

# Disciples Stewards

St. Elizabeth Catholic Church & School

Granite City, Illinois ♦ Diocese of Springfield in Illinois

Second Sunday of Advent ♦ December 8, 2024



## ADVENT PENANCE SERVICE

Here at St. Elizabeth, this 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.



## 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




2300 Pontoon Road  
Granite City, IL 62040


Phone 618-877-3300


Fax 618-877-9800

After-Hours Emergencies  
314-266-8387

Web: [stelizabethgc.org](http://stelizabethgc.org)

 [@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)

## PASTORAL STAFF

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Office x1002 | Residence x1201  
[pastor@stelizabethgc.org](mailto:pastor@stelizabethgc.org)

**Deacon Michael Halbrook**  
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**Marla Weis**  
Director of Liturgical Music  
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## SCHOOL & PRE-SCHOOL

School Phone: (618) 877-3300 x2  
School Fax: (618) 877-3352

Pre-School: (618) 877-3300 x2003

**Michelle Williams, Principal**  
[mwilliams@stelizabethgc.org](mailto:mwilliams@stelizabethgc.org)

**Loretta Joyce, School Secretary**  
[ljoyce@stelizabethgc.org](mailto:ljoyce@stelizabethgc.org)

## CALVARY CATHOLIC CEMETERY

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

## ORGANIZATIONAL LEADERS

Finance Council: Charlotte Charbonnier

School Board: Adam Meyenburg

Parent/Teacher Org.: 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 9**

**Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception  
of the Blessed Virgin Mary**

8:15 a.m. Mass

Nancy Rosales+ by Barbara Gibson

**Tuesday, December 10**

**Tuesday of the 2nd Week of Advent**

6:00 p.m. Mass:

Sam Shambro+ by Carol Kleinschmidt

**Wednesday, December 11**

**Wednesday of the 2nd Week of Advent**

Ronnie Crippen+

by Bud and Charlotte Charbonnier

**Thursday, December 12**

**Feast of Our Lady of Guadalupe**

8:15 a.m. Mass:

Anita Wells+

**Friday, December 13**

**Memorial of Saint Lucy, Virgin & Martyr**

8:15 a.m. Mass:

Charles Polach+ by Premo & Kay Clay

**Saturday, December 14**

**Memorial of Saint John of the Cross,  
Priest & Doctor of the Church**

No Mass

**Saturday-Sunday, December 14-15**

**Third Sunday of Advent**

4:30 p.m. Saturday Evening Mass:

Marilyn Coulson+ by Jim Ridenhour

8:00 a.m. Mass: ☪

Kathleen Dortch+ by Dennis & Jackie Jones

10:30 a.m. Mass:

Parishioners of St. Elizabeth

## 14 DAY SANCTUARY LAMP

This week, the 14-day Sanctuary Lamp reminds us to pray for **the marginalized; the poor, the homeless, the mentally ill persons in our community.**

## ALTAR FLOWERS

There is no altar flower memorial this weekend.

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

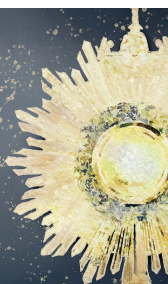
**Be with Jesus**

**Adoration**

Thursdays 9 am - 9 pm

**Holy Hour**

Sundays 7-8 pm



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: 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.

## Next Sunday: 3rd Sunday of Advent

Zep 3:14-18a; Phil 4:4-7; Lk 3:10-18

In the first reading, Zephaniah foretells the restoration of Jerusalem when the King of Israel, the Lord, will be in their midst. Paul instructs the Philippians to rejoice in the Lord always, for the Lord is near. In the Gospel, John the Baptist prepares the way for Jesus by baptizing and preaching the Good News.



## PRAYERS FOR OUR PRIESTS

The following priests of our Diocese are celebrating birthdays soon: 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: 12/8- Rev. Louis Hufker 12/10- Rev. Joseph Locher Rev. Patrick Kearney Rev. Oscar Schubert 12/11- Rev. John Blaise Raho, C.M. Rev. Mike Ryan Rev. Michael Hurley, Rev. J.W. Merscher Rev. August Forster Rev. Maurice Gavin 12/12- Rev. Amos Emil Giusti Rev. Terence J. Tracey

## 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



## 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

#### SWEET TREATS & COOKIE SALE

Parish Bakers and friends...start your ovens! It's time for the Ladies Sodality Annual Cookies and Sweet Treat Sale! Join us after each Mass next weekend December 14th and 15th, in the Harmony Room and buy a sweet treat or two! If you are inclined to help by baking or making something, please do! Bring it to the Harmony Room Saturday before Mass or drop at the PLC during the week! .

#### 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!!

### 150 CLUB WINNERS

Congratulations to our 150 CLUB winners for November and December:

November- #129 Joe Cox

December- #53 Zack & Angela Suhre

### 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](mailto:music@stelizabethgc.org).

## THIS WEEK

### 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)

### Tuesday, December 10

7 p.m. - Choir Practice (Church)

### Wednesday, December 11

6 p.m. - Charitable Outreach Meeting (PLC)

7 p.m. - BINGO (Columbus Home)

### Thursday, December 12

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

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

### Friday, December 13

### Saturday, December 14

#### Ladies Sodality Sweet Treats & Cookie Sale after all Masses

### Sunday, December 15

#### Ladies Sodality Sweet Treats & Cookie Sale after all Masses

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)



### LADIES SODALITY ADVENT DINNER

A fun time was had by all at the annual Ladies Sodality Advent Dinner on Tuesday evening. Thank you to the women who hosted, and to all of the women of the parish who do so much for us through the year, and who enjoyed the fun, fellowship, and food of the evening.

### Christmas Masses at St. Elizabeth Church:

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

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



### 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. Break-fast, 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**



**Drawing Closer to God**  
Journey through the Bible with the whole family! Join art teacher Ms. Kim as she teaches children to draw different scenes from Scripture, including the Annunciation, the shepherds' visit, the Nativity scene, Jesus' Passion, Resurrection, and more. With compelling storytelling, Ms. Kim points out key details from Scripture and Catholic tradition.

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

Go to [signup.FORMED.org](http://signup.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 the feast day of the Immaculate Conception of the Mother of God, during Holy Mass, I heard the rustling of garments and saw the most holy Mother of God in a most beautiful radiance. Her white garment was girdled with a blue sash. She said to me, 'You give Me great joy when you adore The Holy Trinity for the graces and privileges which were accorded Me.' 'And She immediately disappeared.'  
(Diary, 564)



**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.

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

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

December 19: Mary & the Saints  
(Cheryl Mangi)

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

Led in the Spirit (¶65-69)...

65. One day Jesus left Galilee and went to the River Jordan where he saw his kinsman, John the Baptist, calling people to repentance and renewal. He stepped forth from the crowd and approached John for baptism. John hesitated, recognizing the uniqueness of Jesus. When Jesus insisted, John plunged him into the water. At that point, people heard a voice from the clouds; John saw the Spirit come upon Jesus who was being revealed at this moment by God as the "Chosen One."<sup>42</sup>

66. The Spirit drove Jesus out into the desert<sup>43</sup> and, after a while, into a ministry that began with Jesus' addressing simple fishermen and small groups of people in his homeland. The Spirit led Jesus on a journey through Palestine to Jerusalem where his message came to challenge the whole world.

67. Jesus was led by the Spirit of God to a life of preaching and service, to the giving of himself in sacrifice. Jesus Christ sends that same Spirit upon everyone who is baptized in his name. For we have all gone down into the water of Christ and have all been anointed to bring Good News and to be true disciples.<sup>44</sup> We have all received his Spirit. This is not a Spirit of timidity or fear, but a bold Spirit of life, truth, joy, and grace.

68. We, bishops and Catholic people, are all led by this same Spirit who would stir up the faithful in our land to bring about a new and powerful evangelization. With Jesus, we undertake this journey, knowing that he is with us and his Spirit can never fail.

69. Jesus came to set this fire upon the earth, until all is ablaze in the love of God. We pray this fire will come upon us as disciples as we, led by the Spirit, carry out Christ's great commission to go and make disciples of all the nations.



**"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/](http://fathomevents.com/events/immaculate-conception/)



## LEARNING & LIVING OUR FAITH

### Mary's Immaculate Conception

On December 8 (*note: December 9 this year*), we celebrate the Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary, which references Mary's conception in her mother's womb without the stain of Original Sin:

An essential part of God's plan for the mother of his Son was that she be conceived free from Original Sin. "Through the centuries the Church became ever more aware that Mary, "full of grace" through God, was redeemed from the moment of her conception" (CCC, no. 491).

In anticipation that she was to bear the Son of God, Mary was preserved from the time of her conception from Original Sin. We call this the Immaculate Conception. No sin would touch her, so that she would be a fitting and worthy vessel of the Son of God. The Immaculate Conception does not refer to the virginal conception and birth of Christ, but rather to Mary's being conceived without inheriting Original Sin.

In the course of time, the doctrine of the Immaculate Conception became more precisely enunciated, as its truth - long supported by the universal popular devotion of the faithful - was better understood by deepening theological inquiry. In 1854, Pope Pius IX proclaimed this dogma infallibly: that is, in his role as supreme teacher of the Church, he declared that this doctrine is divinely revealed and must be accepted with faith by the entire Church. (United States Catholic Catechism for Adults, 142-143)

Even before this tenet of the faith was formally declared, a long tradition of faith that held this belief that Mary was conceived without sin:

This feast was celebrated in some monasteries before the beginning of the eighth century and became widespread in the eighteenth century. In the United States, celebration of this observance predates the Declaration of Independence. The bishops commended the nation to the patronage of Mary under the title of the Immaculate Conception in 1846. It became a nationwide holy day in 1885. (Essential Guide to Seasons and Saints, 120)

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## 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 3:1-6

### REFLECTING ON THE WORD:

How quickly can you think of ways your life would be less complicated, less fraught, if "every mountain [were] made low" and "the rough ways made smooth"? Of course, there's no magical snap of the fingers that accomplishes that, not even with faith. But there's a real, urgent sense in the Gospel today that disciples of Jesus need to root out any obstacles to grace - some of which we might have erected ourselves. How do we get in our own way of a closer relationship with Jesus? Do we overcomplicate our spiritual practices to the point where we lose sight of the goal? What familiar mountains or pitfalls do we find in our hearts, and how have we tried changing direction?

### ON THE WAY TO MASS

We're going to hear again about preparing our hearts for Jesus. What do you think that looks like?

### ON THE WAY HOME FROM MASS

Are there any ways we can make it easier for our family to follow Jesus?

### LIVING THE WORD

At a dinner this week, talk about a habit you've worked to adopt that has helped to order your life, spiritually or otherwise. What habits do each of you want to work on? Is there something to work toward as a family?

### 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!

## AROUND THE AREA

### OUR LADY QUEEN OF PEACE (BETHALTO) ANNUAL SMORGASBORD & BAZAAR - DECEMBER 8

Our Lady Queen of Peace Parish "Annual Smorgasbord & Bazaar" Sunday, Dec. 8, 11 am - 3 pm, at Our Lady Queen of Peace Church, School Gym, Bethalto. Please join: 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 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):

Sunday, December 8: Fr. Conor Sullivan

Monday, December 9: Dcn. Logan Hepp

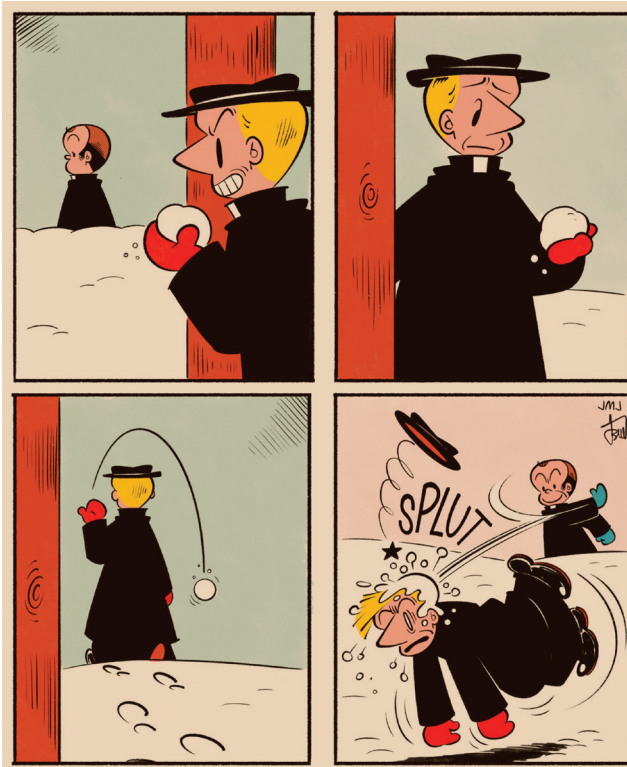
Tuesday, December 10: Fr. Jason Schumer

Wednesday, December 11: Fr. Christian Malewski

### WOMENS EVENING OF REFLECTION

Monday, December 16, 2024, 7-8:30 p.m., St. Mary's Church in Alton, IL. As we prepare for Christmas, please join us for an Advent Evening of Recollection. Fr. Michael Geisler, a priest of Opus Dei, will guide us in prayer with a meditation, which will then be followed by a short talk on a practical virtue. Finally, the evening will end with Exposition and Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament. Confession will also be available throughout the night.

## The CATHOLIC CARTOON by Joshua Morrison



## 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](http://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](http://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/diocesesofspringfield](http://www.freewill.com/diocesesofspringfield) 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 December 1, 2024

	Actual	Goal	Over/(Short)
Week 22 Regular Income	\$7,938.00		
95 Envelopes, Avg. Gift \$83.56			
Building Repair/Maintenance	\$255.00		
Loose	\$655.00		
One-Time Donations	-		
Online Giving	\$724.51		
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$9,572.51</b>	<b>\$10,947.00</b>	<b>(\$1,374.49)</b>
<b>YTD TOTALS</b>	<b>\$191,638.67</b>	<b>\$240,834.00</b>	<b>(\$49,195.33)</b>

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	\$670.00
Special Projects	\$225.00
Mission & Ministry	\$145.00
Christmas Offering	\$400.00
Christmas Flowers	\$1,270.00
Solemnity of Mary	\$175.00
Immaculate Conception	\$135.00
Calvary Cath. Cemetery E'Ville	\$10.00
Votive Offering	\$74.50
Campaign for Justice & Hope	\$34.00

### 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**

Catholic Childrens Home	\$120.00
Retired Religious	\$100.00
Other Parish, Not Specified	\$538.00

### 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/stelizabegranitecity>

Recurring Entry: <https://pushpay.com/g/stelizabegranitecity?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

**“And this is my prayer: that your love may increase ever more and more in knowledge and every kind of perception, to discern what is of value.” - Philippians 1:9-10**

During the Christmas shopping season it is easy to get caught up in the frenzy of buying gifts. But, is that “gift” truly an expression of your love for the other person. Or, are you just fulfilling your “obligation” to give them something? To grow in friendship with someone, you need to spend time with them and learn what is of value to them. Maybe this year, buy less “stuff” and spend more time with those you love.

## 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](http://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.



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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](mailto:bulletin@stelizabethgc.org) prior to Monday at Noon. For information on bulletin advertising, contact Bret Ware in the parish office.

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