

Disciples Stewards

St. Elizabeth Catholic Church & School

Granite City, Illinois ♦ Diocese of Springfield in Illinois

Fifth Sunday of Lent ♦ March 17, 2024

Proud of our School & our Students!

There was much to celebrate at our school Mass on Wednesday morning, when our quarterly Honor Roll students were recognized along with many other recent achievements of our students. All of the parishioners and parents present were excited to see the hard work and successes of many of our students. Go Royals!



Left column, top to bottom: Students who took part in the recent Junior Olympiad at SIUE, 6th grade 3rd Quarter Honor Roll, New members of the 100 Book Club. **Center column, top to bottom:** 8th grade 3rd Quarter Honor Roll, Mrs. Lance recognized as one of the 100 top teachers in the United States for use of the IXL personalized online learning enrichment platform, 3 St. Elizabeth students who advanced from the local Knights of Columbus Spelling Bee to sweep 1st-3rd at the Regional Spelling Bee and are heading to state!, 5th Grade 3rd Quarter Honor Roll. **Right column, top to bottom:** Students who participated and excelled at last weekend's regional Solo & Ensemble Music Competition, Students who took part in the Deanery Math Contest at Fr. McGivney two weekends ago, 7th grade 3rd Quarter Honor Roll.


2300 Pontoon Road
Granite City, IL 62040


Phone 618-877-3300


Fax 618-877-9800


After-Hours Emergencies
314-266-8387

Web: stelizabethgc.org

 @stelizabeth.gc

 @stelizabeth.gc

 @stelizabeth_gc

 @stelizabethgc

PASTORAL STAFF

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SCHOOL & PRE-SCHOOL

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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, March 18

Monday of the Fifth Week of Lent

No Mass

Tuesday, March 19

Saint Joseph, Spouse of the Bl. Virgin Mary

6:00 p.m. Mass:

Joseph Czwornog+ by Ann Czwornog

Wednesday, March 20

Wednesday of the Fifth Week of Lent

8:15 a.m. Mass:

Harry Dortch+ by Dennis & Jackie Jones

Thursday, March 21

Thursday of the Fifth Week of Lent

8:15a.m. Mass:

Romana Lofink+ by Pam Stoppok

Friday, March 22

Friday of the Fifth Week of Lent

8:15 a.m. Mass:

Helen Lack+ by Norma Lesko

Saturday, March 23

Saturday of the Fifth Week of Lent

No Mass


Saturday-Sunday, March 23-24

Palm Sunday of Our Lord's Passion

4:30 p.m. Saturday Evening Mass:

Darwin Thornton+

by Joe & Debbie Valencia

8:00 a.m. Mass: 

Parishioners of Saint Elizabeth

10:30 a.m. Mass:

Dennis Riggs+ by Mary Gray

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



March is dedicated to
Saint Joseph
Saint Joseph, pray for us!

Pope Francis' Prayer Intention for March:
For the new martyrs: We pray that those who risk their lives for the Gospel in various parts of the world inflame the Church with their courage and missionary enthusiasm.

This Sunday:

5th Sunday of Lent, Year A

Ez 37:12-14; Rom 8:8-11; Jn 11:1-45

In the first reading, Ezekiel prophesies that God will raise his people from their graves. In his Letter to the Romans, Paul promises that those who live in the Spirit will receive life through the Spirit. In the Gospel, Jesus raises his friend Lazarus from the dead, and many people come to believe in him.

Next Sunday:

Palm Sunday of Our Lord's Passion

Is 50:4-7; Phil 2:6-11; Mk 14:1-15:47

In the Gospel for the procession, Jesus enters Jerusalem amid an enthusiastic crowd. In the first reading, Isaiah speaks for the Lord, despite opposition. In the second reading, Paul writes to the Philipians that Jesus emptied himself, becoming obedient to the point of death. Mark's Gospel tells the story of Jesus' passion and death.

14 DAY SANCTUARY LAMP

This week, the 14-day Sanctuary Lamp reminds us to pray for **our RCIA Candidates and Elect: Candidate Davril, and Elect Isabella, Javier, Krista and Stacey.** 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.

THIS WEEK

Sunday, March 17

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)

Monday, March 18

Tuesday, March 19

Primary Election Day (Polling Place, Harmony Room)

Illinois March for Life

Wednesday, March 20

7 p.m. - BINGO (Columbus Home)

Thursday, March 21

Solemnity of the Dedication of St. Elizabeth Church

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

7 p.m. - OCIA (PLC Library)

9 p.m. - Exodus Fraternity (Harmony)

Friday, March 22

Lenten Friday - Day of Abstinence

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

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

7 p.m. - Lenten Mission (Church)



Saturday, March 23

Ladies Sodality Baked Goods & Sweet Treat Sales after all Masses!

11 a.m. - Easter Egg Hunt

Sunday, March 24

Ladies Sodality Baked Goods & Sweet Treat Sales after all 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)

LEARNING & LIVING AS DISCIPLES



DID YOU KNOW? MINISTRY TO THE HOMEBOUND

Following up on the survey responses regarding outreach: There were parishioners that commented we should be taking Holy Communion to our homebound parishioners.

In fact, we do have an outreach to our homebound that have requested receiving communion. Along with Father Alfred, Deacon Michael, Deacon Daniel, Seminarian Devin, and a team of Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion, we take communion through the week and on weekends.

You may have seen the black burses worn around the neck by some Eucharistic Ministers. We wear burses to safely and discretely carry the golden pyxes holding consecrated hosts to the homebound. The hosts are carried in a small round gold pyx held within the burse to keep Jesus safe on our journey.

We know that we are not worthy to take Jesus out of his home, but we are willing to prepare ourselves to do the service for the Glory of God. The Eucharistic Ministers often take time to visit with the homebound, take them bulletins, and any other handouts: such as prayer books, palms, and sometimes goodies from the Harmony Café.

The homebound parishioners are very humble and gracious, and sometimes feel like they are taking up too much of our time. That is not the case. The blessings we receive by doing this ministry outweighs any loss of time. Everyone who helps with this ministry expresses what a joy and a blessing it is to be able to take part in it, even if they're just taking Communion to only one person any given Sunday.

If you know of a parishioner that needs this ministry, even if for a brief period after illness or surgery, please reach out to the parish office, and it will be determined if we can add them to our list.

Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion: If you are not doing this ministry yet, please consider getting approved and trained. At this time, we have enough that the rotation is usually once a month to visit a few people, but with addition of new names we may need more to help. Or you could consistently visit one person each weekend and ease the burden on the rest of the rotating team.

"I was
**sick and
you visited
me . . .**"
—Matthew 25:36

SPECIAL PRAYER REQUEST: PLEASE PRAY FOR ZOEY

Zoey Cholevik, 2 year and 4 month old daughter of Daniel and Dawn was diagnosed with cystic fibrosis when she was born and is also in dire need of a liver transplant. She also has several other severe issues that she is dealing with. She is currently in Chicago with a team of experts trying their very best to improve her condition. The problem is that the liver has to be from a child. This is a very difficult situation as how does one pray for a child to pass in order that another one is to live?

We have all witnessed or heard of children with terrible diseases and we do pray for their healing and we have all had loved ones that have fallen ill and asked for prayers for healing. As a member of Men at Prayer and look at the list of all those who have requested prayers for themselves or others our members know that our parishioners are convinced that prayer is so important. Our family are asking for daily prayers for the healing of Zoey. We also ask for prayers for Dawn and Daniel. I must mention Skylar, Zoey's sister. The bond and love these 2 sisters have for each other strengthens our faith in a whole another way. God bless Zoey and all of you who read this. Tom Cholevik

Someone in your life in need of prayer, in the hospital, homebound or other special need? Please reach out to the parish office so we can be praying for your intentions. We may begin placing these in the bulletin as space allows.

PRAYER FOR THE INTERCESSION OF VENERABLE FR. AUGUSTUS TOLTON

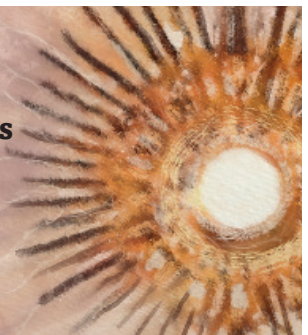
O God, we give you thanks for your servant and priest, Father Augustus Tolton, who labored among us in times of contradiction, times that were both beautiful and paradoxical. His ministry helped lay the foundation for a truly Catholic gathering in faith in our time. We stand in the shadow of his ministry. May his life continue to inspire us and imbue us with that confidence and hope that will forge a new evangelization for the Church we love.

Father in Heaven, Father Tolton's suffering service sheds light upon our sorrows; we see them through the prism of your Son's passion and death. If it be your Will, O God, glorify your servant, Father Tolton, by granting the favor I now request through his intercession (*that healing be granted to Zoey Cholevik*) so that all may know the goodness of this priest whose memory looms large in the Church he loved.

Complete what you have begun in us that we might work for the fulfillment of your kingdom. Not to us the glory, but glory to you O God, through Jesus Christ, your Son and our Lord; Father, Son and Holy Spirit, you are our God, living and reigning forever and ever. Amen.



"The Eucharist is the sacrament of love: it signifies love, it produces love. The Eucharist is the consummation of the whole spiritual life."
- St. Thomas Aquinas



This Week on
FORMED



**Joseph of Nazareth:
The Story of the Man
Closest to Christ**

Celebrate the feast of Christ's foster father with even more joy and respect this year by watching a movie about him! Enter into the life of this great saint through the movie Joseph of Nazareth!

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, write down these words: All those souls who will glorify My mercy and spread its worship, encouraging others to trust in My mercy, will not experience terror at the hour of death. My mercy will shield them in that final battle..." (Diary, 1540).



**YOUNG
DISCIPLES
SOCIETY**

Young Disciples Teens:
We'll catch you at our next meeting AFTER EASTER. Tell your friends about the fun we've been having and invite them. Next meeting: More Raising Cane's! Those were popular.

**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



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

Divine Mercy Sunday

Mark your calendar now to plan to join us for Divine Mercy Sunday. Holy Hour with Exposition & Adoration (and Confessions) from 2-3 p.m., with the Divine Mercy Chaplet and other devotions at 3 p.m.

Don't miss this special devotion, popular in our parish, on Divine Mercy Sunday!

Join us also each day of the Novena, from Good Friday through Divine Mercy Sunday, for the praying of the Chaplet at 3 p.m. in the Church

THROUGH HER
TEARS

LENTEN NIGHT
OF REFLECTION

March 27 | 7:00 PM
Sts. Peter and Paul
Church

717 State Street | Alton
FATHER McGIVNEY
CONCERT CHOIR
Dani Boulanger, Director

An evening filled with Scripture and sacred music reflecting on the events of Holy Week through the eyes of the Sorrowful Mother.

Original Artwork by Molly Foppe



**SACRAMENT OF
CONFIRMATION**

Are you an older baptized Catholic (over the age of reason, age 8) who hasn't received the Sacrament of Confirmation?

Do you know of someone who fits that description?

Please let Bret in the parish office know. We're putting together a list of candidates, and Deacon Michael is putting together a class for preparation for the Sacrament of Confirmation. The class will meet between the 8 a.m. & 10:30 a.m. Sunday Masses for a few of the Sundays of the upcoming Easter season.

"I WANT TO SEE YOU" RETREAT

Kings House at the National Shrine of Our Lady of the Snows Visitors Center presents the retreat "I Want to See You", led by Fr. Salvador Gonzalez, OMI, and Karen & Scott Seaborn, Friday, April 19 at 4 p.m. through Sunday, April 21 at 2:00 p.m.

This couples retreat allows you to experience the OMIs "I Want to See You" silent retreat while encompassing your togetherness as a couple. This retreat centers on the story of the man born blind. Come and share the experience of being noticed by Jesus, touched, healed, and called to witness to the new sight God's love provides.

Cost: \$400 per couple (includes lodging and meals).

Register online at <https://kh.snows.org/events/> or call 618-397-0584.



Kings House at the
NATIONAL SHRINE of
OUR LADY of the SNOWS

PARISH LIFE & HOSPITALITY, SERVICE

PALM SUNDAY BAKE SALE

Ladies, please start your ovens! With Easter being early this year, the Palm Sunday Bake Sale is just a few weeks away. Whatever delectable bakery items you choose to create this year will be greatly appreciated. We will start setting up in the Harmony Room at Noon on Saturday, March 23. You can deliver your bakery items at anytime after Noon on Saturday or before both Masses on Sunday, March 24. Thank you in advance for your generous support!
God bless, Carol and Bootsie.

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. Interested? Contact Pam Winn at 618-641-7274 ASAP.

150 CLUB WINNERS!

We want to thank everyone who attended the banquet. Here are the March and banquet winners: \$150 #5 Cale & Jenny Clements; \$1,000 #20 Paul & Joyce Mills; \$500 #106 Jean Schwartzkopf; \$500 #112 Marilyn Doneff & Ralph Luna; \$250 #18 Dennis & Debbie Krystopa; \$250 #105 Alan & Christa Willaredt; \$250 #41 Joe Schulte; \$250 #36 Kevin & Michelle Boschert.

We hope everyone enjoyed the evening and hope to see you all next year!

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 Sclally 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!

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

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 Dederer
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 & Serlich Families
Deceased Members of Ladies Sodality
Betty Lampitt
Connie Hayes Family
Bursik/Votoupal Family
Ann Fabisher

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS CORNER

We will be handing out St. Joseph bread at Holy Family at both Masses on Saturday and Sunday the weekend of March 23,24. We do this to celebrate the feast day of St. Joseph, which is a couple of days earlier. We are also preparing our scholarship forms and will have them out shortly. This is another good reason to become active in our council. Just go to kofc.org/joinus and fill the short form out and put in Council 1098. As a personal note, please pray for Zoey our 28 months old grandchild who is in dire need of a liver transplant. May God bless you all, Tom Cholevik, Grand Knight. 618-789-0337.



PARENTS MATTER COALITION

We need many workers in the vineyard!

Please help support the PMC's "Right to Parent" Ballot Initiative" to reclaim and protect Parental Rights in Illinois for their minor children, particularly for life-altering medical procedures that include abortion services and gender-affirming services.

The PMC is collecting 500,000 petition signatures before April 15, 2024 to place an Advisory Question of Public Policy on the November 2024 ballot. Please help us!

1. Visit www.parentsmattercoalition.org or scan the QR Code below.
2. Download and print the petition, directions and helpful information.
DO NOT number the pages or write in the area of the Ballot Advisory Question.
3. Sign the petition and secure at least 9 more signatures from registered Illinois voters, including your family, friends and network. Help us reach our goal by securing more signatures and encourage your network to also circulate the petition.
4. After gathering all the signatures possible, visit your area notary public (many banks offer free notary services).
5. In front of the notary, complete the information below the 10th signature line.
6. Mail the notarized petition sheets before April 15th to the address below.



To download a petition, visit www.parentsmattercoalition.org
Petitions must be notarized and returned by April 15, 2024 to:
Parents Matter Coalition
P.O. Box 1503
Wheaton, IL 60187

**Tell Springfield to get their hands off our kids!
We are not co-parenting with the government!**

ST. ELIZABETH SCHOOL



Oh what fun! Parents vs. the 5th & 6th Grade Girls Volleyball team.



Jr. Olympiad at SIUE... the St. Elizabeth team that was 1st place through the first 3 activities and ended up tied for 8th place for the day. Their tower built with kraft paper, a file folder, and scotch tape was 79" tall!



PRAYERS FOR OUR PRIESTS

The following priests of our Diocese are celebrating birthdays soon: 3/16- Rev. Samuel Bagyo, Jr. 3/17- Rev. Pat Jakel 3/26- Rev. Daren Zehnle 3/27- Rev. John Nolan 4/2- Rev. Wayne Stock Rev. Robert Johnson 4/7- Rev. Kevin Mann, SJ

The following are priests and deacons of our Diocese who have died. Please remember them in your daily prayers: 3/16- Rev. Joseph T. Murray 3/17- Rev. William F. Klasner 3/18- Rev. Albert Busch Rev. Alfred Zwiesler, O.F.M. 3/19- Rev. Lawrence Ryan Rev. Bernard Claus Rev. John A. Bleser 3/20- Rev. Roderick Heimerling Rev. Joseph Mauer Msgr. Irvin R. Will



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 March 10, 2024

| | Actual | Goal | Over/(Short) |
|----------------------------------|---------------------|---------------------|----------------------|
| Week 37 Regular Income | \$5,468.00 | | |
| 108 Envelopes, Avg. Gift \$50.63 | | | |
| One-Time Donation | | | |
| Loose | \$326.50 | | |
| Online Giving | \$864.00 | | |
| TOTAL | \$6,658.50 | \$9,104.00 | (\$2,445.50) |
| YTD TOTALS | \$287,432.48 | \$336,848.00 | (\$49,415.52) |

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 | \$135.00 |
| Building Repairs & Maint. | \$5.00 |
| Special Projects | \$225.00 |
| Good Friday | \$10.00 |
| Easter Flowers | \$270.00 |
| Easter Offering | \$15.00 |
| Votive Offering | \$106.46 |
| Catholic Relief Services | \$725.00 |
| Seminarian Offering | \$10.00 |
| Mission & Ministry | \$5.00 |
| Other Not Specified | \$50.00 |

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>

WAYS TO SHARE YOUR TIME & TALENT

Here are some ways that you might be able to share your time & talent with the parish.

- **Graphic design & layout:** Do you use Adobe InDesign? Do you have experience with page layout and design? If so, would you be interested in helping with our weekly bulletin production?
- **Greeting & ushering:** Would you be interested in helping to be a greeter or usher at our Sunday Masses, at the Mass you attend?
- **Yard work:** Do you have the time and equipment to take care of the yard at the rectory?

If any of these fit you, please contact Bret in the parish office. Thank you!

WEEKLY STEWARDSHIP REFLECTION

"I will be their God and they shall be my people." - Jeremiah 31:33

What does it mean to be God's people? It means we recognize that everything we have and everything we are belongs to God. We aren't "owners" of anything, we are merely "stewards" of the gifts God has given us. It means we are willing to use our gifts and our lives to care for our family, our neighbors and for people we don't know, just as God cares for each of us.

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

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. 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 service to our community. Dinner tickets are \$50 each. Raffle tickets are \$25 each or buy 2 and get 1 free. Tickets may be purchased on our website cc.dio.org or by calling 618-462-0634.

SACRAMENTS

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

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

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

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

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

PASTORAL CARE

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

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

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

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

BULLETIN SUBMISSIONS & ADVERTISING














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My Parish Prayer

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



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