

Sixteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time 🔶 July 21, 2024

Welcome Father Teddy Adukus **Mission Appeal 2024**

Say hello to Father Teddy Adukus who visits us this weekend for our annual Mission Appeal. Father Teddy is currently the Parochial Administrator of St. James Catholic Church in Riverton. Illinois in our diocese. He is here to celebrate the sacraments and tell us more about the Diocese of Auchi, Nigeria. Here is a bit of background information that he shared and a photo. Please pray for Father and for this appeal and please prayerfully be as generous as you are able.

The Catholic Diocese of Auchi, Nigeria was erected in November 2003, with Bishop Ga-

briel Dunia as its first Bishop; situated in the northern part of Edo State and headquartered in Auchi, Nigeria, a predominantly Muslim town. The main economic framework of the area is subsistent farming. The Diocese from the outset had to contend with a lot of challenging factors of development. Viz: The building of a Bishop's house, the Cathedral Church, a pastoral center etc. But what the Diocese lacks in financial strength, it possesses in the abundance of faith and, vocations to the priesthood and religious life.

As of today, the Diocese comprises of 35 parishes, 25 mass centers, 110 priests and 48 seminarians in the three various formative seminaries. The ongoing training of priests and



seminarians. consumes the bulk of the financial resources of the diocese.

Sharing our mission story with you is to bring to your awareness the evangelization prospects available in the Diocese and how we hope to spread the word of God in this rural and needful vineyard of Christ. Our quest is to continue evangelization through the facilitation of people-friendly programs of:

A. Healthcare, The provisions of rural healthcare centers/running a school of

midwifery by the diocese.

B. Education, opening of mission schools as the old mission schools were taken over by governments in 1973

C. Training of priests, 48 seminarians in training at this moment takes on a great financial burden on the Diocese, hence the need to solicit for funds, which this missionary cooperative appeal provides to mission territories like ours.

So whatever you are able to contribute to the life and growth of the church is truly given to Christ in need. For it will assist the struggling diocese fulfill some people-friendly programs within its territory and train more priests for the mission of the whole Church.

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

ORGANIZATIONAL LEADERS

Finance Council: Charlotte Charbonnier School Board: Adam Meyenburg Parent/Teacher Org.: Mary Grinstead Ladies Sodality: Christine Domagalski Holy Name Men's Club: Rob Hutson Men at Prayer: Tom Cholevik Funeral Dinners: Pam Ames Maintenance Team: Bud Charbonnier

> **Strong in Faith** since 1871

PRAYER & LITURGY

LITURGICAL SCHEDULE

Monday, July 22 Feast of St. Mary Magdalene No Mass

Tuesday, July 23 Tuesday of the 16th Wk in Ordinary Time 6:00 p.m. Mass: Jim McMurray+ by Norma Lesko

Wednesday, July 24 Wednesday of the 16th Wk in Ordinary Time 8:15 a.m. Mass: Warren & Zita Bequette+ by Jim Bohn

Thursday, July 25 Feast of St. James, Apostle 8:15 a.m. Mass: Cheryl Jones+ by Premo & Kay Clay

Friday, July 26 Memorial of Sts. Joachim and Anne, Parents of the Blessed Virgin Mary 8:15 a.m. Mass: Lucille Friederich+ by Premo & Kay Clay

Saturday, July 27 Saturday of the 16th Wk in Ordinary Time No Mass

Saturday-Sunday, July 27-18 17th Sunday in Ordinary Time 4:30 p.m. Saturday Evening Mass: Parishioners of Saint Elizabeth

8:00 a.m. Mass: **D** Mary Konarcik+ by Janice Willaredt

10:30 a.m. Mass: Peggy Baumgartner+ by Premo & Kay Clay

14 DAY SANCTUARY LAMP

This week, the 14-day Santuary Lamp reminds us to pray for **Glenn**, **Patrick & Pete Gibson+ by Barbara Gibson**.

ALTAR FLOWERS

There is no memorial for fresh flowers at the altar this week. Please contact the office if you are interested in providing flowers for a future week with a memorial.

Mass offerings are available (\$10), as are memorials on the 14 Day Candle / Sanctuary Lamp, and Altar Flowers (\$50). Contact the parish office.





July is dedicated to the Precious Blood of Our Lord Jesus Christ

Pope Francis' Prayer Intention for July: For the pastoral care of the sick: We pray that the Sacrament of the Anointing of the Sick confer to those who receive it and their loved ones the power of the Lord and become ever more a visible sign of compassion and hope for all.

This Sunday: 16th Sunday in Ord. Time Jer 23:1-6; Eph 2:13-18; Mk 6:30-34 Jeremiah proclaims that the Lord sees the misdeeds of the shepherds who shepherd his people and will punish them. He will appoint shepherds who will shepherd his people so they no longer fear and tremble. Through the sacrifice of Christ, we have become close to God. The Apostles and Jesus go off to rest and are followed by a vast crowd. Moved by their lack of a shepherd to guide them, Jesus teaches them many things.

Next Sunday: 17th Sunday in Ord. Time

2 Kgs 4:42-44; Eph 4:1-6; Jn 6:1-15 In the first reading, Elisha feeds 100 people from 20 barley loaves and there is some left over. Paul writes to the Ephesians encouraging them to live in a manner worthy of their call, with an emphasis on preserving unity. In the Gospel, Jesus feeds 5,000 from five barley loaves and two fish, and there are 12 baskets left over.



PRAYERS FOR OUR PRIESTS

The following priests of our Diocese are celebrating birthdays soon: 7/15- Rev. Robert Spriggs 7/22- Michael Kuse 7/22- Rev. Seth Brown 8/2- Rev. Thomas Liebler 8/5- Most Rev. Thomas John Paprocki Rev. D. Patrick Gibbons

The following are priests and deacons of our Diocese who have died. Please remember them in your daily prayers: 7/21- Rev. Francis M. McVeigh 7/22- Rev. Terrence Brady Rev. David Scully Rev. Richard Buchanan Rev. Jeremiah J. Cronin Rev. Charles A. Muskus 7/23- Rev. James Harty Rev. Joseph S. Miller

PRAYERS FOR OUR MILITARY

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

FIRST FRIDAY MEMORIALS

June 2024 to May 2025 Paula G. Koliste Pfaff & DeRuntz Families Deceased Members of St. Elizabeth Choir Deceased Members of St. Elizabeth Mens

Club Gene Cassy Iim Dedera Cassy Family **Pieper Family** Crawshaw Family **Binney Family** Kim Edgar Chad Sigite Jim & Lisa Fensterman **Charles** Dickey Louise Harrison Kenneth R. Jaimet Ann Fabisher Carol McGee Karen Romeri Ed Lyndsey Czwornog & Ostrenga Families Richard A. Willaredt Lisa Dellamano Rosalie Boyd Jim Dittman Pawlak & Sertich Families Kierski Family John & Theresa Straubinger Carl Williams Joseph & Victoria Krystopa Michael & Leona Bonach Nancy Grav Karen Winters- Weiland Alan Winters Keith Winters Bill Loftus Jim Alsop & Family Dortch Family Jones Family Glen Hommert Inez & Brian Foreman Tony & Mary Bellue Jesse & Loraine Gonterman Lesko & Danheiser Families Harbin & Jones Families Angela & Ronald Briggs Jr. **Delores** Brinker Brinker & Soboleski Families Pattie Jackson Ida Gragg Robert & Lorraine Joshu Lee & Connie Hayes Family Votoupal/Bursisk Family

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.

PARISH LIFE & HOSPITALITY

MARRIED 50 YEARS OR MORE?

We want to celebrate you and your marriage vocation! Bishop Thomas John Paprocki will celebrate a Mass for couples married 50 years or more on September 22 at 2 p.m. at the Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception in Springfield. All couples married 50 years or more are invited to attend. Refreshments following Mass. Register at dio.org/events or contact the Parish Office for assistance with registering.

PARISH WORK DAY

Mark your calendars for a St. Elizabeth Parish Work Day on Saturday, August 10th from 7 a.m. until Noon. All parishioners are invited to come and help clean and spruce up the Parish and School campus. Help show your pride in your Parish by donating some time to keep our campus looking great! Your help is appreciated.

GIFT BEARER CRUCIFIX

You will now find a small crucifix on a table int he gathering space as you enter the church. If you are a couple or a family who is attending Mass and would like to volunteer to bring up the gifts to the altar after offertory, please grab the crucifix when you enter for Mass. Take it with you when you go to the back as Father prepares the altar and then as you present the gifts. Return it to the table afterwards please! We hope this will be another way to allow parishioners to participate in the liturgy.

GRIEFSHARE

Grieving the loss of a family member or close friend? Find hope and healing with GriefShare. Deacon Rob Sgambelluri will be leading the GriefShare program at St. Boniface Church. The program is 13 sessions, beginning June 27. You can still join. Sessions will meet in the Acorn Room (lower level of the Church) at 10:30 a.m. each Thursday. Contact St. Boniface Parish Office at 618-656-6450 or click through stelizabethgc.org/grief.

81st ANNUAL NOVENA TO OUR LADY OF THE SNOWS

Sunday, July 28, through Monday, August 5. Mass, 7:30 p.m. nightly. "Pondering the Word of God with Mary!" We will embark on a reflective journey exploring Mary's role in the Gospels through various events in her life. This journey begins at the Annunciation, delving into the pivotal moments where the Word of God directed her Spirit and Life! Each evening of the Novena includes Mass, special music, prayers, Scripture reflections and praying the rosary. Bilingual Celebrations on Wednesday, July 31, and Saturday, August 3. Anointing of the Sick on August 3. For more information, call 618-394-6276. www.snows.org

PRESCRIPTION ASSISTANCE

Madison County Catholic Charities can help with the cost of your prescription medication. If you are low income with no insurance or limited prescription drug coverage, call to schedule an appointment. Granite City: 618-877-1184 ext. 208; Alton: 618-462-0634 ext. 221. Must meet program eligibility requirements and utilize one of our partnering pharmacies.

WHEN MENTAL ILLNESS HITS HOME CONFERENCE

National Shrine of Our Lady of the Snows Visitors Center presents, When Mental Illness Hits Home Conference: "Recovering Family Wellness: Rebuilding Relationships." Presenters: Ky Miller, MSW, LCSW; Jessica Donaldson, LMFT; Liesl Wingert; Jo McGuire. Friday, August 23, 2024, from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. This annual and unique conference is for family members and friends who journey with people with mental illness and for professionals in the mental health field. Cost: \$40.00 per person, including lunch. Additional \$35.00 for IL CEU For more information, call 618-394-6281. Register online at https://snows.org/illness

THIS WEEK

Sunday, July 21

Mission appeal at all Masses welcome Father Teddy

7:30 p.m. - Holy Hour with Vespers & **Benediction** (Church)

Monday, July 22

Tuesday, July 23

Wednesday, July 24

7 p.m. - BINGO (Columbus Home)

Thursday, July 25

Dine to Donate for A Beacon of Light Pregnancy Center (see info on the bottom-right corner of page 4)

Adoration 9 a.m. - 9 p.m., Benediction at 9 p.m.

Friday, July 26

Saturday, July 27

Sunday, July 28

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

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS CORNER

Next meeting for the 3rd degree is Tuesday July 23 at 7:30 p.m. The installation of officer's banquet will be Saturday Aug. 3rd. Doors open at 5:30 and the program will start right at about 6 p..m or so. All members are invited. There is a sign up list in the meeting room or you can call Tom or Dwayne. We want to thank all bingo workers for their efforts in making our fund raisers. Especially the wives of those members who are too ill to work. To become a member of the Knights go to kofc.org/ joinus or Tom at 618-789-0337. God bless all of you, Tom Cholevik



Formation



The INCREDIBLE Eucharistic Miracles w/Fr. Robert Spitzer; Chris Stefanick Show Did you know there are miracles that back up the true presence of the Eucharist? It's true! And I brought Fr. Robert Spitzer back to tell us about the incredible science behind them.

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

"Often during Mass, I see the Lord in my soul; I feel His presence which pervades my being. I sense His divine gaze; I have long talks with Him without saying a word; I know what His divine Heart desires, and I always do what will please Him the most. I love Him to distraction, and I feel that I am being loved by God." (Diary, 411).



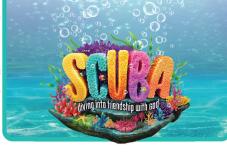
make a splash this summer!

SCUBA Vacation Bible School Here at St. Elizabeth

Evenings, August 5-9

Mark your calendars!

Willing to help in some way? Please contact Deacon Michael at mhalbrook@dio.org.



PSR SIGN-UPS

WOMENS RETREAT

The Springfield Diocesan Council of Catholic Women are excited to announce their upcoming convention on Wednesday, August 28, at Lake Williamson Retreat Center in Carlinville, Illinois. Kelly Wahlquist, speaker, and Donna Cori, singer, will be sharing their message as women who are "Sent On Mission & Fortified By The Eucharist." We are excited about the two speakers we have this year and think many women will be blessed by their message! There will be the church basket silent auction raffle, the quilt and garden statue raffles, vendors and the 50/50 drawing. Consult your parish secretary for the convention registration form and the advertising order form if you would like to place an ad in the convention book. The annual convention is a rewarding and enjoyable day with

our fellow sisters in Christ. Hope to see you in Carlinville on August 28!



Parish School of Religion (PSR) sign ups will begin very soon! Be on the lookout for the registration form in the gathering space, bulletin or online at stelizabethgc.org/psr-registration and sign up today! Classes will begin September 8, 2024. All classes will be on Sundays from 9:15-10:15 a.m.

THE HOLIEST ADVENTURE: FATHER/SON EDITION

Join other dads and sons for an experience of exciting activities, bonding games, stiff competitions, as well as mass, adoration, and delicious food! Date: August 10, 2024; Location: Villa Maria Retreat Center, 1903 E Lakeshore Dr., Springfield, IL 62712; Who: For any fathers with their son(s) in grades 4-10; Meals: Lunch and dinner provided; Cost: \$50 per father/son pair. \$10 per additional son; Time: 10A.M. – 6P.M.; For questions about the event, please contact Daniel Heffernan at dheffernan@dio.org. Register at dio.org/events/

CALLED & SENT - AN EXPERIENCE FOR HIGH SCHOOLERS

Join other high school students in our diocese for a 4 day/3 night retreat from July 14-17 at the Villa Maria Retreat Center in Springfield. Encounter Jesus in a new, deep, and meaningful way. Have loads of fun and enjoy the beautiful views at this lakeside retreat house. To register, go to dio.org/events. For questions, contact Daniel Heffernan at dheffernan@dio.org.

Around the Area

ANNUAL ARMENIAN FOOD FEST

Sunday, August 11, 12-3 p.m., St. Gregory Armenian Church Community Center, 3501 Century Dr., Granite City. Lamb, chicken, and pork dinners (includes rice and wheat pilafs and salad); Armenian baked goods (paklava, simit, choreg, nazook, cheese & spinach bereg and much more!); Gourmet specialty table; Kids' games.

DINE TO DONATE FOR ABL

Dine to donate for A Beacon of Light (ABL) Pregnancy Help Center THIS Thursday, July 25, 2024 at La Casa Mexicana, 201 Harvard Drive in Edwardsville. 15% of all lunch or dinner proceeds between 11 a.m. and 9 p.m. this Thursday will be donated to ABL. There is no flyer needed! Call our office at 618-855-9774 for more information.

LEARNING & LIVING AS DISCIPLES

Join your Holy Hour with 10,000 Holy Hours!

The National Eucharistic Congress and Bishop Robert Barron's Word on Fire have teamed up to encourage Catholics to attend and promote Eucharistic adoration, especially through the month of July.

Bishop Barron published a video inviting Catholics to increase their devotion to the Eucharist and log their Holy Hour on a map. He hopes the log will reach 10,000 Holy Hours by the end of July.

Here's Bishop Barron's challenge:

"For the month of May, I invited people all around the world to pray 50,000 rosaries. Well we got to 90,000 rosaries, which is a wonderful thing. Now can I offer a new challenge for the month of July? That's the month where the Eucharistic Revival kind of comes to its high point- to do 10,000 Holy Hours. I think the Holy Hour – you know I associated it with Fulton Sheen, who is a great sort of prophet of the Eucharist and so on, if we can pray 10,000 Holy Hours in support of this wonderful Eucharistic Revival, especially its culminating point in Indianapolis in July, I think that would be a wonderful way to lift up the whole Catholic spirit of our country. So let me offer that challenge to you: 10,000 Holy Hours during the month of July. May God bless you."

As of this writing, Catholics logged nearly 7,850 Eucharistic Holy Hours!

Instagram user Carmen Krawczak said, "Bishop, last night I prayed the Holy Hour before the Blessed Sacrament for the Eucharistic Congress. Now, I'll enter it on the map!" Another user said, "Great idea! I am in!" Several other users said, "Challenge accepted!"

Bishop Barron posted his invitation on July 2 in anticipation for the upcoming 10th National Eucharistic Congress, which takes place this weekend, July 17–21, 2024, at Lucas Oil Stadium in Indianapolis, Indiana.

Log yours at: https://www.wordonfire.org/eucharistic-revival/

O Sacrament Most Holy, O Sacrament Divine, All Praise and All Thanksgiving, Be Every Moment Thine! "We seek to rejuvenate Eucharistic adoration as the source of strength for

our lives and for our mission." Cardinal Vincent Nichols

Below, right is a photo of the interior of St. John the Evangelist Church in downtown Indianapolis, the oldest church in Indianapolis. Across the street from the convention center, St. John is serving as a perpetual adoration chapel throughout the National Eucharistic Congress this weekend. The photo shows the opening Mass for adoration at the church this past Tuesday.







PICNIC APPRECIATION BBQ & SWIM PARTY

Wednesday July 31, 5-10:00 p.m.

Private session at Wilsom Park Pool 7-9 p.m.

Food & refreshments from 5 p.m. at Pavilion #5 behind the pool & ice rink

Celebrating Sundays for Catholic Families

This is from 'Celebrating Sunday for Catholic Families' by Kerri Mecke-Lazano. Please use it to help your family get more out of the Mass each week!

HEARING THE WORD: Mark 6:30-34

REFLECTING ON THE WORD:

The people hastened to be wherever Jesus was. They came in such large numbers that Jesus and the apostles could not even eat and had to retreat to a deserted place, but the people came to them regardless. Instead of turning them away, Jesus, the Good Shepherd, saw their need and taught them. As parents, we often care for the needs of everyone else in our family before our own needs. We know that we (just like Jesus' disciples) must rest, so that we can be our best. It is more difficult when we are tired and cranky to be able to do God's will.

ON THE WAY TO MASS

What are the benefits that come from taking time to rest? How can time for reflection and prayer bring us closer to Jesus?

ON THE WAY HOME FROM MASS

How is Jesus able to continue to care for people even when he doesn't get much time to rest? Where does his strength come from?

LIVING THE WORD

As a family, look at your calendar and all the activities that are marked there. Ask your family if you have built into your schedule the appropriate amount of time for rest and relaxation with the Lord. If not, talk about what a rest and renewal night might look like in your home and see if you can mark one night each week for that time.

Respect Life Ministry

This summer we enter our third year of the National Eucharistic Revival and joyfully anticipate the profound celebration of Christ's presence among us at the National Eucharistic Congress in Indianapolis. Part of the impetus for the revival was a recent study that revealed many Catholics do not believe, or at least do not understand, that Jesus is truly present in the Eucharist, though in a hidden way.

Similarly, many in our culture do not acknowledge the dignity of human life when it is hidden in the womb. Both of these instances call for us to help others recognize these sacred gifts that are hidden. We need to help them to understand that just because something may not be apparent to our eyes does not mean that it is not there or that it is not important.

The Eucharist and the Gospel of life go hand in hand because they have the same source—Jesus himself, who is the Bread of Life. Christ gave his very flesh to give us the gift of eternal life and invites us to the most profound experience of this gift in our celebration of the Eucharist. The Eucharist has the power to transform the depths of our hearts and the heart of our culture.

Lord Jesus, by the power of your Eucharistic Presence, help us to defend the life of every human person at every stage. Transform our hearts to protect and cherish all whose lives are most vulnerable. For you are God, with the Father and the Holy Spirit, forever and ever. Amen.

May the Eucharistic Presence of Jesus strengthen Catholics to stand up for the protection of every human life.



HOLY LEISURE



DID YOU KNOW?

St. Benedict had strong feelings about what he called *otium sanctum*, or "holy leisure" – a time meant to be spent each day, but most particularly on the Lord's Day (Sunday), in simply relaxing while dwelling on the good. A way of refreshment and regrouping; enjoying "face time" with family and friends.

You can join us in Adoration, leisure with our Eucharistic Lord, here at St. Elizabeth from 9 a.m. to 9 p.m. on Thursdays, and during a Holy Hour with Evening Prayer on Sundays from 7:30-8:30 p.m.

VOCATIONS

PRAYERS FOR THE NEWLY MARRIED!

Join in prayer for the new family of Mr. & Mrs. Zach & Melanie (Mooshegian) Allen, who entered into the Sacrament of Matrimony here at St. Elizabeth last Friday, July 12. Here's to many happy years! The happy couple is shown in the photo to the right.

HOW TO STAY IN LOVE & HAVE A BEAUTIFUL MARRIAGE

Marriage, raising kids, navigating life, and knowing the intentions of your spouse is difficult and messy! How should you navigate it all so you can stay madly in love with your spouse and have a beautiful marriage? Dive Deep is pleased to talk to Beth Sri, a Catholic speaker and author and mother of 8 children. She serves as the Denver chapter coordina-

tor for Life-Giving Wounds, a Catholic ministry for adult children of divorce. She is also the co-author with her husband of the award winning book, "The Good, The Messy and The Beautiful: The Joys and Struggles of Real Married Life." Go to youtube.com/diospringfield or search "Dive Deep" on all the major podcast platforms to listen and subscribe. Dive Deep is the podcast of the Diocese of Springfield in Illinois

RETREAT FOR MARRIED COUPLES – Worldwide Marriage Encounter presents weekend experiences for married couples to rekindle romance, enhance meaningful communication, and deepen and renew commitment. Sign-up now! For more information or to apply, go to wwme.org or call Terry & Eric Engholm at 314-649-7317. Next ones: 8/2-8/4, St. Peters, MO; 9/27-9/29, St. Peters, MO; 10/11-10/13, Springfield, IL.



STEWARDSHIP

Our Financial Stewardship July 21, 2024

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	Actual	Goal	Over/(Short)
Week 1 Regular Income	\$7,259.00		
105 Envelopes, Avg. Gift \$69.13			
Building Repair/Maintenance	\$100.00		
Loose	\$459.42		
Online Giving	\$769.00		
TOTAL	\$8,587.42	\$10,947.00	(\$2,359.58)
YTD TOTALS	\$18,143.36	\$21,894.00	(\$3,750.64)

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	\$430.00
Special Projects	\$60.00
Mission & Ministry	\$65.00
Votive Offering	\$48.00
Altar Flowers	\$50.00
Funeral Stipend	\$100.00
Peter's Pence	\$2.00
Other Not Specified	\$20.00

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. May tithe: \$4,094.00

ONLINE GIVING OPTIONS

Are you tired of writing a check or remembering to have your envelope when you head to Mass? Concerned about how to support the parish when you are out of town? There are online options to maintain your stewardship, returning to God a portion of his blessings. Consider online giving through GIVE CENTRAL. For more information or to register, visit:

https://www.givecentral.org/customizable-online-giving/412/allevents

WEEKLY STEWARDSHIP REFLECTION

"He said to them, 'Come away by yourselves to a deserted place and rest a while."" - Mark 6:31

Do you spend time, every day, alone and in silence listening to how God is calling you? If not, you are missing out on a wonderful opportunity to develop a more personal relationship with Him. Unless we talk and more importantly, listen to God every day, how else will we know how He is calling us? Consider making a retreat this year, spend some "alone" time with God.

When you're done with the bulletin, don't throw it away! Share it with a friend and invite them to Mass... or take it to one of our advertisers and thank them for supporting our bulletin.

SACRAMENTS

Reconciliation: In addition to Confessions offered from 3-4 p.m. on Saturdays, you can also schedule an individual time for Reconciliation.

Anointing of the Sick: 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 at least a month before your desired date. For questions or emergencies, please contact the Parish Office.

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.') Advocates are available 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.



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.

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