

Disciples Stewards

St. Elizabeth Catholic Church & School

Granite City, Illinois ♦ Diocese of Springfield in Illinois

First Sunday of Advent ♦ December 1, 2024




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Granite City, IL 62040


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After-Hours Emergencies
314-266-8387

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 [@stelizabeth.gc](https://www.instagram.com/stelizabeth.gc)

 [@stelizabeth.gc](https://twitter.com/stelizabeth.gc)

 [@stelizabeth_gc](https://www.facebook.com/stelizabeth_gc)

[@stelizabethgc](https://www.facebook.com/stelizabeth_gc)

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SCHOOL & PRE-SCHOOL

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Loretta Joyce, School Secretary
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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.: 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**

Saint Elizabeth of Hungary, pray for us.

PRAYER & LITURGY

LITURGICAL SCHEDULE

Monday, December 2

Monday of the 1st Week of Advent

No Mass

Tuesday, December 3

Memorial of St. Francis Xavier, Priest

5:30 p.m. Mass: **(note time change)**

Sam Shambro+ by Judy Treece

Wednesday, December 4

Wednesday of the 1st Week of Advent

No Mass

Thursday, December 5

Thursday of the 1st Week of Advent

8:15 a.m. Mass:

James Threlkeld+ by Premo & Kay Clay

Friday, December 6

Saint Nicholas, Bishop

8:15 a.m. Mass:

First Friday Intentions

Saturday, December 7

**Memorial of St. Ambrose,
Priest & Doctor of the Church**

8:15 a.m. Mass:

Joan Roy+ by Cathy Cassy

Saturday-Sunday, December 7-8

Second Sunday of Advent

4:30 p.m. Saturday Evening Mass:

Nancy Gray+ by Premo & Kay Clay

8:00 a.m. Mass: ☉

Parishioners of Saint Elizabeth

10:30 a.m. Mass:

MaryAnn Rizzato+ by Dorothy Hayes

14 DAY SANCTUARY LAMP

This week, the 14-day Sanctuary Lamp reminds us to pray for **deceased clergy, teachers and staff who have served this parish.**

ALTAR FLOWERS

There is no altar flower memorial this week-end.

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



December is
dedicated to the
**Immaculate Conception
of the
Blessed Virgin Mary**

**Pope Francis' Prayer Intention for December:
For Pilgrims of Hope:** So that this Jubilee strengthens us in faith, helps us recognize Christ risen in our lives, and transforms us into pilgrims of Christian hope.

This Sunday: 1st Sunday of Advent

Jer 33:14-16; 1 Thes 3:12-4:2; Lk 21:25-28, 34-36

In the first reading, Jeremiah prophesies that the days of fulfillment are coming. A shoot will come from the line of David, and it will be a time of security and justice. In the second reading, Paul prays for the Thessalonians and exhorts them to conduct themselves as pleasing to God. In the Gospel, Jesus tells his disciples what it will be like at the coming of the Son of Man, and that they are to be vigilant in anticipation of that day.

Next Sunday: 2nd Sunday of Advent

Bar 5:1-9; Phil 1:4-6, 8-11; Lk 3:1-6

The first reading offers a vision of Jerusalem restored, proclaiming a day when mountains will be made low and God will lead Israel in joy. In the second reading, Paul says that the one who began a good work in [us] will continue to complete it. In the Gospel, the word of God comes to John the Baptist who proclaims the words of Isaiah crying out in the desert.



PRAYERS FOR OUR PRIESTS

The following priests of our Diocese are celebrating birthdays soon: 11/30- Rev. Jeffry Holtman; 12/4- Rev. Pawel Augustyniak; 12/5- Rev. Carlos Bohorquez; 12/13- Rev. David Zimmermann; 12/16- Rev. Ronnie Lorilla; 12/21- Rev. James Neuman, Rev. David Beagles; 12/23- Rev. Steven Janoski; 12/29- Rev. Richard Chiola, Rev. Daniel Bergbower; 12/31- Rev. Charles Edwards.

The following are priests and deacons of our Diocese who have died. Please remember them in your daily prayers: 11/30- Rev. William Pachhofer; 12/1- Rev. William J. Hamilton, Rev. James Mullaley, S.V.D., Rev. Lucan Freppert, O.F.M.



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, CO; Nick Glasgow- USMC, CA

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

Jim Deder

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 Gray

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

Pfaff & DeRuntz Families

Deceased Members of Ladies Sodality

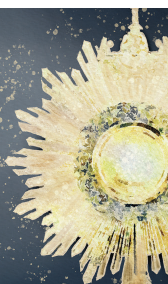
Be with Jesus

Adoration

Thursdays 9 am - 9 pm

Holy Hour

Sundays 7-8 pm



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

LADIES SODALITY ADVENT PARTY

Tickets are on sale now for the Ladies Sodality Advent Party on Tuesday, December 3. Mass will be at 5:30 p.m. that evening with the party afterwards. Call Pam A. at 618-791-7081 to get your ticket.

GET YOUR HOLIDAY SCRIP

Holiday gift giving is made easier when you purchase scrip. A percentage of the purchase goes to support our parish and school! The best part?? We now have scrip for your favorite local Mexican restaurant, SI SENOR!!! Stop by the office to grab yours!!

CONSIDER JOINING OUR MUSIC MINISTRY

As we begin our Advent Season and start practicing songs for Christmas, we're looking to expand our Music Ministry. Whether you are a seasoned singer, a youthful voice, or are just wanting to make a joyful noise, there's room for you in our choir! We're also in search of instrumentalists to add to our Christmas Liturgy. Join us for rehearsals Tuesday evenings at 7:00 in the church. Any questions, please email Marla at music@stelizabethgc.org.

CHOIR SCHEDULE CHANGE:

For the first week of December, choir rehearsal will be held Wednesday (12/4) at 7:00 PM. We will return to Tuesdays the following week. Please consider joining us as we prepare for our Christmas Liturgy!



Don't let the Advent wreath become just another tradition without any meaning behind it! Use this time as a family to deepen your understanding and appreciation of the Advent season. Make lighting the Advent Wreath a time for meaningful connections and discussions with your loved ones. These prayers add a touch of spirituality and help you all reflect on the season in a more profound way.

Start with the Advent Wreath Blessing

Dear Jesus, as we light the candle(s) on this Advent wreath, may the light of your presence bring joy to our hearts. Bless our family and our friends, and be with all those who are in need this holiday season. Amen.

The First Week of Advent - light the first purple candle

Scripture Reflection: "The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light; those who dwelt in a land of deep darkness, on them has light shined." Isaiah 9:2

Advent Wreath Prayer: Dear Jesus, you are the hope in our messy world. This Advent, help us slow down, listen to your voice, and focus on what's really important. We place our hope in you as we prepare our hearts to celebrate your birth on Christmas. Amen.

THIS WEEK

Sunday, December 1

9 a.m. - Men at Prayer (School)

9:15-10:15 a.m. - PSR (PLC)

7-8 p.m. - Holy Hour with Vespers & Benediction (Church)

Monday, December 2

Tuesday, December 3

5:30 p.m. Mass, followed by Ladies Sodality Advent Dinner (Church, Harmony Room)

7:30 p.m. - Men's Club (Cafeteria)

Wednesday, December 4

Wednesday Worker Luncheon

7 p.m. - Choir Practice (Church)

7 p.m. - BINGO (Columbus Home)

Thursday, December 5

7 p.m. - OCIA (Parish Life Center)

9 a.m. - 9 p.m. - Adoration (Church); Benediction at 9 p.m.

Friday, December 6

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

Saturday, December 7

Harmony Cafe after all Masses

Sunday, December 8

Harmony Cafe after all Masses

9:15-10:15 a.m. - PSR (PLC)

6 p.m. - Tri-Cities Advent Penance Service (Church); Adoration during Penance - no regular Holy Hour with Vespers & Benediction

Monday, December 9

**Holy Day of Obligation
(Immaculate Conception)**

8:15 a.m. - Mass (Church)

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS CORNER

We hope everyone had a great Thanksgiving as we all have many things to be thankful for. The children's Christmas party is Dec. 21, a Saturday, starting 8:15 am. Breakfast, pancakes and sausage, will be served until 9 a.m.-ish. We will have coloring, a magician and of course Santa for an awesome morning of fun and Christmas cheer. We are expecting a larger group of kids this year and are recommending to R.S.V.P. by texting 618-789-0337 as early as you can or sign the list in the meeting room at the Columbus home. The event will be in the open room next to the lounge and the gym. Yours in Christ, Tom Cholevik, Grand Knight, 618-789-0337.



Knights of
Columbus®

This Week on **FORMED**



Brother Francis:

The Days of Advent

Brother Francis leads us on a daily journey in this special seasonal celebration of the coming of the Lord! Featuring meditations, prayers, and suggested activities to keep our focus on Christ this Christmas.

View the entire Brother Francis collection here:
<https://watch.formed.org/brother-francis-1>

Thanks to our Men's Club, parishioners have access to free Catholic programming on FORMED on any device.

Go to [signup.FORMED.org](https://www.formed.org) and select our parish.

Mercy Minute

Each week, a short excerpt from St. Faustina's Diary, in which she recorded our Lord's messages to her about His Divine Mercy:

"On one occasion, Jesus gave me to know that when I pray for intentions which people are wont to entrust to me, He is always ready to grant His graces, but souls do not always want to accept them: My Heart overflows with great mercy for souls, and especially for poor sinners ... it is for them that the Blood and Water flowed from my Heart as from a fount overflowing with mercy (Diary, 367)



FORMATION

COMING INTO THE CHURCH

If you or someone you know is not yet Baptized, received into the Catholic Church (including those who may have already been Baptized in another Christian tradition), or fully initiated with the Sacraments of Confirmation and/or Holy Eucharist, contact the parish office for more information. Someone from our pastoral team will be overjoyed to meet with you and discuss your path. Know of our prayers for you!



COME LEARN MORE ABOUT OUR FAITH

Anyone is welcome to join us any Thursday night as our OCIA team ("Order of Christian Initiation of Adults") meets to learn more about aspects of our faith.

Upcoming topics - 7 p.m. Thursdays in the Parish Life Center Library:

December 5: The Mass
(Chris Spanberger & Deacon Michael)

December 12: Early Church & Church History
(Deacon Michael)

December 19: Mary & the Saints
(Cheryl Mangi)

CALLING ALL TEENS WE NEED YOUR HELP!

Our teens are hosting Harmony Cafe next weekend. We plan to host a hot chocolate bar with all the fixins, plus some fun giveaways for the kids for the Feast of St. Nicholas. If you can help after a Mass, please reach out to Deacon Michael at 618-616-6587 or mhalbrook@dio.org. Thanks!



From the U.S. Bishops' Document Go Make Disciples...

Our Goals (§45-60) continued...

53. Goal II: To invite all people in the United States, whatever their social or cultural background, to hear the message of salvation in Jesus Christ so they may come to join us in the fullness of the Catholic faith.

54. Catholics should continually share the Gospel with those who have no church community and with those who have given up active participation in the Catholic Church, as well as welcoming those seeking full communion with the Catholic Church. People can know they are invited to experience Jesus Christ in our Church only if they are really and effectively asked and if adequate provisions are made for their full participation. We want our Catholic brothers and sisters to effectively ask and to really invite.

55. At the same time, we Catholics cannot proselytize - that is, manipulate or pressure anyone to join our Church. Such tactics contradict the Good News we announce and undermine the spirit of invitation that should characterize all true evangelization.

56. Goal III: To foster gospel values in our society, promoting the dignity of the human person, the importance of the family, and the common good of our society, so that our nation may continue to be transformed by the saving power of Jesus Christ.

57. When the story of Jesus is truly our story, when we have caught his fire, when his Good News shapes our lives individually, as families and households, and as a Church, his influence will be felt far beyond our Church. Pope Paul VI taught us that evangelization transforms culture, that the Gospel affects and at times upsets the "criteria of judgment, determining values, points of interest, lines of thought, sources of inspiration and models of life" that make up our cultural world.³⁴

58. Not only must each of us live the Gospel personally in the Church, but also our faith must touch the values of the United States, affirming what is good, courageously challenging what is not. Catholics applaud our nation's instinctual religiousness, its prizing of freedom and religious liberty, its openness to new immigrants, and its inspiring idealism. If our society were less open, indeed, we might not be free to evangelize in the first place. On the other hand, our country can be faulted for its materialism, its sexism, its racism, its consumerism, its individualism run wild, its ethic of selfishness, its neglect of the poor and weak, its disregard of human life, and its endless chase after empty fads and immediate pleasures.

59. Seeing both the ideals and the faults of our nation, we Catholics need to recognize how much our Catholic faith, for all it has received from American culture, still has to bring to life in our country...

LEARNING & LIVING OUR FAITH

In an interesting twist, Monday, December 9 is a Holy Day of Obligation this year

Reprinted from the November 10 bulletin

by Deacon Michael Halbrook

This year, December 8th, the *Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary*, falls on a Sunday, but the celebration of that feast is moved to the next day, Monday, December 9. It is a Holy Day of Obligation.

When most Solemnities in the General Calendar of liturgical days fall on a Sunday, they are automatically moved to the next day, the Monday. That's the case this year with the Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception. It falls on Sunday, December 8, but it is superceded on that day by the celebration of the Second Sunday of Advent; therefore, it is moved to Monday, December 9.

You might be thinking, in recent years, when a Holy Day of Obligation like this has moved to Saturday or Monday our bishops in the United States have informed us that the obligation to attend Mass was lifted.

Since 1992, the norms of the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops, which has the authority to adapt the universal laws of the Church for specific circumstances in the United States, have stated that when certain holy days fall on a Saturday or a Monday, the obligation to attend Mass is lifted - removing an "undo burden" for the faithful to attend Mass on Sunday AND on Saturday or Monday.

Recently, though, at the request of various bishops, Bishop Paprocki wrote to the Dicastery for Legislative Texts at the Vatican, in his capacity as Chairman of the USCCB's *Committee on Canonical Affairs and Church Governance*. On behalf of the bishops, he posed the question: "If a Holy Day of Obligation in the Advent, Lent or Easter season falls on a Sunday and the Solemnity is transferred to Monday, does the obligation to attend Mass still apply?" The Dicastery for Legislative Texts replied affirmatively; the obligation remains even when the Solemnity is transferred because the Solemnity itself is a day of obligation.

As a result, this year, in the United States (as it is in most of the world), the Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception will be celebrated on Monday, December 9, and will be a Holy Day of Obligation.

This is in addition to the regular obligation to attend Mass on Sunday.

We are adding one Mass here at St. Elizabeth on Monday, December 9, at 8:15 a.m. Other options in the area include:

- 6 p.m. at Holy Family, Granite City
- 6:30 p.m. at St. Cecilia, Glen Carbon (after Reconciliation at 6 p.m.)
- 6:30 p.m. at St. Mary's, Edwardsville

Please consider these sections of the *Catechism of the Catholic Church* which apply:

§2181 The Sunday Eucharist is the foundation and confirmation of all Christian practice. For this reason the faithful are obliged to participate in the Eucharist on days of obligation, unless excused for a serious reason (for example, illness, the care of infants) or dispensed by their own pastor.* Those who deliberately fail in this obligation commit a grave sin.

§2185 On Sundays and other holy days of obligation, the faithful are to refrain from engaging in work or activities that hinder the worship owed to God, the joy proper to the Lord's Day, the performance of the works of mercy, and the appropriate relaxation of mind and body. Family needs or important social service can legitimately excuse from the obligation of Sunday rest. The faithful should see to it that legitimate excuses do not lead to habits prejudicial to religion, family life, and health.

*Canon 1245 of the Code of Canon Law allows a parish priest, in individual cases, for a just reason and in accordance with the prescriptions of the diocesan Bishop, to give a dispensation from the obligation of observing a holyday or day of penance, or commute the obligation into some other pious works. If you're legitimately unable to attend Mass and fulfill your obligation on Monday, December 9, talk with Father Alfred.

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:

Luke 21:25-28, 34-36

REFLECTING ON THE WORD:

Today, Jesus describes someone who's lost their sense of vigilance and awareness that this world is not our final home as having "become drowsy." While we usually think of sin as dulling our spiritual senses, Jesus also reminds us that they can be dulled by "the anxieties of daily life." From my own experience of family life, I know how easy it is to lose sight of heavenly realities when we're faced with so many day-to-day tasks demanding our attention. Advent is a time to rouse us out of that drowsiness and to refocus our vision on our true home. Even amid the busyness of daily living, we're called to keep our sights on what's to come. What needs to be shaken in your routines to help keep a heavenly perspective in all you do? In what ways do you need to reorient your family's vision toward the life to come?

ON THE WAY TO MASS

Imagine a great feast about to take place, with the most important guests coming. How would you prepare? See how many different, special clues you notice at Mass that show we're in a time of preparation-Advent-for Jesus' birth at Christmas.

ON THE WAY HOME FROM MASS

What did you see at Mass that was different from last week? Do you have any ideas of what we can do at home to celebrate Advent?

LIVING THE WORD

The simplest Advent traditions are the easiest to keep. Light candles on an Advent wreath each night at dinner or sing "O Come O Come Emmanuel" together with your dinner blessing.

BULLETIN ADVERTISERS

Please support our bulletin advertisers! They make our bulletin possible.

We also need additional advertisers to keep producing and enhancing our bulletin. If you know of a business owner who might be interested, please recommend the opportunity to support our parish bulletin to them.

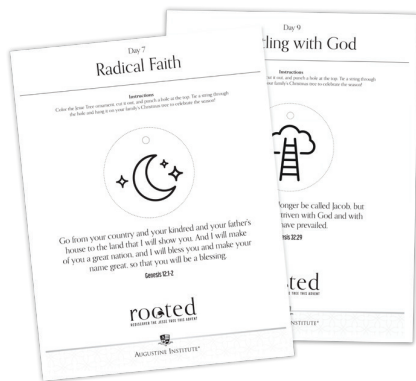
Thank you!

FORMED[®]

Deepen Your Roots in Christ this Advent

This Advent, transform the way you prepare for Christmas by diving into *Rooted: Rediscover the Jesse Tree*—a 25-episode series designed to help you journey through salvation history and deepen your connection to Christ. In just 7 minutes a day, explore Scripture, uncover the stories of Christ's ancestors, and experience meaningful Advent reflections that connect faith to your daily life.

Join Formed and Dr. Scott Hefelfinger as he leads us through the Jesse Tree tradition, a powerful way to reconnect with the roots of our faith! Whether you watch alone or with family, Rooted offers a simple and meaningful way to prepare your heart for Christ's coming at Christmas.



Celebrate Advent By Making Your Christmas Tree a Jesse Tree!

Bring the Jesse Tree tradition to life for your family with our Jesse Tree ornament coloring sheets. When you sign up to receive the *Rooted: Rediscover the Jesse Tree* series, you'll get these coloring sheets as a special gift! Perfect for kids, these ornaments can be colored, cut out, and hung on your tree, turning each day of Advent into a special moment of reflection.

Start Your Journey

Episodes begin December 1, and daily reflections will guide you through Advent until Christmas Eve. Don't miss this opportunity to deepen your roots in Christ and rediscover the joy of Advent.

Reconnect with the Roots
of Your Faith!



Visit <https://daily.formed.org/advent> or scan the QR code to sign up today!



DIocese of Springfield in Illinois
OFFICE of the BISHOP

Dear Friends in Christ,

In the coming weeks, our parishes will take up the annual collection for the Retirement Fund for Religious. This campaign is crucial, benefiting more than 24,000 elderly sisters, brothers, and religious order priests who have been faithful servants within the Church, devoting their lives to service.

As I reflect on their ministry, I am grateful for the impact these women and men religious have had on our faith journeys. Their devoted service has impacted our diocese, inspiring and guiding us as we grow in faith.

Most senior religious worked many years for little pay, leaving their religious communities with a shortage of retirement savings. Rising healthcare costs and decreased income compound the challenge to meet day-to-day needs for medications, nursing assistance, and other necessities.

Your contributions to the Retirement Fund for Religious play a vital role in providing necessary financial support. This support enables religious communities to care for their aging members while ensuring that the younger generation can carry forward the invaluable work of their elders.

Please consider contributing when asked and giving what you are able. Above all, I ask for your prayers for God's continued blessings on all our women and men religious, who keep you in their prayers as well.

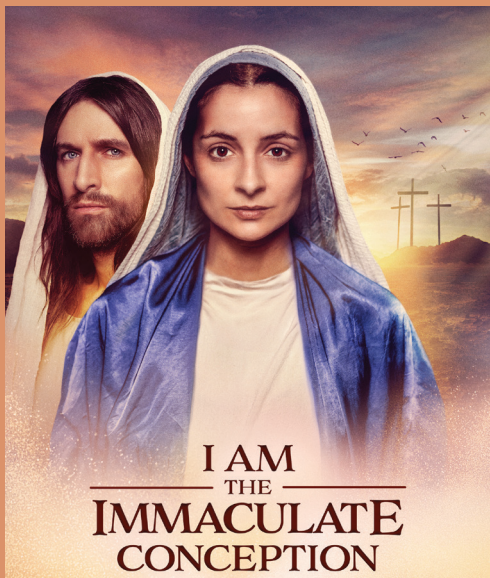
Together, let us support the many religious women and men who have made enormous contributions to our Church and to the world.

May God's abundant blessings be upon you and your loved ones..

Sincerely yours in Christ,

+ Thomas John Paprocki

Most Reverend Thomas John Paprocki
Bishop of Springfield in Illinois



**"I AM THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION" MOVIE
LIMITED ENGAGEMENT IN THEATRES THIS MONTH**

I am Immaculate Conception is how Mary, the Mother of God, introduced herself to St. Bernadette in 1858 in Lourdes, France. During the season of Advent and Christmas, a new documentary film invites audiences to ponder why Mary presents herself this way. In the film, a group of eminent experts, including the Marian Fathers, analyze Greek texts of the Holy Scripture, revelations and the dogma of the Immaculate Conception. The result is a new interpretation of passages of the Scripture revealing Mary, the Mother of Christ, and her extraordinary role in the divine plan for the salvation of the world. **"I Am the Immaculate Conception"**, via application of the latest technologies, using the virtual LED studio, and a traditional scenography, transports audiences to the eternal acts of the Holy Family - over 2000 years ago - to participate in the most crucial moments of Mary and Jesus' lives, such as the miracle at the Wedding at Cana, the Last Supper and Golgotha.

Showtimes on December 12, 14, and 17 at

AMC Edwardsville 12 & Marcus O'Fallon Cinema

See: fathomevents.com/events/immaculate-conception/

ST. ELIZABETH SCHOOL ANNOUNCES THE NOVEMBER GRANITE CITY OPTIMIST STUDENTS OF THE MONTH

Frida O. and Jameson W. were selected as the Granite City Optimist November Students of the Month. Jameson and Frida are members of Mrs. Rebecca Corbett's second 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.

Frida is eight years old and is the daughter of Gonzalo and Anayeli. Frida says the best part of her school day is math time. She looks forward to each new math fact that she learns. Outside of her school work, Frida likes to spend time at home playing with her dolls. She also participates in gymnastics and would like to sign up for a soccer team when she gets older. When asked what she was thankful for this Thanksgiving, she said that her family is at the top of her list. She's hoping to find lots of turkey at her Thanksgiving dinner because it is her favorite. Frida would like a future career as a veterinarian who takes care of people's pets.

Eight-year-old Jameson is the son of Jeff and Anna. Jameson looks forward to Mrs. Corbett's science class and says learning about the weather has been his favorite science topic so far. Ask him for his opinion about the best type of weather, and he will pick cool and sunny every time. After school, Jameson plays basketball and practices his skills on the basketball hoop in his yard. He also plays first base for the Tribe baseball team. During this month of thanksgiving, Jameson is grateful for everything God has given him. Since Jameson is not a fan of turkey, his Thanksgiving Day dinner will have ham instead. When Jameson grows up, he would like to be a professional baseball player and be signed as a first baseman for the Cardinals.

The Granite City Optimist Organization is an international society dedicated to helping the youth of the world. For more information about the Granite City Optimists, contact Paul Hellrich at 618 407-3011. The Optimists are always looking for new members who would like to aid in their mission to help the youth of the community. Come join us!



Last weekend, some of our students participated in the deanery Speech Meet and did great! From left to right: Isabel 2nd, Simon 1st, Jackson 2nd, Henry 2nd, and Charlie 1st. Congratulations to each and every one of you!

VOCATIONS

In today's second reading, Paul prays, "May the Lord make you increase and abound in love for one another and for all." Each of us is called, in a unique way, to share God's love with those around us.

Some of us are called to do that as husbands or wives; some, as parents; some as holy single people. Every once in a while, women and men are called to share God's love with others through a rewarding life as a priest, deacon, sister or brother.

Have you ever wondered how God is calling you? Would you like to talk with someone about it?

Explore more information at dio.org/office-for-vocations/



BE MORE: MARRIAGE RETREAT AT ST. E

Mark your calendar now! Join us for a special day of retreat and growth just for married couples here at St. Elizabeth on Saturday, January 25. "Be More: A Marriage Formation Retreat" was developed to provide couples in a parish setting a pathway to grow in community, identity and understanding their mission.

MARRIAGE ENCOUNTER RETREATS FOR MARRIED COUPLES OFFERED NEARBY

Retreat for married couples offered - Worldwide Marriage Encounter presents weekend experiences for married couples to rekindle romance, enhance meaningful communication, and deepen and re-new 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:

12/6 - 12/8/2024, St. Peters, MO

1/31 - 2/2/2025, St. Peters, MO

4/4 - 4/6/2025, St. Peters, MO



AROUND THE AREA

ST. MARY & ST. MARK PARISH (MADISON)

48th ANNUAL SNOWMAN'S BALL - DECEMBER 7

Saturday, December 7, 6 p.m. - 11 p.m. at Engelbert Hall, 10th & Washington, Madison, IL. Doors open at 5 p.m., Dinner at 6 p.m. Music by Dave Hylla's Good Times Band 7:30-10:30 p.m. Tickets are \$20 per person. Ticket includes catered dinner, music, beer & soda. Must purchase ticket by November 20 at Noon. Great evening for Fellowship & fun! Attendance prizes and raffles. Questions, call Cheryl at 618-610-7158. For tickets, mail \$20 per ticket to: St. Mary & St. Mark Parish, c/o Snowman's Ball, 1621 Tenth Street, Madison, IL 62060 (checks payable to St. Mary & St. Mark)

OUR LADY QUEEN OF PEACE (BETHALTO)

ANNUAL SMORGASBORD & BAZAAR - DECEMBER 8

Our Lady Queen of Peace Parish "Annual Smorgasbord & Bazaar" Sunday, Dec. 8, 11:00 am - 3:00 pm, at Our Lady Queen of Peace Church, School Gym, 132 Butcher Street, Bethalto. Please join us for a delicious dinner including the following menu items: Turkey & Dressing, Famous Knights of Columbus Fried Chicken, Pigs in the Blanket, Mashed Potatoes & Gravy, vegetables, tossed salad, desserts & beverages. Adults-\$15.00; Children (5-10)-\$5.00; under 5-Free. Carry-outs available. PLEASE COME!

ADVENT PENANCE SERVICE

Join us for this year's tri-cities Advent Penance Service, here at St. Elizabeth, next Sunday, December 8 at 6 p.m.

After a brief service, Confessions will be available, and the Blessed Sacrament will be exposed for adoration. We will not have the usual Sunday night Holy Hour with Vespers at 7 p.m.



ADVENT NOVENA AT KENRICK

Join the students and staff at Kenrick for their Advent Novena. This is an evening prayer service led by the seminary choir and featuring a different speaker each night giving a reflection on the Advent season. It starts at 7 p.m. each night at Kenrick-Glennon Seminary, from December 3 through December 11.

Seminarian Padrick will be there every night singing in the choir, so consider a trip over with your family or a group of friends.

Here is the full list of speakers

(most are priests who work at the Seminary):

Tuesday, December 3: Archbishop Mitchell Rozanski

Wednesday, December 4: Fr. Paul Hoelsing

Thursday, December 5: Fr. Shane Deman

Friday, December 6: Fr. John Mayo

Saturday, December 7: Fr. Don Anstoetter

Sunday, December 8: Fr. Conor Sullivan

Monday, December 9: Dcn. Logan Hepp

Tuesday, December 10: Fr. Jason Schumer

Wednesday, December 11: Fr. Christian Malewski





Pizza Hut

Dine-to-Donate

December 10, 2024

Dine in
Take out
Pick up
Drive thru



Support ABL on **December 10, 2024**, by ordering from Pizza Hut at 608 N Bluff Rd. in Collinsville.

Be sure to mention ABL when ordering to return 20% of the proceeds to our mission!

Scan here for more information and to let us know that you plan to participate!



The CATHOLIC CARTOON by Joshua Morrison



"During a Holy Hour our love for Jesus becomes more intimate, our love for each other more understanding, and our love for the poor more compassionate."

- Blessed Theresa of Calcutta

Spend some time with Jesus in Adoration.

Thursdays 9 a.m. - 9 p.m.

Benediction at 9 p.m.

For information, call the parish office

Sundays 7-8 p.m.

Holy Hour with Sunday Vespers

Come and join us any Sunday.



Mark your calendar now!
Christmas Masses at St. Elizabeth Church:

4:30 p.m. Christmas Eve (Dec. 24)

9:00 a.m. Christmas Day (Dec. 25)



Upcoming Holy Days of Obligation:

Monday, December 9

The Immaculate Conception of the BVM

Transferred from December 8 this year

8:15 a.m. at St. Elizabeth

6 p.m. at Holy Family

Wednesday, January 1

Mary, Mother of God

6 p.m. Vigil (New Year's Eve) or

9 a.m. New Year's Morning at St. Elizabeth



YEAR-END GIVING RESOURCES & REMINDERS

STOCKS:

Consider donating stock as a way to continue supporting St. Elizabeth Catholic Church and School. Stock giving allows you to save your cash, avoid capital gains, and maximize your impact. You may also receive a tax deduction for the full value of the gift. Visit our secure stock giving site at bit.ly/ParishStock which makes stock giving easy and secure by providing the correct transfer form, helping you fill out the necessary fields, and providing clear instructions for submitting the form to your brokerage. For specific questions about how stock giving may impact your personal situation, consult a financial or tax advisor.

QCDs:

Give to St. Elizabeth from your IRA- Qualified Charitable Distributions (QCDs), also known as IRA Charitable Rollovers, are the savviest way for those age 70½ or older to use their IRAs to maximize their charitable impact. And, if you are subject to a Required Minimum Distribution (RMD), an IRA gift can help you meet your RMD without increasing your taxable income. Visit bit.ly/ParishQCD to learn more about this giving option and to initiate a QCD gift to St. Elizabeth. For specific questions about how IRA giving may impact your personal situation, consult a financial or tax advisor.

BEQUESTS:

Have you documented your final wishes? Creating your estate plan is an act of care that can help you protect your loved ones, communicate healthcare and financial decisions about the future, and establish a legacy that honors your Catholic faith. Our new estate planning tool at www.freewill.com/diocesefspringfield can help you write your legal will for free and makes it easy to make a sustaining gift to your parish home, ensuring the ministry of St. Elizabeth continues for generations to come. For specific questions about how estate planning may impact your personal situation, consult a tax advisor or lawyer.

YEAR-END GIFTS DUE BY DECEMBER 31st

Don't forget if you would like to receive a 2024 tax deduction for your gifts, they need to be post-marked to your community by December 31st, 2024. Credit card gifts and ACH online donations need to be made online and time-stamped by midnight, December 31st.

For any questions regarding year-end giving, reach out to Jackie at 618-877-3300.

CHARITABLE OUTREACH

Thank you so much for your contributions to support our efforts at reaching out to those in need in our community. Our blessing bags have been very well received and we would love your help restocking supplies as we head towards colder weather. Among the donations we are looking for are: granola bars or other small packaged snacks, small/trial bottles of shampoo or sunscreen, chapstick, bath wipes, feminine hygiene products, stocking caps, gloves, hand warmers and socks, rain ponchos, scarves, Please drop donations in the bins in the gathering space or at the PLC. Contributions can be made through envelopes or online. Thank you!



STEWARDSHIP

Our Financial Stewardship November 24, 2024

	Actual	Goal	Over/(Short)
Week 21 Regular Income	\$5,452.00		
99 Envelopes, Avg. Gift \$55.07			
Building Repair/Maintenance	\$210.00		
Loose	\$348.50		
One-Time Donations	-		
Online Giving	\$740.72		
TOTAL	\$6,751.22	\$10,947.00	(\$4,195.78)
YTD TOTALS	\$182,066.16	\$229,887.00	(\$47,820.84)

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	\$110.00
Special Projects	\$210.00
Mission & Ministry	\$5.00
Christmas Flowers	\$15.00
Calvary Cath. Cemetery E'Ville	\$150.00
Votive Offering	\$10.00
Campaign for Justice & Hope	\$1,055.88
World Mission Sunday	\$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. October tithe: **\$3,588.00**

NEW ONLINE GIVING OPTIONS

Please consider making your donation through Pushpay online giving. Your donation through Pushpay will help your dollar go further with our parish in comparison to giving by check or our previous online giving platform. The donations are additionally more secure than check giving and easier for administrative team processing of your giving statements at the end of the year.

In an effort to make online giving easier, faster and more secure, we are transitioning to a new online giving platform called Pushpay. It is our goal to complete this process in the next few weeks, so we need your help to move your current online giving from Give Central to the new platform, PushPay. It's a simple, two-step process that will take no more than ten minutes.

Step One: Please select one of the following links to set up either a one-time gift or a recurring gift using Pushpay:

One-Time Entry: <https://pushpay.com/g/stelizabeghgranitecity>

Recurring Entry: <https://pushpay.com/g/stelizabeghgranitecity?r=monthly> (After you set up your recurring gift, you will be prompted to complete the setup of your new account)

Step Two: Cancel scheduled gifts in Give Central

If you are currently not giving on-line and would like to make the transition, please take the above steps to start the online giving process. Thank you!

If you have questions or need help in signing up to give online, please see Bret or Jackie in the parish office

WEEKLY STEWARDSHIP REFLECTION

"But when these signs begin to happen, stand erect and raise your heads because your redemption is at hand." - Luke 21:28

We celebrate Advent each year in preparation for the birth of Jesus, His first coming, as we await His second coming. What will you do differently this Advent season to grow in friendship and love with Jesus? How will you inspire others to do the same? Start by sharing your God story with others, especially those that are closest to you. Invite and accompany them on their faith journey this Advent.

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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