

Disciples Stewards

Granite City, Illinois ♦ Diocese of Springfield in Illinois

St. Elizabeth Catholic Church & School

Third Sunday of Advent ♦ December 14, 2025



Rejoice, for the Lord is Near

On this Third Sunday of Advent, known as Gaudete Sunday, the light on our wreath grows stronger. As you see the three candles burning bright—including the rose candle of joy—we are reminded that the darkness of winter is fading and the celebration of Christ's birth is close at hand. This increasing light signals a shift from solemn preparation to joyful anticipation. May the glow of these candles warm your hearts this week as we prepare to welcome the Light of the World. Lord God, may we, your people, who look forward to the nativity of Christ, experience the joy of salvation and celebrate that feast with love and thanksgiving. As the light of our wreath grows brighter, let our lives shine as a witness to Your coming. We ask this through Christ our Lord. Amen.

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After-Hours Emergencies
314-266-8387

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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: Michael Charbonnier

**Strong in Faith
since 1871**

Saint Elizabeth of Hungary, pray for us.

PRAYER & LITURGY

LITURGICAL SCHEDULE

Monday, December 15

Monday of the 3rd Wk of Advent

8:15 a.m. Mass:

Theresa Straubinger+ by the Straubinger Family

Tuesday, December 16

Tuesday of the 3rd Wk of Advent

6 p.m. Mass:

Reg Mennerick+ by Dcn. Michael & Mrs. Suzanne Halbrook

Wednesday, December 17

Wednesday of the 3rd Wk of Advent

8:15 a.m. Mass:

Marilyn Coulson+ by Betty Greer

Thursday, December 18

Thursday of the 3rd Wk of Advent

8:15 a.m. Mass:

Carol Trittschuh+ by Premo+ & Kay Clay

Friday, December 19

Friday of the 3rd Wk of Advent

8:15 a.m. Mass:

Frieda Hicks+ by Carol Skasick

Saturday, December 20

Saturday of the 3rd Wk of Advent

NO MASS

Saturday-Sunday, December 20- December 21

Fourth Sunday of Advent

4:30 p.m. (Saturday) Vigil Mass:

Tony Mangi+ by Joyce Tite

8:00 a.m. Mass *Streamed*:

Parishioners of Saint Elizabeth

10:30 a.m. Mass: Diane Vivod+ by the Vivod Family

14 DAY SANCTUARY LAMP

The 14 Day Sanctuary Lamp burns this week to remind us to pray for **the O.C.I.A. Catechumens and Candidates in our community**

ALTAR FLOWERS

There is no flower memorial this week. Please contact the office to consider an altar flower memorial for your loved one.

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

Reflections to help you prepare for Sunday Mass, the Holy Father's monthly prayer intentions, and prayers for our priests and military are all on our website at: stelizabethgc.org/pray

Read more about preparing for Sacraments and receiving other forms of pastoral care, like anointing or communion to the Homebound, etc. at stelizabethgc.org/pastoral-care

PARISH LIFE

PARISH BAKERS START YOUR OVENS

This is your reminder that THIS WEEK-END is the Ladies Sodality Cookie & Sweet Treats Sale! Our Ladies Sodality does so much to help our parish, particularly around purchasing and maintaining the altar for our liturgical needs, funeral luncheons, Breaking Bread hymnals and much more. Please consider baking something and dropping it at the Harmony Room early Saturday or grabbing a friend to bring to Mass and then purchasing an item or two after!

HOLIDAY REMINDERS

As we head into the winter/holiday months, please be reminded that the food donations we collect to support those less fortunate in our community will perhaps be even more important than ever this year considering the current federal government shutdown. Please consider buying extra to donate to the

AROUND THE AREA

NATIONAL SHRINE OF OUR LADY OF THE SNOWS

National Shrine of Our Lady of the Snows - Shrine Grounds and Visitors Center

From November 21 through December 31, 2025, 5:00 pm to 9:00 pm. Indoor activities are closed on Thanksgiving Day, Christmas Eve, and Christmas Day.

The Way of Lights Display, using over 1.5 million beautiful lights, depicts the journey of Mary and Joseph as they travel to Bethlehem. With new and beautiful colored lights, we celebrate the birth of Jesus and continue to offer activities for all to enjoy!

Cost: No charge for display; donations accepted; additional charges for some activities.

For more information, call 618-397-6700 or visit our website at <https://snows.org/wayoflights>

Catholic food pantry managed by our neighbors at Holy Family. Our Charitable Outreach group is still filling bags for our unhoused community and can use donations of small snacks, hand warmers and small or sample sizes of hygiene products. These can be dropped in the gathering space tubs or at the PLC. Thank you for your generosity to this pressing need!

COME TO THE CHURCH TO PRAY

We have heard from a few of our parishioners about the option to visit the church on days other than Adoration Thursday to pray. Beginning on Monday, December 1 after Mass, the code that we use to operate the front door will be active on days that the office is open from about 9:15 a.m. until 3:30 p.m. If you know the code, feel free to use it. If you need the code, please see the office for more info.



Read about more going on here and nearby at stelizabethgc.org/news

FORMATION & KNIGHTS CORNER

INTERESTED IN BECOMING CATHOLIC? JOIN US FOR OCIA

Do you have a child over the age of 7 who hasn't been baptized? Were you baptized Catholic as a child, but haven't celebrated the Sacraments of Eucharist and Confirmation? Are you seeking relationship with Christ and have questions? Contact our DRE, Chris Spanberger (cspan@stelizabethgc.org) for more information about OCIA & PSR

KNIGHTS CORNER

I like to let everyone know that the 3rd & 4th degree each donated \$500 to the Holy Family food pantry.

Hope everyone is enjoying Advent.

Matthew 25:35

Peace be with you,

Grand Knight Alan Arakaki



Explore opportunities to learn more about your faith at stelizabethgc.org/formation

ST. ELIZABETH SCHOOL



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



Our 5th and 6th Graders welcomed the NET Ministry team this morning! Holy Family's 5th and 6th graders joined them today for Mass, fun, and fellowship! Our 7th and 8th graders will be at Holy Family on Friday for NET!



THIS WEEK

Sunday, December 21

Children's Liturgy @ 10:30 Mass

Mass - 8:00 a.m. & 10:30 a.m.

Men at Prayer- 9 a.m.

Holy Hour with Vespers and Benediction 7:00 p.m.-8:00 p.m

Monday, December 22

HAPPY BIRTHDAY FR. GODWIN!!

Daily Mass - 8:15 a.m.

Tuesday, December 23

Daily Mass- 6 p.m.

Choir Rehearsal- 7-8:30 p.m.

3rd Degee Knights of Columbus - 7:30 p.m.

Wednesday, December 24

CHRISTMAS EVE

Vigil Masses for the Solemnity of the Nativity of the Lord:

4:30 p.m. and 10:30 p.m. (Carols beginning 30 Minutes Prior)

Thursday, December 25

CHRISTMAS DAY!

Mass for the Solemnity of the Nativity of the Lord

9 a.m

Friday, December 26

Daily Mass- 8:15 a.m.

Saturday, December 27

Daily Mass - 8:15 a.m.

Pray @ Abortion Business - 9 a.m.

Sacrament of Reconciliation 3 p.m.

Vigil Mass - 4:30 p.m.

Sunday, December 28

Children's Liturgy @ 10:30 Mass

Mass - 8:00 a.m. & 10:30 a.m.

Holy Hour with Vespers and Benediction 7:00 p.m.-8:00 p.m

Read more about the school & the weekly newsletter at stelizabethgc.org/school

STEWARDSHIP

December 7, 2025	Actual	Goal	Over/(Short)
Week 22 Regular Income	\$7,646.00		
99 Envelopes, Average \$77.23			
Loose	\$326.81		
One Time Donations	\$2,000.00		
Online Giving	\$1,108.72		
TOTAL	\$11,732.53	\$11,193.00	\$539.53
YTD TOTALS	\$202,849.44	\$257,439.00	(\$54,589.56)

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/Fund A Royal	\$832.00
Christmas Flowers	\$355.00
Mission & Ministry	\$116.00
Special Projects	\$136.00

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 2025 Tithe: \$4,228.00

UPCOMING SPECIAL OR SECOND COLLECTIONS

If you are giving on-line, or are not getting envelopes, please take note of the following Diocesan and Parish Special Collections. Remember to log in to your PushPay account every month to check on any upcoming Special Collections. If you are receiving envelopes, we strongly encourage you to use them to make sure your contributions are properly reported to your account or use your Giving ID # on your check or other envelope. **December 14, 3rd Sunday of Advent - Retirement Fund for Religious -**

More about more ways to give time, talent, & treasure at stelizabethgc.org/stewardship

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.



"You too must be patient. Make your hearts firm, because the coming of the Lord is at hand."
JAMES 5:8

Patience is another one of those things many of us struggle with. We want things to go according to our plan and our schedule; we like things to be convenient. Any change brings anxiety and fear. Through daily prayer God reveals to us what He wants us to do with the gifts He has given us. We are able to better align ourselves with God's will and His plan, which is far better than anything we can come up with on our own.

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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 <p>Christopher T. Layloff Partner, Gori Law Former St. Elizabeth Student Personal Injury, asbestos litigation, lung cancer, medical malpractice, workers compensation, railroad 618-744-6927 clayloff@gorilaw.com www.gorilaw.com</p>		<p>COME JOIN Knights of Columbus Tri-Cities Council # 1098 4225 OLD ALTON ROAD 618-877-4250 MEETINGS 2ND & 4TH TUESDAY 7:30 P.M.</p>
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 <p>RevityCU.com</p>	<p>Along the Way Bed and Breakfast A Better Way to Stay</p> <p>618-931-1537 alongtheway@netzero.com Norma Lesko</p> <p>152 Central Avenue Mitchell, Illinois 62040 alongthewayb-b.com www.facebook.com/alongthewaybb</p> 	<p>CARROLLTON BANK</p>
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