

Disciples Stewards

St. Elizabeth Catholic Church & School

Granite City, Illinois ♦ Diocese of Springfield in Illinois

The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary, and Joseph ♦ December 31, 2023



The season of Christmas continues through this Octave (“eight days”) of Christmas, with the Feast of the Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph this Sunday. The Octave concludes with the Solemnity of Mary the Mother of God on January 1. While usually a Holy Day of Obligation, it isn’t obligatory this year since it falls on a Monday. It’s still a great year to continue the Christmas season and welcome the new year, though. Masses for the Holy Day are on Sunday evening at 4:30 p.m. and Monday morning at 9:00 a.m. The season of Christmas then continues through the Feast of the Epiphany next Sunday and the Baptism of the Lord next Monday, January 8. Merry Christmas!

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Granite City, IL 62040

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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
x1005 | mhalbrook@dio.org

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secretary@stelizabethgc.org

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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

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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.

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

Sunday-Monday, December 31-January 1
Solemnity of Mary the Mother of God

(Holy Day of Obligation)

4:30 p.m. Sunday Evening Mass:
Emma Jakich+ by Elaine Smith

9:00 a.m. Monday Morning Mass:
Dennis Riggs+ by Mary Gray

Tuesday, January 2

**Saints Basil the Great & Gregory Nazianzen,
Bishops and Doctors of the Church**

6 p.m. Mass: Father Henry Schmidt+
by Rosemary Tomlovic

Wednesday, January 3

Christmas Weekday

8:15 a.m. Mass:
Mitch Abbet + by Mary McPherson

Thursday, January 4

Saint Elizabeth Ann Seton, Religious

8:15 a.m. Mass:
JoAnn Gilley+ by Gary & Jeannie Wilbur

Friday, January 5

Saint John Neumann, Bishop

8:15 a.m. Mass: First Friday Intentions

Saturday, January 6: Christmas Weekday

8:15 a.m. Mass:
Cheryl Jones+ by Andy & JoAnn Yurko

Saturday-Sunday, January 6-7

The Epiphany of the Lord

4:30 p.m. Saturday Evening Mass:
Ted Hoef+ by Karl & Pat Schroeder

8:00 a.m. Mass: ☪

Romana Lofink+ by Charles & JoAnn King

10:30 a.m. Mass:

Sam Shambro+ by John Barth

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



January is dedicated to the Holy Name of Jesus.

Pope Francis' Prayer Intention for January:

For the gift of diversity in the Church: We pray that the Holy Spirit helps us recognize the gift of different charisms within the Christian community, and to discover the richness of different ritual traditions in the heart of the Catholic Church.

This Sunday: The Holy Family

Gen 15:1-6; Heb 11:8, 11-12, 17-19; Lk 2:22-40

In the first reading, Abram puts his faith in God's promise of a child despite his and Sarah's old age. In the second reading the author emphasizes all that Abraham did was by faith. In the Gospel, Joseph and Mary present Jesus at the temple, and meet Simeon and Anna who prophesy about the child.

Next Sunday: The Epiphany of the Lord

Is 60:1-6; Eph 3:2-3a, 5-6; Mt 2:1-12

In the first reading, the prophet Isaiah promises that Jerusalem will be a light for all nations. In the Letter to the Ephesians, Saint Paul explains the revelation that the Gentiles are members of the same body of Christ. In the Gospel, magi from the east look for the newborn king, finally finding the child with his mother, Mary.

14 DAY SANCTUARY LAMP

This week, the 14-day Sanctuary Lamp reminds us to pray for **Bill Loftus+ by Pat Loftus**. 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 memory of Merry Trtanj+ by Dr. Albert Trtanj**. 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
Czornog & 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 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 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

A NOTE FROM FATHER ALFRED

Please welcome Rev Fr. Charles Lwanga Mutabaruka, who will be covering Fr. Alfred Tumwesigye, while he is away for his annual vacation. Fr. Mutabaruka is a priest of the Archdiocese of Mbarara ordained in 1999. He has served mainly in the media apostolate as director of Radio Maria in Mbarara, Uganda for nine years. He was later promoted to serve as Continental Editorial Director for Africa from 2013 to 2018 where he oversaw 23 countries. Apart from ecclesiastical studies he majored in Media Studies from the Gregorian Pontifical University 2002-2005 in Rome with Masters in the same field. He is a very well travelled person with experience in all continents except Latin America. He is currently serving as Resource Mobilizer for the University of Saint Joseph Mbarara since 2018. He is member of the Lions Clubs International where he has been president of Lions Club of Mbarara 2020/202. Other responsibilities include Club Treasurer, Membership Director and currently he is clubs Lions' advisor.



Christmas Flower Offerings

Charles Jones Family
Paul Haldeman Family
Ralph Lickenbrock Sr.
Virginia Lickenbrock
Kenneth Justice
Loretta Justice
Doug Conrad
Weckman and Wilbur families and friends
James Alsoy
Mr. & Mrs. Berto Cerutt
Mr. & Mrs. Thomas Ganz
Melvin C. Wilmsmeyer
Helen Klenklen
Paula Gushleff Koliste
Dr. Barry Gushleff
Leonard and Dorothy Koliste
Bill & Pauline Gushleff
Katherine & Francis Thrasher Jr.
Secinia Johnson
Olive Johnson
George Johnson
Marty Johnson
John & Jaimie Kindle
Emma & John Jakich
Raymond J. Loftus
Eli L. Brandibas
Patricia O. Fultz
Thomas J. Loftus Jr.
Paula Rae Borg
Ralph & Bertha Wesbecher
Norma Kessler
Frank & Vi Kessler
Ralph & Arlene Haldeman
Annabelle VanHorn
Fred & Olivia Schmid
Donald Vaughn
Helen Gieselmann

Joseph & Mildred Dallas
Tony Bilello
Lila Daughty
Anna Maria von Phul
Rosalie von Phul
Rosalie Michau Saugrain
Poneta & Arth Families
Sgt. Steven Mennemeyer
Jim Dittman
Bill Loftus
Mejaski & Loftus Family
Baumann & Szczepanik Family
Families members of
Al & Maxine Czernijewski
Lois & Neva Jackstadt
Richard & Dorothy Kerch
Ann Jackstadt VanDyke
John & Odalee Baumgardner
Anna & Richard Rosales
Patsy Bohn
Carolyn Campos
Families of Thompson, Ahlers,
Venditto, and Chilcutt
Ronald Briggs Jr.
Angela Briggs
Lorraine Joshu
Robert Joshu
Charlie Boyd
Deceased members of the
Boyd and Campos Families
Mile & Jean Knezevich
Judy A. Modrusic
Hill & Byrd Families
Jesse & Lorraine Gonterman
Larry & Jean Hanh
Douglas Oestricker
Buchmiller family
Bob & Abby Rotter

Tony & Mary Bellue
Anne Miller
Jack Folkerts
Dennis Folkerts
Vivian Broadwater
Bob & Abby Rotter
Dennis Coffrey
Lupardus and Mooshegian Family
Tony & Mary Bellue
Brian Foreman
Inez Foreman
Eddie Foreman
Lawrece Jaros
Robert Niemeyer
LaVern Black
Danny & Alice Newton
Rodney Family
Robert L. David
Bill Buster
John & Lorene Gadwell
Bill Schrenk
Bill Loftus
Loftus Family Members
Mejaski Family Members
Deceased Members of the
Charles Jones Family
Deceased Members of the
Paul Haldeman Family
Janet Gremaud
Linda Newton
Roger Knobloch Sr.
Vivian Broadwater
Mathes Family
Pogorelac Family
Mark James
Lois & Lew Glasgow

This Week on
FORMED



**New Year's Resolutions
The Augustine
Institute Show**

What's your resolution this year? Dr. Tim Gray welcomes Dr. Scott Hefelfinger, Assistant Professor of Theology in the Augustine Institute Graduate School of Theology, to celebrate one year of the Augustine Institute Show.

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

"Finally, the clock struck twelve, the last hour of the year. I finished it in the name of the Holy Trinity, and I also started the first hour of the New Year in the Name of the Holy Trinity. I asked each of the Three Persons to bless me and, with great confidence, looked toward the New Year which certainly would not be sparing of suffering."
-Diary 355



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:

- 1/4: The Sacraments - Intro & Overview
- 1/11: Baptism & Confirmation
- 1/18: The Eucharist
- 1/25: Penance & Anointing of the Sick



JOIN US IN INDIANAPOLIS NEXT JULY

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.

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

AROUND THE AREA



EPIPHANY CONCERT

The Gift of the Magi, Holy Family Parish's First Annual Epiphany Concert, will be held on Sunday, January 7 at 6:30 p.m. at Holy Family Church in Granite City. It is a festive celebration of music, including jubilant organ pieces, instrumental ensembles, and choral numbers. In addition to the Holy Family Parish Choir, several guest artists will be performing, including several music directors from the Alton Deanery and the Father McGivney Catholic High School Choir. There will be free admission, and we hope you can join in this joyful festival of music to celebrate our Savior's birth! Questions, contact Thomas Halbrook, thomas@halbrook.net, Director of Liturgical Music at Holy Family.

WOMENS PRE-LENTEN PRAYER BREAKFAST

Mass, catered breakfast, followed by National speaker Sister M. Karolyn Nunes, FSGM. Topic: Living Lent for a Change; Saturday, February 10, 2024, 8:00 a.m. to about 11:30 a.m. at St Boniface Catholic Church Edwardsville. See future bulletin for more information and how to register. Space will be limited.

YOUNG DISCIPLES SOCIETY

More fun was had again last Sunday by your Young Disciples Teens. More foosball fun was had, and the group enjoyed burgers that Deacon Michael had just grilled. Then we learned about and discussed the "O Antiphons" prayed by the church in the days leading up to Christmas.



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: January 14, 21, 28.

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

PARISH LIFE & HOSPITALITY, SERVICE



FISH FRY FRIDAY - DON'T MISS!
Don't miss the best Fish Fry this side of the Mississippi - this Friday from 4-7 p.m. in the Cafeteria. Rally some friends and come out for another great night of fish & fellowship.

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.

UPDATED ADORATION SCHEDULE/LIST

Please note that we have released an updated version of the schedule for Weekly Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament. Please be sure to pick up a copy of the new schedule and sub list the next time you come for Adoration. Interested in helping out, please contact the parish office!



HOLY DAY MASS TIMES REMINDER

This weekend (Sunday) is the Solemnity of the Holy Family of Jesus, Mary, & Joseph (within the Octave of Christmas.) Mass times are as usual at St. Elizabeth, Holy Family, and St. Mary/St. Mark (4:30 p.m. Saturday, 8 & 10:30 a.m. Sunday at St. Elizabeth.)

Monday is the Solemnity of Mary, the Mother of God. Usually a Holy Day of Obligation, it is not this year since it falls on a Monday. It's still a great way to start the new year, though! Mass times at St. Elizabeth are 4:30 p.m. Sunday (the Eve), and 9 a.m. Monday. Mass for the Solemnity of Mary at Holy Family is at 10:30 a.m. on Monday.

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

THANK YOU!

Father Alfred and the staff wish to thank everyone who had a hand in making our church look so beautiful for Christmas! From the cleaning team, to our decorators, our choir, lectors, servers... thank you to you all for making our liturgy the best it can be!



THIS WEEK

Sunday, December 31

NO PSR (Christmas Break)
No Vespers & Benediction

Monday, January 1

Happy Solemnity...
and Happy New Year!
Parish Office Closed,
Reopens Tuesday at 8 a.m.
Exodus 90 Begins

Tuesday, January 2

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

Wednesday, January 3

7 p.m. - BINGO (Columbus Home)

Thursday, January 4

School Resumes
9 a.m. - 9 p.m. - Adoration (Church)
6 p.m. - School Christmas Concert (Gym)
7 p.m. - OCIA (PLC Library)
9 p.m. - Exodus Fraternity (Harmony)

Friday, January 5

4-7 p.m. - Men's Club Fish Fry (Cafeteria)

Saturday, January 6

Harmony Cafe after all Masses

Sunday, January 7

Harmony Cafe after all Masses

After 8:00 Mass to 10:15 - PSR (PLC)
7:30-8:30 p.m. - Exposition & Holy Hour with Vespers & Benediction (Church)

NEXT Tuesday, January 9

Papa John's Night

K of C CORNER Happy New Year! This last year the knights have so many things to be thankful for. We have been able to support the schools, churches and other organizations that we have supported in the past. One thing we are most thankful for is to honor some of our veterans and thanking them for their service by awarding the Quilt of Valor to them. We will continue to do so in the future. We hope and pray they we will be able to continue supporting the Catholic community as we have in the past. In order to do so, we need men to join our council. Many of our members are getting up in years. Please consider joining us in our efforts. To sign up go to kofc.org/joinus and put in council 1098 when you sign up. You can also call Tom at 618-789-0337. Yours in Christ, Tom Cholevik, Grand Knight





My dear Friends in Christ,

Catholic Times has always been a key communication tool for our diocese. Whether it is important announcements, teaching the faith, or inspirational stories, the magazine provides tremendous value to readers. That was apparent this past year with a special edition highlighting the rich history of our diocese when we celebrated the 100th anniversary of the transfer of the See city from Alton to Springfield and a special edition that captured the historical Eucharistic Congress in Springfield.

We were also given this powerful story this past year from one of our parishes. In one of their bible studies, the topic of Confession came up. Two women mentioned that they had went to Confession after many decades because of the encouragement found in 2021 special edition of *Catholic Times* that focused solely on the sacrament. They both said they had saved their copy because it was so good, helpful, and encouraging!

For another consecutive year, *Catholic Times* received a national award from the Catholic Media Association's national awards program. Also new this past year, *Catholic Times* launched a new website, dio.org/catholictimes that features podcasts, videos, articles, my column, and a better search tool.

Catholic Times remains dedicated to helping Catholics better understand the Catholic faith through their *Hey, Father!* series, addressing complex issues in bioethics, and explaining the significance of sacraments. Feature reporting stands as a cornerstone of the magazine, spotlighting narratives of individuals, parishes, and schools actively contributing to the growth of the Kingdom of God within our diocese. The magazine's steadfast commitment to local coverage ensures that each edition brings forth stories relevant to readers' lives, showcasing contributions from familiar faces, including both laity and clergy.

My column, "Lex Cordis Caritas," is one of the best ways I can speak about the issues we face as Catholics and update readers on important decisions I make that impact the faithful.

It is all these reasons why I believe *Catholic Times* should be available to every household in our diocese, either digitally or by mail. During the week-end of January 6-7, 2024, please encourage your parishioners to respond gratefully in support of this communication tool so we can ensure *Catholic Times* remains an inexpensive source of Catholic information, education, and inspiration.

Sincerely yours in Christ,

Most Reverend Thomas John Paprocki
Bishop of Springfield in Illinois

CELEBRATING SUNDAYS FOR CATHOLIC FAMILIES

This is from '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:

Luke 2:22, 39-40

REFLECTING ON THE WORD

In every community, there are rituals and responsibilities for new parents. Mary and Joseph were obedient to the law of Moses and fulfilled the requirements of the law after Jesus' birth. The child Jesus grew up in this obedience, in this faith. Like Mary and Joseph, we as parents are called to model faith for our children. We do not hear much about the childhood years of Jesus, only that "the child grew and became strong, filled with wisdom; and the favor of God was upon him." How can we make our homes into an environment where our children can grow in faith and find favor with God?

ON THE WAY TO MASS

Baptism is our birth into the family of God; through it, we become members of the Church. Share the story of your children's baptisms with them.

ON THE WAY HOME FROM MASS

Today's Gospel tells us about Jesus, and that the favor of God was upon him. What could this mean, to live in the favor of God?

LIVING THE WORD

How do we mark the baptism anniversary of the members of our family? Besides telling the story of the day, display photos (or show a video of the day), the baptismal candle, and the white garment in a special place or prayer table in your home. Ask your parish priest for some holy water and use it at home to bless one another. Finally, write a thank-you letter to godparents and the priest or deacon who baptized each family member.



PRAYERS FOR OUR PRIESTS

The following priests of our Diocese are celebrating birthdays soon: 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 1/27- Rev. Larry Anschutz Rev. Donald Blickhan 1/30- Rev. John Burnette

The following are priests and deacons of our Diocese who have died. Please remember them in your daily prayers: 12/31- Rev. Thomas J. Gough Rev. Edward G. Heitjan, C.S.V. Most Reverend Daniel J. Ryan 1/2- Rev. Gerald R. McCaughey 1/3- Rev. Thomas Day Rev. John P. Dolack 1/5- Rev. Clement Sommer Rev. Patrick Lyons Rev. Stanley Milewski



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 December 24, 2023

| | Actual | Goal | Over/(Short) |
|----------------------------------|---------------------|---------------------|----------------------|
| Week 26 Regular Income | \$5,863.00 | | |
| 108 Envelopes, Avg. Gift \$54.29 | | | |
| One-Time Donation | | | |
| Loose | \$442.00 | | |
| Online Giving | \$1,150.00 | | |
| TOTAL | \$7,455.00 | \$9,104.00 | (\$1,649.00) |
| YTD TOTALS | \$203,724.68 | \$236,704.00 | (\$32,979.32) |

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 | \$70.00 |
| BINGO Profit | \$12,000.00 |
| Special Projects | \$100.00 |
| Votive Offering | \$246.75 |
| Christmas Offering | \$6,398.50 |
| Christmas Flowers | \$12.00 |
| Solemnity of Mary | \$10.00 |
| Immaculate Conception | \$10.00 |
| Catholic Children's Home | \$1,076.00 |
| Retired Religious | \$5.00 |
| Other Not Specified | \$10.00 |

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

ONLINE GIVING OPTIONS

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

WEEKLY STEWARDSHIP REFLECTION

"...as the Lord has forgiven you, so you must forgive." - Colossians 3:13

Forgiving is one of the hardest things for people to do. We can't give what we don't have. We need to receive God's mercy and forgiveness first before we can give it to others. Go to the sacrament of Reconciliation and receive God's mercy and forgiveness. Then, share the gift of forgiveness with someone – a family member, a friend or a co-worker. Pick up the phone or text someone right now.

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.

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





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My Parish Prayer

Almighty God, My parish is composed of people like me. I help make it what it is. It will be friendly if I am. It will be holy if I am. Its pews will be filled if I help fill them. It will do great work if I work. It will be prayerful if I pray. It will make generous gifts to many causes if I am a generous giver. It will bring other people into its worship if I invite and bring them. It will be a parish family of loyalty and love, of fearlessness and faith, and of compassion, charity, and mercy if I - who make it what it is - am filled with these same qualities. Therefore, with the help of God, I will dedicate myself to the task of being all the things I want my parish to be. Bless my journey Lord God, that I might follow Jesus and build the Church for your glory. Amen.



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