

Disciples Stewards

St. Elizabeth Catholic Church & School

Granite City, Illinois ♦ Diocese of Springfield in Illinois

Second Sunday of Lent ♦ February 25, 2024



Congratulations to our Confirmandi and first Communicants!

Last weekend was a beautiful weekend at the Cathedral in Springfield and here at St. Elizabeth.


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

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 @stelizabeth_gc

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PASTORAL STAFF

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Michelle Williams, Principal
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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 26

Monday of the Second Week of Lent

No Mass

Tuesday, February 27

Tuesday of the Second Week of Lent

6:00 p.m. Mass:

Melanie Rees+ by Norma Lesko

Wednesday, February 28

Wednesday of the Second Week of Lent

8:15 a.m. Mass:

Zion Ratcheford+

by Dennis & Debbie Krystopa

Thursday, February 29

Thursday of the Second Week of Lent

8:15 a.m. Mass:

Romana Lofink+ by Norma Lesko

Friday, March 1

Friday of the Second Week of Lent

8:15 a.m. Mass:

First Friday Intentions

Saturday, March 2

Saturday of the Second Week of Lent

Larry Welle+ by Nancy & Art Capstick

Saturday-Sunday, March 2-3

Third Sunday of Lent

4:30 p.m. Saturday Evening Mass:

Parishioners of Saint Elizabeth

8:00 a.m. Mass: ☪

Rosalie Boyd+ by Janice Willaredt

10:30 a.m. Mass:

Sam Shambro+ by Lee+ & Dorothy Hayes

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: 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.

Next Sunday: 3rd Sunday of Lent, Year A

Ex 17:3-7; Rom 5:1-2, 5-8; Jn 4:5-42

In the first reading, the people are thirsty and complaining. Moses strikes a rock with his staff, and God provides flowing water for the people to drink. Paul writes to the Romans that we have been justified by faith. In God's great love he sent Christ to die for sinners. In the Gospel, Jesus encounters a woman by a well in Samaria. He speaks of living water and knows her past; she believes he is the Messiah.

14 DAY SANCTUARY LAMP

This week, the 14-day Sanctuary Lamp reminds us to pray for **our students who were Confirmed and received first Holy Eucharist last weekend.** To offer the 14 day candle in honor or 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 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

LEARNING & LIVING AS DISCIPLES

Dear Friends in Christ,

Catholic Charities in our diocese has a rich history of providing vital services and hope to God's people in need. Throughout its 99-year history, Catholic Charities has remained open as staff and volunteers serve on the front lines to bring relief and advocate for the poor, sick, hungry, and weary every day.

Every year, Catholic Charities serves thousands of our brothers and sisters in desperate situations throughout our 28 county diocese. This service comes in the form of meeting basic needs such as food, clothing, housing and medical/dental assistance as well as providing long term professional services in social work, counseling, guardianship and legal assistance. Everyone who is helped by Catholic Charities is treated with dignity and respect and provided a path to hope and healing.

Catholic Charities is able to continue these services through the ongoing generosity of people like you - donors, staff, volunteers, board members, and organizations coming together to support the mission. Thank you for your continued support of Catholic Charities to ensure God's love and mercy is extended to all of his children.

This weekend, the annual collection for Catholic Charities will again be held throughout our diocese. This year, I again challenge you to continue to support Catholic Charities as they continue to be the hands and feet of Jesus to our neighbors in need.

Sincerely yours in Christ,



Most Reverend Thomas J. Paprocki
Bishop of Springfield in Illinois



DIOCESE OF SPRINGFIELD IN ILLINOIS
OFFICE OF THE BISHOP



RITE OF ELECTION - CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR ELECT!

We were at the Cathedral in Springfield *twice* last weekend! Congratulations to our RCIA Elect (formerly Catechumens) whose election (choosing) by Christ to come into the Church at Easter was acknowledged and ratified by Bishop Paprocki in the Rite of Election last Sunday. Pictured here are Davril McKnight (left), who is already baptized but a candidate for the remaining Sacraments of Initiation at Easter, with her children Isabella & Javier, who are both now Elect for Baptism, Confirmation, and first Communion at the Easter Vigil. Also newly Elect from our parish are Krista Luehmann & Stacey Dethrow (both in the center).

Thank You!

The family of Reg Mennerick would like to thank everyone for the outpouring of support, sympathy, and love from St. Elizabeth Parish and school in the recent passing of our dad.

Thank you to Father Alfred for the beautiful Mass and Deacon Michael guiding us and sharing a touching Homily to honor his grandpa.

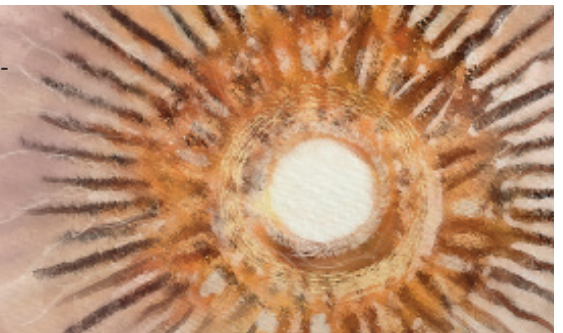
A huge thank you to the Funeral Luncheon women who so graciously fed our family a delicious meal afterwards and to the Men's Club for frying fish for the luncheon! It was so thoughtful to have the 6th and 8th grade classes from the school attend the Mass to support our grandsons who attend St. Elizabeth School.

We have been touched deeply by the love and prayers for our dad from St. Elizabeth Church.

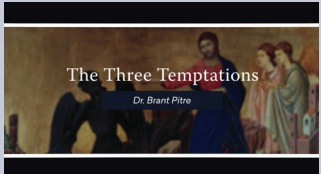
Thank you so very much
from the Mennerick, Halbrook,
and Ahlvers families

"The time you spend with Jesus in the Blessed Sacrament is the best time you will spend on earth. Each moment that you spend with Jesus will deepen your union with Him and make your soul everlastingly more glorious and beautiful in Heaven, and will help bring about everlasting peace on earth... When you look at the Crucifix, you understand how much Jesus loved you then. When you look at the Sacred Host you understand how much Jesus loves you now." - St. Mother Theresa of Calcutta

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®



The Three Temptations with Dr. Brant Pitre
Reflect with Dr. Brant Pitre on the temptations of Jesus in the desert as he gets to the heart of the meaning of Lent.

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.

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:

- 2/29: 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



THE MEANING OF HOLY WEEK

Join us for "The Meaning of Holy Week". Each year, this presentation for the RCIA class is highly attended and recommended to anyone in the parish who would like to understand Holy Week more deeply and enter into it more prayerfully. March 21 at 7 p.m. in the PLC Library.

LUKE 18 RETREAT Five of our junior high students and Young Disciples Teens members attended the Luke 18 retreat at St. Jerome church last weekend and had an awesome time. They couldn't stop talking about it this week! Thanks be to God for a wonderful retreat for these 5. Congrats to Isabel, Luke, Charlie, Jackson, and Ben.

Now... no pressure, but Deacon Michael has hoped to get Luke 18 retreats started here at St. Elizabeth since he was assigned here. Maybe the five of you can be our core team to share them with your friends here in the next couple of years!



Mercy Minute

"I am giving you three ways of exercising mercy toward your neighbor: the first-by deed, the second- by word, the third-by prayer. In these three degrees is contained the fullness of mercy, and it is an unquestionable proof of love for Me. By this means a soul glorifies and pays reverence to My mercy. Yes, the first Sunday after Easter is the Feast of Mercy, but there must also be acts of mercy, and I demand the worship of My mercy through the solemn celebration of the Feast and through the veneration of this image which is painted." (Diary, 742).



YOUNG DISCIPLES SOCIETY

Young Disciples Teens: Join us after the 10:30 Sunday Mass THIS Sunday, 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 SGAMBELLURI
\$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 150 guests

PARISH LIFE & HOSPITALITY, SERVICE

LADIES SODALITY UPDATE

The Ladies Sodality Meeting will be Tuesday, February 26 following 6 p.m. Mass. Please join us in the Harmony Room. All ladies of our church are invited. We will hold our regular meeting followed by some fun and games. Please bring 9 quarters to participate in the game. You just might be the lucky winner! Our meetings are held on the 4th Tuesday of each month. They not only provide an excellent opportunity for fellowship and spiritual growth but give each one of us the chance to make a difference in our church and our community. The Ladies Sodality sponsors and lends support to many projects within our parish. Please come to our meetings, we would love to have you there.

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 this Lent. 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.



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 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)

Monday, February 26

Tuesday, February 27

School club pictures (AM) & sports pictures (after school)
After 6 p.m. Mass - Ladies Sodality (Harmony Room)
6-8 p.m. - School Registration
7:30 p.m. - Knights of Columbus Mtg (Columbus Home)

Wednesday, February 28

7 p.m. - BINGO (Columbus Home)

Thursday, February 29

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

Friday, March 1

Lenten Friday - Day of Abstinence

3 p.m. - Stations of the Cross (Church)
4-7 p.m. - Fish Fry (Cafeteria)

Saturday, March 2

No Harmony Cafe after the Saturday Mass. Please attend the PTO Auction!
School PTO Auction!

Sunday, March 3

Harmony Cafe after both Masses

After 8:00 Mass to 10:15 - PSR (PLC)
9 a.m. - Men at Prayer
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



CONCERT AT ST. BONIFACE

The Scally Brothers will hold a live concert at St. Boniface School in Edwardsville, IL on March 23, 2024, at 6 p.m. Come experience this Christian music duo as they tour the country. The concert will feature upbeat praise and worship music as well as a time for Adoration. Entry is free and additional merchandise will be available for purchase. All are welcome!

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 ARE AVAILABLE!

Tickets are now on sale!

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

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
- ✓ Experienced and dedicated certified teachers, paraprofessionals, pastors, and pastoral staff
- ✓ Preschool through 8th grade
- ✓ Full-day preschool and kindergarten
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- ✓ High percentage of graduates enter high school with advanced honors classes
- ✓ Affordable tuition rates

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all that Catholic education has to offer...
join our faith-filled family in 2024!

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 **Learn More**

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 9:2-10

REFLECTING ON THE WORD:

In today's Gospel, Peter, James, and John witness the Transfiguration of Jesus on Mount Tabor. Moses and Elijah appear on either side of Jesus, showing us that the Law and the Prophets direct people to Jesus, in whom the full glory of God is manifest. The three disciples did not experience this as individuals, but as a group, in community. The family is a community in which we can experience the glory of God. How have we experienced this in the sacraments, in the beauty and wonder of nature, or in our life as the domestic Church?

ON THE WAY TO MASS

We pray a prayer at Mass called the Gloria (although we don't pray it during Lent!) Be sure to listen to the words: "We praise you, we bless you, we adore you, we glorify you."

ON THE WAY HOME FROM MASS

What do you imagine the glory of the Lord looks like? How can we give God glory? What would that look like?

LIVING THE WORD

Make a prayer card for your family prayer table, or as a centerpiece on your dining room table, that reads GLORY TO GOD. Pray the Gloria prayer from Mass or the Glory Be prayer each night this week. Discuss when and where you have experienced the glory of God.



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: 2/21- Rev. Barnabas Diekemper, O.F.M. 2/22- Rev. John Neuhaus Rev. Simon Hoffman 2/23- Rev. Charles Floir Rev. George Hamilton 2/24- Rev. Louis Elbow 2/25- Rev. George Morelock 2/26- Rev. Timothy M. Moloney 2/28- Rev. Thomas Cusack Rev. P.J. O'Reilly Rev. E.J. Cahill Rev. Thomas E. Cusack



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 18, 2024

	Actual	Goal	Over/(Short)
Week 34 Regular Income	\$4,451.00		
105 Envelopes, Avg. Gift \$42.39			
One-Time Donation			
Loose	\$451.00		
Online Giving	\$1,450.00		
TOTAL	\$6,532.00	\$9,104.00	(\$2,752.00)
YTD TOTALS	\$265,185.64	\$309,536.00	(\$46,530.36)

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	\$90.00
Building Repairs & Maint.	\$335.00
Special Projects	\$135.00
Mission & Ministry	\$125.00
First Offering	\$10.00
Ash Wednesday	\$45.00
Funeral Stipend	\$100.00
Votive Offering	\$83.00
Catholic Charities	\$40.00
Church in Cntrl/East. Europe	\$50.00
Other Not Specified	\$298.00

Parish Tithing Reporting

Our parish tithes to the Diocese to support the administration, ministries, and work of our Diocese is 10% of our regular monthly income.
January tithes: \$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

"Here I am! he answered." - Genesis 22:11

It is easy to say, "Here I am, Lord," when we are kneeling in church. But how easy is it to say "Here I am, Lord," when a neighbor needs our help, or when we are invited to join a parish ministry, or when we are asked to provide financial support? Often times we are called when it's not convenient for us. Discipleship is not easy, most of the time it will make us uncomfortable and vulnerable.

MADISON COUNTY CATHOLIC CHARITIES 23rd ANNUAL HELP ON THE MOVE FUNDRAISER

Madison County, Illinois - Catholic Charities will be hosting their 23rd annual Help On The Move fundraiser on Saturday, April 13, 2024 from 6-11 p.m. The event will be held at Julia's Banquet Center, 101 Eastgate Plaza in East Alton, IL. The evening will include dinner, drinks, & DJ music, a \$10,000 raffle, and other activities. Dar Bryant from the Dream Center and John Rain from Norton Rain Insurance will receive awards for their outstanding



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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