

Disciples Stewards

St. Elizabeth Catholic Church & School

Granite City, Illinois ♦ Diocese of Springfield in Illinois

Second Sunday in Ordinary Time ♦ January 19, 2025



Wait! Why are the Christmas Decorations still up?

Already done with Christmas? We're just getting started! Here are five reasons you should keep celebrating Christmas until Candlemas on February 2nd (from ChurchPop.com):

1) Candlemas is the traditional end of the Christmas season.

Candlemas is every year on February 2. It is the Feast of the Presentation of Our Lord and the Purification of Our Lady when Our Lady and Saint Joseph presented their firstborn Son in the Temple in accordance with the law. Mary, by law, had to wait 40 days to go to the temple after giving birth. While she did not need purification, she submitted to the law God established.

So, really for all of January, we can remember Jesus as a newborn and Our Lady and Saint Joseph facing the daily adjustment that all first-time parents face. This liturgical season was called the "Time After Epiphany" on the old liturgical calendar.

2) Since Advent and Christmas are such a busy time, it is much easier to focus on the birth of Christ after the days of feasting.

The parties are over. The feasts are eaten. The presents are unwrapped. Finally, we can get back to a more normal pace of life. Christians' normal pace of life includes daily prayer. Why not use the time after the birth of Christ, while the liturgical year waits to present Him in the temple, to contemplate further the wonder of the Word made flesh?

3) In the bleak season of January, we need a little Christmas spirit.

January, much more than December, needs a little cheering up. In the northern parts of the world, the snow on the ground had turned into gray slush and ice. Everything is gray and glum, and absurdly less-than-freezing-cold temperatures plague us. It is not Lent yet, so why take on the penance of ceasing to celebrate before you have to?

4) Most Christmas music is still appropriate after Christmas.

You can skip all the songs about Santa and longing to be home for Christmas and focus on the carols about Christ's birth. Newborn babies are not forgotten 12 days after their birth but are cared for and loved as they grow. We can do the same for Christ. Let us enjoy the babymoon with Our Lady, singing about the birth of her Son as long as we can! Further, all the non-religious winter carols are still very appropriate in January in snowy and cold places.

5) Knowing we can celebrate Christmas for 40 days, keep Christmas cookie consumption in moderation.

Celebrating Christmas longer is actually good for your diet. Instead of cramming all cookies in before Epiphany, we can eat them more moderately. Pacing ourselves so that the cookies and candy last until February 2 is a healthful idea! Further, depending on when Lent starts, one could save some for some Mardi Gras consumption.

Happy Christmas!


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Granite City, IL 62040


Phone 618-877-3300


Fax 618-877-9800

After-Hours Emergencies
314-266-8387

Web: stelizabethgc.org

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

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

 [@stelizabeth_gc](https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC...)

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

PASTORAL STAFF

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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, January 20

Monday of the 2nd Week in Ordinary Time

No Mass

Tuesday, January 21

Memorial of St. Agnes, Virgin & Martyr

6:00 p.m. Mass:

Father Al Allen+

by Deacon & Mrs. Michael Halbrook

Wednesday, January 22

Day of Prayer for the Legal

Protection of Unborn Children

8:15 a.m. Mass:

Sam Shambro+ by Carol Kleinschmidt

Thursday, January 23

Thursday of the 2nd Week in Ordinary Time

8:15 a.m. Mass:

Carl Crippen+

by Bud & Charlotte Charbonnier

Friday, January 24

**Memorial of St. Francis de Sales,
Bishop & Doctor of the Church**

8:15 a.m. Mass:

Frank Ingram+ by Donna Scaturro

Saturday, January 24

Feast of the Conversion of St. Paul, Apostle

No Mass

Saturday-Sunday, January 25-26

Third Sunday in Ordinary Time

4:30 p.m. Saturday Evening Mass:

Sam Shambro+ by Norma Lesko

8:00 a.m. Mass: ☩

Parishioners of Saint Elizabeth

10:30 a.m. Mass:

Mary Ellen Becherer+ by Chris & Susan Glass

14 DAY SANCTUARY LAMP

This week, the 14-day Sanctuary Lamp burns in memory of **Diane Vivod+ by Bret & Tracy Ware.**

ALTAR FLOWERS

There is no altar flower memorial this week.

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

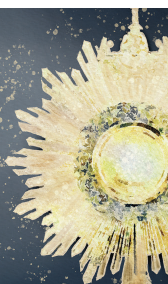
Be with Jesus

Adoration

Thursdays 9 am - 9 pm

Holy Hour

Sundays 7-8 pm



January is dedicated to the
Holy Name of Jesus

Pope Francis' Prayer Intention for January:

For the right to an education: Let us pray for migrants, refugees, and those affected by war, that their right to an education, which is necessary to build a better world, might always be respected.

This Sunday: 2nd Sunday in Ord. Time

Is 62:1-5; 1 Cor 12:4-11; Jn 2:1-11

In the first reading, Isaiah speaks of God's care for Zion, and his promise of restoration and rejoicing. Zion will be like a cherished bride.

In the second reading, Paul writes of the same Spirit producing different individual gifts. In the Gospel, Jesus attends a wedding feast at Cana and the wine [runs] short. He instructs the servers to fill jars with water, and when the water is drawn out to be tasted, it had become wine.

Next Sunday: 3rd Sunday in Ord. Time

Neh 8:2-4a, 5-6, 8-10; 1 Cor 12:12-30; Lk 1:1-4; 4:14-21

In the first reading, Ezra the priest-scribe reads from the book of the law, interpreting so that all could understand. He enjoins them, Today is holy to the Lord your God. Do not be sad, and do not weep. In the second reading, Paul writes that, in Christ, all are one body. Each part of the body has a purpose to fulfill. In the Gospel, Jesus returns to Nazareth. There he reads in the synagogue and announces that the passage is



PRAYERS FOR OUR PRIESTS

The following priests of our Diocese are celebrating birthdays soon: 1/17- Rev. Augustine Koomson 1/18- Rev. John Renken 1/25- Rev. Don Roberts 1/27- Rev. Larry Anschutz Rev. Donald Blickhan 1/30- Rev. John Burnette

The following are priests and deacons of our Diocese who have died. Please remember them in your daily prayers: 1/20- Rev. George Hensey Rev. George A. Monarque Rev. Roger Simpson 1/21- Rev. Henry Eggenstein Rev. Anthony Zurbonsen Rev. George Kenney Rev. Vitus Duschinsky, O.F.M. Rev. John P. Carberry

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 Stigite

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

CHURCH DECORATION HELP

Thank you to everyone that contributed to our beautiful flowers and other decorations for the Christmas season. Your help is very much appreciated. If you can spare some time on February 2, the Feast of the Presentation of the Lord, after 10:30 a.m. Mass, please join us to restore the church for Ordinary Time. Thank you!

THANK YOU!

HUGE thank you to all of those who came out and braved the ice for another fun evening of annual trivia on Saturday night! Thanks especially to Loretta Joyce for handling so many details of the evening and helping to make it another successful fundraiser for the school!

A special blessing was to have three members of the St. Elizabeth School class of 1971 in attendance. They drew the winning 50/50 ticket and were applauded for their continued support of St. Elizabeth School.

Thanks to everyone for your help in whatever way you participated, whether in setup, playing trivia, serving food, selling raffle tickets or cleanup! May God bless you all and St. Elizabeth School!

- St. Elizabeth School Trivia Committee

CONSIDER JOINING OUR MUSIC MINISTRY

As we begin the new calendar year, 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! Join us for rehearsals Tuesday evenings at 7:00 in the church. Any questions, please email Marla at music@stelizabethgc.org.

SENIOR LUNCHEON FEATURING OUR SEMINARIANS!

Seniors/retired friends, join our Seminararians Padrick & Dennis for lunch and a chance to learn more about them and their path through formation thus far. Sunday, January 19th after 10:30am Mass in the PLC \$8 per person. Call the parish office to reserve your spot and join us!

MENS CLUB MEMBERSHIP DRIVE

Join us in the cafeteria on Sunday, January 26th beginning at 1:30pm for our annual Men's Club Membership Drive. Nacho Bar and Brisket will be provided, but you can also bring something to share! Football, cards, food and fellowship! Men, grab a buddy and we will see you there!

RED WORSHIP BOOKS

You may have noticed a few things that are different inside the church. We have recently added banners to the columns near the altar. The new 2025 Breaking Bread Hymnals are in the pews since Advent marks the beginning of the new liturgical year. At the same time, we removed the red hymnals called Worship from the pews. Over time, these books were used less frequently in our liturgy, but many of them were purchased years ago by parishioners who were able to memorialize loved ones with them. If you know of a book you purchased, or that a friend or family member has, please contact the parish office. We have a list of them, and we can make sure that you get your copy. If you are interested in a spare, plain copy of this book, we have quite a few of those as well. Call Bret for more details.

THIS WEEK

Sunday, January 19

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

After 10:30 Mass - Senior Luncheon with Seminararians Padrick & Dennis (PLC)

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

Monday, January 20

Martin Luther King, Jr. Day

No School & Parish Office Closed

Tuesday, January 21

7-8:30 p.m. - Choir Rehearsal (Church)

7 p.m. - K of C 4th Degree Meeting (Columbus Home)

Wednesday, January 22

7 p.m. - BINGO (Columbus Home)

Thursday, January 23

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

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

Friday, January 24

Saturday, January 25

8 a.m. - 2 p.m. - Be More Marriage Retreat Day (PLC)

Sunday, January 26

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

1:30 p.m. - Mens Club Membership Drive (Cafeteria)

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

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS CORNER

That was quite a snow we had last week and hope everyone stayed safe. Our next meeting is Tuesday, January, 28th at 7:30. We once again are inviting all men of the 3 parishes to attend one of our meetings just to experience how we conduct our meetings and the fraternal brotherhood we have. If you have any questions or concerns call me. Tom Cholevik, Grand Knight, 618-789-0337



This Week on
FORMED



Mass & Confession

There is infinite grace available in every Mass and confession, but our subjective experience may not reflect this objective reality. We need to switch on. The focus of this episode is unlocking more grace from Mass and confession.

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 name.

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Go to signup.FORMED.org and select our parish.

Mercy Minute

"Praise the Lord, my soul, for everything, and glorify His mercy, for His goodness is without end. Everything will pass, but His mercy is without limit or end. And although evil will attain its measure, in mercy there is no measure." (Diary, 423)



FORMATION



BE MORE: ENRICH YOUR MARRIAGE

Join us for a day of enrichment for all who are living the Sacrament of Marriage, at our parish BE MORE day-long marriage retreat on **Saturday, January 25.**

Start with a light breakfast at 8 a.m. and journey through a handful of sessions and couples' discussions as we come together as a community of married couples (and those preparing for marriage) in our parish. The day also includes a light lunch. We'll finish by 2 p.m., but you can feel free to stay a bit later for the Sacrament of Reconciliation.

To RSVP for food & supplies, please call or email Bret in the parish office or Deacon Michael.



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.

January 23: The Sacraments: Introduction

January 30: Baptism & Confirmation

February 6: Eucharist

February 13: Penance & Anointing of the Sick

February 20: Matrimony & Holy Orders

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!

'He Loved Us': Pope Francis' new encyclical on the Sacred Heart of Jesus

"Dilexit nos," Pope Francis' fourth Encyclical, retraces the tradition and relevance of thought on "the human and divine love of the heart of Jesus Christ," calling for a renewal of authentic devotion to avoid forgetting the tenderness of faith, the joy of serving, and the fervour of mission.

"'He loved us', Saint Paul says of Christ (cf. Rom 8:37), in order to make us realize that nothing can ever "separate us" from that love (Rom 8:39)": Thus begins Pope Francis' fourth Encyclical, which takes its title from the opening words, *Dilexit nos*.

The Encyclical is dedicated to the human and divine love of the Heart of Jesus Christ: "His open heart has gone before us and waits for us, unconditionally, asking only to offer us His love and friendship," the Pope writes in the introductory paragraph. "For 'He loved us first' (cf. 1 Jn 4:10). Because of Jesus, 'we have come to know and believe in the love that God has for us' (1 Jn 4:16)."

The love of Christ represented in His Sacred Heart

In our societies, the Pope writes, "we are also seeing a proliferation of varied forms of religiosity that have nothing to do with a personal relationship with the God of love" (87), while Christianity often forgets "the tender consolations of faith, the joy of serving others, the fervour of personal commitment to mission" (88).

In response, Pope Francis proposes a new reflection on the love of Christ represented in His Holy Heart. He calls for a renewal of "authentic devotion" (163) to the Sacred Heart, recalling that in the Heart of Christ "we find the whole Gospel" (89). It is in His Heart that "we truly come at last to know ourselves and we learn to love" (30).

You can read the full text at: stelizabethgc.org/dilexit





DIOCESE OF SPRINGFIELD IN ILLINOIS
OFFICE OF THE BISHOP

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

Soon our diocese will take up the Collection for the Church in Latin America. For more than 50 years, this collection has given Catholics in the United States an opportunity to share faith in unity with our brothers and sisters in Christ throughout Latin America and the Caribbean islands.

The work of evangelization is carried out by Christians who meet people where they are - not only in a geographical sense but also in the context of culture. Though the Gospel is unchanging, we have many ways to make it relevant to people of all cultural, ethnic, and linguistic backgrounds.

The countries of South America have diverse populations from Indigenous, African, European, and Asian ancestries, all with different cultural experiences. By welcoming and understanding people from so many backgrounds, the Church grows and continues its mission of making disciples of all peoples. In Brazil, the Brazilian Bishops' Conference organized visits and meetings to engage Afro-Brazilian Catholic leaders in discussing a variety of themes, including social pastoral ministry and the vision of Pope Francis. In Peru, missionaries working in the Peruvian Amazon bring the Gospel to the Ashaninka and Matsigenka communities of about 60,000 people.

Such encounters and engagement with the people of South America are made possible when Catholics in our diocese are generous to the Collection for the Church in Latin America. Your participation in the collection truly becomes a way to share your faith and support evangelization efforts among all people.

Our diocese takes up this collection on the weekend of January 25/26, 2025. Please be generous toward this collection. Consider giving at Mass or through your parish's online giving platform. The #iGiveCatholicTogether website (<https://usc.cb.igivecatholictogether.org/organizations/usc.cb-church-in-latin-america>) also accepts online funds for the collection. Your support truly makes a difference. Thank you and God bless you.

For more information on the Church in Latin America and the many projects funded by the collection, please visit usc.cb.org/latin-america.

Sincerely yours in Christ,

Thomas John Paprocki

Most Reverend Thomas John Paprocki
Bishop of Springfield in Illinois

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:

John 2:1-11

REFLECTING ON THE WORD:

What strikes me in today's Gospel of the wedding at Canal is that when we're out of wine, Jesus works with what we give him, even plain old water. I'm not saying that my tired, mumbled morning prayer is transformed into the grace I require to be a perfect saint the rest of the day, but it's enough to remind me of my need for someone stronger than myself to help me bear the day with patience. And when the only prayer I can manage at Mass is something like "Well, I'm here," and I sincerely offer him that, Jesus takes it and blesses it, along with the gifts on the altar. Together, they're transformed into something greater than we could have ever asked for or imagined: the Bread of Life.

ON THE WAY TO MASS

What prayers will you bring to Mass today?

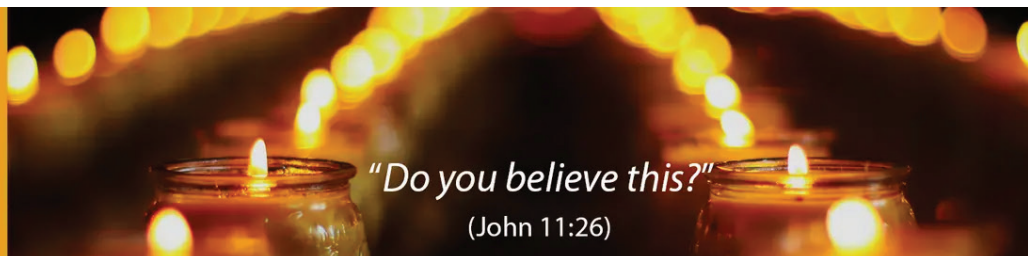
ON THE WAY HOME FROM MASS

Did you hear what went wrong at the wedding, and why Mary went to Jesus for help? Why do you think Jesus cared about the wine at the wedding?

LIVING THE WORD

Look up a simple morning offering. It could be as short as "Jesus, be with us today," and offer it as a family as often as you can this week as a reminder of God's care for our troubles and to invite him into our daily tasks.

WEEK of
PRAYER
for CHRISTIAN UNITY
2025



"Do you believe this?"

(John 11:26)

RESPECT LIFE MINISTRY

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!

We need to raise 40 volunteers for the new Granite City Overnight Warming Location in the next week.

After months of conversation and exploring the idea, Pastor Phil and the folks at Mt. Zion Church launched the Granite City OWL just before the winter storm hit last week. We didn't think it would happen this season, but the need and the opportunity were so great we knew it couldn't be passed up.

Since then a small group of volunteers have been there almost every night to offer sanctuary to their neighbors. If we want to keep this going, we need 40 new volunteers asap (and to get to 75 total volunteers in the next few weeks). We especially need overnight monitors who can cover 3 hour shifts on rotating teams.

OWL Volunteer Application here: bit.ly/serveOWL

Onsite trainings -- Saturday 1/18 and Thursday 1/23

More training details to follow. CPR and Mental Health First Aid trainings are being scheduled.

We also need your help getting the Granite City OWL fully stocked. Can you help us purchase any of the items on the GC OWL Amazon registry? www.amazon.com/registries/g1/guest-view/2Y103AEF6ZCZC

You can also donate money here: bit.ly/donateOWL. We are one team with three locations and we combine our fundraising efforts to ensure needs are met across the region.

"There is such a wide spectrum of issues involving the protection of human life and the promotion of human dignity. Good people frequently disagree on which problems to address, which policies to adopt and how best to apply them. But for citizens and elected officials alike, the basic principle is simple: *We must begin with a commitment never to intentionally kill, or collude in the killing, of any innocent human life, no matter how broken, unformed, disabled or desperate that life may seem.* In other words, the choice of certain ways of acting is *always and radically incompatible* with the love of God and the dignity of the human person created in His image."

- from USCCB Secretariat of Pro-Life Activities

"Living the Gospel of Life," © 1998 USCCB

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!

The CATHOLIC CARTOON by Joshua M. Anderson



The advertisement features a large background image of a Gothic cathedral. In the foreground, there is a circular inset showing a cityscape with a church. Below this, a globe icon contains the text "PILGRIM TRAVEL CO". The main text reads: "St. John Paul II and the Polish Holy Sites with Bishop Thomas Paprocki". Below this, it says "July 7 - 15, 2025 Round-trip from Chicago" and "\$4,800 Round-trip from Chicago Based on double occupancy". A circular portrait of Bishop Thomas Paprocki is shown. At the bottom left is the "Nativity Pilgrimage" logo with a star and the text "832-444-2664 • info@nativitypilgrimage.com • travel.nativitypilgrimage.com/paprocki". A QR code is located at the bottom right.

STEWARDSHIP

Our Financial Stewardship January 12, 2025

	Actual	Goal	Over/(Short)
Week 28 Regular Income	\$6,437.00		
105 Envelopes, Avg. Gift \$61.30			
Building Repair/Maintenance	\$235.00		
Loose	\$469.00		
One-Time Donations	-		
Online Giving	\$751.12		
TOTAL	\$7,892.12	\$9,673.00	\$1,780.88
YTD TOTALS	\$244,433.84	\$270,844.00*	(\$26,410.16)*

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:

Christmas Offering	\$50.00
Tuition Assistance	\$542.00
Mission & Ministry	\$70.00
Votive Offering	\$110.00
1st Offering	\$260.00
Catholic Times	\$590.00
Church in Latin America	\$50.00
Catholic Childrens Home	\$25.00
Other Parish Not Specified	\$37.00

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. December tithe: \$5,695.00

*Our previous Weekly Goal was based on St. Elizabeth Church having a Parochial Vicar for the Fiscal Year 2025. Since Fr. George is unable to come to the United States, we have re-calculated our Weekly Goal minus the expense of a Parochial Vicar and have restated the YTD Goal Totals and Shortage

If you are interested in supporting your parish, school, or diocesan ministry through a gift of stock or a qualified charitable distribution, please go to www.dio.org/give for an easy and secure way to make your gift.

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.

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/stelizabethgranitecity>

Recurring Entry: <https://pushpay.com/g/stelizabethgranitecity?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, please see Bret or Jackie in the parish office.

WEEKLY STEWARDSHIP REFLECTION

“To each individual the manifestation of the Spirit is given for some benefit.” - 1 Cor 12:7

St. Paul tells us that God has blessed each of us for a reason. How has God blessed you? Are you using your gifts according to God's plan? How are you helping to build God's kingdom here on earth? Remember that if you don't do the work God planned for you, no one else can do it. Live the life God has intended for you. Take time to discern your charisms (gifts from the Holy Spirit). Experience the supernatural Peace and Joy God desires for each of us.

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. Bless my journey Lord God, that I might follow Jesus and build the Church for your glory. Amen.



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