jesus promises that his light will always be stronger than the darkness. But to get to that light, we must follow him.

ON THE WAY TO MASS
What does it mean to follow Jesus?

ON THE WAY HOME FROM MASS
Do we ever act like Peter and stand as an obstacle for others on their journey to follow Jesus?

LIVING THE WORD
As a family, think of some people in your life who are good examples of following Jesus. Discuss how their lives have shown you how to follow Jesus, too.



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; Brandon Weidner- US Coast Guard, Sault Sainte Marie, MI; Kody Presswood- Staff Sergeant, US Space Force, Colorado Springs, Colorado

STEWARDSHIP

Our Financial Stewardship August 27, 2023

	Actual	Goal	Over/(Short)
Week 9 Regular Income	\$4,628.00		
102 Envelopes, Avg. Gift \$45.37			
One-Time Donation			
Loose	\$510.00		
Online Giving	\$882.50		
TOTAL	\$6,020.50	\$9,104.00	(\$3,083.50)
YTD TOTALS	\$67,914.44	\$81,936.00	(\$14,021.56)

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:

BINGO Profit	\$12,000.00
Special Projects/Windows	\$117.00
St. Dominic Mission Society	\$100.00
Votive Offering	\$93.00
Tuition Assistance	\$80.00
Building Repairs/Mainten.	\$35.00
Assumption of Mary	\$22.00
Other Not Specified	\$6.00

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.
July tithes: \$3,990.00

ONLINE GIVING OPTIONS

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/allevants>



WEEKLY STEWARDSHIP REFLECTION

"What profit would there be for one to gain the whole world and forfeit his life?"

- Matthew 16:26

St. Francis of Assisi said, "Remember, you are what you are in the eyes of God, and nothing else. "We often forget this stewardship wisdom when we spend all of our time, talent and treasure to gain more of the world's riches. We need to set our priorities based on God's values and not the values of the material world.

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. 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 the parish office to set up initial appointments and preparation 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 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.

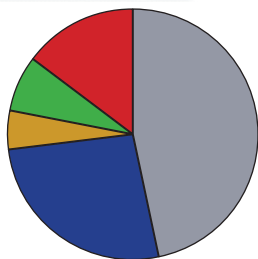
Communion to the Homebound: If you or a family member are, or are going to be, homebound, whether at home or in a care facility, please notify the parish office. Medical and care facilities are unable to inform us of their Catholic residents and patients. We would be happy to arrange to visit and bring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

View to the Future School Windows Project

Please help as you're able with our most important property facilities project at the moment... the replacement of the school windows!



\$700,000	● anticipated project cost
\$327,000	● startup from savings
\$184,600	● club/organization donations
\$36,488	● school fundraisers & PTO donations
\$50,598	● parish & school family donations
\$598,686	● total in-hand
\$101,314	● still needed

Given last week: \$117.00 THANK YOU!

BULLETIN SUBMISSIONS & ADVERTISING









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

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.



Please Support & Thank Our Advertisers! They make our bulletin possible.

<p>ROTH LAW OFFICES 2421 CORPORATE CENTER • GRANITE CITY, IL 1ST FLOOR • SUITE 103</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ACCIDENTS & INJURIES • • WORKERS COMPENSATION • • WILLS, ESTATES & PROBATE • • SOCIAL SECURITY • • DUI OFFENSES • <p>618-931-5000</p>	<p> State Farm[™] Charlotte Charbonnier, Agent</p> <p>2231 Pontoon Rd. Granite City, IL 62040 Bus: 618-797-2204 charlotte.charbonnier.0009@statefarm.com</p>  <p><i>Like a good neighbor, State Farm is there.®</i></p>	<p>St. Elizabeth School BINGO Wednesday Nights Columbus Home Buy 1 Large Early Bird Get 1 Small Early Bird Free with this Coupon</p>	
<p>COME JOIN Knights of Columbus Tri-Cities Council # 1098 4225 OLD ALTON ROAD 618-877-4250 MEETINGS 2ND & 4TH TUESDAY 7:30 P.M.</p>	<p>Scott's Auto Service SPECIALIZING IN: Engine Diagnostics, Electrical Diagnostics, Engine Repairs, Emissions Repairs, Computer Programming, Brakes, A/C, Suspensions, Exhaust & Transmissions</p> <p></p> <p>4012 North St. • Granite City • 797-7812</p>	<p>Irwin Chapel "Honoring Life" Granite City • Glen Carbon</p>	
<p> REVITY CREDIT UNION RevityCU.com</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>Carpet, Hardwood, Ceramic, Tile, Luxury Vinyl, Tile - Planks WE COVER IT ALL...  Floor Design Center & Outlet Mark Vallow Seth Renken 1009 Plummer Drive • Edwardsville vallowfloor.com • 618-656-7788</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 520 E. Chain of Rocks Rd., Granite City, IL</p>	<p> Everyone Welcome, Come Enjoy Open to the Public!</p> <p>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>BINGO (8 times a week) Lounge Bowling Machine Shuffle Board Gaming Room Banquet Rooms</p>
<p> THE GORI LAW FIRM</p>	<p>Christopher T. Layloff Partner, Gori Law Former St. Elizabeth Student Personal Injury, asbestos litigation, lung cancer, medical malpractice, workers compensation, railroad 618-744-6927 clayloff@gorilaw.com www.gorilaw.com</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>