

Disciples Stewards

St. Elizabeth Catholic Church & School

Granite City, Illinois ♦ Diocese of Springfield in Illinois

The Feast of the Presentation of the Lord ♦ February 2, 2025



The Presentation of the Lord & Candlemas

Candlemas Day is another name for the feast of the Presentation of the Lord. Forty days after His birth, Mary and Joseph brought Jesus to the temple for the rites of purification and dedication as prescribed by the Torah. According to the Book of Leviticus (12:1-4), when a woman bore a male child, she was considered “unclean” for seven days. On the eighth day, the boy was circumcised. The mother continued to stay at home for 33 days for her blood to be purified. After the 40 days, the mother and the father came to the temple for the rite of purification, which included the offering of a sacrifice — a lamb for a holocaust (burnt offering) and a pigeon or turtledove for a sin offering, or for a poor couple who could not afford a lamb, two pigeons or two turtledoves. Note Joseph and Mary made the offering of the poor (Lk 2:24).

Also, Joseph and Mary were obliged by the Torah to “redeem” their first born son: “The Lord spoke to Moses and said, ‘Consecrate to me every first-born that opens the womb among the Israelites, both of man and beast, for it belongs to me’” (Ex 13:1). The price for such a redemption was five shekels, which the parents paid to the priest. This “redemption” was a kind of payment for the Passover sacrifice, by which the Jews had been freed from slavery.

However, St. Luke in the Gospel does not mention this redemption, but rather the presentation of Our Lord: “When the day came to purify them according to the law of Moses, the couple brought Him up to Jerusalem, so that He could be presented to the Lord, for it is written in the law of the Lord, ‘Every first-born male shall be consecrated to the Lord’” (Lk 2:22-23). So the focus

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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.facebook.com/stelizabeth_gc)

[@stelizabethgc](https://www.instagram.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, February 3

Memorial of St. Blaise, Bishop & Martyr

No Mass

Tuesday, February 4

Tuesday of the 4th Wk in Ordinary Time

6:00 p.m. Mass:

Sam Shambro+ by Joe & Kathy Kleinschmidt

Wednesday, February 5

Memorial of St. Agatha, Virgin & Martyr

8:15 a.m. Mass:

Hellrich Family+

by Bud & Charlotte Charbonnier

Thursday, February 6

Memorial of St. Paul Miki

& Companions, Martyrs

8:15 a.m. Mass:

Nicholas Gwin+ by James O'Donnell

Friday, February 7

Friday of the 4th Wk in Ordinary Time

8:15 a.m. Mass:

First Friday Intentions

Saturday, February 8

Saturday of the 4th Wk in Ordinary Time

No Mass

Saturday-Sunday, February 8-9

5th Sunday in Ordinary Time

4:30 p.m. Saturday Evening Mass:

Jan & Charlie Polach+ by Norma Lesko

8:00 a.m. Mass: ☪

Parishioners of Saint Elizabeth

10:30 a.m. Mass:

Joe Allegre Jr.+ by Lenie Allegre

14 DAY SANCTUARY LAMP

This week, the 14-day Sanctuary Lamp burns in honor of **Rose, Norma, Chris, & Bud** who all **celebrate a Birthday this month.**

ALTAR FLOWERS

The altar flowers this week are in honor of **Deacon Michael Halbrook** by **Dave & Debbie Williams.**

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

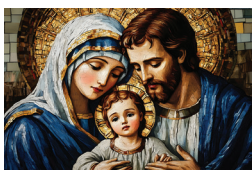
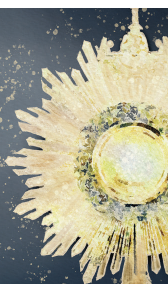
Be with Jesus

Adoration

Thursdays 9 am - 9 pm

Holy Hour

Sundays 7-8 pm



February is dedicated to the Holy Family

Pope Francis' Prayer Intention for February: For vocations to the priesthood and religious life:

Let us pray that the ecclesial community might welcome the desires and doubts of those young people who feel a call to serve Christ's mission in the priesthood and religious life.

This Sunday: Presentation of the Lord

Mal 3:1-4; Heb 2:14-18; Lk 2:22-40

Malachi prophesies about the coming of the Lord's messenger and his mission to purify the Lord's people. The author of the Letter to the Hebrews explains that Jesus shared in our humanity in order to free us from the power of death and intercede for us as high priest before God. In the Gospel, Mary and Joseph bring the child Jesus to present him to the Lord in obedience to Mosaic Law.

Next Sunday: 5th Sunday in Ord. Time

Is 6:1-2a, 3-8; 1 Cor 15:1-11; Lk 5:1-11

Isaiah sees the Lord seated on a throne and declares himself a man of unclean lips. Paul reminds the Corinthians of the gospel he preached to them that Christ died for our sins and rose again. In the Gospel, after following Jesus' instructions leads to an abundant catch of fish, Peter declares himself a sinner. Peter, James, and John leave everything to follow Jesus



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: 2/3- Rev. Thomas McGrath, Rev. Robert Becker; 2/4- Rev. James Cassidy; 2/5- Rev. Thomas Mangan, Rev. Richard Trutter, O.P., Rev. Patrick Cahill, C.S.V.; 2/6- Rev. Thomas Connolly, Rev. Gerald L. Bunse; 2/7- Rev. Chas. H. Kreckenber, Rev. James R. Collins, Rev. John Schoeberle, O.M.I.; 2/8- Rev. John Storp, Rev. John Brockmeier.

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

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 this Sunday after 10:30 a.m. Mass, please join us to restore the church for Ordinary Time. Thank you!

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.

REISKE COLLEGE SCHOLARSHIP

The Applications are now available at the Parish Office. Any college bound parishioner is eligible who:

Graduated from St. Elizabeth School, Presently is a member of St. Elizabeth Parish, Is active in the Parish, Attends Mass EVERY WEEKEND, Has financial need.

Applications are due by Friday, March 31, 2025, no later than 4:00 p.m. Fr. Alfred and the Selection Committee will then review the applications and present their selection to the Pastoral Council. First time applicants will have preferential consideration and no one applicant will be awarded the scholarship more than two times.

CATHOLIC WOMENS PRAYER BREAKFAST MARCH 22

Women: Are you looking to grow in holiness during Lent? Are you wanting to spend time with the Lord and receive Him in holy Communion? What about becoming more inspired to becoming an authentic disciple of Christ? You are invited to attend the Catholic Women's Prayer Breakfast on Saturday, March 22 at St. Paul Catholic Church in Highland. Adoration begins at 7 a.m., then praying of the Rosary at 7:30 a.m., then Mass at 8 a.m. with breakfast afterward, and then a talk by Bishop Thomas John Paprocki. Pre-registration is required for the breakfast meal. The cost is \$30. Register before March 1 to reserve your spot and meal ticket. Proceeds benefit our seminarians. For more information, email: womens-breakfast2025@gmail.com or text Rose Wascher at 847-274-3916. REGISTER AT: stpaulhighland.org.

MEN: SAVE MARCH 22 - NEWS COMING SOON ON A PRAYER BREAKFAST FOR YOU TOO

Men: Dads, sons, & grandpas - Save the date & watch for info soon on the Fr. McGivney Catholic High School Men's Prayer Breakfast, also March 22. All men are invited. This year's speaker is our own Deacon Michael Halbrook on "A Man's Guide to Happiness."

THIS WEEK

Sunday, February 2

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

10:30 a.m. Mass - Youth Mass & Celebration of First Communicants at St. Elizabeth

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

Monday, February 3

Tuesday, February 4

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

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

Wednesday, February 5

7 p.m. - BINGO (Columbus Home)

Thursday, February 6

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

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

Friday, February 7

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

Saturday, February 8

Sunday, February 9

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

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



DON'T MISS IT!

FISH FRY

This Friday night, 4-7 p.m.
in the Cafeteria

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS CORNER

Many thanks to Paul Hellrich and Dwayne Saul for their help in organizing the annual spelling bee. We still need Catholic men to consider to join our council to help us support the parishes, schools, and other charities. Our council has a great group of men that enjoy working together for these causes. Call me if you have questions. Yours in Christ, Tom Cholevik, Grand Knight, 618-789-0337



This Week on
FORMED



Bakhita: From Slave to Saint

Originally born in Sudan, Josephine was kidnapped by slavers and was eventually sold to a merchant in Italy. By the grace of God, she lived a heroic life of forgiveness and mercy which led her to become a saint.

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

"February 2, 1937. Today, from early morning, divine absorption penetrates my soul. During Mass, I thought I would see the little Jesus, as I often do; however, today during Holy Mass I saw the Crucified Jesus. Jesus was nailed to the cross and was in great agony. His suffering pierced me, soul and body, in a manner which was invisible, but nevertheless most painful." (Diary, 913))



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.

- January 30: Baptism & Confirmation
- February 6: Eucharist
- February 13: Penance & Anointing of the Sick
- February 20: Matrimony & Holy Orders

COLLEGE STUDENTS: ENGAGE IN YOUR FAITH AT SCHOOL

The Newman community at your school would love to connect with you and help you continue your faith journey while away at college. To find out more about the Newman program at your school, visit newmanministry.com.

ATTENTION FAMILIES: FREE VIDEO SERIES

Strengthen and grow in your faith for your families with five short videos produced by the Knights of Columbus called the "Mission of The Family." The videos can be found on the Knights of Columbus website for free: "The Mission of The Family" videos: kofc.org/en/campaigns/into-the-breach.html. The five videos are less than 14 minutes in length.

Pope Francis launches Jubilee 2025, 'Pilgrims of Hope,' with opening of Holy Door

How you can receive an indulgence in our diocese this year

Abbreviated from an article in our diocesan news-magazine, *Catholic Times*.

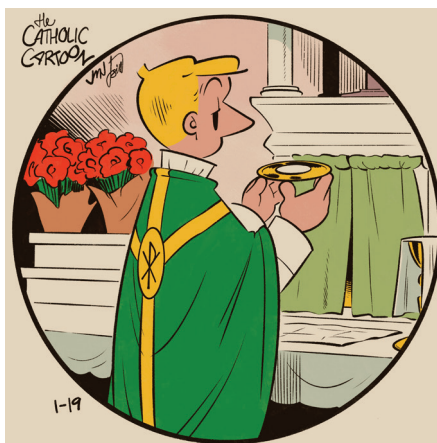
Pope Francis opened the Holy Door of St. Peter's Basilica before Mass on Christmas Eve, officially launching the Jubilee Year 2025. The theme for this Jubilee Year is "Pilgrims of Hope."



A Jubilee Year is a significant moment in the life of the Church in which she celebrates the year of messianic favor inaugurated by Christ through his Incarnation and Paschal Mystery. Proclaimed every 25 years since the thirteenth century, the celebration of jubilee years typically includes pilgrimages, processions, celebrations of Mass, and an invitation to the Sacrament of Reconciliation (Confession). These liturgical celebrations are opportunities to receive the Lord's mercy, especially through the practice of the Jubilee indulgence and lead to the performance of works of mercy.

Bishop Thomas John Paprocki opened the Jubilee Year for our diocese at the Mass for the Feast of the Holy Family on Dec. 29, 2024, at the Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception in Springfield. Mass began that morning with a gathering in the church atrium, and then a short procession outside and through the front door of the Cathedral, "In a sense making a symbolic pilgrimage, serving to symbolize the journey of hope that, illumined by the word of God, unites all the faithful," Bishop Paprocki said. but also inwardly, inasmuch as 'every sin, even venial, entails an unhealthy attachment to creatures, which must be purified either here on earth, or after death, in the state called Purgatory.' In our humanity, weak and attracted by evil, certain residual effects of sin remain. These are removed by the indulgence, always by the grace of Christ."

Read the full article at: stelizabethgc.org/jubilee



Accept, O Holy Father, Almighty and Eternal God, this spotless host, which I, Your unworthy servant, offer to You, my living and true God, to atone for my numberless sins, offenses, and negligences; on behalf of all here present and likewise for all faithful Christians living and dead, that it may profit me and them as a means of salvation to life everlasting.
Amen.

The Presentation of the Lord & Candlemas Continued from Page 1

is on Jesus' consecration to God. The verb "to present" (paristanai) also means to "offer," which evokes Jesus being presented as the priest who will offer Himself as the perfect sacrifice to free us from the slavery of sin, seal the new and eternal covenant with His blood, and open the gates to the true promised land of heaven.

Simeon, a just and pious man, who awaited the Messiah and looked for the consolation of Israel, was inspired to come to the temple. He held baby Jesus in his arms and blessed God, saying, "Now, Master, you can dismiss your servant in peace; you have fulfilled your word. For my eyes have witnessed your saving deed, displayed for all the peoples to see: A revealing light to the Gentiles, the glory of your people Israel!" (Lk 2:29-32). Simeon, thereby, announced that the Messiah has come not just for the Jew but the gentile; not just the righteous, but the sinner.

He then blessed the Holy Family, and said in turn to Mary: "This child is destined to be the downfall and the rise of many in Israel, a sign that will be opposed—and you yourself shall be pierced with a sword — so that the thoughts of many hearts may be laid bare" (Lk 2:34-35).

So the Presentation is a proclamation of Christ — Messiah and Priest, Lord and Savior. He is the light who came into this world to dispel sin and darkness. For this reason, traditionally at least since the seventh century, candles have been blessed at Mass this day that will be used throughout the year, hence coining the term "Candlemas."

As we consider the feast of the Presentation, we remember that our parents presented us at church for our baptism. We were dedicated to God, and given the name, "Christian." We, too, received a lit candle from the paschal candle, at which the priest said, "You have been enlightened by Christ. Walk always as a child of the light and keep the flame of faith alive in your heart. When the Lord comes, may you go out to meet Him with all the saints in the heavenly kingdom" (Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults). Therefore, as a light, each of us must bear witness to Our Lord. We must be the beacon that guides others to Christ. Also, we must realize that we, too, will be "a sign that will be opposed," especially on issues of the sanctity of human life, marriage and the family.

Two other interesting tidbits highlight this day: First, in many Eastern European countries, the feast of the Presentation officially closes the celebration of Christmas. For this reason, Blessed John Paul II began the custom of keeping the Nativity scene in St. Peter's square until Feb. 2.

Second, Candlemas Day also was important in the lives of farmers. An old English song went as follows:

*"If Candlemas be fair and bright, / Come, Winter, have another flight. /
If Candlemas brings clouds and rain, / Go, Winter, and come not again."*

So if the bright sun "overshadows" the brightness of Candlemas Day, there will be more winter. However, if the light of Candlemas Day radiates through the gloom and darkness of the day, the end of winter is near. In America, Protestants decided we should replace Catholic Candlemas Day with Groundhog Day.

- from catholicstraightanswers.com

From the Order of Mass for the Feast of the Presentation - the Blessing of Candles:

Dear brethren, forty days have passed since we celebrated the joyful feast of the Nativity of the Lord. Today is the blessed day when Jesus was presented in the Temple by Mary and Joseph. Outwardly he was fulfilling the Law, but in reality he was coming to meet his believing people. Prompted by the Holy Spirit, Simeon and Anna came to the Temple. Enlightened by the same Spirit, they recognized the Lord and confessed him with exultation. So let us also, gathered together by the Holy Spirit, proceed to the house of God to encounter Christ. There we shall find him and recognize him in the breaking of the bread, until he comes again, revealed in glory.



Let us pray. O God, source and origin of all light, who on this day showed to the just man Simeon the Light for revelation to the Gentiles, we humbly ask that, in answer to your people's prayers, you may be pleased to sanctify with your blessing + these candles, which we are eager to carry in praise of your name, so that, treading the path of virtue, we may reach that light which never fails. Through Christ our Lord.

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 2:25-32

REFLECTING ON THE WORD:

ISimeon's beautiful prayer in the temple, "**Now, Master, you may let your servant go in peace, according to your word, for my eyes have seen your salvation,**" is a prayer of abandonment to the Lord and of thanksgiving for the grace of beholding the infant Savior. This prayer is repeated nightly at Night Prayer in the Liturgy of the Hours, the cycle of prayers that priests, deacons, and religious are committed to praying throughout each day. There's something profound about being able to pray that every night before sleep. Can I place myself in God's hands at the end of each day, trusting in his mercy and grateful for his salvation? What would it take to know such deep peace? What's getting in the way?

ON THE WAY TO MASS

In today's Gospel, we'll hear about a very old man who had one big hope for something in his life. What's something big you hope for?

ON THE WAY HOME FROM MASS

I wonder how Simeon knew who Jesus was. What was his prayer? What helps you to feel at peace?

LIVING THE WORD

Memorize a simple night prayer, such as the following short antiphon that always precedes Simeon's words in the Church's Liturgy of the Hours: "Protect us, Lord, as we stay awake; watch over us as we sleep, that awake, we may keep watch with Christ, and asleep, rest in his peace."

RESPECT LIFE MINISTRY

GRANITE CITY OVERNIGHT WARMING LOCATIONS

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

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/gl/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.

A BEACON OF LIGHT (ABL) PREGNANCY RESOURCE CENTER IS SEEKING VOLUNTEERS



A Beacon of Light (ABL) is seeking compassionate and dedicated volunteers who align with our mission to join our team at the center. Volunteers have the opportunity to make a meaningful impact by assisting in various areas, including working in the boutique,

accepting donations, and supporting clients. If you have skills in phone answering and basic computer tasks, we would love to hear from you! Flexible hours are available to accommodate your schedule and availability. Join us in providing hope and support to those who need it most. Your time and talents can make a difference! Thank you for prayerfully considering joining our team.

To apply, contact Kristi at khofferber@ablpregnancyresource.org or 618-855-9774.

MADISON COUNTY CATHOLIC CHARITIES

24th ANNUAL HELP ON THE MOVE FUNDRAISER

Catholic Charities will be hosting their 24th annual Help On The Move fundraiser on Saturday, April 15, 2025 starting at 6:00 p.m. The event will be held at Julia's Banquet Center, 101 Eastgate Plaza in East Alton, IL. The evening will include dinner, drinks, DJ music, a \$10,000 raffle, and activities. The event will include the presentation of the 2025 Community Service Awards. Dinner tickets are \$50 each. Raffle tickets are \$25 each or buy 2 and get 1 free. Tickets may be purchased on our website cc.dio.org or by calling 618-462-0634.

ST. ELIZABETH SCHOOL



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

Congratulations to all who participated in the spelling bee last Saturday. All the students did great. First place went to Selah Ratchford, second place Lilly Mathes, and third place Grayson Reuter



Thank you to all of the students who took part and assisted with various ministries at last Sunday's 10:30 Mass as we kicked off Catholic Schools Week!



St. Elizabeth School PTO Presents

Casino Royale

TICKETS

ON SALE NOW

\$35

MARCH 1, 2025

5:30 PM

FOREVER AFTER
BANQUET & EVENT CENTER

STEWARDSHIP

Our Financial Stewardship January 26, 2025

	Actual	Goal	Over/(Short)
Week 30 Regular Income	\$4,751.00		
111 Envelopes, Avg. Gift \$42.80			
Building Repair/Maintenance	\$160.00		
Loose	\$643.00		
One-Time Donations	-		
Online Giving	\$975.37		
TOTAL	\$6,395.91	\$9,673.00	(\$3,277.09)
YTD TOTALS	\$257,699.36	\$290,190.00*	(\$32,490.64)*

Weekly and YTD Goals are calculated based on our annual fiscal year budget submitted to the Diocese and what is required to break even.

Other Gifts:

Tuition Assistance	\$140.00
Special Projects	\$30.00
First Offering	\$110.00
Catholic Times	\$115.00
Church in Latin America	\$232.00
Solemnity of Mary	\$180.00

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

ANNUAL CONTRIBUTION STATEMENTS

Printed Contribution Statements for calendar year 2024 will be available in the Gathering Space for parishioners who do not have a good email address in our Parish records. If we have a good email address for you on file, your Giving Statement was emailed to you on Friday, January 17, and would have come from "Pushpay". Please check your email for your statement.

If you would like to help the parish save on paper, ink, envelopes and stamps (for those out-of-town donors who need to be mailed), and would like to have future Contribution Statements emailed to you instead of printed, please contact the Parish Office so we can update our records. Thank you.

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

"Because he himself was tested through what he suffered, he is able to help those who are being tested." -Hebrews 2:18

When we join a support group, there is comfort in sharing our pain with people who have experienced the same thing; they understand what we are going through. The next time you experience suffering, talk to Jesus. He has experienced more suffering than most of us, He understands. Plus, Jesus knows us better than we know ourselves. Only He can fill the hole you feel in your heart.

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.



BULLETIN SUBMISSIONS & ADVERTISING

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