

WELCOME TO ST. ELIZABETH
We Invite You To Join Us Often!

MISSION STATEMENT

As disciples of Jesus Christ, we the parishioners of Saint Elizabeth Church, being stewards of God's creation, strive to work for the Greater Glory of God, our families, our parish, our community and our world.

THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT
December 11, 2016

PARISH DIRECTORY

MAIN
877-3300

Dial the following extensions at any time during the message

	School	5
Mass/Confession Times	3 Pre-School	6
Parish Office	4 Location Directory	7

PARISH LEADERSHIP

Finance Council	Charlotte Charbonnier
Parish Pastoral Council	Tammi Mooshegian
School Board	Jennifer Wilmsmeyer
Parent/Teacher Org	Jessica Brewer
Ladies Sodality	Jennifer Hutson
Holy Name Men's Club	Rob Hutson
Men at Prayer	Dave Gensert
Funeral Dinners	Pat Loftus & Erin Ruesing
Athletic Director	Michelle Travnicek
Maintenance Team	Bud Charbonnier

UPCOMING EVENTS

Monday, December 12 – PSR Class at 6:30 p.m. at School
 Wednesday, December 14 – RCIA Class at 6:30 pm PLC
 Sat/Sun, Dec 17&18 - Ladies Sodality Christmas
 Cookie Sale after all Masses in the Harmony Room
 Sunday, December 18 – Choir Practice at 6:30 p.m.

PLEASE PATRONIZE OUR ADVERTISERS!!
 Thanks to all our sponsors on the back cover of our bulletin. This week we thank Davis Funeral Home, Ltd., 21st and Cleveland Blvd., Granite City, IL 62040 (618) 877-0120.

LITURGICAL ASSIGNMENTS

LITURGICAL ROLES
December 17 & 18

EUCCHARISTIC MINISTERS:

4:30 p.m.	P. Mills, C. Kessler, C. Mangi, K. Haas, D. Schrenk, J. Adams, D. Wright
8:00 a.m.	T. Lyerla, M. Landis, B. Loftus, M. Loftus, S. Carr, R. Carr, M. Williams
10:30 a.m.	T. Cholevik, S. Dombek, D. Hay, M. Rees, D. Gensert, D. Mooshegian, E. Mooshegian

LECTORS:

4:30 p.m.	L. Black
8:00 a.m.	K. Clay
10:30 a.m.	A. Yurko

SERVERS:

4:30 p.m.	Strehl's
8:00 a.m.	K. Friedel, S. Luna, A. Friedel
10:30 a.m.	M. Adams, M. Roseman, A. Hutson

LITURGICAL SCHEDULE

Monday, December 12

PENANCE SERVICE AT 7:00 P.M.

Tuesday, December 13

8:15 a.m. Glenn Gibson by Lee & Dorothy Hayes

Wednesday, December 14

8:15 a.m. Joan Struttman

Thursday, December 15

8:15 a.m. David Utz by Mike & Mary McPherson

ADORATION

Friday, December 16

8:15 a.m. Tony & Mary Bellue by Elaine & Cheryl
 3:00 p.m. Chaplet, Rosary, Prayers for World Peace

Saturday, December 17

8:00 a.m. Communion Service

VIGIL: FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT

4:30 p.m. Charles Szczepanik by Ed Szczepanik

Sunday, December 18 – FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT

8:00 a.m. Parishioners of St. Elizabeth Parish Family
 10:30 a.m. Charles Marcus by Norma Lesko

Liturgical Schedule at Holy Family for Dec. 12-16 – Mon. & Tues. - No Mass, Wed. & Thurs. 8:00 a.m. Mass, & Friday

8:30 a.m. Mass at School

Liturgical Schedule at St. Mary/St. Mark for Dec. 12-16

Tuesday – 8:00 a.m. Mass

Greeter's Schedule for December 17 & 18

4:30 p.m.	Team 3
8:00 a.m.	Team 3
10:30 a.m.	Team 3

FATHER CHRIS'S CORNER

Fr. Chris' Cell phone: 618-798-0343

ADVENT PENANCE SERVICES

December 11, Sunday, 2:00pm St. Boniface, Edwardsville

December 12, Monday, 7:00 pm St. Elizabeth, Granite City
(includes Holy Family, Granite City, Ss. Mary&Mark, Madison)

December 14, Wednesday, 6:30pm St. Jerome, Troy

December 14, Wednesday, 7pm St. Cecilia, Glen Carbon

CHRISTMAS TOY COLLECTION – This weekend we will begin collecting toys for the needy for Christmas. You may place your unwrapped toys in the boxes provided in the Gathering Space until Monday, December 12th. Catholic Charities will distribute the toys to needy families in the area. Thank you for your generosity!

CHRISTMAS MASS SCHEDULE

Christmas Eve 4:00 p.m.
11:00 p.m.

Christmas Day 9:00 a.m.

MOST IMPORTANT NEEDS

As we come to the end of the year, I wanted to ask for you to consider our most important needs. We are in need of funds to repair part of the Church roof. You can see in the section of pews near the organ where plaster has fallen. This is a result of a design flaw of the roof that will cost us approximately \$50,000 to fix. You can donate for this by using the special projects envelope or another envelope marked roof fund. We also are behind in the \$50,000 needed for our Annual Catholic Services Appeal assessment. The totals are later in this bulletin. Only about half of those who usually donate to this collection have done so yet. Please consider donating or pledging to this collection before the end of the year. There are envelopes for this collection by the pamphlet rack in the gathering space. Thanks so much.

3RD SUNDAY OF ADVENT

John questions Jesus from prison in today's Gospel—for his disciples' sake and for ours.

He knows that Jesus is doing "the works of the Messiah," foretold in today's First Reading and Psalm. But John wants his disciples—and us—to know that the Judge is at the gate, that in Jesus our God has come to save us.

The Liturgy of Advent takes us out into the desert to see and hear the marvelous works and words of God—the lame leaping like a stag, the dead raised, the good news preached to the poor (see [Isaiah 29:18-20](#); [61:1-2](#)).

The Liturgy does this to give us courage, to strengthen our feeble hands and make firm our weak knees. Our hearts can easily become frightened and weighed down by the hardships we face. We can lose patience in our sufferings as we await the coming of the Lord.

As James advises in today's Epistle, we should take as our example the prophets who spoke in the name of the Lord.

Jesus also points us to a prophet—holding up John as a model. John knew that life was more than food, the body more than clothing. He sought the kingdom of God first, confident that God would provide (see [Matthew 6:25-34](#)). John did not complain. He did not lose faith. Even in chains in his prison cell, he was still sending his disciples—and us—to our Savior.

We come to Him again now in the Eucharist. Already He has caused the desert to bloom, the burning sands to become springs of living water. He has opened our ears to hear the words of the sacred book, freed our tongue to fill the air with songs of thanksgiving (see [Isaiah 30:18](#)).

Once bowed down, captives to sin and death, we have been ransomed and returned to His Kingdom, crowned with everlasting joy. Raised up we now stand before His altar to meet the One who is to come: "Here is your God."

From *Breaking the Bread* by Dr. Scott Hahn

RIGHT TO LIFE

"A child is loved because he is one's child: not because he is beautiful, or because he is like this or like that... Not because he thinks as I do, or embodies my dreams. A child is a child: a life generated by us

but intended for him, for his good, for the good of the family, of society, of mankind as a whole.”

~~Pope Francis, *General Audience*, February 11, 2015. 2015 Libreria Editrice Vaticana. Used with permission.

PRAYERS FOR OUR MILITARY

Antonio Chacon-Mendoza, IL; Lee Brown, Fort Hood, TX; Raymond Chant, Jr., Afghanistan; Arron Gray, Colorado; Pvt. Damien Mendoza, Ft. Benning, GA, James Schillinger, San Diego; Britney Stieglitz, Oujonbou, South Korea, Brandon Weidner, Juneau, AK, Dylan Niles, Patrick AFB, FL

PRIDE OF OUR SCHOOL

- ❖ Thank you for supporting our Christmas Raffle! St. Elizabeth School earned over \$22,000 in profit.
\$300 Winners
 - 12/1 Daniel Judeman
 - 12/2 Crystal Krause
 - 12/3 Chrissy Melton
 - 12/4 Deborah Williams
 - 12/5 Michelle Williams
 - 12/6 Todd Bayer
 - 12/7 Cheryl Pratt
 - 12/8 Ann Czornog
 - 12/9 Rich Moore
 - 12/10 Cathy Tate
- ❖ St. Elizabeth School was recognized by the Community Care Center in Granite City for our commitment to assisting those in need in our local area. Thank you for all your food and non-perishable donations. Also thank you to those who were able to donate to the recent Adopt-a-Family program. Our upper grade students did a tremendous job of helping load, unload and separate items for distribution. We are proud of our children for recognizing the needs of others and their willingness to make sacrifices.
- ❖ Outstanding Citizenship Recognition – Jordan Delp, Hannah Hoge, Nathan Hand, Ava Ghirardi, Nate

Wilmsmeyer, Mackenzie Pratt, Anna Brewer, Mackenzie Levy, Olivia Morris, Haydee Rios

- ❖ Don't forget to purchase SCRIP for your remaining Christmas needs. The SCRIP Program is FREE MONEY for our school and parish.
- ❖ Looking Ahead:
 - ✓ 12/13 Christmas Program 6:30 in church – all our welcome
 - ✓ 12/21 11:00 Dismissal (Kid's Klub and Preschool open until 6:00pm)
 - ✓ 12/23, 12/26 St. Elizabeth School is closed (PreK – 8)
 - ✓ 12/27 – 12/30 Kid's Klub and PreK available
 - ✓ 1/2 St. Elizabeth School is closed (PreK – 8)

PARISH NEWS

RETIREMENT FUND FOR RELIGIOUS – Aging religious need your help. Senior Catholic sisters, brothers, and religious order priests have offered their lives in service to others---educating the young, comforting the sick, seeking justice for the oppressed. Today, many are frail, elderly, and in need of assistance. Your gift to the Retirement Fund for Religious helps to furnish medications, nursing care, and other necessities. Please give generously to today's second collection.

SAVE THE DATE! The Men's Communion Breakfast will be held on Sunday, February 19th.

THE 14-DAY CANDLE by the tabernacle will be burning in memory of Sgt. Steven Mennemeyer by Friends and Family.

LADIES, PLEASE START YOUR OVENS.....

Our Cookie Sale and Sweet Treats will be debuting next weekend in our Harmony Room. We will be setting up on Friday, the 16th from 2:00 – 6:00 P.M. and again on Saturday starting at 10:00 a.m. Please deliver your goodies during those time frames. Should you have a problem with delivery, please call and we will gladly pick-up the cookies from your house. Looking forward to your special family recipes. Thank you, Marilyn ~ 797-6545, Maggie ~ 541-9973, Carol ~ 876-7620, Bootsie ~ 931-0418

MERCY MINUTES FOR THE JUBILEE YEAR OF MERCY – “My delight is to act in a human soul and to fill it with My mercy and to justify it. My kingdom on earth is My life in the human soul. Write, my secretary, that I Myself am the spiritual guide of souls---and I guide them indirectly through the priest, and lead each one to sanctity by a road known to Me alone.” (From the Diary of St. Faustina, 1784)

THANK YOU! The nieces and nephews of Johanna Bukovac would like to thank all of Johanna’s friends and parish for their kind thoughts and care of Johanna. Blessings to you all!

GC ROCK NEWS

CALLING ALL HIGH SCHOOL YOUTH!

GC Rock is for you!

Sunday, December 11 – Jar Sales/Calendars.

Gathering at HF 6:30-8 pm. Christmas cards for the shut-ins. All hands needed! Bring a friend!

Sunday, December 18 –Final commitment AND last planning meeting for LOCK-IN.

Thursday/Friday, December 29/30 – **CHRISTMAS LOCK-IN** at St. Elizabeth! Time TBD.

Sunday, January 1- Happy New Year! NO Gathering.

Sunday, January 8 – Gathering at St. Elizabeth 6:30-8pm. Bring a friend!

National March for LIFE Pilgrimage-January 25-29 in Washington DC!

Youth and parents, PLEASE join our Facebook page, “GC Rock Youth Group” to stay up to date on our activities! Questions, please call Rita 972-4022, Dawn 709-3565, or Woody 876-7551.

GC ROCK CHRISTMAS GIFT JAR SALE NOW!

Our gift jar sale was made possible by your generous donations of canning jars! We are selling our delicious soup and cookie mixes until they are gone! Proceeds from this sale will help us meet our goal to attend the National March for Life in January in Washington D.C. and other activities for our high school youth! Thank you!!!

WHAT IS EUCHARISTIC ADORATION?

Thursdays 9 am – 9 pm

First Friday/Saturday 9 am Fri. through 8 am Sat.
St. Teresa of Calcutta (1910-1997) speaks of the importance of Eucharistic Adoration in our lives.

SHE SAYS... “Jesus has made Himself the *Bread of Life* to give us life. Night and day He is there. If you really want to grow in love, come back to the Eucharist. **Come back to Adoration.**

We at St. Elizabeth’s have the opportunity every **Thursday** and **First Friday weekend** for special prayer before our Eucharistic Lord. Consider taking advantage of this time.

EVENTS IN THE AREA

RETROUVAILLE OF ST. LOUIS ~ YOU Can Help Your Marriage – 25% of surveyed couples say they are “Happily Married”. For everyone else there is Retrouvaille. Are you frustrated, hurt or angry with each other? Are you constantly fighting? Or so you simply shut down? Have you thought about separation or divorce? Does talking only make it worse? For information on the Retrouvaille Program, visit the website www.HelpOurMarriage.com or call 1-800-470-2230. The next program begins the weekend of February 3, 2017.

DAVE RAMSEY FINANCIAL PEACE

UNIVERSITY ~ St. Mary’s Parish in Edwardsville will be offering the Dave Ramsey’s Financial Peace University course January 11 – March 8. Video viewing begins at 6:30pm, discussion at 7:30-8:30pm. Cost is \$75 per kit, scholarships available. Contact St. Mary’s Parish Office at 618-656-4857 to register.

TK14 March 17-19, 2017 Registration forms are in the Gathering Space. Please pick one up and think about taking the time to make this your Lenten sacrifice for 2017. Questions, please contact Tammi Mooshegian 618-920-1792.

CHRISTMAS PIANO SOLO CONCERT

Featuring Rich McKinney, Sunday, December 18th, 2016 starting at 6:00 p.m. at Unity Baptist Church, 2500 Saint Clair Ave., Granite City, IL. Donations of nonperishable food items and / or Love offerings will

be graciously accepted. All proceeds collected will benefit Granite City Community Care Center Inc. Refreshments will be served after the concert.

CATHOLIC CHILDREN’S HOME ~ The mission of the Catholic Children’s Home is to aid, protect and care for the needs, education and welfare of dependent, neglected, abused or otherwise hurting children and families without regard to poverty, riches, race, religion or national origin. Every year we depend on the Christmas Day collection as the most important part of our fundraising. What better day to remember the children who, through no fault of their own, are less fortunate than our own. Your monetary donation to the Catholic Children’s Home is a wonderful way to ensure that we will continue to bring help to the most needy children and to ensure that they have a brighter hope for the future.

FATHER MCGIVNEY CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL EARLY DECISION DEADLINE – DECEMBER 15TH! Apply online before December 15th for the 2017-18 school year to receive the following:

1. A one-time \$500 tuition credit and
2. Priority consideration for financial assistance if your FACTS assistance application is also completed by March 30th.

For more information about Father McGivney Catholic High School, visit our website at www.mcgivneygriffins.com or contact the Development Office at 618-855-9010 or development@mcgivneygriffins.com.

MARQUETTE’S PLACEMENT TEST for incoming freshmen will take place on Saturday, January 14, 2017 at Marquette Catholic High School. The test will be given at 8:30 a.m. and there will be a question and answer period for parents at 10:00 a.m. in the cafeteria. The test will be over at approximately 11:30 a.m. You can earn a \$1,000 academic scholarship for your freshman year tuition if you score in the top 10% of the students on the Entrance Exam! Marquette Catholic awards more than \$300,000 annually in scholarships and financial assistance. Every opportunity will be made to assist students and families that choose and deserve to continue their Catholic education at Marquette. Please let us know if you have any questions. Marquette really wants you!! Go to the admissions tab at www.marquettecatholic.org and follow the directions to begin your application. Please call Meg Miller at

618-463-0585 ext. 2 or email mmiller@marquettecatholic.org for more information. “It’s a great time to be an EXPLORER!”

OUR GIFTS TO GOD

December 5

Week 23 Regular Income	
193 Envelopes	\$ 7,558.00
(Average Gift \$39.16)	
Loose	311.90
Tuition Assistance	606.00
Bldg. Repair & Maintenance	690.00
Christmas Offering	90.00
All Saints Day	5.00
Christmas Flowers	1,339.00
Solemnity of Mary	30.00
Immaculate Conception	75.00
Stole Fee	125.00
Special Projects	1,015.00
TOTAL	\$11,844.90

OTHER GIFTS

Candles	90.00
Catholic Children’s Home	60.00
Retired Religious	65.00

SCRIP PROGRESS

Week ending 12/05/16

Shop n Save	Walmart	National
\$3,650.00	\$7,200.00	\$5,710.00

Total Sales: \$16,560.00

Year to Date:

Shop n Save	Walmart	National
\$102,275.00	\$115,300.00	\$154,795.00

TOTAL: \$372,370.00

APPROX. GROSS PROFIT TO DATE:	\$17,714.00
APPROX. CREDIT CARD FEES	(1,305.00)
APPROX. NET PROFIT TO DATE	\$16,409.00
KEEP US IN MIND FOR THE CHRISTMAS SEASON. PLEASE PURCHASE AND/OR ORDER SCRIP EARLY!	

ACSA 2016

Goal	\$50,535.00
Pledged	\$22,405.00
Pledge Payments	\$11,855.00
Summer Donations	
Balance Owed	\$38,680.00

80 of 899 Families Pledged
Average Pledge - \$280.06

NEW PARISHIONER

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

CITY _____ STATE _____ ZIP _____

PHONE _____ MOBILE _____

EMAIL: _____

Place in the collection basket

REQUEST VISIT

NAME _____

PLACE _____

PERSON REQUESTING _____

PHONE _____

EMAIL _____

Place in the collection Basket