

The Royal Review

February 8, 2024



We had a wonderful month with Father Charles and we wish him safe travels as he returns to Uganda. Father Alfred will be back this weekend! We pray for his return journey and can't wait give him high 5's! *Father your St.E family missed you!*



SCHOOL IS IN SESSION MONDAY, FEB. 12TH NO SCHOOL MONDAY, FEB. 19TH

During Lent students do not receive an out of uniform after each fish fry they attend. The out of uniform incentive is awarded to those who partake in 5 of the 8 Lenten fish fries. The incentive is more than out of uniform and is awarded on April 2nd. Sign your child's name on the sign in sheet (soda table) to receive credit.

Congratulations to
Sam Sadowski &
Makenzie Uhercik
Who are January's Optimist
Club winners.





Thank you to Sara Delp, Samantha Welch, PTO, and all the volunteers who made Catholic Schools week a memorable week.

Kindergarten – 8th grade: Red tops and uniform bottoms on Valentine's day; Wednesday, February 14th.

Congratulations to the St.E Scholar bowl team who buzzed in with a win against St.Paul this week.

Looking ahead:

2/10 – Parents night out 5-9 gym 2/11 – 3RD grade Sacramental Retreat

2/12 – Progress reports

2/13 – PTO meeting 7PM

2/14 – Ash Wednesday Fish Fry 2/16 – Fish Fry

2/16 – NO school 3rd grade ONLY

2/17 – Confirmation & 1st Holy Communion in Springfield, IL

2/18 – Sacrament celebration for

3rd grade at 10:30 Mass @ STE

2/19 – NO school

2/20 – Donuts @ drop-off

2/20 – Brain Awareness presentation 6th- 8th

2/23 – Faith Family T-shirt

2/23 – Fish fry

2/23 Blood drive

2/27 – Club pictures DURING school

2/27 – Dental presentation K – 3rd

2/27 – Sports pictures after school

2/27 – St. Elizabeth School REGISTRATION 6-8PM

2/29 – 2nd grade Reconciliation 6PM

3/1 – 3rd Quarter ends

3/1 fish fry

3/2 – Auction

3/2 - FMCHS Math competition

3/3 - Youth Mass 10:30

3/5 – Junior Olympiad @ SIUE

3/8 – Fish Fry

3/9 – Solo & Ensemble contest

3/13 – Spring Pictures

3/13 – Honor Roll Mass

3/13 – Optimist Poster & Essay due

3/15 – 11AM dismissal

3/15 Fish Fry

3/16 – Speech Meet @ SSPP

3/25 - 4/1 - NO School

Parents looking for a night out? Check out the flyer attached. The athletic department is hosting an evening with childcare. If interested, please complete the form so we can plan according.

Date change:

8th grade graduation is Thursday, May 16th. Dinner @ 5:30PM; Mass @ 7PM





The PTO auction was created years ago to replace the number of fundraisers the school does throughout the school year. The event raises between \$40,000 to \$50,000 each year. It is a fundraiser to benefit the children. **Every penny is given back to our students** through, curriculum, safety, technology, dances, skating parties, Catholic Schools week events, field day, athletics, clubs, etc.

The event opens with a silent online auction, raffles, drinks, and dinner. Mid way through the night the live auction begins, followed by a dance.

Each class PreK -8 creates a class project that is auctioned off at the event.

Handbid is an online bidding site where you can watch and bid on the items of your choice while giving you the freedom to enjoy the company of fellow school parents.

There is a lot of effort that goes into making this night a success and your help is always needed and appreciated.

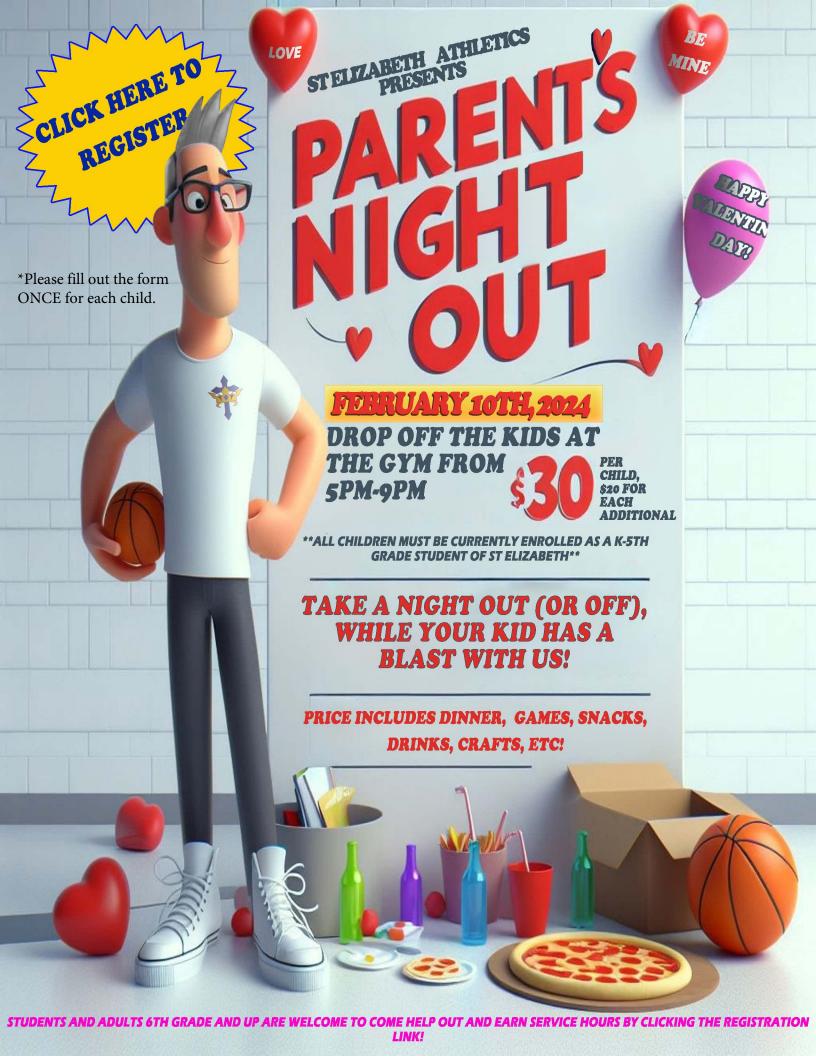
Please consider attending this event and to support YOUR CHILD'S school.

March 2, 2024 (doors open@ 5:30)

Auction ... Auction... Auction!

Tickets are now on sale! http://events.handbid.com/auctions/rewind-to-the-80s Or

visit the school office to purchase your tickets.



Daily At-Home Lenten Activities for Families

FEBRUARY

SUN 11

MON 12

TUE 13

ASH WEDNESDAY 14

"Even now, says the Lord, return to me with your whole heart."

JI 2:12

Write your Lenten intentions on paper hearts and place them in a bowl or basket so you will be reminded each day to turn to God.

THU 15

"But when you pray, go to your inner room, close the door, and pray to your Father in secret."

Mt 6:6

Seek out quiet times and places for prayer each day during Lent. Set up a comfortable prayer space in your home. Add a prayer notebook to draw and write prayers in.

FRI 16

"If you bestow your bread on the hungry and satisfy the afflicted, Then light shall rise for you in the darkness." Is 58:10

Shop for food items to donate to a parish or community food bank in order to assist those in need.

SAT 17

"Teach me your way, 0 Lord, that I may walk in your truth." Ps 86:11

Go for a walk together in a park or other place of beauty. Pay attention to signs of God's creation all around you.



Daily At-Home Lenten Activities for Families

FEBRUARY

18 SUN

"The Spirit drove Jesus out into the desert, and he remained in the desert for forty days." Mk 1:12

The season of Lent lasts for forty days. Use this or another calendar to count how many 40 days is with younger children. Consider how you will use this time to pray, to ask God for his forgiveness, and to help those in need.

THU

"Ask and it will be given to you; seek and you will find; knock and the door will be opened to you." Mt 7:7

to be happy and holy? Offer a prayer together and bring those needs to God.

MON 19

"Amen, I say to you, whatever you did for one of these least brothers of mine, you did for me." Mt 25:40

Look for ways to treat each person you encounter today as you would treat Jesus.

TUE 20

"This is how you are to pray: Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name." Mt 6:9

Offer an Our Father together. Pray it slowly and pay attention to each word and phrase.

WED 21

"A clean heart create for me. O God, and a steadfast spirit renew within me." Ps 51:12

Be aware of your words and actions today. How can you make each one more loving and kind?

22

What does your family need

FRI 23

"Go first and be reconciled with your brother, and then come offer your gift." Mt 5:24

Talk about any ways in which your family menbers need to forgive and reconcile with one another. Offer words of forgiveness to one another.

24 SAT

"But I say to you, love your enemies, and pray for those who persecute you." Mt 5:44

Make an effort to be kind and patient today with someone who is difficult to love.



SUN 25

"This is my beloved Son. Listen to him." Mk 9:7

How can you listen more carefully to the way Jesus asks you to follow him this week?

MON 26

Forgive and you will be forgiven." Lk 6:37

Ask God to show you how to forgive and to ask for forgiveness from others. Pray an Act of Contrition.

TUE 27

"The greatest among you must be your servant." Mt 23:11

Look for an opportunity to serve someone else today. Do a chore without being asked. Pick up after someone else. Whatever you choose, do it with love.

WED 28

"I am the light of the world, says the Lord; whoever follows me will have the light of life." Jn 8:12

Have an adult family member light a candle. Together, watch its warm glow. How can you let the light of Jesus guide you today?

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THU 29

"But whoever lives the truth comes to the light, so that his works may be clearly seen as done in God." Jn 3:21

Thank someone today who has been the light of Christ for you.

FRI 1

"God so loved the world that he gave his only-begotten Son; so that everyone who believes in him might have eternal life."

Jn 3:16

Share the Good News of Jesus with someone else today. Make it happen!

SAT 2

"Yet I, like a trusting lamb led to slaughter, had not realized that they were hatching plots against me." Jer 11:19

Pray the Stations of the Cross together and thank Jesus for offering his life for us.



SUN 3

"Let the one among you who is without sin be the first to throw a stone at her." Jn 8:7

Be careful of throwing stones at people through unkind words. Think carefully before you speak to make sure your words are filled with kindness and caring.

MON 4

"As the deer longs for streams of water, so my soul longs for you, my God." Ps 42:2

Pray today for families and nations who long for peace. Make an effort to practice peace through your words and actions.

TUE 5

"Look to the Lord in his strength; seek to serve him constantly." Ps 105:4

What tests your strength as a family? Consider how you can turn your anxieties over to God and serve him through your faith and trust.

WED 6

"Whoever obeys and teaches these commandments will be called greatest in the Kingdom of heaven." Mt 5:19

The greatest Commandment teaches us to love God and to love one another as we love ourselves. Talk about ways you are keeping this commandment in your home.

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THU 7

"The Lord is close to the brokenhearted." Ps 34:19

Name some of the "brokenhearted" people in the world. Offer a prayer for their comfort and consolation.

FRI 8

"I will place my law within them and write it upon their hearts; I will be their God, and they shall be my people." Jer 31:33

Talk about ways in which God has blessed your family. How will you live as God's people this week?

SAT 9

"For everyone who exalts himself will be humbled and the one who humbles himself will be exalted." Lk 18:14

Offer to help someone today without expecting anything in return.



SUN 10

"So they said to him, 'Who are you?" Jn 8:25

Who is Jesus in your life? Let this question be a conversation starter about the place of Jesus in your home and family.

MON 11

"You changed my mourning into dancing; O Lord, my God, forever will I give you thanks." Ps 30:12

Send a card offering cheer and comfort to someone who is sad or lonely.

TUE 12

"Jesus said to him, 'Rise, take up your mat, and walk. Immediately the man became well, took up his mat, and walked." Jn 5:8-9

Offer a family prayer for all of those who need healing. Look for ways to bring God's merciful love to others.

WED 13

"And lying at his door was a poor man named Lazarus." Lk 16:20

Read the parable of the rich man and Lazarus (Luke 16:19-31). Decide on a way your family can reach out to someone who needs comfort and healing.

THU 14

"Pray without ceasing."
1 Th 5:17

Discuss as a family how you can follow Saint Paul's command. How will you keep Jesus in your minds and hearts each day of the Lenten season and always?

FRI 15

"Father, I have sinned against heaven and against you; I no longer deserve to be called your son." Lk 15:21

Check your parish bulletin for dates and times of a Lenten Reconciliation service. Make plans to attend, in person or virtually.

SAT 16

"Mary took a liter of costly perfumed oil made from genuine aromatic nard and anointed the feet of Jesus and dried them with her hair." Jn 12:3

Mary of Bethany shared something precious with Jesus. What will you give to others this week that shows your love for Jesus?



Daily At-Home Lenten Activities for Families

MARCH

SUN 17

"In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the holy Spirit" Mt 28:19

Today is the feast day of Saint Patrick who taught about the Blessed Trinity. Pray the Sign of the Cross together.

MON 18

"Walk in all the ways that I command you, so that you may prosper." Jer 7:23

Make each step you take today one filled with love and consideration of others.

TUE 19

"Jacob was the father of Joseph, the husband of Mary. Of her was born Jesus who is called the Christ." Mt 1:16

Today is the feast of Saint
Joseph, who cared for Mary and
Jesus. Ask Saint Joseph to pray
for your family and to help you
care for one another. Wear red
today to honor him!

WED 20

"The Lord is good to all and compassionate toward all his works." Ps 145:9

Practice compassion today by following the example of Jesus. Listen carefully to others and look for ways to share your love with them.

THU 21

"You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul, with all your mind, and with all your strength." Mk 12:30

Share ways in which your family members show love for God with your minds, hearts, souls, and bodies.

FRI 22

"And many there began to believe in him." Jn 10:42

Take out the intentions you wrote at the beginning of Lent and reread them. How has your faith in Jesus been strengthened during this holy season?

SAT 23

"Stop making my Father's house a marketplace." Jn 2:16

Talk about ways you can show respect when you are in church.



Daily At-Home Lenten Activities for Families

MARCH

PALM SUNDAY

"Those preceding him as well as those following kept crying out, 'Hosanna. Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord." Mk 11:9

Place palm branches in a place where they will remind you to give praise to Jesus Christ each day this week.

28

basin and began to wash the disciples' feet and dry them with the towel around his waist." In 13:5

Perform an act of service today for someone in your home or neighborhood. Do so with a

"Mary said, 'Behold, I am the handmaid of the Lord. May it be done to me according to your word." Lk 1:38

Today is the Solemnity of the Annunciation of the Lord. Offer a Hail Mary together and look to Mary as a model of faith.

"Amen, amen, I say to you, one of you will betray me." Jn 13:21

Reflect today on those times when you have betrayed Jesus by turning away from his call to love and forgive others. Ask for his help in being faithful disciples.

"For the Lord hears the poor, and his own who are in bonds he spurns not." Ps 69:34

Lend your ear to someone who is poor in spirit today. Show your care and concern by listening with love and attentiveness.

HOLY THURSDAY

"Then he poured water into a

generous and loving heart.

GOOD FRIDAY 29

"And bowing his head, he handed over the spirit." Jn 19:30

Place a crucifix or cross in the place where your family gathers for prayer. Take turns holding it and offering a prayer for all of those who are suffering today.

HOLY SATURDAY 30

"If, then, we have died with Christ, we believe that we shall also live with him." Rom 6:8

Offer a prayer for all of those who will find new life in Christ as they are baptized at the Easter Vigil tonight.

EASTER SUNDAY

"For they did not yet understand the Scripture that he had to rise from the dead." Jn 20:9

While our Lenten journey has come to an end, the Easter season has just begun! Look ahead to the next seven weeks and how you will continue to reflect and rejoice in the Good News of the Resurrection.





Blood DriveSt Elizabeth Catholic Church

Parish Life Center 2300 Pontoon Rd Granite City, IL 62040

Friday, February 23, 2024 11:00 a.m. to 5:30 p.m.

Please visit RedCrossBlood.org and enter: StElizabethCC to schedule an appointment.

Share your heart! Come give in Feb. for a \$20 Amazon.com Gift Card by email. See rcblood.org/heart





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FREE RESOURCES FOR EVERY ATTENDEE!

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A LIFE-CHANGING EVENT FOR FAMILIES (AGES 13+)

GENDER & THE THEOLOGY OF YOUR BODY (AGES 13+)

MONDAY March 4, 2024

6:00 - 7:30 PM

The innocence of the family is under attack like never before. Come and discover how to protect and heal yours. This chastity presentation is for teens, parents and adults. MONDAY March 4, 2024

7:45 - 8:45 PM

What's the meaning of sex, gender, and the human body? The truth of masculinity and femininity are being questioned like never before. Discover how your body as a man or woman reveals your identity and calling.

Break 7:30-7:45 PM
Sacrament of Reconciliation & Eucharistic Adoration 8:45-9:15 PM

Tickets: chastity.com/purified

Info: bananie3@yahoo.com or 618.581.7055

Purchase Tickets with QR Code:



ame Day SPORTS PICTURES WILL BE TAKEN ON TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 27TH

See your pictures before you buy!

No money is needed on Picture Day. A link to your images will be emailed to you soon.

40B Edwardsville Professional Park, Edwardsville, IL 62025 618-692-5222



Breakthroughs are what we do.

We've made it our mission to help frustrated families with a holistic, drug-free program that goes beyond the more mainstream approaches you may have tried.

Brain Balance is an integrated approach to helping kids, teens, and adults improve focus, anxiety, behavior, and academics. Our program can help individuals improve the critical skills needed to achieve greater success.

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JAYDEN'S BREAKTHROUGH:
He finished his
homework without
a meltdown.



There is hope for your child's future. Contact our support team to get started.

BrainBalance.com





Parents Reported significant Improvements 1,2

53% Improvement in feelings of happiness

53% Improvement in academic follow-through and motivation

49% Improvement in feelings of anxiety

51% Improvement in school performance and test scores

42% Improvement in social confidence

34% Improvement in the ability to start and finish assignments

Proven effective By Research³

At Brain Balance, research is in our DNA.
Research studies with Harvard University and
Cambridge Brain Sciences found the Brain
Balance Program effectively improves:

- FOCUS
- ATTENTION
- REASONING
- HYPERACTIVITY
- VERBAL ABILITY
- MEMORY
- BEHAVIOR

The Best of All Methods

The Brain Balance Program is a holistic, whole-body approach designed to strengthen and improve your brain's functioning – helping to positively impact many areas of your life. The Program incorporates cognitive, brain performance, and nutrition methods and combines them into one optimized approach.

Integrated, Drug-Free Program

Our integrated approach combines sensory, auditory, visual, and physical exercises. You'll get nutritional guidance to provide optimal fuel for peak performance.

Dedicated Coaching

Our supportive team of experts will coach you to reach your goals. Your child will complete the program at a nearby center or from the comfort of your own home, depending on your location and preference. The program is personalized to each individual's unique goals and challenges.

Measurable Outcomes

Throughout the program, you'll receive measurable data on your progress, and what it represents in terms of your child's goals and areas of improvement.



Lent begins this week with Ash Wednesday

The season of Lent begins this week on Ash Wednesday, February 14, and ends just prior to the evening Mass of the Lord's Supper on Holy Thursday, when the Paschal Triduum begins.

This Wednesday, Ash Wednesday Masses are at 8:15 a.m. (with the school) and 6 p.m. A Liturgy of the Word with Distribution of Ashes will also be offered at 12 Noon.

Lent is the principal penitential season in the Church year. All the Christian faithful are urged to develop and maintain a voluntary program of self-denial (in addition to the Lenten regulations which fo llow), serious prayer and the performing of deeds of charity and mercy, including the giving of alms.

Prayerully consider what your prayer, fasting, and almsgiving will include this year.

REMEMBER THE LENTEN REGULATIONS:

- 1. ABSTINENCE Everyone 14 years of age and over is bound to abstain from meat on Ash Wednesday and all the Fridays of Lent.
- 2. FASTING Everyone 18 years of age and under 59 is required to fast on Ash Wednesday and Good Friday. On these two days of fast and abstinence, only one full meatless meal is permitted. Two other meatless meals, sufficient to maintain strength may be taken according to each person's needs, but together these two should not equal another full meal. Eating between meals is not permitted, but liquids (including milk and fruit juices) are allowed.
- 3. To disregard completely the law of fast and abstinence is seriously sinful.

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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PASTORAL STAFF

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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

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, February 12 Monday of the 6th Week in Ordinary Time No Mass

Tuesday, February 13 Tuesday of the 6th Week in Ordinary Time

6:00 p.m. Mass:

Thomas Byer+ by the Byer Family

Wednesday, February 14 Ash Wednesday

8:15 a.m. Mass:

Sam Shambro+ by Joe & Maggie Grabowski

6:00 p.m. Mass:

Donna McCoy+ by Norma Lesko

Thursday, February 15 Thursday after Ash Wednesday

8:15a.m. Mass: Romana Lofink+ by Theresa Harding & Family

Friday, February 16 Friday after Ash Wednesday

8:15 a.m. Mass: Dale Fletcher+ by Darlene Fletcher

Saturday, February 17 Saturday after Ash Wednesday No Mass

Saturday-Sunday, February 17-18 First Sunday of Lent

4:30 p.m. Saturday Evening Mass: Dennis Riggs+ by Dan, Cheryl, Danielle & Ciara Folkerts

8:00 a.m. Mass: ▶ Richard A. Willaredt+ by Janice 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.

February is dedicated to the Holy Family of Jesus, Mary, & Joseph

Pope Francis' Prayer Intention for February: For the terminally ill: We pray that those with a terminal illness, and their families, receive the necessary physical and spiritual care and accompaniment.

This Sunday: 6th Sunday in Ord. Time

Lev 13:1-2, 44-46; 1 Cor 10:31-11:1; Mk 1:40-45
The first reading regulates procedures for dealing with people with skin disease. They are denounced unclean and must live alone. Paul calls the Corinthians to give glory to God in everything they do. In the Gospel, Jesus is moved with pity for a man with leprosy. Jesus touches the man, and he is made clean.

Next Sunday: 1st Sunday of Lent

Gen 9:8-15; 1 Pt 3:18-22; Mk 1:12-15

To repent means to feel regret and sorrow and to change, or "turn from" what is evil. Gospel is a word meaning "good news." To "repent and believe in the Gospel" is the twofold call of the Christian, which is brought into profound relief during the Lenten season. This time of prayer and preparation for Easter shows there is indeed cause for regret and sorrow, and a need for change. And yet, what we are turning toward as we turn from sin is always cause for joy and hope.

14 DAY SANCTUARY LAMP

This week, the 14-day Santuary Lamp reminds us to pray for **Police, Fire, EMS, Dispatch and all other First Responders.** 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 dearly departed parishioners of Saint Elizabeth 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 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

Ann Fahisher

LEARNING & LIVING AS DISCIPLES

GRAB A RICE BOWL! Join a transformative Lenten journey with CRS Rice Bowl. Pick up your family's Rice Bowl from the Gathering Space beginning this week. During the 40 days of Lent, we will reflect on the impact of global hunger and climate change on vulnerable communities around the word, and we will pray, fast and give alms to help our sisters and brothers in need. Visit crsricebowl.org to learn more.





SACRAMENTS AT CATHEDRAL

Our 3rd graders are heading to the Cathedral in Springfield for the Sacrament of Confirmation & their first Holy Communion next Saturday, February 17. Pray for them! You can also tune in and watch the Mass at 11:00 a.m. at spicathedral.org. Click on the "Livestream" link on the homepage.

Our young people will then be back here at St. Elizabeth for a special celebration at the 10:30 Mass the next morning, on Sunday, February 18. Join us for that special Mass and a light reception afterwards.

Making a Good Confession

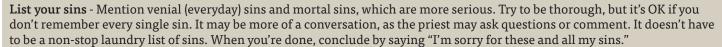
Has it been a while since you've taken part in the Sacrament of Reconciliation? We want to help you be ready.

PREPARE:

Spend time prayerfully examining your conscience to remember moments where you've fallen short of living God's law, or have distanced yourself from God, the Church, or others around you.

WHEN IT'S TIME:

Enter the confessional and greet the priest. Make the sign of the cross and say "Bless me, Father, for I have sinned. It's been [however many days/months/years] since my last confession."



Listen to the priest - When you're done confessing your sins, the priest may offer some guidance and suggest ways to avoid sins in the future. He'll then give you a penance, which could be a form of prayer, a service or some work of mercy.

Pray the Act of Contrition - there is even a version on paper handy in the confessional!

My God, I am sorry for my sins with all my heart. In choosing to do wrong and failing to do good, I have sinned against You whom I should love above all things. I firmly intend, with Your help, to do penance, to sin no more, and to avoid whatever leads me to sin. Our Savior Jesus Christ suffered and died for us. In his name, my God, have mercy.

Receive absolution from God, via the priest - The priest will say the following prayer to absolve you of your sins: "God, the Father of mercies, through the death and the resurrection of His Son has reconciled the world to Himself and sent the Holy Spirit among us for the forgiveness of sins; through the ministry of the Church may God give you pardon and peace, and I absolve you from your sins in the name of the Father, and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit. Make the sign of the cross and close with Amen."

Depart and fulfill your act of penance.

For more preparation information, check out:

hallow.com/blog/how-to-go-to-confession-the-sacrament-of-penance-reconciliation/

"All of us are called to experience more intensely every Eucharist, in all its dimensions, and particularly its eschatological and missionary dimensions. In this regard, I would reiterate that 'we cannot approach the Eucharistic table without being drawn into the mission which, beginning in the very heart of God, is meant to reach all people' (ibid., 84). The Eucharistic renewal that many local Churches are laudably promoting in the post-Covid era will also be essential for reviving the missionary spirit in each member of the faithful. With how much greater faith and heartfelt enthusiasm should we recite at every Mass: 'We proclaim your death, O Lord, and profess your resurrection, until you come again'!" - Pope Francis, Address for World Mission Sunday 2024

Is time in Adoration a possible way for you to grow during Lent this year? Join us in Eucharistic Adoration... and then join in Mission!





FORMATION Growing in Knowledge of Christ & His Church

This Week on FORMED®



Whole 40: Making a Spiritual Plan for Lent Sit down with Dr. Ben Akers and Dr. Elizabeth Klein to discuss the purpose of the season of Lent, how to prepare for it, and why it is such a fruitful season in our life of faith.

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 ON THURSDAY NIGHTS

Has it been a while since you've thought much about some of the aspects of our faith? Join us on Thursdays from 7-8 in the PLC Library:

- 2/15: "Election" Chosen by Christ
- 2/22: The Creed
- 2/29: The Lord's Prayer
- 3/7: Christian Moral Living & Social Justice
- 3/14: The Dignity of Life / A Consistent Ethic of Life
- 3/21: The Meaning of Holy Week

MARK YOUR CALENDARS: SAVE THESE SUMMER DATES!



Totus Tuus in Granite City July 7-12

Vacation Bible School: SCUBA! at St. Elizabeth August 5-9

More info this Spring.

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 7 th & 8 th graders to join us! 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. The weekend offers youth an experience of God's love on a more personal level than is usually possible in a catechetical setting. 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

Mercy Minute

"I am offering people a vessel with which they are to keep coming for graces to the fountain of mercy. That vessel is this image with the signature: "Jesus, I trust in You". (Diary, 327). "By means of this image I shall grant many graces to souls. It is to be a reminder of the demands of My mercy, because even the strongest

faith is of no avail without works." (Diarry, 742).



YOUNG DISCIPLES SOCIETY

Young Disciples Teens: Join us after the 10:30 Sunday Mass. February Meetings: February 11 & 25. Join us - and bring a teenage friend!

JOIN US IN INDY

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 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.



Parish Life & Hospitality, Service

LADIES SODALITY KENTUCKY TRIP

Ladies Sodality is planning a fall trip to the Ark Encounter & Creation Museum in Kentucky. The trip will begin early on September 23 with return home on the 24th. Bus is \$120.50 per person; admission tickets are \$80. Hotel reservations pending, but the plan is to have breakfast at the hotel and use meal vouchers at the Ark (\$16.99) and Creation Museum (\$13.77) Interested? Contact Pam Winn at 618-641-7274 ASAP. We need commitments by May 15 and money for bus and admission by July 1.

FISH FRY SIGNS

If you're willing to place a fish fry sign in your yard or at your place of business, please text or call Rob at 618-973-5459 with the address and he will drop off the sign. Thank you!

MAGNETS & STICKERS

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 VBS!

CHOLARSHIPS

LADIES SODALITY SCHOLARSHIP

Attention high school seniors... It's that time of year again; time to apply for the Ladies Sodality Scholarship. You need to be a graduate of St Elizabeth Catholic School, attend mass at St. Elizabeth, and be planning to attend a college or technical school. Pick up an application at the Parish office. - Joyce Alexander, Scholarship chairman.

REISKE COLLEGE SCHOLARSHIP

Applications are now available at the Parish Office. Any college bound parishioner is eligible who: Graduated from St. Elizabeth School, Presently is a member of St. Elizabeth Parish; Is active in the Parish: Attends Mass EVERY WEEKEND: Has financial need.

Applications are due by Friday, March 29, 2024, no later than 4:00 pm. Fr. Alfred and the Selection Committee will then review the applications and present their selection to the Pastoral Council. Firsttime applicants will have preferential consideration and no one applicant will be awarded the scholarship more than two times

Sunday, February 11

THIS WEEK

After 8:00 Mass to 10:15 - PSR (PLC) 9 a.m. - Men at Prayer After 10:30 Mass to 1 p.m. - Young Disciples Teens (PLC Upper Room) 11:30 a.m. - Confirmation Retreat 6 p.m. - Choir Practice (Church) 7:30-8:30 p.m. - Holy Hour with Vespers & Benediction (Church)

Monday, February 12

Tuesday, February 13

Wednesday, February 14

Ash Wednesday - Lent Begins Day of Fasting & Abstinence

8:15 a.m. & 6 p.m. - Mass (with ashes) 12 Noon - Distribution of Ashes 4-7 p.m. - Fish Fry (Cafeteria) 7 p.m. - BINGO (Columbus Home)

Thursday, February 15

9 a.m. - 9 p.m. - Adoration (Church)

7 p.m. - OCIA (PLC Library)

9 p.m. - Exodus Fraternity (Harmony)

Friday, February 16

Lenten Friday - Day of Abstinence

4-7 p.m. - Fish Fry (Cafeteria)

Saturday, February 17

11 a.m. - 3rd Grade Sacraments at Cathedral - watch at spicathedral.org Rite of Sending (RCIA) at 4:30 Mass

Sunday, February 18

After 8:00 Mass to 10:15 - PSR (PLC) 3rd Graders' first Communion at St. Elizabeth at 10:30 Mass; After 10:30 Mass: Reception for 3rd Grade Sacrament Recipients

2:30 p.m. - Rite of Election (OCIA) at Cathedral

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

SAVE THESE DATES!

Neither are officially called yet, but if it continues to be God's Will, and if both receive calls to Holy Orders from Bishop Paprocki, parishioners may want to attend two ordinations at Cathedral soon.

If you are interested in a car pool, please contact the parish office:

- Friday, April 12 (evening): Ordination of Deacons could include Seminarian Ryan Kehoe, who was here the 2022-23 school year.
- Saturday, May 25 (day): Ordination of Priests could include Deacon Daniel McGrath, who has been with us this school year.



AROUND THE AREA

SUPPORT ABL & EAT SOME PIZZA

Come eat some pizza & support A Beacon of Light Pregnancy Help Center! MOD Pizza, 2300A Troy Road, Edwardsville (next to Home Goods). Monday, February 19, 2024. Come in or order online using Fundraiser Code MODGIVES20 and MOD will donate 20% of your bill to support ABL's great work.

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS CORNER

Saturday we had our Special Olympics Banquet. This is if not the biggest and best event we have in the year. The food was really good and there were lots of friendships made and lots of dancing. I want to thank the Knights and other workers that helped to make this event such a success. What an awesome council we have, and I invite the men who have strayed away or those who have not taken a look at Knights of Columbus[®]

us yet, to please come back or join us on our journey to help the parishes and the community. Go to kofc.org/joinus Put in Granite City Council 1098 or call me at 628-789-0337. Thank you for reading, Tom Cholevik, Grand Knight.

St. Elizabeth School





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

THANK YOU AGAIN!

Thank you to all of our parish & school families who stopped by and visited our wonderful school during our Open House to close Catholic School's Week after the 10:30 Mass... and thank you to all of our students and alumni who did such a great job at Mass!









THANK YOU PTO!

Thank you to the PTO for providing the food truck for our teachers to enjoy lunch at the end of last week's Catholic School's Week!

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: 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. Larrry 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: 2/11- Msgr. John W. Spreen 2/12- Rev. John R. Nolan 2/13- Rev. John Lupton 2/14- Rev. Patrick Bourke

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: 40-45

REFLECTING ON THE WORD:

Jesus meets a leper, who begs to be made clean. To be clean meant that the leper could rejoin the community, rather than live as an outcast. Jesus was able to see this man with the eyes of compassion and to offer him a way out of his life of suffering. When we experience pain, misery, and anguish, we realize how much we need one another and God. How can we share God's love and closeness with those who feel cut off from the support of the community?

ON THE WAY TO MASS

Have you ever felt left out, excluded, or cut off from others? How would it feel to be included again?

ON THE WAY HOME FROM MASS

During the week, we may get busy with schoolwork, household chores, or other things that fill our days. In these times, how can we remember to turn to Jesus for help when we are in need?

LIVING THE WORD

Our elderly or shut-in friends may feel that they have been forgotten and excluded from society. How can your family reach out and include an elderly neighbor, a retired priest or sister, or help a homebound parishioner feel more connected and included? Write a letter, make a phone call, draw a picture, bake a treat, and let them know how much they mean to your family. Be sure to share stories, memories, and smiles.



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.

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 February 4, 2024

| | Actual | Goal | Over/(Short) |
|----------------------------------|--------------|--------------|---------------|
| Week 32 Regular Income | \$8,319.00 | | |
| 122 Envelopes, Avg. Gift \$68.19 | | | |
| One-Time Donation | | | |
| Loose | \$269.00 | | |
| Online Giving | \$1,710.00 | | |
| TOTAL | \$10,298.00 | \$9,104.00 | \$1,194.00 |
| YTD TOTALS | \$249,851.26 | \$291,328.00 | (\$41,476.74) |

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 | \$1,025.0 |
|------------------------------|-----------|
| Building Repairs & Maint. | \$390.00 |
| Special Projects | \$250.00 |
| Mission & Ministry | \$315.00 |
| Votive Offering | \$55.00 |
| Catholic Charities | \$115.00 |
| Solemnity of Mary | \$10.00 |
| First Offering | \$50.00 |
| Church in Cntrl/East. Europe | \$65.00 |
| Catholic Times | \$32.00 |
| Church in Latin America | \$85.00 |
| Other Not Specified | \$570.00 |

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/allevents

WEEKLY STEWARDSHIP REFLECTION

"Brothers and sisters, whether you eat or drink, or whatever you do, do everything for the glory of God." - 1 Corinthians 10:31

Do a quick check of your priorities. Where does God rank in that list? If He's not first, you have some work to do. Putting God first in everything helps us from putting other "gods" (like our pride, ego, money and possessions) before God. Before making a decision, ask yourself, "Am I doing this for the glory of God or for the glory of me?"

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!



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.

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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