

Disciples Stewards

St. Elizabeth Catholic Church & School

Granite City, Illinois ♦ Diocese of Springfield in Illinois

Third Sunday of Advent ♦ December 17, 2023



Gaudete! Rejoice!

In today's readings Isaiah, Paul, and John the Baptist rejoice because they have Good News. God is with them and working through them. They are anointed, blessed, and sent to do God's will. On this Gaudete Sunday, we, too, find reason to rejoice. Let us rejoice in sharing the Good News of Christ!



Ladies Sodality
Cookies & Sweet Treats Shop
THIS WEEKEND
after all Masses
in the Harmony Room


2300 Pontoon Road
Granite City, IL 62040


Phone 618-877-3300


Fax 618-877-9800


After-Hours Emergencies
314-266-8387

Web: stelizabethgc.org

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

PASTORAL STAFF

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mwilliams@stelizabethgc.org

Loretta Joyce, School Secretary
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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, December 18

Monday of the Third Week of Advent

No Mass

Tuesday, December 19

Tuesday of the Third Week of Advent

6 p.m. Mass:

Cheryl Jones+ by Marilyn Doneff

Wednesday, December 20

Wednesday of the Third Week of Advent

8:15 a.m. Mass:

Sam Shambro+ by John Barth

Thursday, December 21

Thursday of the Third Week of Advent

8:15 a.m. Mass:

William Jones+ by Norma Lesko

Friday, December 22

Friday of the Third Week of Advent

Cheryl Jones+ by Andy & JoAnn Yurko

Saturday, December 23

Saturday of the Third Week of Advent

No Mass

Saturday-Sunday, December 23-24

Fourth Sunday of Advent

4:30 p.m. Saturday Evening Mass:

Timothy Scaturro+ by Janet Scaturro

8:00 a.m. Mass: ☩

Parishioners of Saint Elizabeth

10:30 a.m. Mass:

Joe Rosales+ by Nancy Rosales

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

Be with Jesus

Adoration

Thursdays 9 am - 9 pm

Holy Hour

Sundays 7:30-8:30 pm



December is dedicated to the Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary

Pope Francis' Prayer Intention for December:

For persons with disabilities: We pray that people living with disabilities may be at the center of attention in society, and that institutions may offer inclusive programs which value their active participation.

This Sunday: Third Sunday of Advent

Is 61:1-2a, 10-11; 1 Thes 5:16-24; Jn 1:6-8, 19-28

In today's readings Isaiah, Paul, and John the Baptist rejoice because they have Good News. God is with them and working through them. They are anointed, blessed, and sent to do God's will. On this Gaudete Sunday, we, too, find reason to rejoice. Let us rejoice in sharing the Good News of Christ.

Next Sunday: Fourth Sunday of Advent

2 Sam 7:1-5, 8b-12, 14a, 16; Rom 16:25-27; Lk 1:26-38

David ruminates on building a house for the Lord. However, the Lord reminds David how he has favored him and states that it is God who will build a house for David. Paul gives glory to Christ, acknowledging the prophets and wisdom through the ages that have all participated in this revelation. The angel Gabriel announces that Mary will conceive a son - the Son of God - and Mary accepts the honor, saying, *may it be done to me according to your word.*

14 DAY SANCTUARY LAMP

This week, the 14-day Sanctuary Lamp reminds us to pray for **the marginalized; the poor, the homeless, the mentally ill persons in our community.** To offer the 14 day candle in honor or a loved one, contact the Parish Office.

ALTAR FLOWERS

This week, the Altar Flowers are **in thanksgiving for the vocation of Marriage by Dcn. Michael & Suzanne Halbrook.** 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
Czwoznog & 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 Dederá

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

Ann Fabisher



Holiday Mass Times in Granite City & Madison	St. Elizabeth	Holy Family	St. Mary/St. Mark
4th Sunday in Advent December 23-24	Normal Mass times: Sat 4:30 p.m.; Sun 8 & 10:30 a.m.	Normal time: Sat 4 p.m.; Sun 8:30 a.m.	Normal time: Sun 10 a.m.
Christmas Eve (Sun) Dec. 24	4:30 & 11 p.m.	8 p.m.	4 p.m.
Christmas Day (Mon) Dec. 25	9 a.m.	10:30 a.m.	
Holy Family of Jesus, Mary, & Joseph, Dec. 30-31	Normal Mass times: Sat 4:30 p.m.; Sun 8 & 10:30 a.m.	Normal time: Sat 4 p.m.; Sun 8:30 a.m.	Normal time: Sun 10 a.m.
Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God, Dec. 31-Jan. 1	New Year's Eve, Sun 4:30 p.m. New Year's Day, Mon 9 a.m.	Monday, Jan 1 10:30 a.m.	

Remember! Sundays are obligatory, as are the Holy Days of Obligation of Christmas (Eve or Day of Dec. 25) and the Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God (Eve or Day of Jan. 1).



Mark your calendars for our annual Parish Picnic! “Fun in the Sun for 2024” June 7, 8 & 9

First, I would like to thank Fr. Alfred for giving me his blessings and having faith in me leading our parish picnic moving forward. There are so many parishioners that come together to commit your time and talents, to make this our biggest fundraiser, in 7 days, for our parish and school, year after year. So, without all our booth chairmen, booth workers, maintenance and grounds team, financial supporters, parish office, our community and Fr. Alfred's guidance, our parish and schools would not be what they are today. Thanks to all involved. We had another great, successful and safe picnic again for 2023.



Secondly, I would like to Thank Steve and Mary Hay for their past leadership in this role for the last 5 years and their past 30+ years of picnic involvement. They are continuing their commitment to stay involved in helping me transition into this role and also have stepped into a chairmanship role, as Sponsorships for 2024. Get in touch with Steve or Mary, if you can be of any help to them or would like to become a monetary sponsor of our picnic. They have all the details!!!

There is more behind the scenes that goes into our picnic all year long, (I can contest to this, being in this role for the last few months now) so you will be seeing updates and hearing from me throughout the coming months leading up to our picnic.

We started planning for 2024 at the wrap-up meeting in September and had several discussions with our biggest discussion on picnic hours. So, it was voted on by all chairman present to change our picnic hours to as follows:

Friday 4pm-12am; Saturday 12pm-12am; Sunday 12pm-7pm

These hours will not change unless there is an unforeseen change in severe weather.

We need Booth Chairmen, Co-Chairmen and Volunteers for the entire picnic week, which includes set-up and tear-down and everything in between. Everyone is encouraged to help in some capacity.

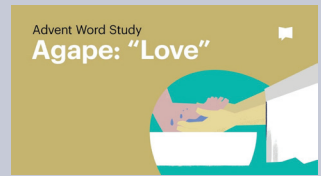
As I stated above, this is a very large and vital part of our parish and school, and without it, we would not be able to offer or have a campus this nice. So please consider volunteering and helping at this annual event.

We need co-chairmen for the following booths: Mexican Food, Fried Food. We need chairmen for the following booths: (New) Funnel Cakes (2) (Existing) Grounds Trash/Clean-up, (New) Friday Dinner (Existing) Saturday Dining Room, (New) Friday Dining Room

Please consider or re-consider getting involved and contact me @ 618-304-6074 or tcdomo@charter.net for more info on volunteering and/or becoming a chair-person.

Thank you,
Tim Domagalski

This Week on FORMED®



Agape/Love Advent: Word Studies The Bible Project

The word "love" is one of the sloppiest words in our language, as it primarily refers to a feeling that happens to a person. In the New Testament, "love" refers to a way of treating people that was defined by Jesus himself: seeking the well-being of others regardless of their response.

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.

LEARN MORE ABOUT OUR FAITH

Anyone is welcome to join us to learn more about our faith - jump in with the OCIA (those learning more about our faith to potentially be baptized and/or come into the Catholic Church) any given Thursday. Learn more, help ask great questions... Thursdays from 7-8 in the PLC Library:

- 12/21: The People of God
- 1/4: The Sacraments - Intro & Overview
- 1/11: Baptism & Confirmation
- 1/18: The Eucharist

GAUDETE SUNDAY - REJOICE!

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Mercy Minute

"I desire, My dearly beloved daughter, that you practice the three virtues that are dearest to Me -and most pleasing to God. The first is humility, humility and once again humility; the second virtue, purity; the third virtue, love of God. As My daughter, you must especially radiate with these virtues." (Diary, 1415)



YOUNG DISCIPLES SOCIETY



Young Disciples Teens had fun last Sunday after 10:30 Mass. First, the group enjoyed pizza, then they hand-made Christmas cards for some of our homebound and nursing home residents. Deacon Michael & Seminarian Devin defeated Deacon Daniel & Charlie G. at foosball too. Thanks to Mrs. Norma for helping organize the card making, and to Mrs. Lori Jones for joining us to teach & coach us on how to hand-make cards from various pieces and parts.

Teens, join your peers at Young Disciples Teens at one of the upcoming opportunities, & bring a friend. Gatherings are after the 10:30 Sunday Mass, until 1 p.m., and include lunch or a snack.

THIS Sunday, December 17: Prayer + Formation - Learning about the end of Advent traditions and the "O Antiphons"

January 14, January 21, January 28

Questions? Call Bret in the Parish Office for more information.

PARISH LIFE & HOSPITALITY, SERVICE



LADIES SODALITY COOKIES & SWEET TREAT SHOP

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

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

SCRIP MAKES GREAT STOCKING STUFFERS

Looking for that hard to buy for person or searching for that last minute stocking stuffer? Come by the parish office and take a look at the selection of Scrip Gift Cards. Not only are they great for giving, a percentage of the purchase goes to the parish. We have fast food, movie theatres, gas cards and much more.

ON THE LOOKOUT FOR A COOK

St. Elizabeth Catholic School needs a cook beginning in January 2024. This would be 2-4 days per week and 3-4 hours per day. If you are interested or know someone that would be, please contact the school or parish office.

HELP WANTED

All are welcome to come and assist us as we prepare the church for Christmas. If you have some time and can help, please join us on Friday, December 22 after 8:15 a.m. daily Mass to help decorate the church. More hands = less work for all. See you there.

CHRISTMAS HYMNS & CAROLS

Be sure to come early to Christmas Eve Masses. The choir has worked very hard preparing to sing for this glorious season, not only for the Mass but a short concert before each service. We will start Hymns & Carols at 4:05 p.m. and again at 10:35 p.m. on Christmas Eve. On Christmas Morning, there will be Hymns & Carols 15 minutes before the 9 a.m. Mass. We wish you Merry Christmas and Happy New Year filled with Peace, Joy and Love. Please consider joining the choir as one of your New Year's resolutions. We will begin practicing for Easter in January. Watch the bulletin for more information. We'd love to have you join us! Easter will be here before you know it.



THIS WEEK

Sunday, December 17

Ladies Sodality Cookies & Sweet Treats Sales after all Masses (Harmony Room)
After 8:00 Mass to 10:15 - PSR (PLC)
After 10:30 Mass to 1 p.m. - Young Disciples Teens (PLC Upper Room)
7:30-8:30 p.m. - Exposition & Holy Hour with Vespers & Benediction (Church)

Monday, December 18

Tuesday, December 19

7 p.m. - School PTO (Cafeteria)

Wednesday, December 20

School Christmas Break Begins
7 p.m. - BINGO (Columbus Home)

Thursday, December 21

9 a.m. - 9 p.m. - Adoration (Church)
7 p.m. - OCIA (PLC Library)
9 p.m. - Exodus Fraternity (Harmony)

Friday, December 22

Saturday, December 23

Sunday, December 24

NO PSR (Christmas Break)
No Vespers & Benediction

Monday, December 25

Merry Christmas!
Parish Office Closed,
Reopens Tuesday at 8 a.m.

A FUN TIME WITH FRIENDS!

Ladies Sodality, some spouses, and special friends celebrated the season with a festive trip to witness the dazzling Christmas lights. The trip commenced at Our Lady of the Snows, then we sang our way through World Wide Technology Raceway Wonder Lights, navigated through the enchanting Anheuser Busch lights, and concluded with a delightful drive down Candy Cane Lane. A wonderful time was had by all. Thank You Pam Winn for putting this together.



K of C CORNER As Christmas gets closer and closer, the Knights would like to remind everyone that there are many who bound to staying at home or nursing homes that have a very difficult time during the holiday season. We urge our brother Knights and the community to pray for them. A reminder that the 4th degree will be present with full regalia on Dec. 31st 8 a.m. mass at Holy Family. In order to join the K of C all one has to do is go to kofc.org/joinus, fill out the several questions and put council 1098 and you are done. We will have cards in the meeting spaces with the info. We encourage those men who have, for one reason or another, to come back and help us, Tom Cholevik, Grand Knight 618-789-0337



ST. ELIZABETH SCHOOL

SPREADING HOLIDAY CHEER

Last week, our 8th graders took a trip to Cedarhurst here in Granite City to visit with and sing Christmas carols for our parishioners and others who live in the community there. Thank you 8th graders for this wonderful work of mercy - and spreading the joy of the season!



TRIVIA NIGHT!

Please join us for another fun-filled event on Saturday, January 13, 2024! Tables of 8 are \$160. ONLY 35 tables available. Sodas and snacks will be provided. Please call Loretta Joyce in the School office at (618) 877-3300 to reserve your table or become a sponsor. All net proceeds will go to assist the school with projects and educational needs. Doors open at 5:30 p.m. and trivia begins at 6:30 p.m. You must be 21 or older.

If you have never played, or haven't played in a long time, it is a blast! We look forward to another fun evening!

Thank you! - The St. E School Trivia Committee



PRAYERS FOR OUR PRIESTS

The following priests of our Diocese are celebrating birthdays soon: 12/21- Rev. James Neuman Rev. David Beagles 12/23- Rev. Steven Janoski 12/29- Rev. Richard Chiola Rev. Daniel Bergbower 12/31- Rev. Charles Edwards 1/3/24- Rev. Peter Harman 1/9- Rev. John Titus 1/17- Rev. Augustin Koomson 1/18- Rev. John Renken 1/20- Rev. Steven Sotiroff 1/25- Rev. Don Roberts 1/25- Rev. David Lantz

The following are priests and deacons of our Diocese who have died. Please remember them in your daily prayers: 12/17- Rev. John P. Harkins Rev. Anton Jaschke 12/18- Rev. Max Koch Rev. John J. Enright 12/19- Rev. William P. O'Sullivan Rev. Hugolinus Kiener, O.F.M. 12/20- Rev. August Hohl Rev. Paul Hebenstreit 12/21- Rev. Blasius Winterhalter Rev. John Brennan Rev. David Zimmerman



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

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:

John 1:6-8, 23-28

REFLECTING ON THE WORD

John the Baptist's entire mission is to point others to Jesus. This is our role as parents, yes? We lead our children to Jesus in many ways—by displaying images of Jesus in our home, by praying and saying the holy name of Jesus, and by teaching our children how to make the sign of the cross and the appropriate gestures and responses at Mass. Sharing our faith with our children is a big and important task, and at times, we, like John, may feel unworthy of the task. Yet God has called us to point our children to Jesus! As you seek to do this, invite the Holy Spirit to guide you.

ON THE WAY TO MASS

What does it mean to be a witness?

ON THE WAY HOME FROM MASS

How does John the Baptist witness to the light who is to come?

LIVING THE WORD

In your time together, invite your family members to think of all the ways that Jesus invites us to walk as children of the light. How are we called to speak for the light? How can we testify to the light by the way we live our lives? Light a candle (either a real one or a battery operated one for safety purposes) and place it on the table where your family eats meals together as a reminder of our call bring the light of Christ to those around us.

STEWARDSHIP

Our Financial Stewardship December 10, 2023

	Actual	Goal	Over/(Short)
Week 24 Regular Income	\$4,554.00		
101 Envelopes, Avg. Gift \$45.09			
One-Time Donation			
Loose	\$395.00		
Online Giving	\$530.00		
TOTAL	\$5,479.00	\$9,104.00	(\$3,625.00)
YTD TOTALS	\$189,422.68	\$218,496.00	(\$29,073.32)

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

Other Gifts:

Tuition Assistance	\$150.00
Building Repair/Mainten.	\$505.00
Special Projects	\$620.00
Votive Offering	\$134.00
Mission & Ministry	\$50.00
All Saints Day	\$0.50
Christmas Offering	\$95.00
Christmas Flowers	\$255.00
Solemnity of Mary	\$60.00
Immaculate Conception	\$943.00
Catholic Times	\$50.00

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. **November estimated tithe: \$3,241.00**

First Offering	\$10.00
Catholic Children's Home	\$80.00
Retired Religious	\$651.00
Other Not Specified	\$27.00

ONLINE GIVING OPTIONS

Consider online giving through GIVE CENTRAL. For more information, visit <https://www.givecentral.org/location/412/allevments>

WEEKLY STEWARDSHIP REFLECTION

“Rejoice always. Pray without ceasing. Give thanks in all circumstances, for this is the will of God for you in Christ Jesus.” - 1 Thessalonians 5:16-18

This scripture reading sums up Stewardship. “Rejoice always” means place your trust in God; He will provide all that you need. “Pray constantly” means prayer should be a running conversation with God throughout the whole day, every day. “Give thanks in all circumstances” means even in bad situations, thank God. Suffering a little bit helps build empathy for others in similar situations and shows our dependence on God.

FAST AND SECURE WAY TO DONATE STOCK TO YOUR PARISH OR SCHOOL

Did you know it is easy, secure, and fast to donate gifts of stock to your parish or school?

A stock gift helps you save on capital gains and income tax. Share your joy and maximize your giving with a non-cash asset!

Ready to donate? Go to bit.ly/ParishStock or scan the QR code below



ARE YOU 70 1/2 OR OLDER?

If you are 70.5 or older, you can support your parish and school directly from your individual retirement account and potentially reduce your taxable income.

If you must fulfill a required minimum distribution, your donation is a compassionate way to fulfill this requirement.

Go to bit.ly/ParishQCD to use this free and secure tool to donate from your IRA today!

Make an impactful gift of joy!



Contact Katie Price at 217-321-1121 today to learn more!

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.

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.

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