

Disciples Stewards

St. Elizabeth Catholic Church & School

Granite City, Illinois ♦ Diocese of Springfield in Illinois

Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time ♦ January 28, 2024

Celebrate Catholic Schools Week 2024




2300 Pontoon Road
Granite City, IL 62040


Phone 618-877-3300


Fax 618-877-9800


After-Hours Emergencies
314-266-8387

Web: stelizabethgc.org

 @stelizabeth.gc

 @stelizabeth.gc

 @stelizabeth_gc

 @stelizabethgc

PASTORAL STAFF

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

Deacon Michael Halbrook
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Bret Ware
Parish Secretary & Office Admin
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Jackie Jones, Bookkeeper
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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

Pre-School: (618) 877-3300 x2003

Michelle Williams, Principal
mwilliams@stelizabethgc.org

Loretta Joyce, School Secretary
ljoyce@stelizabethgc.org

CALVARY CATHOLIC CEMETERY

2910 S. State Route 157
Edwardsville, IL
(618) 656-5464

ORGANIZATIONAL LEADERS

Finance Council: Charlotte Charbonnier
School Board: Adam Meyenburg
Parent/Teacher Org.: Natasha Reidl
Ladies Sodality: Tammi Mooshegian
Holy Name Men's Club: Rob Hutson
Men at Prayer: Tom Cholevik
Funeral Dinners: Pam Ames
Athletic Director: Joe Philips
Maintenance Team: Bud Charbonnier

**Strong in Faith
since 1871**

Saint Elizabeth of Hungary, pray for us.

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, January 29

Monday of the 4th Wk in Ordinary Time

No Mass

Tuesday, January 30

Tuesday of the 4th Wk in Ordinary Time

6:00 p.m. Mass:

Judy Streif by Georgia & Tom Layloff

Wednesday, January 31

Memorial of Saint John Bosco, Priest

8:15 a.m. Mass:

Dennis Adams+ by Harry Clark

Thursday, February 1

Thursday of the 4th Wk in Ordinary Time

8:15a.m. Mass:

Romana Lofink+ by Diane & Debbie Paoli

Friday, February 2

Feast of the Presentation of the Lord

8:15 a.m. Mass:

First Friday Intentions

Saturday, February 3

Saturday of the 4th Wk in Ordinary Time

8:15 a.m. Mass:


Emma Jakich+ by Elaine Smith

Saturday-Sunday, February 3-4

Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time

4:30 p.m. Saturday Evening Mass:

Parishioners of Saint Elizabeth

8:00 a.m. Mass: 

John Konarcik+ by Janice Willaredt

10:30 a.m. Mass:

Betty Lampitt+ by

Friends & Family of Betty L.

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: 4th Sunday in Ord. Time

Dt 18:15-20; 1 Cor 7:32-35; Mk 1:21-28

In the first reading, Moses says God will raise up a new prophet who will speak the words of God. In the second reading, Paul contrasts the divided loyalties of married people with those who are unmarried and have only the desire to please the Lord. In the Gospel, Jesus commands an unclean spirit to be quiet and come out of a man in the synagogue.

Next Sunday: 5th Sunday in Ord. Time

Jb 7:1-4, 6-7; 1 Cor 9:16-19, 22-23; Mk 1:29-39

In the first reading, Job speaks of living in misery. Paul, in his Letter to the Corinthians, tells them he has an obligation to preach the Good News of the Gospel. In the Gospel, Jesus drives out demons and heals Simon's mother-in-law, and then goes on healing and preaching throughout the whole of Galilee.

14 DAY SANCTUARY LAMP

This week, the 14-day Sanctuary Lamp reminds us to pray for **the OCIA Catechumens and Candidates 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 memory of the deceased pastors, priests and religious who have served the parish**. 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

The Feast of the Presentation of the Lord

On February 2, we observe the Feast of the Presentation of the Lord, honoring Jesus Christ's presentation in the Temple when he was a young child.

Jesus' presentation in the Temple reflects how he fulfills the Old Covenant. According to Old Testament law, a sacrifice had to be offered in the Temple when a child was consecrated to the Lord. Mary and Joseph honor this tradition, as Luke 2:22-24 describes: "When the days were completed for their purification according to the law of Moses, they took him up to Jerusalem to present him to the Lord, just as it is written in the law of the Lord, 'Every male that opens the womb shall be consecrated to the Lord,' and to offer the sacrifice of 'a pair of turtledoves or two young pigeons,' in accordance with the dictate in the law of the Lord."

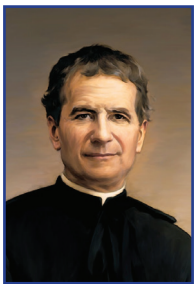
Simeon, a devout and upright man, had been told by the Lord he would meet the Messiah before his death. When Jesus comes to the Temple, we see the fulfillment of this prophecy. Simeon and the prophetess Anna, acting – in the words of Pope John Paul II – as “representatives of the Old Covenant” – recognize Jesus' Lordship as Messiah in this culmination of their watchful waiting. When Simeon receives Jesus, he blesses him, and prophesies Jesus' future as Savior, proclaiming him the Light of the world:

“[H]e took him into his arms and blessed God, saying: 'Now, Master, you may let your servant go in peace, according to your word, for my eyes have seen your salvation, which you prepared in sight of all the peoples, a light for revelation to the Gentiles, and glory for your people Israel.'” – Luke 2:28-32

“God enters the temple not as a powerful ruler but as a little child in his Mother's arms. The King of glory comes not with a show of human force and power, not with a great fanfare and noise, not causing fright and destruction. He comes into the temple as he came into the world, as an infant in silence, in poverty, and in the company of the poor and the wise.” – Pope John Paul II



The Presentation of the Lord in mosaic in the Rosary Walk and Garden at the National Basilica in Washington, D.C.



St. John Bosco: A Saint for Youth & the Underprivileged

St. John Melchior Bosco is often referred to as Don Bosco - “Don Bosco” means “Father Bosco” in Italian. Don Bosco was a man of bold courage. He was the instrument that God used to found a religious family dedicated not only to helping and educating the young and the disadvantaged but to journey

with them towards heaven.

St. John Bosco was born on August 16, 1815, in the small Italian hamlet of Castelnuovo d'Asti, in northern Italy. John had two older brothers, Anthony and Joseph. Their father, Francis, died when John was still a toddler - just two years old. As a child, Johnny watched over his family's sheep.

Don Bosco recounts a dream he had. “When I was about nine years old I had a dream that left a profound impression on me for the rest of my life. I dreamed that I was near my home, in a very large playing field where a crowd of children were having fun. Some were laughing, others were playing and quite a few were cursing. I was so shocked at their language that I jumped into their midst, swinging wildly and shouting at them to stop.”

At that moment a man appeared and said ‘You will have to win these friends of yours not with blows, but with gentleness and kindness.

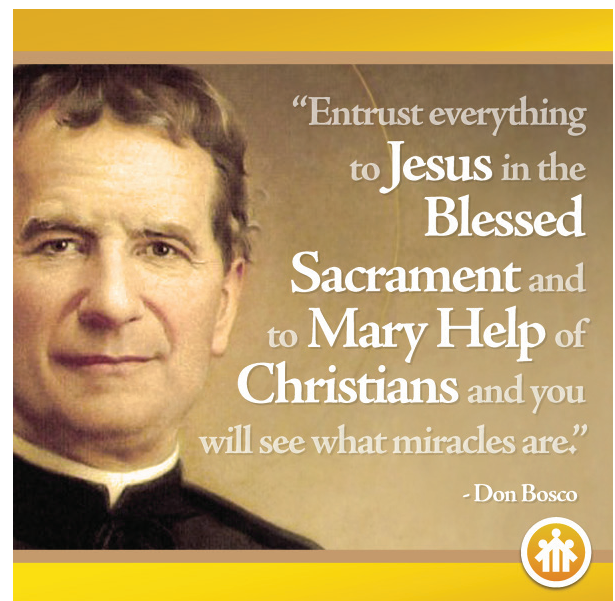
A Lady of majestic appearance came upon the scene and said to me “This is your field, this is where you must work.” John finally became a priest and met Bartholomew Garelli, a local homeless boy, on December 8, 1841. Don Bosco ended up offering Garelli and his friends' food, games, and catechism lessons. Don Bosco's work with the young grew and young men began

to gather around and eventually formed the followers of Don Bosco called Salesian Priests and Brothers.

In January 1888, Don Bosco took to bed with a fever. The doctors said that his body was completely exhausted. John Bosco died on January 31, 1888. He was canonized on April 1, 1934, by Pope Pius XI.

From <https://salesiansisterswest.org/life-st-john-bosco>

Read much more about St. John Bosco at <http://www.donboscowest.org/saints/donbosco>



This Week on **FORMED**



Saint John Bosco: Mission to Love

Flavio Insinna gives a winning performance as John Bosco, the great priest and educator of youth. Beautifully filmed in Italy, this epic movie dramatizes the many challenges that he had to overcome from his childhood all the way to founding his religious order.

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

"I heard these words: 'At the hour of their death, I defend as My own glory every soul that will say this chaplet; or when others say it for a dying person, the pardon is the same. When this chaplet is said by the bedside of a dying person, God's anger is placated, unfathomable mercy envelops the soul, and the very depths of My tender mercy are moved for the sake of the sorrowful Passion of My Son.'" (Diary, 811).



LEARN MORE ABOUT OUR FAITH ON THURSDAY NIGHTS

Has it been a while since you've thought much about some of the aspects of our faith? We're in the middle of a few weeks of diving deeper into the Sacraments. Join us on Thursdays from 7-8 in the PLC Library:

- 2/1: Sacraments of Service: Matrimony & Holy Orders
- 2/8: Living Lent
- 2/15: "Election" - Chosen by Christ

YOUNG DISCIPLES SOCIETY

Young Disciples Teens: Join us after the 10:30 Sunday Mass, until 1 p.m., January 28.

This Sunday we'll meet in the Harmony Room for a light lunch and some snacks, then head into the church for a Holy Hour in Adoration. Thanks to our teens last week for coming up with this idea for this week. Bring a friend and pray with Jesus for the week to come!

PILGRIMAGE TO FATIMA & LOURDES

Please join us on a pilgrimage with Fr. Charles Robinson, F.I. to Fatima and Lourdes, with a stop in Avila Spain, as well as Azpeitia, Spain where St. Ignatius of Loyola was born, and more! Daily Mass. September 10-19, 2024. \$3595/per person. \$150 early bird discount if registered by Feb. 15th, 2024. For more information please visit www.QoHTours.com or call us at 1-800-213-4295.

LUKE 18 RETREAT

St. Jerome church will host our annual Luke 18 retreat for 7th and 8th graders, the weekend of February 16th-18th. This will be our 31st year holding this retreat. We would like to invite all 7th & 8th graders to join us!

Luke 18 is an excellent opportunity for our 7th and 8th graders to experience God's love in new and exciting ways through games, songs, faith sharing, and a series of talks given by area high school and college students. By encouraging the students to have fun and break down their "walls", the weekend helps them see that God is present in relationships at home with their family and at school with their peers, and it encourages them to share God's love with others. The weekend offers our youth an experience of God's love on a more personal level than is usually possible in a catechetical setting. A team of young catholic adults will lead our youth through various activities with the help of high school and college students who not only present talks, but also lead small discussion groups. With "youth ministering to youth", hopefully the students are able to relate more easily to the experience of living a Catholic Christian life at home and at school.

For information letter and registration, please go to www.stjeromeparish.org look under announcements and click on the Luke 18 button.

*You can also find the registration form & letter in the gathering space here at St. Elizabeth.

- Brenda Neumann, Youth Minister at St. Jerome



NATIONAL Eucharistic Congress

JOIN US IN INDIANAPOLIS THIS 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.

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

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.

PARISH LIFE & HOSPITALITY, SERVICE

MEN'S CLUB MEMBERSHIP DRIVE - COME ON OUT!

Calling all Men of the Parish and School Family (Catholic or not catholic). FOOD, FUN, FELLOWSHIP and FOOTBALL. Come join us THIS Sunday, January 28th for our Annual Membership Drive. Doors open at 1:30 pm in the cafeteria. We will be there till the second game is over. Come for an hour or stay all day!



MOSAIC BABY BOTTLE DRIVE

The 2024 Mosaic baby bottle drive began on Sunday, January 14. You can help transform lives and save babies from abortion by filling a baby bottle with coins, cash, or a check! Pick one up today! Grab a bottle from the table in the gathering space this week, fill it with change or a check and return it to the gathering space or parish office before February 11. You can also donate online at <https://gift.idonate.com/mosaic-health/babybottle>

MAGNETS & STICKERS AVAILABLE

An initially-limited quantity of 2" stickers and 4" magnets of our Church & School shield logo are available in the parish office. **Any donation you're willing to make to the Mission & Ministry (Faith Formation) fund** for one of these stickers & magnets will help to offset the cost of our Spring NET Retreat for the youth of our school - and anything beyond that will help to give us our seed funds for this summer's Vacation Bible School! If these are popular, we'll stock up with some more too.



THIS WEEK

Sunday, January 28

Men's Club Membership Drive
Catholic Schools Week Begins!
After 8:00 Mass to 10:15 - PSR (PLC)
After 10:30 Mass: Young Disciples
Teens until 1 p.m. (Harmony Room & Church)
6 p.m. - Choir Practice (Church)
7:30-8:30 p.m. - Exposition & Holy Hour with Vespers & Benediction (Church)

Monday, January 29

Tuesday, January 30

7 p.m. - School PTO Meeting (Cafeteria)

Wednesday, January 31

7 p.m. - BINGO (Columbus Home)

Thursday, February 1

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

Friday, February 2

11 a.m. - Early School Dismissal
4-7 p.m. - Fish Fry (Cafeteria)
8 p.m. - 8th Grade Lock-in Begins

Saturday, February 3

Harmony Cafe after all Masses

Sunday, February 4

Harmony Cafe after all Masses
After 8:00 Mass to 10:15 - PSR (PLC)
11:30 a.m. - 1 p.m. - School Open House
6 p.m. - Choir Practice (Church)
7:30-8:30 p.m. - Exposition & Holy Hour with Vespers & Benediction (Church)

AROUND THE AREA

WOMEN: LOOKING FOR A WAY TO ENRICH YOUR LENTEN SEASON? 2024 CATHOLIC WOMEN'S BREAKFAST

Featuring a talk by Sister M. Karolyn Nunes, FSGM, entitled: *Living Lent for a Change*

Saturday, February 10, 2024 at St. Boniface Church, Edwardsville, 8 a.m. - Noon. Mass, Catered Breakfast, & Speaker. Pre-registration is required. Download the registration form at st-boniface.com. Proceeds from the breakfast will be donated to the Sisters of St. Francis of the Martyr St. George.



Sister M. Karolyn Nunes entered the Sisters of the Martyr St. George in 2005. A native of Rhode Island, she is a graduate of Franciscan University of Steubenville having received a bachelor's degree in theology with a concentration in Religious Education and a Masters in Catechetics and Evangelization. Over the past 20 years, she has worked in the field of catechetics and youth ministry in Tennessee, Illinois, New Jersey, and Kansas. She currently serves as the community's vocation director which involves traveling to share her community's charism of merciful love in parishes, school, retreats, and conferences throughout the country. She enjoys painting and other arts and crafts and making music on the guitar, harmonica, ukulele, and as a human jukebox with a song always on her heart.

K of C CORNER Men of the parishes. Our council is one of the best councils in southern Illinois. We have great board members and are do a great job. We all support and pray for one another during our meetings and have many positive discussions. We also have a good combination of older men with knowledge of the past and younger members bringing in new ideas and suggestions. I urge you to come back or join our council. Go to kofc.org/joinus, fill out the short form and put council 1098. Any questions call me at 618-789-0337. God be with you, Tom Cholevik, Grand Knight



ST. ELIZABETH SCHOOL

CATHOLIC SCHOOLS WEEK ACTIVITIES:

Monday: Dress in your PJ's (games in the gym)

Tuesday: Wear animal print (ice cream & dancing)

Wednesday: Dress wacky tacky; hair color is allowed (Trivia & bookmarks)

Thursday: Wear the same color from head to toe (Movie day)

Friday: Dress in school colors & carry your belongings in anything but a backpack (candy jar day)



Catholic Schools
United in Faith and Community



AUCTION TICKETS NOW AVAILABLE!

Tickets are now on sale!

<http://events.handbid.com/auctions/rewind-to-the-80s>

There are still spots to volunteer for craft nights:

<https://signup.com/go/RbSOxGU>

SUMMER SCHOOL:

Interested in attending summer school? Times / days did not work in the past? Please complete the attached form and give us feedback. We are looking to accommodate those who are interested:

<https://stelizabethgc.org/summer-school>



PRAYERS FOR OUR PRIESTS

The following priests of our Diocese are celebrating birthdays soon: 1/30- Rev. John Burnette 2/2- Rev. Thaddeus Adukus 2/5- Rev. George Radosevich Rev. Divikar Talluri 2/10- Rev. Steven Thompson 2/11- Rev. John Sohm Rev. Rodney Schwartz 2/13- Rev. Robert Porter 2/15- Rev. Sunder Ery 2/17- Msgr. Jeffrey Goeckner 2/18- Rev. Joseph Simburger 2/19- Rev. Larry Brunette 2/25- Rev. Kenneth Steffen

The following are priests and deacons of our Diocese who have died. Please remember them in your daily prayers: 1/27- Rev. Edmund J. Scanlan Rev. James A. Telken Rev. William Hagen, O.M.I. 1/28- Msgr. John J. McGrath Rev. Matthias Kieman, O.F.M. 1/29- Rev. Lawrence Villing Rev. John Foley



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 '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 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:

Mark 1:21-28

REFLECTING ON THE WORD:

The unclean spirit recognizes Jesus and proclaims his identity, "I know who you are-the Holy One of God!" Yet the people who encounter Jesus in the synagogue are amazed by his teaching and ask one another, "What is this?" How often are we amazed by our encounters with Lord? Do we always recognize his powerful actions in our day-to-day life?

ON THE WAY TO MASS

What does it mean to be holy? How are each of us made holy? Our home is a holy place. How is that made visible?

ON THE WAY HOME FROM MASS

Why do you think the people listened to Jesus when he talked? Why do you listen to Jesus?

LIVING THE WORD

In our creed, we profess that we are one, holy, catholic, and apostolic Church. The word holy means to be set apart for a special purpose by and for God. Discuss as a family who you know who has been set apart for God's work. (Hint: It's all of us!) Invite each family member to consider how God is calling him or her to holiness this week.

STEWARDSHIP

Our Financial Stewardship January 21, 2024

| | Actual | Goal | Over/(Short) |
|---------------------------------|---------------------|---------------------|----------------------|
| Week 30 Regular Income | \$4,072.00 | | |
| 86 Envelopes, Avg. Gift \$47.35 | | | |
| One-Time Donation | | | |
| Loose | \$322.50 | | |
| Online Giving | \$1,405.00 | | |
| TOTAL | \$5,799.50 | \$9,104.00 | (\$3,304.50) |
| YTD TOTALS | \$232,561.26 | \$273,120.00 | (\$40,558.74) |

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

Other Gifts:

| | |
|-------------------------|-------------|
| Tuition Assistance | \$120.00 |
| BINGO Profit | \$12,000.00 |
| Solemnity of Mary | \$20.00 |
| First Offering | \$30.00 |
| Catholic Times | \$150.00 |
| Church in Latin America | \$55.00 |
| Other Not Specified | \$50.00 |

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. **December tithe: \$4,927.00**

ONLINE GIVING OPTIONS

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

WEEKLY STEWARDSHIP REFLECTION

“Brothers and sisters: I should like you to be free of anxieties.” - 1 Corinthians 7:32

How much anxiety do we bring upon ourselves by constantly worrying about not having enough or attaining more things? God won't necessarily give you everything you want, but He will provide everything you need. Try this – use the word “pray” instead of the word “worry” in the future. Then spend your time praying instead of worrying.

ANNUAL GIVING STATEMENTS ARE AVAILABLE

Thank you for your generous stewardship & support of St. Elizabeth Parish & School!

2023 annual contribution statements are now available at the Parish Life Center. Please stop by and pick yours up at your convenience. If you would like it mailed, please call Bret or Jackie at the Parish Office at 618-877-3300.

Did you know? We send out 407 sets of contribution envelopes. 343 families regularly contribute via envelopes or online giving via GiveCentral. If you contribute via GiveCentral and would like to save us time and money by being removed from the envelope mailing, please contact the parish office. We'd be happy to assist!

Of those 343 households who regularly give, below is a breakdown of annual giving. If you're able to, would you please prayerfully consider increasing your giving in 2024?

| Contribution Level | | # Families |
|-----------------------|----------|------------|
| Less than \$50 | \$50 | 41 |
| \$50 | \$299 | 78 |
| \$300 | \$499 | 30 |
| \$500 | \$999 | 51 |
| \$1,000 | \$1,999 | 86 |
| \$2,000 | \$4,999 | 44 |
| \$5,000 | \$9,999 | 11 |
| Greater than \$10,000 | \$10,000 | 2 |



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





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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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