Disciples Stewards

Thirty-first Sunday in Ordinary Time 🔷 November 5, 2023



Trunk or Treat Fun!

A big thank you to everyone who helps plan and takes part in Trunk or Treat each year. Well over 300 youngsters came through and enjoyed the night this year. What a great outreach opportunity for our parish and school family!



















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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.: 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.

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, November 6 Monday of the 31st Wk in Ordinary Time No Mass

Tuesday, November 7 Tuesday of the 31st Wk in Ordinary Time6 p.m. Mass:

Lee Hayes+ by Janice Dittman

Wednesday, November 8
Wednesday of the 31st Wk in Ordinary Time
8:15 a.m. Mass:

Longest Forgotten Soul In Purgatory+ by Carol McGee

Thursday, November 9
The Dedication of the Lateran Basilica

8:15 a.m. Mass: Geraldine Ropac+ by Norma Lesko

Friday, November 10 Saint Leo the Great, Pope & Doctor of the Church

8:15 a.m. Mass:

Sam Shambro+ by Mark & Donna Yehling

Saturday, November 11
Saint Martin of Tours, Bishop
No Mass

Saturday-Sunday, November 11-12 32nd Sunday in Ordinary Time

4:30 p.m. Saturday Evening Mass: Gene Cassy+ by Cathy Cassy

8:00 a.m. Mass: Danice Willaredt A. Willaredt

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. November is dedicated to the Souls in Purgatory

Pope Francis' Prayer Intention for November: For the Pope: We pray for the Holy Father; as he fulfills his mission, may he continue to accompany the flock entrusted to him, with the help of the Holy Spirit.

This Sunday: 31st Sunday in Ord. Time Mal 1:14b-2:2b, 8-10; 1 Thes 2:7b-9, 13; Mt 23:1-12

The prophet Malachi explains the consequences of showing partiality, division from one another and from God. Paul speaks of his affectionate love for the Thessalonian Church. In the Gospel, Jesus chastises the hypocrisy of the scribes and Pharisees, calling for humility and service.

Next Sunday: 32nd Sunday in Ord. Time Wis 6:12-16; 1 Thes 4:13-18; Mt 25:1-13

The first reading speaks of the attributes of wisdom, and the importance of the love of wisdom, the perfection of prudence. In the second reading, Paul encourages people of faith to hold on to hope in the Resurrection. In the Gospel, Jesus tells a parable where five virgins were ready for the bridegroom and five were not. Those who were not ready missed out on the wedding feast.

14 DAY SANCTUARY LAMP

This week, the 14-day Santuary Lamp reminds us to pray for **all of our beloved friends and family who have died.** 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 **Mary Shim+by Howard Shim.** 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.

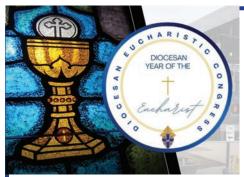
FIRST FRIDAY MEMORIALS

Deceased Members of Holy Name Men's Club Czwornog & Ostrenga Families Kierski Family Bill Loftus John & Theresa Straubinger Carl Williams Alan Winters Keith Winters Brinker & Soboleski Families Delores Brinker Paula Gushleff Koliste DeRuntz & Pfaff Families Louise Harrison Kenneth Jaimet Deceased Members of St. Elizabeth Choir Gene Cassy Jim Dedera 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 Gonterman 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



Homily for the Mass Celebrating the Diocesan Eucharistic Congress and the Centennial of the Diocese of Springfield in Illinois Bank of Springfield Center October 28, 2023

Most Reverend Thomas John Paprocki, Bishop of Springfield in Illinois

My brother priests, deacons, seminarians, consecrated religious sisters and brothers, lay ecclesial leaders, and my dear brothers and sisters in Christ: We are made for mission.

That is what has brought us here today, to this Eucharistic Congress and celebration of the 100th anniversary of the Diocese of Springfield in Illinois. But not only that.

In fact, we owe our being here at all to Christian mission. What began in a stable in Bethlehem did not end with the empty tomb. In His last act before ascending to His Father, the risen Christ commissioned his disciples to "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."

The disciples took Christ's sacred command more seriously than their lifeblood, as did many of their successors. It was

such faith, hope, charity, and sacrifice that converted Jew and Gentile alike, poor and privileged, emperors and empires, with many kingdoms and innumerable hearts to follow. Saints and scholars, monks and mothers evangelized and catechized kings, barbarians, neighbors, children.

Centuries of meditating on the scriptures and being formed by the Liturgy began to renew the human mind and more deeply convert the human heart, giving birth to the Christian culture, a culture equipped and eager to convert the New World discovered by Columbus.

This missionary drive compelled Pere Jacques Marquette, a Jesuit priest, and his companions to explore the Mississippi and Illinois Rivers in order to evangelize the peoples they encountered and to found Catholic Missions as outposts for spreading the Faith.



From this small but fervent beginning, the prayer, sacrifice, and sweat of the following generations of bishops, priests, religious, and lay faithful built up the Church in Central Illinois—erecting parishes and hospitals, orphanages and schools, universities, monasteries, and convents. These generations were formed from and for a Christian culture in which economic, political, and social life were inspired and guided by the Gospel and the teachings of the Church.

That is no longer the case today. After two world wars, as well as the sexual and technological revolutions, our culture and consequently many living in it are shedding Christianity at an astounding rate. Nearly 30% of adults today, many reared in the Christian Faith, claim no religious affiliation, considering themselves "spiritual, and not religious." Consequently, our view of ourselves, our family life, and our purpose, has radically shifted away from that of the early Christians, the missionaries who brought The Faith to this place, and even of our own parents and grandparents.

The results are catastrophic: the sharp decline in the practice of the Faith, fewer births, baptisms, and weddings; the breakup of the family, divorce, the legalization and even wholesale promotion of abortion, euthanasia, gender confusion, and skyrocketing rates of depression.



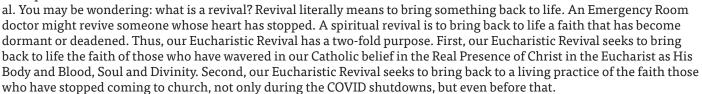


What we see in our world and in our families today the Second Vatican Council forewarned, cautioning, "When God is forgotten...the creature itself grows unintelligible."

We no longer know who we are; we no longer know who we are because we know longer know who God is. We have forgotten Him.

But the Church is not unfamiliar with such crises; in fact, she was born in one. After the Last Supper and Christ's arrest, the disciples fled—abandoning and even denying their Messiah and friend. They forgot who they were because they forgot whose they were.

It is in this context of spiritual malaise of the world today that the Catholic Bishops of the United States have called for a National Eucharistic Reviv-



The Church began in human failure and forgetfulness; but where we failed, God remained faithful. He not only remained faithful, He also instituted a pledge of His fidelity and ultimate victory on the night he was betrayed—the Eucharist—to reveal who He was: Our Lord and Savior; and to re-member us--to put us back together after our failure. When we celebrate the Eucharist, we renew the covenant of Christ's fidelity by consuming the flesh and blood of the Lamb of God and are made whole— and wholly His—by consuming Him. Here is where Discipleship begins—with Divine intimacy—with Christ sharing with us every part of Him and asking of us the very same.

At our Convocation of Priests last month, we were asked to recall a time when we experienced the love of our Eucharistic Lord. I immediately thought of my First Holy Communion, which I received 61 years ago, on May 6, 1962, when I was in Fourth Grade. At that point, I was almost ten years old, so receiving my First Holy Communion was something I had time to think about and look forward to with great anticipation. I was not disappointed. Receiving my First Holy Communion was a profound moment of experiencing the love of Christ coming into my heart, and I continue to cherish that awareness of divine presence within me every time I receive Holy Communion.

If your experience of receiving Holy Communion has grown tepid and you wish to revive its power to move you spiritually, may I suggest that you think back to your own First Holy Communion, which I hope was also a profoundly moving spiritual experience for yourself.

If the disciple wishes to live and spread the Gospel, if he wishes to be successful, he must love the Lord and must commune with Him heart to heart. Jesus said, "He who abides in me and I in Him, he it is that bears much fruit..." Pope St. John Paul II commented on this passage, saying, "Communion with Jesus, which gives rise to the communion of Christians among themselves, is an indispensable condition for bearing fruit: 'Apart from me you can do nothing.'"

No matter the personal cost, the disciple chooses to live a deep, intimate knowledge of, and life-long, life-giving covenantal love with Christ. This is the only way Jesus describes eternal life: "that they know you, the only true God, and Jesus Christ, whom you have sent." By knowing and loving Christ, we become part of His family, so to speak, being ushered into the life of the Trinity, and we take on God's characteristics.

All our pastoral initiatives, then, must be set in relation to holiness, that is, union with God. We would be unhappy, ineffective disciples without divine intimacy. We would not be disciples at all.

In short, we are called to be saints.

How do we grow in this intimacy which we call holiness? As we said at our Fourth Diocesan Synod in 2017, there are four pillars to help us:

- 1. Hospitality—to invite and welcome others proactively to join us in prayer, especially the Mass.
- 2. Prayer—to spend time in personal prayer, to offer penance and sacrifice for ours and others' conversions; to meditate on the Scriptures and live the sacramental life.
- 3. Formation—to study the Scriptures, the Catechism, the lives of the saints, and to die to sin and grow in virtue.
- 4. Service—to serve each other, especially those in need, by practicing charity and justice.

To do this, we must grow in the interior life, striving to accept God's grace and His





will for us. That is how the hearts and minds of disciples are formed. And that is what attracts others to the Faith. Holy disciples are the greatest witness to the power of God and attest to the possibility of living a new life in Christ.

Holy disciples are the friends of God. Being a friend of God means loving what He loves. Disciples love Jesus and they love His mission. Jesus modeled this for us: He shared His knowledge and love of His Father; He also shared Himself, inviting people to follow Him, to share table fellowship with Him, and taking a personal interest in them. Christ befriended others. He accompanied and invested Himself in those around Him. Divine intimacy breathes the life of Christ into us, but it is friendship that provides the setting for effective evangelization.

Many in the world today lack authentic friendships; and they are agonizingly lonely. They seek real connection with others, they search for a community that pursues the Truth, lives Goodness, and experiences Beauty. Our parishes ought to be the first and most obvious places to encounter these spiritual treasures because the one who is Truth, the One who is Goodness, the One who is Beauty dwells with us and has befriended us and we live in relationship with Him.

Disciples prioritize relationships: with Christ, with others, while planning for future generations. Like St. Paul with Timothy, and like the missionaries who have come before us, we seek not only to convert one generation, but all succeeding ones too, making missionary disciples of all peoples.

For that reason, we work to foster a better understanding, participation, and love of the Liturgy, centered on the Eucharist. We work to clarify and renew the mission of our Catholic schools to infuse our families to their core with the Biblical and Catholic identity needed to keep them firm in the face of an adversarial culture. We work to reach out and heal those hurt by the sexual and technological revolutions, and to care for those disregarded by a world who considers them worthless.

We live in a difficult moment, a moment of transition, of moving out of a culture informed and guided by Christianity and into a secular age.

Tragically, the hearts of many have been wounded by it. God is forgotten or forcibly removed from our institutions and our collective memories. God is said to be a stumbling block to our freedom and material success instead of what He really is: our loving Father and merciful Redeemer. Forgetting Him, we grow unfamiliar to ourselves and

But there is another way. Christ is the way, the truth, and the life, who offers hope, healing, and a new way of being—living in divine intimacy and authentic friendship in and through His missionary disciples.

We live in a moment of great opportunity, and we stand ready with renewed vigor, confidence, and faith that we can imitate the ordinary people Christ called so many centuries ago to be, with Him, extraordinary ministers of His message and mysteries. Today we remember and pledge to imitate the courage and sacrifice of the missionaries and faithful Catholics who settled here in this diocese and left us the gift and legacy of the Catholic Faith.

Never have we had better resources to form the people we have, reform those who have left, and inform those who do not know Christ or His Church.

It is time; time for conversion of heart; time or a renewal of the vision handed on to us; time for a

reawakening of the charisms and gifts the Spirit bestows; time to take our Christian vocation as seriously as those who have come before knowing God will sustain us by Word and Sacrament.

The Word of God is living and effective. It shall not return to God empty, but shall do what pleases Him, achieving the end for which He sent it. And that end is the conversion of the world to Christ by a new generation of saints and scholars, mothers and fathers, servants and friends.

We trust in the power of the Word of God to teach and reprove, in the Word made flesh, Jesus our Lord who has called us to follow Him in friendship, imitating His life and equipping us for discipleship by His example, His teaching, His sacrifice.

We ask our Lady, who received the Word at the Annunciation, who journeyed with her son in His ministry, who stood at the foot of the cross, who witnessed her risen Son, who received the Holy Spirit at Pentecost, to intercede for us and our work of becoming holy, effective disciples, that she may accompany us and guide us toward her Son. We entrust to her, the Immaculate Conception,

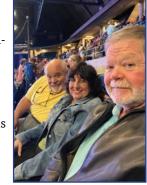
the patroness of our diocese, the success of our mission.

Immaculate Mary, your praises we sing. You reign now in splendor with Jesus our King.

[Refrain:] Ave, Ave, Ave, Maria! Ave, Ave, Maria!

In heaven the blessed your glory proclaim; On earth we your children invoke your fair name. [Refrain]

We pray for our Mother, the Church upon earth, And bless, Holy Mary, the land of our birth. [Refrain] May God give us this grace.





descend into pain and confusion.

The First National Eucharistic Congress in 83 Years

This is a pivotal moment in both American history and the legacy of the Catholic Church. We are expecting tens of thousands of pilgrims, but space is limited. Jesus Christ will be there. Will you?

July 17-21, 2024 | Lucas Oil Stadium | Indianapolis, Indiana



JOIN US IN INDIANAPOLIS NEXT JULY

To close out the third year of the National Eucharistic Revival, the U.S. Bishops invite us to join them in Indianapolis next year for the first National Eucharistic Congress in 83 years.

The National Eucharistic Congress will be held at Lucas Oil Stadium and Indianapolis Convention Center from July 17-21, 2024 - next summer.

It's just a short drive from us, so we're hoping to take a contingent from our parish for at least a couple of days of this generational event.

WHAT WILL HAPPEN AT THE CONGRESS?

Each day will include Mass, Eucharistic Processions and Adoration, tons of breakout sessions, and general sessions featuring amazing nationally-known speakers like Bishop Robert Barron, Father Mike Schmitz, and dozens of others.

AN EXPERIENCE FOR ANYONE:

ENCOUNTER TRACK: Sessions for anyone who desires a deeper renewal of their faith and a richer understanding of Jesus Christ in the Blessed Sacrament, and who is wondering what the next step in their faith journey will be after the National Eucharistic Congress.

EUCHARISTIC MISSIONARY TRACK: Smaller, more intimate sessions are for anyone who wants practical tools to become a "Eucharistic Missionary," evangelizing their community and taking on a deeper role in spreading the Gospel to those around them.

MINISTRY TRACK: Sessions are for any person who serves in a ministry role, volunteer or paid. If you are a ministry leader and would like to connect with others who share your challenges and mission, then this is a fantastic way for you to participate at the Congress.

YOUTH TRACK: Sessions are for teenagers aged 14 to 18, including those who are entering high school in the fall or recently graduated the previous spring. Teenagers must register with an adult, a family, or a youth group (including our parish group).

FAMILY TRACK: For parents or caregivers and children to attend together, with activities, talks, and prayers that will speak to every family member.

Families with children aged 13 and younger will find these sessions to be particularly impactful. Older children are welcome either to attend with their family or to join a group and attend the Youth sessions during the day.

IT DOESN'T END THERE

Not only do many of our bishops hope that the movement continues with Eucharistic Congresses occuring more frequently around the country in the future as they did before the World Wars, but they hope to send home from Indianapolis next July an activated army of Missionary Eucharistic Disciples who are on fire for our Lord in the Eucharist and ready to help invite and bring others to the Eucharist. We hope you'll become a part of that movement with us!

If you have any interest at all, please contact Bret in the parish office.

Similar to the Diocesan Congress last weekend, we'd like to create the opportunity to attend with a group from our parish.

We're starting to put together plans for options for people who want to go the entire time, and/or for people who would like to try to go for the Friday-Sunday or Saturday-Sunday time frame.





All Souls Day Memorials 2023

Eternal rest grant unto them, O Lord, and let perpetual light shine upon them.

 $Ralph\ Lickenbrock\ Sr.$

Virginia Lickenbrock

Kenneth Justice

Doug Conrad

Angie Hardesty

Deceased Members of the Czerniejewski Family

James Alsop

Mr. & Mrs. Berto Cerutti

Mr. & Mrs. Thomas Ganz

Deceased Members of the Weckman & Wilbur Families & Friends

Jim Noeth

Deceased Members of M. Papp family

Clay & Kokotovich Families

Rose & Henry Kolenda

Theresa Gulash

Judy Whitaker

June Schneider

Father Ken

Helen Soptic

Antionette Soptic

Deceased Members of the Pawlak

& Sertich Families

Andy Mathes

Steve, Mary & Charlie Pogorelac

Deceased Family & Friends of the Nelson Family

Ronald (Buzz) Hutchings

Syble & Ralph Larkin

Newman (Rip) Parker

Judy Mundy

Lawrence Jaros

Ralph & Bertha Wesbecher

Frank & Vi Kessler

Norma Kessler

Bill Loftus

Mejaski & Loftus Family Members

Deceased Members of the Layloff, Voytush, Breal, Chaperlo & Zagora

Families & Friends

Poneta/Arth Families

Dorothea L. Jones

Charles R. Jones

Sherri L. Druck

Melvin Wilmsmever

Helen Klenkler

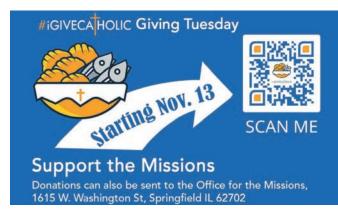
Helen Long

Katherine Thrasher

Francis Thrasher Jr.

Dennis Stolte

John Stephens







FORMATION Growing in Knowledge of Christ & His Church

This Week on FORMED



The INCREDIBLE Eucharistic Miracles with Fr. Robert Spitzer on the Chris Stefanick Show

Did you know there are miracles that back up the true presence of the Eucharist? It's true! And I brought Fr. Robert Spitzer back to tell us about the incredible science behind them.

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

"Act like a beggar who does not back away when he gets more alms [than he asked for], but offers thanks the more fervently. You too, should not back away and say that you are not worthy of receiving greater graces when I give them to you. I know you are unworthy, but rejoice all the more

and take as many treasures from My Heart as you can carry, for then you will please Me more." (Diary, 294).



RESCUE PROJECT THANK YOU!

A HUGE thank you to Chris Spanberger & Norma Lesko and their whole team for hosting and leading our parish through The Rescue Project again this fall. Our 8 week journey through the materials and discussions was made extra special by the environment they helped to create, the wonderful meals, and the hospitality they provided. THANK YOU!

YOUNG DISCIPLES TEENS - JOIN US!

Our Young Disciples Teens have started their project of painting "The Upper Room" in the PLC and making their own space, and are planning a kickball tournament to invite the other teens from other parishes in our deanery to compete. Come join us for our next gathering for food & fellowship, to help finish painting the room, and to talk about the tournament and other things we'd like to do as a group of teens in our parish.

THIS SUNDAY, NOV. 5, after 10:30 Mass.



MEN: JOIN US IN EXODUS FOR FALL & ADVENT

Interested in jumping into our Exodus fraternity without the Exodus 90 commitment to cold showers? Join us for the All Hallows Octave right now in prayer for deceased loved ones around the world, for the last 10 days of our Fall exercise when Father Boniface Hicks is helping us learn how to better accompany other brother men as disciples, and for Advent when we work on the virtue of HOPE in preparation for Christmas. Advent in Exodus will also feature some video features with Bishop Paprocki sharing messages of hope with the Exdous men of the world. Call Bret in the parish office for more information.



HEAVEN OR HELL: HOW GOD JUDGES

It's one of the deepest theological questions – judgement. What is the particular judgement and the last judgement? Will we know everything in heaven? Will we know if our loved ones are in hell? Ultimately, what does the Church say about what will happen at your judgement? Father Peter Harman, who holds a Doctorate in Moral Theology from the Catholic University of America, joins Dive Deep. Go to dio.org/podcast or youtube.com/diospring-field or search "Dive Deep" on all the major podcast platforms to listen and subscribe!

ANSWERING YOUR QUESTIONS ON DEATH AND DYING

Catholic Times has put together an easy to navigate and comprehensive look at end-of-life issues. Go to dio.org/funeral for questions like: Why should you pre-plan your funeral? If your loved one is dying, what should you do? Why must you insist on Catholic funeral rites? Why should you pray for the dead? Why insist upon being buried in a Catholic cemetery? Also covered are the issues of cremation/spreading ashes, among other topics. As the month of November is dedicated to praying for the dead, now is a good time to learn more about dying and death from a Catholic perspective





NET THANK YOU Thank you to everyone who supports the Mission & Ministry / Faith Formation fund, which helps provide experiences like the NET Missionaries who were here recently for NET Retreats with our 5th-8th graders from St. Elizabeth & Holy Family. A great time was had by all, and the students are looking forward to another round of NET retreats in the spring. Thank you!

Parish Life & Hospitality, Service

HELP CELEBRATE SISTER STEPHANIE

Join us next Sunday, November 12 after 10:30 a.m. Mass to celebrate Sister Stephanie's 60th Anniversary of her profession of vows. We will have refreshments and would love to have everyone join us to thank Sister for saying yes to God's call so many years ago and for her love and prayers for and with us.

CHARITABLE OUTREACH

The next meeting of our Charitable Outreach group is Wednesday, November 15 at 6 p.m. in the Harmony Room. Thank you to everyone who has been donating money or items for our two outreach projects: laundromat support and our bags for the unhoused in our community. We are in need of the following as we head into cooler weather for our bags: Band-aids, aspirin/Tylenol, hydrocortisone ointment, lip balms, feminine hygiene products, gloves, stocking caps, handwarmers, hotel size soaps/ shampoo/lotions, Kleenex, small water bottles. Our laundry team continues to accept pods or dryer sheets as well as quarters.

GRANITE CITY CANDY CANE PARADE

On Saturday, December 2, Granite City Area Community Foundation is sponsoring the Annual Candy Cane Parade. In years past we have had an entry. We are reaching out to see if there is an adult or family or group of adults who would like to coordinate the building of a float and lead our efforts. Please contact the parish office if you have any questions or are interested in helping out. We have parishioners who have trailers and trucks too...if willing to share yours, let us know as well. Thanks!

WAY OF LIGHTS VOLUNTEER REQUEST

Looking for a special way to share the holiday spirit? Volunteer for a shift or two during the Way of Lights, greeting

in Christ, Tom Cholevik, Grand Knight

visitors to the Christmas tree display at the Shrine of Our Lady of the Snows from November 17 through December 31. This is also a great opportunity for youth service hours. Email programs@ snows.org, call 618-394-6281 or go to our website at:

www.snows.org/wayoflights

HAPPY NATIONAL VOCATION AWARENESS WEEK

Please join the Dominican Sisters of Springfield for a virtual event, 7:00 p.m. this Monday, November 6. Enjoy a premier video, then join the conversation with Sister Beth Murphy, OP, and Father Joe Molloy, pastor of St. Joseph the Worker in Chatham, as they share stories about their call to religious life and diocesan priesthood. Event is free, but registration is required to receive the meeting link. Register here today: springfieldop.org/meetoursisterstour/

MASS OF THANKSGIVING FOR **OUR WINDOWS PROJECT**

Join us at 10:30 Mass on Sunday, December 3 as we pray together in thanksgiving for all who contributed to our successful school window project. You will see dust flying very soon and we want to make that we thank God for you, our parishioners who contributed to this wonderful improvement to our campus. We will have refreshments in the Harmony Room after each Mass in celebration as well.

LADIES, PLEASE CIRCLE THESE TWO DATES

Tues., Dec. 5 - Ladies Christmas Par**tv.** Plan to join us as we celebrate the Christmas Season whether you've been Naughty or Nice.

Sat., Dec. 16 & Sun., Dec. 17th -Cookie Sale. Ladies we can bake this world a better place one Cookie at a time. So, get ready to start your ovens!ore detailed information to follow on these two "Special" events for Ladies Sodality next weekend.

This Week

Sunday, November 5

Daylight Savings Time ends (fall back) Harmony Cafe after all Masses

9 a.m - Men at Prayer (Bridal Room or Sanctuary)

9-10:15 a.m. - PSR (PLC)

After 10:30 Mass: Young Disciples Teens until 1 p.m. (Upper Room)

6:30-7:15 p.m. - Choir Practice (Church)

7:30-8:30 p.m. - Exposition & Holy Hour with Vespers & Benediction (Church)

Monday, November 6

Tuesday, November 7

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

Wednesday, November 8

7 p.m. - BINGO (Columbus Home)

Thursday, November 9

9 a.m. - 9 p.m. - Adoration (Church); Benediction at 8:55 p.m.

7 p.m. - RCIA (PLC)

9 p.m. - Exodus Fraternity (Harmony Room)

Friday, November 10 School Closed in honor of **Veterans Day**

Saturday, November 11 **Veterans Day**

Sunday, November 12

9 a.m - Men at Prayer (Bridal Room or Sanctuary)

After 10:30 Mass: 60th Anniversary Celebration for Sister Stephanie (Harmony Room)

6:30-7:15 p.m. - Choir Practice (Church)

7:30-8:30 p.m. - Exposition & Holy Hour with Vespers & Benediction (Church)

Knights of

Columbus*

K of C CORNER The KC Halloween dance was a huge success. The children had a great time playing games such as musical chairs, hokey pokey, duck dance and potato game. We had our 5th Sunday honor ceremony at St. Mary's last Sunday with the 4th degree in their full regalia and 3rd degree with their new shirts. The parishioners provided an excellent breakfast after Mass. For those who do not know, the Knights do this in a rotation among the 3 parishes when a month has 5 Sundays. I would like to urge any fellow Knights that have fallen into the path of not attending or participating in our mission to help us support the schools and parishes and many other organizations to come back to the meetings. The meetings are the 4th Tuesday of every month. Call Tom at 618-789-0337 for any further information. Yours

ST. ELIZABETH SCHOOL

HALLOWEEN (ALL HALLOWS EVE) FUN!











CELEBRATING SUNDAYS FOR CATHOLIC FAMILIES

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 23:1-12

REFLECTING ON THE WORD

The scribes and Pharisees are concerned with status, position, and keeping up appearances, but Jesus reminds his followers that to be a disciple means to be a servant. We should not seek to honor ourselves but give all honor and glory to God by humbly serving the needs of others. What would the world look like if everyone lived this aspect of the Gospel message?

ON THE WAY TO MASS

Jesus invites us to love as he loves, and to serve as he serves. What are some ways we can care for or help others?

ON THE WAY HOME FROM MASS

Who is God calling us to serve today? How is God's love going to be shared with others through our family today? When we serve others with a humble heart, we give all glory and honor to God!

LIVING THE WORD

The saints are men, women, and children who have chosen to be servants of God. When we read about their lives, we see examples of how to be holy and how to serve others. Choose a saint (any saint, or perhaps the patron saint of your parish, if applicable) and read about his or her life. Discuss how that saint chose to serve God, and what lessons your family can take from their example.



PRAYERS FOR OUR PRIESTS

The following priests of our Diocese are celebrating birthdays soon: 11/10- Rev. Albert Allen Rev. Braden Maher 11/16- Rev. Jerry Wickenhauser, MM 11/17- Rev. Kevin Sullivan Rev. Michael Friedel 11/20- Rev. Humphrey Milimo, OMI 11/24- Rev. Charles Nelson Rev. Michael Meinhart 11/25- Rev. Peter Chineke 11/30 Rev. Jeffry Holtman

The following are priests and deacons of our Diocese who have died. Please remember them in your daily prayers: 11/4- Rev. Anthony G. Kunsch 11/5- Rev. John Herlitz Rev. Frank M. Troesch Rev. Jovian Lange, OFM 11/7- Rev. Peter Smyth 11/8- Rev. John J. Connolly 11/9- Rev. Michael Weis Rev. John Higgins



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; Nick Glasgow- USMC, California

Stewardship

Our Financial Stewardship October 29, 2023

	Actual	Goal	Over/(Short)
Week 18 Regular Income	\$3,888.00		
84 Envelopes, Avg. Gift \$46.29			
One-Time Donation			
Loose	\$184.00		
Online Giving	\$620.00		
TOTAL	\$4,692.00	\$9,104.00	(\$4,412.00)
YTD TOTALS	\$142,102.29	\$163,872.00	(\$21,769.71)

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	\$10,145.0
All Souls Day	\$315.00
All Saints Day	\$250.00
Funeral Stipend	\$100.00
Tuition Assistance	\$80.00
Other Not Specified	\$75.00
World Mission Sunday	\$44.00
Building Repair/Maintenance	\$35.00
Mission & Ministry	\$25.00

Parish Tithing Reporting

Our parish tithe to the Diocese to support the administration, ministries, and work of our Diocese is 10% of our regular monthly income. September tithe: \$3,303.00

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/allevents

WEEKLY STEWARDSHIP REFLECTION

"Whoever exalts himself will be humbled;

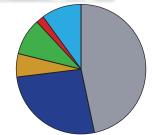
but whoever humbles himself will be exalted." - Matthew 23:12

The world celebrates people in the spotlight and those who have the most of everything. We think celebrity, money and possessions is the key to happiness. Yet, our world is filled with more loneliness, anxiety and depression than ever before. The key to a happy life is relationship. Relationship with God and each other. Trust is the foundation of any good relationship and humility is the seed of trust.



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 \$41,488 school fundraisers & PTO donations \$69,043 **EANS** grant \$65,198 parish & school family donations

\$687,329 total in-hand \$12,671 still needed

Given last week: \$10,145.00 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.

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.

FAITH FAMILY SAINT PRESENTATIONS This year our St. Elizabeth students are arranged into age-blended "Faith Families." Each Faith Family picked a saint or blessed as their patron. After All Saints Day Mass Wednesday morning, each Faith Family gave a short presentation about their patron. We look forward to sharing them with you here over the next several weeks.



St. Joan of Arc, pray for us



Bl. Chiara Badano, pray for us



St. Charles Lwanga, pray for us



Blessed Carlo Acutis, pray for us



St. Elizabeth of Hungary, pray for us



St. Lucy, pray for us



St. Pedro Calungsod, pray for us



St. Dominic Savio, pray for us



St. Katri Tekakwitha, pray for us



St. Maria Goretti, pray for us

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