

# Disciples Stewards

Granite City, Illinois ◆ Diocese of Springfield in Illinois

St. Elizabeth Catholic Church & School

First Sunday of Lent ◆ February 22, 2026



## A SEASON OF RENEWAL AND GRACE

As we enter the holy season of Lent this Ash Wednesday, our parish family embarks on a forty-day journey of prayer, fasting, and almsgiving. We are particularly blessed this year to welcome our Lenten Mission speaker, Patty Schneier, whose image graces our cover today. Patty will be leading us in a deep spiritual awakening from March 9th through 11th, offering us the perfect opportunity to refocus our hearts on Christ. She will join us on March 8th at both masses to introduce herself and share more information about the mission talks. To culminate this time of reflection, please join our neighboring communities for the Tri-City Lenten Penance Service the following evening March 12 at 6:30 p.m. at Holy Family. Let us take this time to seek God's mercy and prepare our souls for the joy of the Resurrection.

2300 Pontoon Road  
Granite City, IL 62040

Phone 618-877-3300

Fax 618-877-9800

**After-Hours Emergencies**  
**314-266-8387**

Web: [stelizabethgc.org](http://stelizabethgc.org)

 @stelizabeth.gc

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 @stelizabeth\_gc

 @stelizabethgc

### PASTORAL STAFF

**Father Alfred Tumwesigye, Pastor**  
Office x1002 | Residence x1201  
[pastor@stelizabethgc.org](mailto:pastor@stelizabethgc.org)

**Father Godwin Muhangi, Parochial Vicar**  
Office x 1006 | Residence x1201  
[FrGodwin@stelizabethgc.org](mailto:FrGodwin@stelizabethgc.org)

**Deacon Michael Halbrook**  
x1005 | [mhalbrook@dio.org](mailto:mhalbrook@dio.org)

**Bret Ware**  
Parish Secretary & Office Admin  
[secretary@stelizabethgc.org](mailto:secretary@stelizabethgc.org)

**Jackie Jones, Bookkeeper**  
x1003 | [jjones@stelizabethgc.org](mailto:jjones@stelizabethgc.org)

**Chris Spanberger**  
Director of Religious Education  
[cspan@stelizabethgc.org](mailto:cspan@stelizabethgc.org)

**Marla Weis**  
Director of Liturgical Music  
[music@stelizabethgc.org](mailto: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](mailto:mwilliams@stelizabethgc.org)

**Loretta Joyce, School Secretary**  
[ljoyce@stelizabethgc.org](mailto: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: Tammi Mooshegian  
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, February 23**

**Lenten Weekday**

NO MASS

**Tuesday, February 24**

**Lenten Weekday**

6 p.m. Mass:

Mildred Noeth+ by Dorothy Hayes

**Wednesday, February 25**

**Lenten Weekday**

8:15 a.m. Mass:

Denny Charney+ by

Premo + & Kay Clay

**Thursday, February 26**

**Lenten Weekday**

8:15 a.m. Mass:

Mary P. Harshany+ by David Harshany

**Friday, February 27**

**Lenten Weekday**

8:15 a.m. Mass:

Robert Becherer+ by Chris & Susan Glass

**Saturday, February 28**

**Lenten Weekday**

NO MASS

**Saturday-Sunday, February 28-March 1**

**Second Sunday of Lent**

4:30 p.m. (Saturday) Vigil Mass: Susan Shisko+ by Gary & Jeannie Wilbur

8:00 a.m. Mass \*Streamed\*: All Souls in Purgatory+ by Dawn Wright

10:30 a.m. Mass: Parishioners of Saint Elizabeth

### 14 DAY SANCTUARY LAMP

The 14 Day Sanctuary Lamp burns this week

to remind us to pray for our school & PSR

**Students who are receiving the Sacrament of Confirmation & First Holy Eucharist this weekend!!**

### ALTAR FLOWERS

There is no flower memorial during the Lenten season. Please contact the office to schedule a memorial!

**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](http://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](http://stelizabethgc.org/pastoral-care)

## PARISH LIFE

### 40 DAYS FOR LIFE

This spring, in partnership with our friends at Holy Family/St. Mary's Catholic Church, we will participate in 40 Days for Life Prayer Vigil. Our day is Friday, March 27 beginning at 7 a.m. We need a total of 24 people who are willing to pray for an hour at the abortion business in downtown Granite City. Sign up this weekend in the gathering space.

### CATHOLIC COMMUNITY OUTREACH

Thank you to everyone that was able to attend our most recent Catholic Community Outreach meeting. We will meet on the 4th Monday of each month. Our next meeting will be Monday, February 23 at 6pm in the Harmony Room at St. Elizabeth.

- We will be taking responsibility for the Good Samaritan dinner on the 4th Wednesday of each month as well as continuing the bags for our homeless citizens and our laundry assistance. Our next GS Dinner is February 25th.

Please share this with like minded folks in our parishes so we can bring new ideas to help strengthen our communities with God's help!

### LADIES SODALITY NEWS

Annual Prayer Breakfast is a yearly tradition to gather women of our deanery. The Council of Catholic Women have been hosting this annual prayer breakfast for about 15 years. It is a day to bring women from our diocese together for the power of the Rosary, celebration of Mass, fellowship during breakfast, and become evangelized by our speaker. We are honored to be hosting this year and are estimating around 200 in attendance. Please make plans to attend and send in your registration on-line or by dropping a form in the offertory or office. If you need more information please call an officer or grab one of us at mass: Tammi, Kathy, Patty, Pam W.

Ladies Sodality will also host the reception on Sunday, February 22, after the 10:30am mass for 30 students being confirmed and receiving 1st communion the day before in Springfield. Please let me know if you can bake some cupcakes. Any flavor but will need to have white icing. Please call, 618-876-4819 and leave a message with your name, number and the # of cupcakes you will be donating. Thank you for your support.

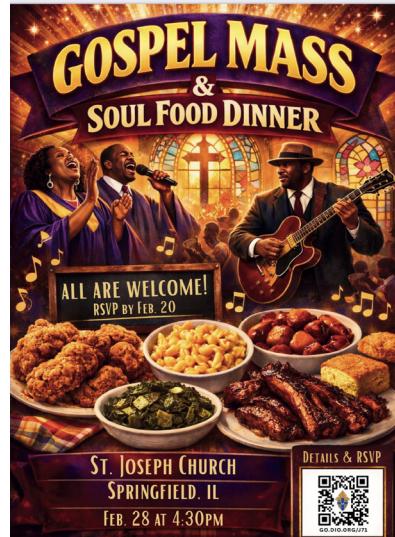
## AROUND THE AREA

### GOSPEL MASS

All are warmly invited to a Diocesan Gospel Mass followed by a Soul Food Dinner at St. Joseph Church, 1345 N. Sixth Street, Springfield, IL, on Saturday, February 28. Dinner pricing is \$20 for ages 13 and up, \$10 for ages 6-12, and free for children 5 and under. RSVP by February 20 by scanning the QR code for full event details and dinner registration. Join us in prayer, music, and fellowship as we celebrate together as a diocesan community!

### SACRED SHRINES PILGRIMAGE

Join Msgr. David Hoefler of the Diocese of Springfield on a pilgrimage to the Sacred Marian Shrines of France, Portugal, and Spain, traveling September 28–October 9, 2026. This spiritually rich journey will include visits to some of the most beloved Marian sites in the world. Space is limited. To learn more and register online, go to [go.dio.org/786](http://go.dio.org/786)



Read about more going on here and nearby at [stelizabethgc.org/news](http://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](mailto:cspan@stelizabethgc.org)) for more information about OCIA & PSR

### KNIGHTS CORNER

Greetings,

On February 28th, we will be praying the rosary at the abortion clinic. Please sign up in the council room if you are able to join us.

"Before I formed you in the womb I knew you, before you were born I set you apart." — Jeremiah 1:5

Peace be with you,

Grand Knight Alan Arakaki



Explore opportunities to learn more about your faith at [stelizabethgc.org/formation](http://stelizabethgc.org/formation)

# Disciples & Stewards Extra! Extra!

## LENTEN REFLECTION FROM FATHER GODWIN

Lent is a sacred season of grace—a time the Church invites us to slow down, look within, and return wholeheartedly to the Lord. For forty days, we walk with Christ toward the Cross, trusting that the Cross always leads to Resurrection.

During these weeks, the Church calls us to three simple but powerful practices:

**Prayer** – Make time each day for God. Attend Sunday Mass faithfully. Consider daily Mass, Eucharistic Adoration, or praying the Stations of the Cross. Let silence create space for God's voice.

**Fasting** – Fasting teaches us discipline and freedom. When we deny ourselves, we discover that God alone satisfies. Offer your fasting for those who hunger physically and spiritually.

**Almsgiving** – Love becomes real when it is shared. Reach out to someone in need. Support our parish outreach. Forgive someone. Be intentional in acts of charity.

Lent is not about perfection. It is about direction. It is about turning again toward the Lord, no matter where we have been. If you have been away from the Sacrament of Reconciliation, this is your moment. Come home.

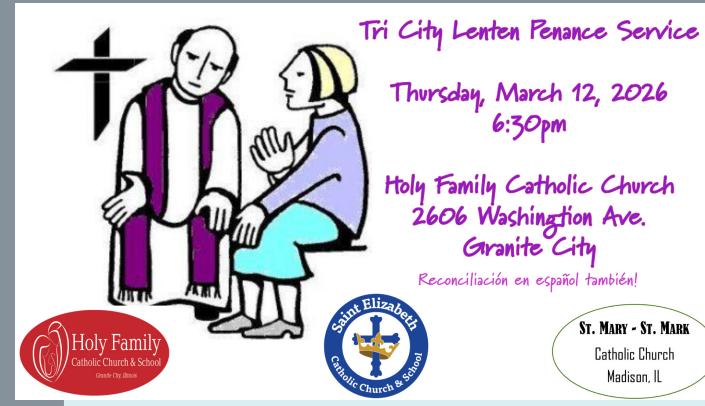
Pope Leo XIV's theme for this Lenten season is "Listening and Fasting: Lent as a Time of Conversion." May we take this exhortation seriously. Lent is not merely about giving things up, but about opening our hearts. It is a season of renewal, healing, and deeper conversion as we listen and take his course of action. God does not tire of forgiving us. He waits for us with mercy. He invites us to place the mystery of God at the center of their lives, allowing the word of God to touch their hearts and renew our commitment to following Christ.

The message encourages a practical form of abstinence from harsh words and rash judgment, urging instead to cultivate kindness and respect in all aspects of life. It calls for a shared journey of listening to God and the vulnerable, fostering a community where the cry of those who suffer finds welcome and where listening opens paths towards liberation. The message is a call to make communities places where the voice of others is heard and respected, contributing to a civilization of love.

May this Lenten journey renew our families, strengthen our parish, and draw us closer to Christ. Let us walk together with hope. "Create in me a clean heart, O God." (Psalm 51:10)

Wishing you a grace-filled and transformative Lent.

Father Godwin



## 2025 CONTRIBUTION STATEMENTS

Contribution statements for 2025 are located in the tubs in the gathering space. Please look for yours and take it with you for tax purposes. If you do not see yours, please contact the parish office or, check your email. Some of our parishioners would have had their statements sent to them by email.

## SPRINGFIELD IN IL DIOCESAN COUNCIL OF CATHOLIC WOMEN(SDCCW) SCHOLARSHIP

The MISSION of the Springfield in IL Diocesan Council of Catholic Women (SDCCW) is to support and empower all Catholic women in spirituality, leadership and service. The SDCCW is pleased to award a \$2,000 scholarship to four Catholic HS girl graduates from the Springfield Diocese in IL. To apply for one of these scholarships, the following three documents must be received by April 15, 2026.

1. The SDCCW Scholarship Application: Completed—including your signature and the signature of your pastor.
2. A TYPED ESSAY (two pages maximum) signed by you indicating how you have exemplified Catholic values of leadership, faith and service in your family, parish, school and/or community.
3. A Signed LETTER OF RECOMMENDATION from an adult that is familiar with how you have exemplified Catholic values of leadership, faith and service to family, parish, school and/or community.

If you or a family member meets the qualifications please pick up a packet in the gathering space.



# Capital Campaign

November 15, 2025 —  
November 17, 2028

Goal  
\$2.1 Million



**Strong in Faith, Building for Tomorrow**

## CAPITAL CAMPAIGN UPDATE

We are hoping to raise \$2.1 million to fund many needed improvements across our campus. We kicked off this Campaign on the Feast of St. Elizabeth.

Your help is needed to achieve our goal. While we continue to look at new fundraisers where the community can participate, ultimately this is our church, our school and our campus. We need YOU praying for our success, talking up the needs of our parish, and pledging and giving, maybe even beyond your comfort level. If you do not currently tithe 10% of your gross income, this would be an excellent opportunity to ease into it through monthly payments.

Thus far, we are happy to report that we have received a total of \$280,901.00 pledged and collected \$162,107.00 in actual donations. We have a long way to go, but we are confident in our parish!

A question we have heard pertains to the amount of money that we are required to pass along to the diocese. These funds will help to maintain and improve exterior conditions at the Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception as well as maintenance needs at the Catholic Pastoral Center and Villa Maria Conference Center in Springfield. Our assessment amount for this campaign is \$75,456. This amount will take care of our responsibility and is a ONE TIME payment to the diocese.

Please do not pass up the opportunity to share a pledge card with your family or friends, some of whom may be alumni of our school or former parishioners. We also have a container in the gathering space for spare change or to drop contributions. Every little bit helps.

When we started the campaign, the request was for you to prayerfully consider your pledge amount. Please continue praying and discerning what you are being called to give and make your pledge soon. There are plenty of cards in the gathering space. May God bless you always.

St. Elizabeth, pray for us.

## NEW BULLETIN ADVERTISER

Say hello to our newest bulletin advertiser, **BLUE COLLAR CONSTRUCTION & ASPHALT SEALING**. They are a local business who does roofing, drywall, flooring, siding and much more. See their ad on the back page and call them today!

# Disciples & Stewards Extra Extra!

Join us for  
the 2026  
Women's  
Prayer  
Breakfast



Join us as we explore the  
theme: We Are All Flowers in  
God's Garden

Hosted by the Ladies Sodality  
of St. Elizabeth Parish

Space is limited! Register before  
March 10, 2026, to reserve your spot.

For more information contact  
Tammi Moconegan 619-920-1792 or  
TammiMo68@gmail.com

Cost: \$30 per registrant accepted by mail or  
via the QR code.  
Checks payable to St. Elizabeth Ladies  
Sodality

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

I am a check to reserve my seat (\$30)  
(one form per registrant)  
Orientation for Seminarians \$\_\_\_\_\_

Give blood.

Every 2 seconds someone  
in the U.S. needs blood.

American Red Cross



## Blood Drive St Elizabeth Catholic Church

Parish Life Center  
2300 Pontoon Rd  
Granite City, IL 62040

Friday, March 6, 2026  
11:00 a.m. to 5:30 p.m.

Please visit RedCrossBlood.org and enter: StElizabethCC  
to schedule an appointment.



1-800-RED CROSS | 1-800-733-2707 | redcrossblood.org | Download the Blood Donor App

© 2019 The American National Red Cross

## LADIES SODALITY SCHOLARSHIP

Attention, seniors! Please pick up your 2026 application packet for the Ladies Sodality Scholarship, recognizing a student who exemplifies the values and beliefs of the Catholic faith. Packets are available this week in the Parish office and are due on April 30, 2026.

## REISKE COLLEGE SCHOLARSHIP

Applications will be available at the Parish Office this week. 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 Tuesday, March 31, 2026, no later than 4:00 pm. 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.

Saturday, March 21, 2026

St. Elizabeth Catholic Church  
2300 Pontoon Rd, Granite City, IL 62040

8:15am- 8:50 Registration/Rosary  
Mass 9:00am  
Breakfast 10:15am  
Speaker 11:00am  
Closing prayer 12:15pm

Guest Speaker:  
Jen Ryan,  
Director of Pastoral Education  
and Evangelization  
Kerrick-Glennon Seminary

Space is limited! Register before  
March 10, 2026, to reserve your spot.

For more information contact  
Tammi Moconegan 619-920-1792 or  
TammiMo68@gmail.com

Cost: \$30 per registrant accepted by mail or  
via the QR code.  
Checks payable to St. Elizabeth Ladies  
Sodality

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

I am a check to reserve my seat (\$30)  
(one form per registrant)  
Orientation for Seminarians \$\_\_\_\_\_

## ST. ELIZABETH

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



Read more about the school & the weekly newsletter at [stelizabethgc.org/school](http://stelizabethgc.org/school)

## STEWARDSHIP

February 15, 2026	Actual	Goal	Over/(Short)
Week 33 Regular Income	\$4,579.00		
104 Envelopes, Average \$44.03			
Loose	\$664.00		
Building Repair & Maintenance	\$265.00		
Online Giving	\$629.05		
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$6,137.05</b>	<b>\$11,193.00</b>	<b>(\$5,055.95)</b>
<b>YTD TOTALS</b>	<b>\$284,756.43</b>	<b>\$369,369.00</b>	<b>(\$84,612.57)</b>

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:

Fund A Royal/Tuition Assistance \$180.00  
Catholic Times \$60.00  
Church in Central & Eastern Europe \$170.00

### 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.  
**January 2026 Tithe: \$3,494.00**

### 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 envelopes. Please contact the Parish office if you are currently not receiving envelopes and would like to start using them for all your contributions.

More about more ways to give time, talent, & treasure at [stelizabethgc.org/stewardship](http://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.

## THIS WEEK

**Sunday, February 22**

**Confirmation Celebration after 10:30 a.m Mass!**

**OCIA to Cathedral (Rite of Election)**

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

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

**Monday, February 23**

NO DAILY MASS

**Tuesday, February 24**

Daily Mass- 6 p.m.

Ladies Sodality Meeting - 6:30 p.m.

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

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

**Wednesday, February 25**

Daily Mass- 8:15 a.m.

BINGO - 7 p.m. (Columbus Home)

**Thursday, February 26**

Daily Mass- 8:15 a.m.

O.C.I.A.- 6:30 p.m. (PLC)

Adoration 9 a.m.- 9 p.m.

**Friday, February 27**

Daily Mass- 8:15 a.m.

Lenten Fish Fry - 4 p.m- 7 p.m.

**Saturday, February 28**

Pray @ Abortion Business - 9 a.m.

Sacrament of Reconciliation 3 p.m.

Vigil Mass - 4:30 p.m.

**PTO DINNER AUCTION - 5:30 p.m. (Forever After -Pontoon)**

**Sunday, March 1**

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

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

"It is written: 'The Lord, your God, shall you worship and him alone shall you serve.'" MATTHEW 4:10

Tempted between the riches and power of this world and service to God, Jesus chose service to His Father. If we wish to truly follow Jesus, we, too, must decide to turn away from worldly power and riches and put God at the center of our lives. Lent is our time to prune ourselves of earthly things and develop and nurture heavenly things. Lent is time to repent and let go of the other "gods" we have put before God.



## 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](mailto:bulletin@stelizabethgc.org) prior to Monday at Noon. For information on bulletin advertising, contact Bret Ware in the parish office.

**Please Support & Thank Our Advertisers! They make our bulletin possible.**

 <p><b>The Flower Emporium</b> 618-931-6593 520 E. Chain of Rocks Rd., Granite City, IL</p>	 <p><b>Everyone Welcome, Come Enjoy Open to the Public!</b></p> <p><b>TRI-CITIES COLUMBUS HOME ASSOCIATION</b> MEETING PLACE OF THE KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS 4225 OLD ALTON RD GRANITE CITY, IL 62040 618-877-4250</p>	<p>BINGO (8 times a week) Lounge Bowling Machine Shuffle Board Gaming Room Banquet Rooms</p>
<p><b>DIOCESAN VICTIM ASSISTANCE COORDINATOR</b> and liaison between the Diocese and anyone with an allegation of sexual abuse of a minor.</p> <p>Alison Smith 217-321-1155</p>	 <p><b>Blue Collar Construction &amp; Asphalt Sealing</b> <b>Travis Kiselewski</b></p>	<p><b>St. Elizabeth School BINGO</b> Wednesday Nights Columbus Home Buy 1 Large Early Bird Get 1 Small Early Bird Free with this Coupon</p>
	<p>Car insurance you need at a price you can afford.</p> <p>Brandon Pruitt Granite City, IL 62040-2558 <a href="http://www.countryfinancial.com">www.countryfinancial.com</a> <a href="mailto:brandon.pruett@countryfinancial.com">brandon.pruett@countryfinancial.com</a> (618)452-1415</p> <p><small>Auto policies issued by COUNTRY Mutual Insurance Company®, COUNTRY Preferred Insurance Company® and COUNTRY Casualty Insurance Company®, Bloomington, IL 61710-5154. 29099-2/28/2024</small></p> 	<p><b>St. Elizabeth Ladies Sodality</b> Meetings in the Harmony Room 4th Tuesday After the 6 p.m. Mass except June, July, &amp; December ALL LADIES ARE WELCOME</p>
 <p><b>Scott's Auto Service</b> SPECIALIZING IN: Engine Diagnostics, Electrical Diagnostics, Engine Repairs, Emissions Repairs, Computer Programming, Brakes, A/C, Suspensions, Exhaust &amp; Transmissions</p> <p>4012 North St. • Granite City <b>797-7812</b></p> 	<p><b>Christopher T. Layloff</b> Partner, Gori Law Former St. Elizabeth Student Personal Injury, asbestos litigation, lung cancer, medical malpractice, workers compensation, railroad <b>618-744-6927</b> <a href="mailto:clayloff@gorilaw.com">clayloff@gorilaw.com</a> <a href="http://www.gorilaw.com">www.gorilaw.com</a></p>	<p><b>COME JOIN Knights of Columbus</b> Tri-Cities Council # 1098 4225 OLD ALTON ROAD <b>618-877-4250</b> MEETINGS 2ND &amp; 4TH TUESDAY 7:30 P.M.</p>
	<p><b>Irwin Chapel</b> “Honoring Life” Granite City • Glen Carbon</p>	<p><b>St. Elizabeth MENS CLUB</b> Meetings Monthly (Except July &amp; August) 1st Tuesday at 7:30 p.m. In School Cafeteria All Men Of Parish Welcome</p>
 <p><b>REVITY</b> CREDIT UNION <a href="http://RevityCU.com">RevityCU.com</a></p>	<p><b>Along the Way</b> Bed and Breakfast A Better Way to Stay 618-931-1537 <a href="http://alongtheway@netzero.com">alongtheway@netzero.com</a> Norma Lesko 152 Central Avenue Mitchell, Illinois 62040 <a href="http://alongtheway-bb.com">alongtheway-bb.com</a> <a href="http://www.facebook.com/alongthewaybb">www.facebook.com/alongthewaybb</a></p>	<p><b>CARROLLTON BANK</b></p>
	<p><b>TrueValue</b> Pace True Value Hardware 3365 Fehling Rd 618-451-2300</p> 	<p><b>SI SEÑOR</b> 1533 Johnson Road 618-877-7702 <a href="http://SiSenorMexican.com">SiSenorMexican.com</a> Parishioner Family Owned!</p> 