

Disciples Stewards

St. Elizabeth Catholic Church & School

Granite City, Illinois ♦ Diocese of Springfield in Illinois

First Sunday of Lent ♦ February 18, 2024



PRAY



FAST



GIVE

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 follow), serious prayer, and the performing of deeds of charity and mercy, including the giving of alms.

Prayerfully 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

 [@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
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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: Christine Domagalski

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, February 19

Monday of the First Week of Lent

No Mass

Tuesday, February 20

Tuesday of the First Week of Lent

6:00 p.m. Mass:

Larry Welle+ by Nancy & Art Capstick

Wednesday, February 21

Wednesday of the First Week of Lent

8:15 a.m. Mass:

Romana Lofink+ by Norma Lesko

Thursday, February 22

The Chair of Saint Peter the Apostle

8:15 a.m. Mass:

Zaki & Colleen Sheihk+ by Norma Lesko

Friday, February 23

Friday of the First Week of Lent

8:15 a.m. Mass:

John Vlakey+ by Gordon+ & Dorothy Hayes

Saturday, February 24

Saturday of the First Week of Lent


No Mass

Saturday-Sunday, February 24-25

Second Sunday of Lent

4:30 p.m. Saturday Evening Mass:

Anthony Kim Edgar+ by Premo & Kay Clay

8:00 a.m. Mass: 

Sam Shambro+ by Ed & Marie Gray

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.

Be with Jesus

Adoration

Thursdays 9 am - 9 pm

Holy Hour

Sundays 7:30-8:30 pm



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: 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 shows there is indeed cause for regret and sorrow, and a need for change. And yet, what we are turning toward is always cause for joy and hope.

Next Sunday: 2nd Sunday of Lent

Gen 22:1-2, 9a, 10-13, 15-18; Rom 8:31b-34; Mk 9:2-10

God calls Abraham to sacrifice Isaac, but provides a ram instead and promises blessing on all nations in response to Abraham's trust. In the Epistle, we are reminded that God did not spare his own Son and so gives us everything with him. In the Gospel, Jesus is transfigured and a voice from the cloud says: This is my beloved Son. Listen to him.

14 DAY SANCTUARY LAMP

This week, the 14-day Sanctuary Lamp reminds us to pray for **our students who are being Confirmed and receiving first Holy Eucharist this weekend**. To offer the 14 day candle in honor of a loved one, contact the Parish Office.

ALTAR FLOWERS

There are no altar flowers during the season of Lent. Honor a loved one with the altar flowers by scheduling a memorial for after Lent. Contact the Parish Office.

An Act of Spiritual Communion

My Jesus, I believe that You are present in the Most Holy Sacrament. I love You above all things, and I desire to receive You into my soul. Since I cannot at this moment receive You sacramentally, come at least spiritually into my heart. I embrace You as if You were already there and unite myself wholly to You. Never permit me to be separated from You. Amen.

FIRST FRIDAY MEMORIALS

Deceased Members of
Holy Name Men's Club
Czwoznog & Ostrenga Families

Kierski Family

Bill Loftus

John & Theresa Straubinger

Carl Williams

Alan Winters

Keith Winters

Brinker & Soboleski Families

Delores Brinker

Paula Gushleff Koliste

DeRuntz & Pfaff Families

Louise Harrison

Kenneth Jaimet

Deceased Members of
St. Elizabeth Choir

Gene Cassy

Jim Dederia

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

LEARNING & LIVING AS DISCIPLES



STATIONS OF THE CROSS Join us for the traditional devotion of the Stations of the Cross in the church at 3 p.m. each Friday, beginning Friday, February 23. It takes about 20 minutes, and would be a wonderful addition to your school pickup routine or other Friday afternoon routine. We hope you'll join us in this prayer this Lent.

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 world, and we will pray, fast and give alms to help our sisters and brothers in need. Visit crsricebowl.org to learn more.



2024-2025

St. Elizabeth Catholic School

Registration

6:00-8:00 pm

Tuesday, February 27th

Enter through school main entrance



New families who register on or before 2/27 receive a discount!
K-8 gets \$50 off registration • Preschool gets \$30 off registration

- ✓ Academic excellence in a community grounded in faith
- ✓ Preschool through 8th grade
- ✓ Strong curriculum with emphasis on reading, writing, and mathematics
- ✓ Before and after care available
- ✓ Experienced and dedicated certified teachers, paraprofessionals, pastors, and pastoral staff
- ✓ Full-day preschool and kindergarten
- ✓ Music, art, athletics, and clubs
- ✓ State-of-the-art building safety
- ✓ High percentage of graduates enter high school with advanced honors classes
- ✓ Affordable tuition rates

experience

all that Catholic education has to offer...

join our faith-filled family in 2024!



2300 Pontoon Road • Granite City, IL • 618.877.3300



Learn More

FEBRUARY 22 (this Thursday) THE FEAST OF THE CHAIR OF ST. PETER

This feast commemorates the contributions of the Apostle Peter to the Church and the importance of his role in the Church. It celebrates his authority and endless efforts to build a strong community around the teachings of Christ.

St. Peter was known to hold the keys to the kingdom of heaven, entrusted to him by Jesus himself. He is considered as the first Pope and the Feast of the Chair of St. Peter marks the longstanding Papacy in Rome since the 1st century.

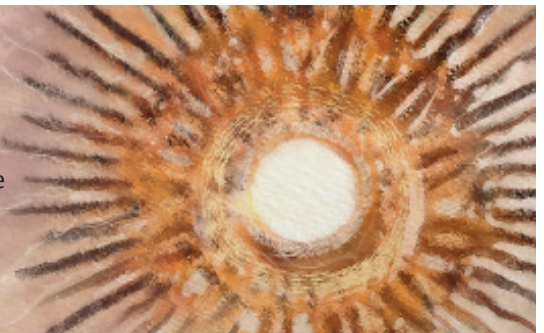
One of the main reasons for celebrating the Feast of the Chair of St. Peter is to celebrate the unity of the Church in Peter and his successors, the Popes.

There were two chairs associated with Saint Peter, one kept in St. Peter's Basilica and the other in the Catacomb of Priscilla. Each of these chairs was revered and celebrated, however, because St. Peter's Basilica is the final resting place of the Apostle, the ancient oak chair in the Basilica is the one that is referred to as the Chair of St. Peter.

Initially, the Chair was kept inside the monastery of St. Martin, after which it was shifted to St. Peter's Basilica, where it sits today.

"By our little acts of charity practiced in the shade we convert souls far away, we help missionaries, we win for them abundant alms; and by that means build actual dwellings spiritual and material for our Eucharistic Lord... It is not to remain in a golden ciborium that He comes down each day from Heaven, but to find another Heaven, the Heaven of our soul in which He takes delight... You must open a little, or rather raise on high your corolla so that the Bread of Angels may come as divine dew to strengthen you, and to give you all that is wanting to you." - St. Therese of Lisieux, Doctor of the Church

Is time in Adoration a possible way for you to grow during Lent this year? Join us in Eucharistic Adoration. Spend time with Jesus.



This Week on FORMED®



Week One | Restore: Lent with Sr. Miriam James Heidland, SOLT
In Week One of the Restore Lent series, Sister reflects on the theme of the week: the desert. She explains that Jesus is inviting you to move beyond your comfort zone and into the deepest places of your heart with him. It is Jesus who helps you root out the sin, sickness, and self-hatred in your life. We can look to him for comfort, love, and healing..

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.

Mercy Minute

"My daughter, if I demand through you that people revere My mercy, you should be the first to distinguish yourself by this confidence in My mercy. I demand from you deeds of mercy, which are to arise out of love for Me. You are to show mercy to your neighbors always and everywhere. You must not shrink from this or try to excuse or absolve yourself from it." (Diary, 742).



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:

- 2/22: 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 7th & 8th 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

YOUNG DISCIPLES SOCIETY

Young Disciples Teens: Join us after the 10:30 Sunday Mass February 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.**

FATHER MCGIVNEY CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL

MEN'S PRAYER Breakfast




GUEST SPEAKER!

FOR MEN, YOUNG MEN, DADS, SONS, GRANDFATHERS, & GRANDSONS.

JOIN US FOR MASS AT 8:30AM IN THE MCG CHAPEL WITH BREAKFAST CATERED BY EDLEY'S & GUEST SPEAKER TO FOLLOW.

GUEST SPEAKER:
DEACON ROB SCAMBELLURI

\$20 PER PERSON | RSVP BY FEB 21ST



SATURDAY, MARCH 2, 2024 | 8:30AM
FATHER MCGIVNEY HIGH SCHOOL GYM

SPONSORED BY EXODUS

Limited to the first 350 guests

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!



SCHOLARSHIPS

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. First-time applicants will have preferential consideration and no one applicant will be awarded the scholarship more than two times

THIS WEEK

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)

Monday, February 19

No School & Parish Office Closed Presidents Day

Tuesday, February 20

6:45 p.m. - Pastoral Council (Harmony)

Wednesday, February 21

6 p.m. - Charitable Outreach Team Meeting (Harmony)

7 p.m. - BINGO (Columbus Home)

Thursday, February 22

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

6:30 p.m. - Finance Council (Harmony)

7 p.m. - OCIA (PLC Library)

9 p.m. - Exodus Fraternity (Harmony)

Friday, February 23

Lenten Friday - Day of Abstinence

11 a.m. - 5:30 p.m. - Red Cross Blood Drive (PLC)

3 p.m. - Stations of the Cross (Church)

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

Saturday, February 24

Sunday, February 25

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)

4-6 - Lenten Penance Svc (Holy Family)

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.

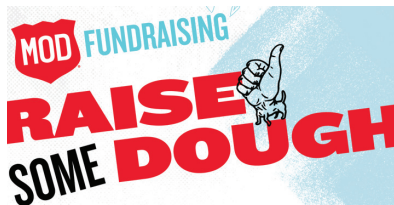
If you are interested in a car pool, please contact the parish office:

- **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

In our meetings we sometimes can have disagreements with each other. This is not unusual as it happens in many organizations. The difference is that the men in our council have a very strong bond in the ultimate goals of what we do. We are united in Christ, and understand that with the Holy Spirit guiding us, we will always do our best to find a solution. This is one of the reasons to become a member of our council. Men, go to kofc.org/joinus and put in your application today. The council number is 1098. Our next meeting is Tuesday, Feb 27th at 7:30 p.m. - Tom Cholevik, Grand Knight, 618-789-0337



Knights of Columbus

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>

GRANITE CITY OPTIMIST CLUB STUDENTS OF THE MONTH

Mackenzie U. and Sam S. were selected as the Granite City Optimist January Students of the Month.

Sam and Mackenzie are members of Mrs. Brooke James's fourth-grade class. Each honoree will receive a certificate from the Optimists, and St. Elizabeth School will receive an unrestricted donation of \$100.00 in their names.



Mackenzie is 10 years old and is the daughter of Matt and Michelle.

Mackenzie's favorite subject is math, and she likes solving really hard division problems. She says that division is easier than some other math operations like subtraction when zeros are involved. At the end of a busy day at school, she likes spending time with her mom and dad. They often play board games and card games together as a family, and Mackenzie looks forward to that. Swimming and being a member of the Paddlers Pirates Swim Team is another activity that Mackenzie enjoys. With the start of 2024, Mackenzie has made a New Year's resolution and has even written it down. She promises no girl drama in 2024. In the future, Mackenzie sees herself as a kindergarten teacher.

Nine-year-old Sam Sadowski is the son of Jon and Jennifer. Sam is an active 4th grader, so it is no wonder that P.E. is his favorite class. His favorite P.E. activity is playing soccer. When he gets home from school, it is computers, 24/7. He plays many video games, including Roblox, Battle Buddies, and Geometry Dash. Sports are an important part of his daily routine, as well. He plays on three teams for the St. Elizabeth Royals: soccer, basketball, and volleyball. Sam's New Year's resolution is to work on making the world cleaner by picking up trash when he sees it. As an adult, Sam would like to become a video gamer on YouTube.



PRAYERS FOR OUR PRIESTS

The following priests of our Diocese are celebrating birthdays soon: 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: 2/15- Most Rev. Peter Baltes Rev. Peter F. Masterson Rev. Leonard Paskert, O.F.M. 2/16- Rev. Thomas Fennessy 2/17- Rev. Gerhard Jansen Rev. Albin Breinlinger Rev. William Costello Rev. Herman J. Niebrugge Rev. Eugene Cieslick 2/19- Rev. M.J. Foley 2/20- Rev. Lawrence Hoye

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 1:12-15

REFLECTING ON THE WORD:

In today's Gospel, Jesus goes into the desert for forty days to pray and is tempted by Satan. He is among wild beasts, and the angels come to minister to him. Jesus needs this time of preparation before he begins his public ministry. What about our own preparation? Is it easy to prepare when illness, suffering, and temptation surround us? How do you prepare yourself and your family for those times that seem to be especially challenging?

ON THE WAY TO MASS

Sometimes we make good choices, and sometimes we are tempted to go against God's plan. Reflect on the last time you made a good choice that yielded harmony, unity, and peace.

ON THE WAY HOME FROM MASS

Jesus went to the desert to pray. What does that tell us about how we can prepare ourselves to make good choices? Praying and reading God's Word, the Bible, will help us stay close to him?

LIVING THE WORD

For your prayer table at home, find a piece of purple cloth, a purple scarf or pillowcase, or even some purple construction paper to place on the table. Changing the color of the cloth is a way for the children to focus on and to honor the same change that they will observe in the parish church. As a family, decide what other items will adorn your prayer table during Lent: a Bible, a candle, a crucifix? Is there a word or phrase from today's Gospel that you would like to include on your prayer table?



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 February 11, 2024

	Actual	Goal	Over/(Short)
Week 33 Regular Income	\$5,795.00		
113 Envelopes, Avg. Gift \$51.28			
One-Time Donation			
Loose	\$422.38		
Online Giving	\$585.00		
TOTAL	\$6,802.38	\$9,104.00	(\$2,301.62)
YTD TOTALS	\$258,653.64	\$300,432.00	(\$43,778.36)

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	\$112.00
Building Repairs & Maint.	\$61.00
Special Projects	\$96.00
Mission & Ministry	\$36.00
Christmas Offering	\$25.00
First Offering	\$30.00
Funeral Stipend	\$100.00
Votive Offering	\$43.00
Catholic Charities	\$140.00
Catholic Times	\$90.00
Church in Latin America	\$20.00
Church in Cntrl/East. Europe	\$50.00
Other Not Specified	\$22.00

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. **January tithe estimate: \$3,150.00**

ONLINE GIVING OPTIONS

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

WEEKLY STEWARDSHIP REFLECTION

"After John had been arrested, Jesus came to Galilee proclaiming the gospel of God." - Mk 1:14

Have you ever thought about how difficult it must have been for Jesus to go to Galilee, knowing that John had just been arrested for teaching the same message that He was proclaiming. It took great love and trust for Jesus to do what the Father had sent Him here on earth to do. In the same way, living a stewardship lifestyle takes great love and trust from us. We must be willing to surrender completely to God, trusting that He will always give us all that we need to fulfill His plan for us.

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!



SACRAMENTS

Reconciliation: If you have been away from the Church and the Sacrament of Reconciliation for a while, feel free to contact the parish office for guidance & materials to help you prepare to return to the Sacraments. In addition to Confessions offered from 3-4 p.m. on Saturdays, you could also schedule an individual time for Reconciliation.

Anointing of the Sick: Anointing of the Sick is appropriate for any upcoming surgery, prolonged illness, or in the event of emergency or danger of death. Please call the office if you or a loved one needs to be anointed.

Infant & Child Baptism: For children under the age of 8, please submit the forms at stelizabethgc.org/baptism and sign up for a Baptism Preparation class at least a month before your desired date of Baptism. For questions or emergencies, please contact the Parish Office. Baptisms are usually celebrated after the 10:30 Mass most Sundays or at 7 p.m. some Wednesdays.

Matrimony: To begin preparation for Holy Matrimony, please contact the parish office to set up initial appointments and preparation at least six months (recommended twelve months) before your desired date. At least an introductory interview must be completed before a date can be set.

Sacraments of Initiation (Baptism, Confirmation, first Holy Communion) for children 8 and over, or for adults: Contact the parish office.

PASTORAL CARE

Entering the Church: If you are new to the Catholic faith and interested in learning more about the church or about entering the church, welcome! Contact the parish office for a meeting with Father Alfred or Deacon Michael.

Communion to the Homebound: If you or a family member are, or are going to be, homebound, whether at home or in a care facility, please notify the parish office. Medical and care facilities are unable to inform us of their Catholic residents and patients. We would be happy to arrange to visit and bring you Holy Communion. Please contact the parish office for arrangements.

Declarations of Nullity: In some cases, a man or a woman desires healing through a declaration by a Church tribunal (a Catholic Church court), which does not deny that a relationship existed, but simply states that the relationship was missing something that the Church requires for a valid marriage, falling short of at least one of the essential elements required for a binding union. (Commonly called an 'annulment.')

Father Alfred, Deacon Michael, and Laura Black are available as Advocates before our diocesan tribunal for those needing assistance with declarations of nullity. Call the parish office to set up an appointment.

BULLETIN SUBMISSIONS & ADVERTISING

Published weekly by St. Elizabeth Catholic Church & School and printed locally by Schwartzkopf Printing in Alton, Illinois. To recommend content for inclusion in the bulletin, email bulletin@stelizabethgc.org prior to Monday at Noon. For information on bulletin advertising, contact Bret Ware in the parish office.

My Parish Prayer

Almighty God, My parish is composed of people like me.
I help make it what it is. It will be friendly if I am. It will be holy if I am.
Its pews will be filled if I help fill them.

It will do great work if I work. It will be prayerful if I pray.

It will make generous gifts to many causes if I am a generous giver.

It will bring other people into its worship if I invite and bring them.

It will be a parish family of loyalty and love, of fearlessness and faith,
and of compassion, charity, and mercy if I - who make it what it is -
am filled with these same qualities.












Therefore, with the help of God,

I will dedicate myself to the task of being all the things I want my parish to be.

Bless my journey Lord God, that I might follow Jesus and build the Church for your glory. Amen.



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