

Disciples Stewards

St. Elizabeth Catholic Church & School

Granite City, Illinois ♦ Diocese of Springfield in Illinois

The Epiphany of the Lord ♦ January 5, 2025




2300 Pontoon Road
Granite City, IL 62040


Phone 618-877-3300


Fax 618-877-9800

After-Hours Emergencies
314-266-8387

Web: stelizabethgc.org

 [@stelizabeth.gc](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

Father Alfred Tumwesigye, Pastor
Office x1002 | Residence x1201
pastor@stelizabethgc.org

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SCHOOL & PRE-SCHOOL

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School Fax: (618) 877-3352
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Michelle Williams, Principal
mwilliams@stelizabethgc.org

Loretta Joyce, School Secretary
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, January 6

Monday after Epiphany

No Mass

Tuesday, January 7

Tuesday after Epiphany

6:00 p.m. Mass:

Sam Shambro+ by Carol Kelinschmidt

Wednesday, January 8

Wednesday after Epiphany

8:15 a.m. Mass:

Bill Loftus+ by Bud & Charlotte Charbonnier

Thursday, January 9

Thursday after Epiphany

8:15 a.m. Mass:

Peggy Francis+

Friday, January 10

Friday after Epiphany

8:15 a.m. Mass:

Jim Alsop+ by Pat Alsop

Saturday, January 11

Saturday after Epiphany

No Mass

Saturday-Sunday, January 11-12

The Baptism of the Lord

4:30 p.m. Saturday Evening Mass:

Christopher Spahn+ by the Thouvenot Family

8:00 a.m. Mass: ☪

Helen Lack+ by Norma Lesko

10:30 a.m. Mass:

Parishioners of Saint Elizabeth

14 DAY SANCTUARY LAMP

This week, the 14-day Sanctuary Lamp reminds us to pray for **Joseph Leo Bugnitz+ by Bret & Tracy Ware.**

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

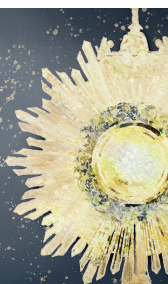
Be with Jesus

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: The Epiphany of the Lord

Is 60:1-6; Eph 3:2-3a, 5-6; Mt 2:1-12

Isaiah calls Jerusalem to rise up in splendor, for their light has come ... Nations shall walk by [it] and all shall gather and [proclaim] the praises of the Lord. Paul writes to the Ephesians that it has now been revealed ... by the Spirit: that the Gentiles are coheirs, members of the same body, and copartners in the promise in Christ. In the Gospel, the Magi arrive in Jerusalem seeking the newborn king of the Jews. They follow a star to where he lay, bringing him gifts and paying him homage.

Next Sunday: The Baptism of the Lord

Is 42:1-4, 6-7; Acts 10:34-38; Lk 3:15-16, 21-22

In today's first reading, the prophet Isaiah declares that God's servant will be a light for the nations and will bring forth justice for all. Peter, in the second reading, declares that God anointed Jesus with the Holy Spirit and power. In the Gospel, John announces one mightier than himself coming and baptizes Jesus. When Jesus is baptized, the Holy Spirit descends upon him.



PRAYERS FOR OUR PRIESTS

The following priests of our Diocese are celebrating birthdays soon: 12/29- Rev. Richard Chiola 12/31- Rev. Charles Edwards 1/3- Rev. Peter Harman 1/9- Rev. John Titus 1/17- Rev. Augustine Koomson 1/18- Rev. John Renken 1/25- Rev. Don Roberts

The following are priests and deacons of our Diocese who have died. Please remember them in your daily prayers: 12/28- Rev. Timothy Smith Rev. Bernard H. LaBonte Rev. Richard Peradotto 12/29- Rev. Mike Carroll Rev. Joseph Postner 12/30- Rev. Charles Meagher Rev. Cornelius R. Horn Rev. Peter Mascari 12/31 Rev. Thomas J. Gough Rev. Edward G. Heitjan, C.S.V. Most Rev. Daniel J. Ryan

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

CEMETERY PLOT AVAILABLE

One of our parishioners has 3 purchased plots at Calvary Catholic Cemetery that they will not ultimately use. If you or someone in your family would be interested, please contact the parish office for more details.

TRIVIA NIGHT

Please join us for our another fun-filled event on Saturday, January 11, 2025! Tables of 8 are only \$160 if purchased and paid for prior to January 3rd (\$200 thereafter). ONLY 35 tables available. Sodas and snacks will be provided. Please call Loretta Joyce in the School office at (618) 877-3300 to reserve your table or become a sponsor. All net proceeds will go to assist the school with education and school improvements. Doors open at 5:30 p.m. and trivia begins at 6:30 p.m. You must be 21 or older.

If you have never played, or haven't played in a long time....it is a blast! We look forward to another fun evening!

Thank you!

The St. E 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 Seminars 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. Call the parish office to reserve your spot and join us!

EPIPHANY HOME BLESSING

Look for a handout with blessed chalk, Holy Water and the Epiphany home blessing in the gathering space this weekend. If you already have Holy Water and the blessed chalk at home, feel free to use the blessing as printed on page 5 of this bulletin.

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 5

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

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

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

Monday, January 6

School resumes

Tuesday, January 7

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

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

Wednesday, January 8

7 p.m. - BINGO (Columbus Home)

Thursday, January 9

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

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

Friday, January 10

Saturday, January 11

5:30 p.m. - School Trivia Night (Cafeteria)

Mosaic Baby Bottle Collection Drive Begins

Sunday, January 12

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

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

Mosaic Baby Bottle Collection Drive Begins

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS CORNER Hope everyone has a happy and blessed 2025. The annual spelling bee will be Jan 11th starting a 9 a.m. Anyone that would like to come and watch are more than welcome.

We would like to welcome Andres Cholevik as a new member to our council. We are working at maybe having a family day in April of this year. This would be available for all parishioners to attend. We will have more info as things evolve. Please offer special prayers for our priests, deacons and seminarians today. God be with you all, Tom Cholevik, Grand Knight, 618-789-0337



This Week on **FORMED**



Who are the Magi?

In this FORMED Now! special episode, Dr. Michael Barber sits down to reflect on the Magi from the Gospel accounts and what spiritual lessons can be learned from this historical event recorded in Scripture.

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

Mercy Minute

"Today the Lord said to me, 'Daughter, when you go to confession, to this fountain of My mercy, the Blood and Water which came forth from My Heart always flows down upon your soul and ennobles it. Every time you go to confession, immerse yourself entirely in My mercy, with great trust, so that I may pour the bounty of My grace upon your soul. When you approach the confessional, know this, that I Myself am waiting there for you. I am only hidden by the priest, but I myself act in your soul. Here the misery of the soul meets the God of mercy. Tell souls that from this fount of mercy souls draw graces solely with the vessel of trust. If their trust is great, there is no limit to My generosity. The torrents of grace inundate humble souls. The proud remain always in poverty and misery, because My grace turns away from them to humble souls.'" (Diary, 1602).



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 9: The Bible & Divine Revelation

January 16: Liturgy, Music, Holy Days, Catholic Prayers & Practices

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



Blessing of the Home and Household on Epiphany

The traditional date of Epiphany is January 6, but in the United States it is celebrated on the Sunday between January 2 and January 8. When all have gathered, the leader makes the sign of the cross, and all reply, "Amen." The leader greets those present in the following words:

Let us praise God, who fills our hearts and homes with peace. Blessed be God forever. *R/. Blessed be God forever.*

In the following or similar words, the leader prepares those present for the blessing:

The Word became flesh and made his dwelling place among us. It is Christ who enlightens our hearts and homes with his love. May all who enter this home find Christ's light and love.

One of those present or the leader reads a text of sacred Scripture, for example, Luke 19:1-9:

Listen to the words of the holy Gospel according to Luke: Jesus came to Jericho and intended to pass through the town. Now a man there named Zacchaeus, who was a chief tax collector and also a wealthy man, was seeking to see who Jesus was; but he could not see him because of the crowd, for he was short in stature. So he ran ahead and climbed a sycamore tree in order to see Jesus, who was about to pass that way. When he reached the place, Jesus looked up and said to him, "Zacchaeus, come down quickly, for today I must stay at your house." And he came down quickly and received him with joy. When they all saw this, they began to grumble, saying, "He has gone to stay at the house of a sinner." But Zacchaeus stood there and said to the Lord, "Behold, half of my possessions, Lord, I shall give to the poor, and if I have extorted anything from anyone I shall repay it four times over." And Jesus said to him, "Today salvation has come to this house because this man too is a descendant of Abraham."

The intercessions are then said:

The Son of God made his home among us. With thanks and praise let us call upon him. *R/. Stay with us, Lord.*

Lord Jesus Christ, with Mary and Joseph you formed the Holy Family: remain in our home, that we may know you as our guest and honor you as our Head. *R/. Stay with us, Lord.*

Lord Jesus Christ, you had no place to lay your head, but in the spirit of poverty accepted the hospitality of your friends: grant that through our help the homeless may obtain proper housing. *R/. Stay with us, Lord.*

Lord Jesus Christ, the three kings presented their gifts to you in praise and adoration: grant that those living in this house may use their talents and abilities to your greater glory. *R/. Stay with us, Lord.*

After the intercessions the leader invites all present to say the Lord's Prayer. The leader says the prayer of blessing with hands joined:

Lord God of heaven and earth, you revealed your only-begotten Son to every nation by the guidance of a star. Bless this house and all who inhabit it. Fill them (us) with the light of Christ, that their (our) concern for others may reflect your love. We ask this through Christ our Lord. *R/. Amen.*

The leader concludes the rite by signing himself or herself with the sign of the cross and saying:

May Christ Jesus dwell with us, keep us from all harm, and make us one in mind and heart, now and forever. *R/. Amen.*

End the celebration with a suitable song, for example, "O Come, All Ye Faithful" or "We Three Kings." It is also appropriate to make the traditional signing over the door of the house with the symbol "20 + C + M + B + 24" using blessed chalk. The numbers represent the year, and "C, M, & B" represent the traditional names of the three kings: Caspar, Malchior & Balthazar. It also abbreviates the Latin phrase, *Christus Mansionem Benedicat*, meaning "May Christ bless the house."

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:

Matthew 2:1-5, 7-11

REFLECTING ON THE WORD:

Do you think there are answers to the world's questions? From the beginning of time, humans have been asking the same questions: What makes us happy? Why does evil exist? Where do I belong? The Magi, or Wise Men, are the first non-Jews drawn to Jesus. Though led by a star, they were impelled on their journey by a desire for wisdom and a longing to make sense of the world. When they found the object of their search, it wasn't a philosophy, a book, or an idea; it was a tiny person! How did they respond? How does this baby answer the questions in your own heart?

ON THE WAY TO MASS

What's a question you hope to answer someday? It could be about anything: science, God, the world around us, something you feel on the inside, or something else. What do you wonder about?

ON THE WAY HOME FROM MASS

How did the Wise Men feel when they found Jesus? Why do you think it was important for them to travel from so far away to find him?

LIVING THE WORD

Even if your Christmas decorations have started coming down, light a candle at dinner tonight or sing "We Three Kings" to remind you of the star that brought seekers from the furthest corners of the world to Jesus' cradle.

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!

RESPECT LIFE MINISTRY

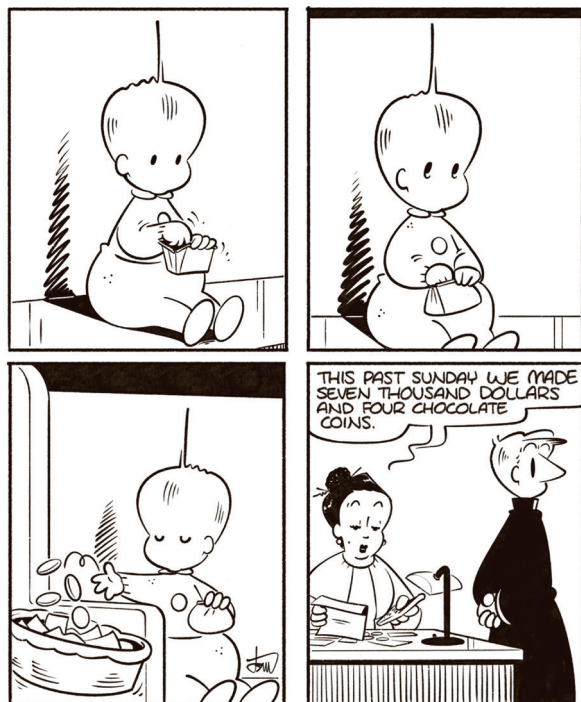
"Through the Incarnation and birth of Christ, God reveals to us the dignity of all human life. Human life, as a gift of God, is sacred and inviolable. The Son of God has united himself with every human being and desires for us to share eternal life with him... Each of us is made in the image and likeness of God, and we reflect his glory in the world."

- from USCCB Secretariat of Pro-Life Activities
"The Gospel of Life: A Brief Summary"

WHAT HAPPENS WITH ASSISTED SUICIDE?

A doctor prescribes lethal drugs that can be sent through the mail to a person wishing to end his or her life if diagnosed with a terminal illness. There is no requirement that a doctor or anyone be present with a person in case something would go wrong upon consumption of the drugs. The person may take hours to die. Assisted suicide is not dignified, it is deadly. **Tell your state legislators: Vote NO on SB 3499** - assisted suicide. Visit ilcatholic.org for additional information and resources.

The CATHOLIC CARTOON by Jesus Masseron



ST. ELIZABETH SCHOOL

Remember: Catholic education starts at Sunday Mass! School families, don't forget to continue submitting your Mass cards at Sunday Mass.



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

Third grade students Ella L. and Isaiah H. were selected as the Granite City Optimist December Students of the Month.



Each honoree will receive a certificate from the Optimists, and St. Elizabeth School will receive an unrestricted donation of \$100.00 in their names.

Eight-year-old Ella is the daughter of Ashley and Brandon. Ella likes every single one of the classes that her teacher, Mrs. Megan Lance covers, but if she must pick her all-time favorite topic, it would be Math. Right now, she is working on the six times table. After school, Ella practices gymnastics and plays video games with Roblox being the game she likes best. In gymnastics, Ella has just been selected for the "extreme team" and will participate in her third competition. She has already won a first-place trophy and is looking forward to winning more! With this being the Christmas Season, Ella was asked what Christmas wish she would make for her fellow third grade classmates. Ella said she wished them lots and lots of Christmas joy.

Ella sees two possible careers in her future: a pro wrestler for the WWE or a gymnast who wins the gold medal in the Olympics.

Isaiah is also eight and is in Mrs. Lance's third grade. He is the son of Katherine and Jacob. Social Studies is Isaiah's favorite class in school, especially when it is time to study the history and the past events of our world. In his spare time Isaiah plays videogames and participates on the St. Elizabeth Royals Basketball Team. He also is a member of the Royals Chess Club. The rook is his favorite chess piece because he can use it to checkmate other players. Isaiah's Christmas wish for his classmates is that each of them would receive a whole school day without homework. For his future career, Isaiah would like to be a poster on YouTube, talking about different video games.

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.

STEWARDSHIP

Our Financial Stewardship December 25 & 29, 2024

	Actual	Goal	Over/(Short)
Week 26 Regular Income	\$6,565.00		
104 Envelopes, Avg. Gift \$63.13			
Building Repair/Maintenance	\$30.00		
Loose	\$492.50		
One-Time Donations	-		
Online Giving	\$902.04		
TOTAL	\$7,989.54	\$10,947.00	(\$2,957.46)
YTD TOTALS	\$225,339.78	\$251,498.00*	(\$26,158.22)*

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	\$4,983.00
Christmas Flowers	\$5.00
Tuition Assistance	\$180.00
Special Projects	\$10.00
Mission & Ministry	\$25.00
1st Offering	\$30.00
Church in Latin America	\$10.00
Votive Offering	\$153.00

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.
November tithe: \$3,795.00

Catholic Times	\$30.00
Solemnity of Mary	\$35.00
Catholic Childrens Home	\$1,023.00

*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 based on this new set of facts.

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

“They prostrated themselves and did him homage. Then they opened their treasures and offered him gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh.” -Matthew 2:11

What gifts do you give to the Lord? Pope St. Gregory said that these three gifts represent what we should give God every day. Gold – we should reflect Christ’s wisdom in all our relationships. Frankincense – represents our daily prayer and adoration to God. Myrrh – is a symbol of our daily sacrifices that we unite with Jesus for the sake of others.

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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