



The Royal Review

February 7, 2025

So long and until we see you again, Father Sylvanus!

AND

Welcome HOME, Father Alfred!



Looking ahead:

2/7 – Fish fry

2/8 – Parents Night Out

2/10 – Fish fry out of uniform

2/13 – PTO in Café @ 6:30

2/14 – All wear red tops & uniform bottoms

2/14 – Spring Sports pictures

2/14 – 7th grade visit FMCHS

2/17 – NO school

2/18 – PTO out of uniform

2/18 – School board

2/21 – Spring Pep Rally

2/25 – Registration for next school year

2/26 – Faith family shirts & uniform bottoms

2/27 – Reconciliation 6PM

2/27 & 2/28 – NET retreat

3/1 – STE Annual Dinner Auction

3/1 – Solo & Ensemble Contest

3/4 – Golden ticket (auction) out of uniform

3/5 – Ash Wednesday

3/6 – 8th grade night (volleyball)

3/7 – End of 3rd quarter

3/13 – PTO meeting

3/14 – 4th & 5th fieldtrip

3/17 – Green shirts uniform bottoms

3/18 – School board

3/19 – Honor Roll Mass

3/20 – Golden ticket (auction) out of uniform

3/21 – 11 AM dismissal

February 14th

All students may wear red tops with uniform bottoms.

Congratulations to the Men's Club Tuition \$ winner:
Torres Family



Young Disciples 5th – 8th grade

Young Disciples has returned and has changed some things up. It is under the leadership of alumni from St.E and Holy Family (high school students).

Join them for food, small group breakouts, and gym time! Future meetings will be held every other week and occur during a weekday.

Bring s friend and try it out!

First meeting this Sunday, 12 – 2PM in the Harmony Room at Saint E church.

Choir Concert: March 27th

Fish Fry tonight! Eat in or take out and enjoy out of uniform on February 10th.

JOIN US FOR

YOUNG DISCIPLES

WHERE: Harmony room at St. Elizabeth
Catholic Church

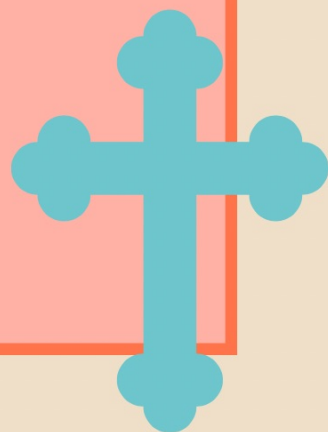
WHEN: Sunday 2/9, 12-2 (After 10:30 am
Mass)

WHAT: Faith, Food, Fellowship, Fun!

WHO: 5-8th graders, led by high school St.
Elizabeth and Holy Family alumni

-Lunch will be provided-

HOPE TO SEE YOU THERE



St. Elizabeth School PTO Auction



CASINO

Royale <<<

DON'T WAIT TO BUY
YOUR TICKETS! TICKET
PRICES WILL GO UP TO
\$50 AFTER 2/18

3/1 | 5:30 PM

Forever After Banquet & Event Center
4020 Pontoon Road



February
2025

ROYALS REPORTS

Est. 2021

The History of Catholic Schools Week

By: Charlie

Catholic Schools Week (also known as CSW) is the celebration of Catholic education. This year CSW is held from January 26th through February 1st. We all know about it, from Wacky Tacky Day to Pajama Day, CSW is so much fun! But what is the history behind this awesome week? How did it start? How did it become the week we all know and love?

In 1974, the first CSW was from March 25th to March 31st. Since then, it starts on the last Sunday of January and ends that week. It was founded by the National Catholic Education Association. The goal of CSW was to encourage schools to tell their story. CSW improved the reputation of Catholic schools by the community. So these weeks of activities every year was to grow the Catholic education community. And it worked.

Catholic schools have these weeks to increase enrollment, but the activities have increased the efforts of Catholic education. Open houses, displays, and fun games are held for the renewed interest for the Catholic community. That's where we get all of our fun activities from! CSW is a big event for the Catholic world, it symbolizes Catholic education and the history of it.

Catholic Schools Week is a popular week that is so memorable for so many people! It's a fun week that consists of so many games and fun! I hope you have a great Catholic Schools Week!

ROYALS REPORTS

Est. 2021

Kicking off Catholic Schools Week

By: Simon

Just last month, our school participated in the annual Catholic Schools Week. Let's reminisce on what all we did on that magical week. On Monday, we had arguably everyone's favorite dress up day. Pajama Day! Along with wearing pajamas, we also had a very engaging activity for both kids and teachers. We played the "Church vs. Disney Song" In all, Monday was a great way to kick off one amazing week of dress up and activity.



ROYALS REPORTS

Est. 2021

Wacky Tacky Tuesday

By: Lilly

For Tuesday of Catholic Schools Week 2025, our school followed the theme of Wacky Tacky. As expected, our student body did not disappoint. Mismatched clothes, crazy hair, and over-the-top accessories were only part of the equation for some of the wackiest outfits. Wacky Tacky Day can be a nice change in pace from wearing a uniform, to showing up to school in sparkly skirts with multicolored hair. Just as the outfits didn't disappoint, the activity for the day didn't either. Students got their turn going to the teachers' lounge to pick a snack and drink of their choosing. These options included: Body Armour, Pirate's Booty Popcorn, chips, and fruit snacks just to name a few. Classes also got to go up to the gym, where they could play their choice of wacky games. Games like Giant Sorry, Skee-Ball, and a whole variety of giant board games were available.



Volleyball with a giant volleyball was also set up, as it is volleyball season after all. Between the games, snacks, outfits, and memories, this has shaped up to be one of the most memorable Catholic Schools' Weeks yet. Wacky Tacky always sticks out as one of the best days though!

ROYALS REPORTS

Est. 2021



Red, White, and Blue Wednesday

By: Isabel

The third day of Catholic schools week was Red, White and Blue day. The day started in the church, where Father Sylvanus commented on how wonderful all the colors were. As the day continued, it was filled with fun as classes completed tasks to obtain letters that were used to spell out a secret message. As each class finished their tasks, the message became more and more obvious: "Mrs. Williams gets pied in the face". At the end of the day the entire school filed into the gym where we watched eagerly as Mrs. McGraw slowly sprayed whip cream into a pie tin. Then she slowly stalked her way over to where Mrs. Williams stood and pied her right in the face!

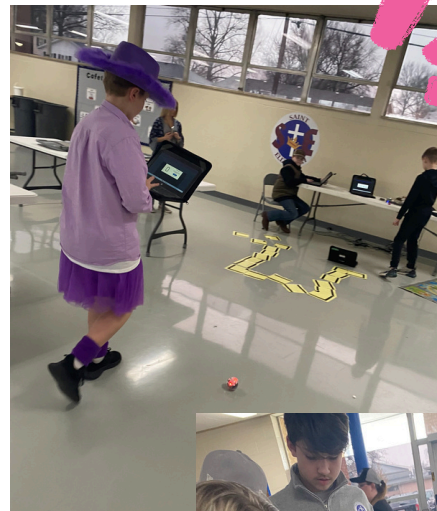
ROYALS REPORTS

Est. 2021

STEM Day at St. Elizabeth

By: Jordyn

On Thursday we had a STEM day at Saint Elizabeth. Some volunteers helped out with the many activities we could choose to do. You had the option to build a bristle bot - a little toothbrush that moves - create a light up headband, build lego sets, make buildings out of pasta and marshmallows, or drive a robotic ball. Thank you to the volunteers who helped make these fun activities possible. Along with all the fun STEM activities, we also got to dress out of uniform. Everyone dressed in the same color from head to toe. Everyone's outfits were so cool and fun, and it was a great day. This was awesome and a great way to learn new things while also having fun.



ROYALS REPORTS

Est. 2021

Day Five of CSW

By: Natalie

This year's Catholic Schools Week went out with a bang on Friday, the last day of this annual celebration. The dress up theme was "Blue & Gold", and there couldn't have been a better way to conclude the festivities. When it comes to the last activity, ticket grabbing and candy jars, every student goes all out. Some students serenaded Father Sylvanus with "God's Love is So Wonderful". Others just had to turn the fans on in their classroom and scramble for as many tickets as they could grab. All in all, the end of Catholic Schools week was filled with competition, fellowship, and of course, candy.



What type of snake ate all of the dessert

A Pie-thon

ROYALS REPORTS

Est. 2021

Events Calendar

February

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
9	10	11 5/6 Boys VBall @6:00 7/8 Boys VBall @6:45	12	13 7 Girls VBall @5:30 8 Girls VBall @6:30 7/8 Boys VBall @7:30	14 All Students wear red Spring Sports Pictures	15
16	17 No School	18 5/6 Boys VBall @5:30 7/8 Boys VBall @6:15 8 Girls VBall @7:15	19	20 5/6 Boys VBall @5:30 7 Girls VBall @6:15 8 Girls VBall @7:15	21	22
23	24	25	26	27 NET Retreat	28 NET Retreat	

All volleyball games listed are in the gym at St. Elizabeth (Away games not shown)



Get rid of all bitterness, rage, and anger, brawling and slander, along with every form of malice. Be kind and compassionate to one another, forgiving each other, just as in Christ God forgave you.

-Ephesians 4:31-32

Disciples Stewards

St. Elizabeth Catholic Church & School

Granite City, Illinois ♦ Diocese of Springfield in Illinois

Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time ♦ February 9, 2025



Congratulations to our Confirmanti!

Congratulations to our third graders from our school and our Parish School of Religion who received the Sacrament of Confirmation and their first Holy Communion from Bishop Paprocki at the Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception in Springfield last Saturday. May God continue to enrich you with his grace in your journey through life!

A Note from Father Sylvanus

Hello friends. Thank you for the overwhelming love. I appreciate the many blessings of dedication, time, smiles, simplicity, singing, patience, gifts and personal kind words, many compliments and encouragement. I'm humbled.

I am happy to return to my Diocese full of new inspirations, experiences, discoveries and contacts from this great family. I'm assigned to revive a High School. I can't forget the snow and all around it (snow Angel, ice cream, volcano...running...), the Arch, the amazing schools and Catholic Schools week, daily Mass, confessions, First Holy Communion and Confirmation, visits to the sick experiences etc. Eats; soups, foods and choices of course. The meetings of the Knights of Columbus, Fish Fry, Harmony feasts, constant rides, last dinner. The list is long.

St. Elizabeth Catholic Parish and School have been home since December 27th 2024 to February 6th 2025. Fr. Alfred and team thank you for the invitation. Father you are blessed to be among these good disciples and stewards. Thank you all for the friendship. Apologies where the mark was narrowly missed.

Please welcome to Uganda.
Lots of love.
Fraternally.
Fr. Sylvanus Mushabe



More inside:

Scholarships; Womens & Mens Prayer Breakfasts: pg 3
Lenten Book Study, Lenten Mission: pg. 4
Catholic Schools Week photos: pg. 6



Explore more for your marriage during National Marriage Week at ForYourMarriage.org

2300 Pontoon Road
Granite City, IL 62040

Phone 618-877-3300

Fax 618-877-9800

After-Hours Emergencies
314-266-8387

Web: stelizabethgc.org

f @stelizabeth.gc

@stelizabeth.gc

@stelizabeth_gc

@stelizabethgc

PASTORAL STAFF

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

Deacon Michael Halbrook
x1005 | mhalbrook@dio.org

Bret Ware
Parish Secretary & Office Admin
secretary@stelizabethgc.org

Jackie Jones, Bookkeeper
x1003 | jjones@stelizabethgc.org

Chris Spanberger
Director of Religious Education
cspan@stelizabethgc.org

Marla Weis
Director of Liturgical Music
music@stelizabethgc.org

SCHOOL & PRE-SCHOOL

School Phone: (618) 877-3300 x2
School Fax: (618) 877-3352
Pre-School: (618) 877-3300 x2003

Michelle Williams, Principal
mwilliams@stelizabethgc.org

Loretta Joyce, School Secretary
ljoyce@stelizabethgc.org

CALVARY CATHOLIC CEMETERY

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

ORGANIZATIONAL LEADERS

Finance Council: Scott Jones
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 10
Memorial of St. Scholastica, Virgin
No Mass

Tuesday, February 11
Tuesday of the 5th Wk in Ordinary Time
6:00 p.m. Mass:
Charles Polach+ by Mr. & Mrs. Mike Niemeyer

Wednesday, February 12
Wednesday of the 5th Wk in Ordinary Time
8:15 a.m. Mass:
Nancy Gray+ by Janet Faifer

Thursday, February 13
Thursday of the 5th Wk in Ordinary Time
8:15 a.m. Mass:
Frieda Hicks+ by Norma Lesko

Friday, February 14
Memorial of Saints Cyril, Monk,
and Methodius, Bishop
8:15 a.m. Mass:
John Konarcik+ by Janice Willaredt

Saturday, February 15
Saturday of the 5th Wk in Ordinary Time
No Mass

Saturday-Sunday, February 15-16
6th Sunday in Ordinary Time
4:30 p.m. Saturday Evening Mass:
Sam Shambro+ by Joe & Kathy Kleinschmidt
8:00 a.m. Mass: ☪
Theresa Straubinger+
by the Straubinger Family
10:30 a.m. Mass:
Parishioners of Saint Elizabeth

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

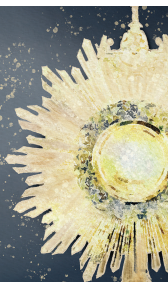
The altar flowers this week are in honor of and to remind us to pray for **all couples living the Sacrament of Matrimony.**

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: 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.

Next Sunday: 6th Sunday in Ord. Time

Jer 17:5-8; 1 Cor 15:12, 16-20; Lk 6:17, 20-26

In the first reading, the Lord says that those who trust in him are truly blessed. In the second reading, Saint Paul teaches the truth of the Resurrection. In the Gospel, Jesus preaches the Sermon on the Plain to a crowd, lifting up those who yearn for more in this world and decrying those who have found false fullness in the world.



PRAYERS FOR OUR PRIESTS

The following priests of our Diocese are celebrating birthdays soon: 2/10- Rev. Steven Thompson 2/11- Rev. John Sohm Rev. Rodney Schwartz 2/13- Rev. Robert Porter 2/15- Rev. Sunder Ery 2/17- Msgr. Jeffrey Goeckner 2/18- Rev. Joseph Simburger 2/19 Rev. Larry Brunette 2/25- Rev. Kenneth Steffen

The following are priests and deacons of our Diocese who have died. Please remember them in your daily prayers: 2/9- Rev. Joseph Finnegan Rev. Ernest A. Burtle Rev. Leo J. McDonald 2/10- Rev. Frederick Lohmann 2/11- Msgr. John W. Spreen 2/12- Rev. John R. Nolan 2/13- Rev. John Lupton 2/14- Rev. Patrick Bourke.

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

SCHOLARSHIP TIME!

MARVIN WIEDEMER SCHOLARSHIP

The Marvin Wiedemer Scholarship is a monetary award to be submitted to the Catholic High School on behalf of the recipient. It is available to students graduating from St. Elizabeth School who plan to attend a Catholic High School in the following fall.

Required To Apply: Obtain an application form from the parish or school office.

1. The form should be completed and returned to the parish or school office along with:
2. A copy of your current transcript.
3. Deadline for submitting the application is Friday March 31, 2025.

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.

Thank you for the Sacraments, the love, the energy, the songs, and the memories, Father Sylvanus. We will miss you!

And a very big welcome home to our pastor, Father Alfred! We pray you had a wonderful vacation, and are grateful that you are back with us.



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 9

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

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

Monday, February 10

Tuesday, February 11

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

7 p.m. - Columbus Home Meeting (Columbus Home)

Wednesday, February 12

7 p.m. - BINGO (Columbus Home)

Thursday, February 13

6:30 p.m. - PTO (Cafeteria)

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

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

Friday, February 14

Saturday, February 15

Sunday, February 16

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

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

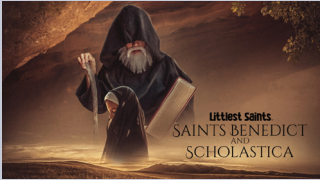
7-8 p.m. - Holy Hour with Vespers & Benediction (Church)

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS CORNER

The Special Olympics banquet went very well and we had about 250 attendees. Thank you to all the volunteers that helped make this such a special evening. are working on having a family day on Saturday, April 5th at the Columbus Home from noon till 4 p.m. All parishioners' families are invited. We will have more info in the following weeks. God bless all of you, Tom Cholevik, Grand Knight, 618-789-0337



This Week on
FORMED



Sts. Benedict & Scholastica

A pair of holy twins, a cave, and a group of naughty monks... this is the story of Saint Benedict and Saint Scholastica.

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.

Mercy Minute

"Today during Holy Mass, I saw the Infant Jesus near my kneeler. He appeared to be about one year old, and He asked me to take Him in my arms. When I did take Him in my arms, He cuddled up close to my bosom and said, It is good for Me to be close to your heart. "Although You are so little, I know that You are God. Why do You take the appearance of such a little baby to commune with me?" Because I want to teach you spiritual childhood. I want you to be very little, because when you are little, I carry you close to My Heart, just as you are holding Me close to your heart right now. And with that, I was again alone, but no one can conceive the emotions of my soul, I was so fully plunged in God, like a sponge thrown into the sea..." (Diary, 1481)



FORMATION

LENTEN MISSION IS ALMOST HERE

We are very excited to welcome to our parish, Zip Rezeppa, former local sportscaster to our community for a 3 evening Lenten Mission: March 24, 25, 26.

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.

- 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: 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.

NATIONAL SHRINE OF OUR LADY OF THE SNOWS - DAY OF REFLECTION

"Gifts from Friends We Never Wanted"

Presenter: Virginia Herbers. Monday, March 10, 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. at the Shrine Visitors Center. \$60 per person, lunch included

Unwelcome guests are not generally greeted with gratitude but occasionally they become unexpected friends bearing gifts we never would have asked for. This Lenten Day of Reflection will focus on a few of these surprising guests in our lives – disappointment, worry, failure – and the gifts they provide when they come visiting. Using a gospel figure as companion, we will engage these uninvited "friends" and learn something about ourselves and our God in the process.

Lenten Book Study

"Walk in Her Sandals- Experiencing Christ's Passion through the Eyes of Women", by Kelly M. Wahlquist

Tammi Mooshegian was fortunate to be able to go to the Springfield Diocesan Counsel of Catholic Women's retreat in Carlinville last year, along with Marilyn Hahn. One of their speakers, Kelly M. Wahlquist, gave a wonderful talk on the women of today and she is the founder of WINE: Women in the New Evangelization.



Tammi will be leading a book study on her book starting on Wednesday, February 26th at 6:30pm. The books are available in the office for \$11.00. I will provide weekly questions for you to ponder as you read each section.

Forward taken from the book study guide: Walk in Her Sandals is chock full of reflections by women on the last days of Jesus. But the point of it all, as the subtitle makes clear, is not so much to read what other women think, as is to use their reflections as a springboard to experiencing more fully those mysteries of faith yourself. Sarah Christmyer, Catholic Author, Bible teacher and speaker. She blogs at ComeIntoTheWord.com

- Wednesday: February 26th: Introduction and The Gift of Receptivity
- Tuesday: March 4th: The Gift of Generosity (Ash Wednesday is March 5th)
- Wednesday: March 12th: The Gift of Sensitivity
- Wednesday: March 19th: The Gift of Prayer
- Wednesday: April 2nd: The Gift of Maternity
- Wednesday: April 9th The Gift of the Holy Spirit and Conclusion

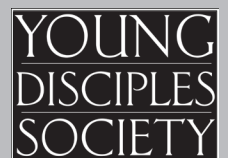
I hope you will pray about joining us as we discuss this book and feed off each other's enthusiasm.

"Walk in Her Sandals is a devotional tapestry, richly woven from the poignant threads of women's intimate experiences in Jesus" - Sonja Corbet, Catholic Speaker, radio host and author of Unleashed.

If you have questions please contact Tammi M at 618-920-1792.

YOUNG DISCIPLES

Join us on Sunday, February 9 after 10:30 AM Mass in the PLC for the next meeting of our Young Disciples group. Seminarians Padrick & Dennis will be with us and lunch is provided! Hope to see you Sunday!





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 5:4-11

REFLECTING ON THE WORD:

What's your experience of Christian community? Are you blessed with many friends, enjoying the full support of a community that shares your values and desire for heaven? Or do you feel isolated, as though it's just you and your family alone in the world? Maybe you're wondering what authentic community even looks like. It's difficult to live a Christian life without community, and the fact that our modern culture is so isolating and fragmentary takes a tragic toll on our families and faith. In today's Gospel, Jesus calls us to be "catching" others still outside the nets. Sometimes building community starts with us taking that first step of reaching out. What if we took the initiative to build strong communities by inviting those who do not know Jesus to come and see the fullness of life that he offers us? Drawn together in the "net" of his love, we can help each other on Our way to heaven.

ON THE WAY TO MASS

What makes people want to be friends? Do you think following Jesus makes someone a certain type of friend?

ON THE WAY HOME FROM MASS

What do you think Jesus meant when he said his followers would be "catching men"? What could that look like?

LIVING THE WORD

Make concrete plans to invite someone to your home. Is there a family you've been wanting to get to know, or someone you've felt might enjoy conversation and an evening of family life? Consider this your nudge to reach out.

SERVICE

ABL PREGNANCY RESOURCE CENTER 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.

ILLINOIS PRO-LIFE MARCH & MASS FOR LIFE

Illinois Pro-Life March and Mass for Life takes center stage in Springfield, and you are invited to the experience it all – On Tuesday, March 25, you are invited to join thousands of pro-life advocates, being a joyful witness to life and raising your voice for the voiceless at the Illinois Pro-Life March. The day begins with Mass at 10 a.m. at the Sangamon Auditorium on the campus of the University of Illinois Springfield, celebrated by Bishop Thomas John Paprocki. You must register for the Mass by going to dio.org. After the Mass, there is a rally at the capitol at 1 p.m. and then a march around the capitol at 2 p.m.





**Catholic Schools Week fun!
Grateful for our Catholic school...**



The CATHOLIC CARTOON by Joshua Morrison



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 February 2, 2025

	Actual	Goal	Over/(Short)
Week 31 Regular Income	\$10,329.00		
115 Envelopes, Avg. Gift \$89.82			
Building Repair/Maintenance	\$446.00		
Loose	\$558.00		
One-Time Donations	\$8,200.00		
Online Giving	\$1,328.28		
TOTAL	\$20,861.28	\$9,673.00	\$11,188.28
YTD TOTALS	\$278,560.64	\$299,863.00	(\$21,203.36)

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	\$2,054.00
Special Projects	\$191.00
Mission & Minist./Formation	\$256.00
Votive Offering	\$112.50
1st Offering	\$50.00
Catholic Times	\$105.00
Church in Latin America	\$60.00
Solemnity of Mary	\$25.00
Other Parish, Not Specified	\$231.00

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

Step Two: Cancel scheduled gifts in Give Central
If you are currently not giving on-line and would like to make the transition, please take the above steps to start the online giving process. Thank you!

If you have questions or need help, please see Bret or Jackie in the parish office.

WEEKLY STEWARDSHIP REFLECTION

"Then I heard the voice of the Lord saying, 'Whom shall I send? Who will go for us?'

'Here I am,' I said, 'send me!'" -Isaiah 6:8

Every day, in little ways and in big ways, God asks, "Whom shall I send?" Whether it is someone to take on a new ministry, to give a friendly smile to a stranger or to say a word of encouragement to a friend, God constantly provides opportunities to help someone in need. God is always talking to us; we just need to pay more attention. When you hear God calling, have the courage to walk through the door and say, "Here I am, Lord."

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

Published weekly by St. Elizabeth Catholic Church & School and printed locally by Schwartzkopf Printing in Alton, Illinois. To recommend content for inclusion in the bulletin, email bulletin@stelizabethgc.org prior to Monday at Noon. For information on bulletin advertising, contact Bret Ware in the parish office.

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