

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.

THE NATIVITY OF THE LORD
December 25, 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 26 – No PSR Class
 Monday, December 26 – PARISH OFFICE CLOSED
 Tuesday, December 27 - PARISH OFFICE CLOSING AT NOON
 Wednesday, December 28 – No RCIA Class
 Friday, December 30 – PARISH OFFICE CLOSED
 Monday, January 2 – PARISH OFFICE CLOSED
PLEASE PATRONIZE OUR ADVERTISERS!!
Thanks to all our sponsors on the back cover of our bulletin. This week we thank GCS Credit Union, (618) 797-7993.

LITURGICAL ASSIGNMENTS

LITURGICAL ROLES
December 31 & January 1

EUCCHARISTIC MINISTERS:

4:30 p.m.	V. Drennan, D. Wright, D. Schrenk, P. Mills, C. Strehl, C. Kessler, S. Dombek
8:00 a.m.	P. Ames, M. Williams, D. & E. Mooshegian, B. Milianis, R. Carr, S. Carr
10:30 a.m.	M. Ryan, M. Rees, T. Cholevik, L. Alegre, D. Gensert, M. Boschert, K. Boschert

LECTORS:

4:30 p.m.	J. Mills
8:00 a.m.	A. Loftus
10:30 a.m.	A. Bone

SERVERS:

4:30 p.m.	R. Willaredt, M. Buckingham, K. Willaredt
8:00 a.m.	Wilmsmeyer's
10:30 a.m.	M. Roseman, G. Hale, G. Smith

LITURGICAL SCHEDULE

Monday, December 26

6:30 p.m. Communion Service

Tuesday, December 27

No Service

Wednesday, December 28

8:15 a.m. Zachary Kibort by Charles & Bonnie Fahrner

Thursday, December 29

8:15 a.m. Mary Danheiser by Norma Lesko

ADORATION

Friday, December 30

8:15 a.m. Ann Miller by Sarah Leatherman
 3:00 p.m. Chaplet, Rosary, Prayers for World Peace

Saturday, December 31

8:00 a.m. Communion Service

VIGIL: THE SOLEMNITY OF MARY, THE HOLY MOTHER OF GOD

4:30 p.m. Charles Hagnauer by Jeannie & Gary Wilbur

Sunday, January 1 – THE SOLEMNITY OF MARY, THE HOLY MOTHER OF GOD

8:00 a.m. Dee Scaturro by Elaine Foreman & Cheryl Folkerts
 10:30 a.m. Parishioners of St. Elizabeth Parish Family

Liturgical Schedule at Holy Family for Dec. 26-30

Monday & Tuesday – No Mass, Wednesday, Thursday & Friday – 8:00 a.m. Mass

Liturgical Schedule at St. Mary/St. Mark for Dec. 26-30

Tuesday – 8:00 a.m. Mass, Monday, Wednesday, Thursday and Friday – No Mass
 New Years Day 9:30AM Mass

Greeter's Schedule for December 31 & January 1

4:30 p.m.	Team 1
8:00 a.m.	Team 1
10:30 a.m.	Team 1

FATHER CHRIS'S CORNER

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

A COMERFORD FAMILY CHRISTMAS POEM

O SWEETEST BABY JESUS
HOW COLD YOU WERE THAT NIGHT
NO SANTA CLAUS CAME NEAR YOU
NO CANDLE GAVE YOU LIGHT

IF I WERE THERE DEAR JESUS
I'D KEEP YOU IN MY BED
AND WRAP YOU WARM DEAR JESUS
AND COVER UP YOUR HEAD

AND WHEN YOU WOKE DEAR JESUS
I'D SHARE MY TOYS WITH YOU
AND WHEN THE TREE WAS LIGHTED
YOU'D CLAP YOUR HANDS AND COO

BUT MOTHER TOLD ME JESUS
YOU DID NOT COME TO PLAY
FOR GOD OUR FATHER SENT YOU
TO TAKE OUR SINS AWAY

YOU ARE THE REAL SANTA
WHO BRINGS US MORE THAN TOYS
THE GATES OF HEAVEN YOU OPENED
TO EVERLASTING JOYS

I'LL ALWAYS LOVE YOU JESUS
AND MOTHER MARY TOO
I HOPE WHEN I'M IN HEAVEN
SHE'LL LET ME PLAY WITH YOU

Fr. Leonard Feeney SJ

MERRY CHRISTMAS

A child has been born unto us who is Christ the Lord! I hope you are having a Blessed time with your family and friends during this holy season. Thanks to all those who worked so hard in decorating our Church to make it so beautiful. Thanks to Cathy Cassy and the

choir for the beautiful music and song they provided. Your hard work definitely paid off! Thanks to all those who took part in all the other ministries that made our Masses such great celebrations.

Thanks to everyone for the cards, gifts, goodies and kind words you have given me at this Christmas time. I will get personal thank you notes out to you as soon as I can. I am taking a couple of days off this week to spend time with my family but will be in the office on Wednesday.

CHRISTMAS DAY

The Church's Liturgy rings in Christmas with a joyful noise. We hear today of uplifted voices, trumpets and horns, and melodies of praise.

In the First Reading, Isaiah foretells Israel's liberation from captivity and exile in Babylon. He envisions a triumphant homecoming to Zion marked by joyful singing.

The new song in today's Psalm is a victory hymn to the marvelous deeds done by our God and King. Both the prophet and psalmist sing of God's power and salvation. God has shown the might of His holy arm, they say. This language recalls the Exodus, where the people first sang of God's powerful arm that shattered Israel's enemy Egypt (see Exodus 15:1, 6, 16).

The coming of the Christ child into the world fulfills all that the Exodus and the return from exile prefigured.

In Jesus, all nations to the ends of the earth will see the victory of God over the forces of sin and death. Jesus is the new King. He is the royal firstborn son and Son of God promised to David, as we hear in today's Epistle (see Psalms 2:7; 2 Samuel 7:14). And as our Gospel reveals, He is the Word of God, the one through whom the universe was created, the one through whom the universe is sustained.

In speaking to us through His Son, God has unveiled a new age, the last days.

The new age is a new creation. In the beginning, God spoke His Word and light shone in the darkness. Now, in this new age, He sends us the true light to scatter the darkness of a world that has exiled itself from God.

He is the one Isaiah foretold---who brings good tidings of peace and salvation, who announces to the world that God has come to dwell and to reign (see Revelation 21:3-4).

So we sing a new song on Christmas. It is the song of those who have believed in the Christ child and been

born again---by grace given the power to become children of God.

From Breaking the Bread by Dr. Scott Hahn

RIGHT TO LIFE

“What came to be through him was life, and this life was the light of the human race; the light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it.”
---John 1:3-4, NABRE 2010 CCD. 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

❖ Calendar Raffle Winners

- 12/19 Kathy Weinkein \$750
- 12/20 Marie Willie \$750
- 12/21 Linda Jones \$750
- 12/22 Bill Rickowski Jr. \$1000
- 12/23 Brad Skalsky \$2000
- 12/24 Kay Preloger \$5000

➤ Winners must claim prize money at the parish office for tax purposes.

Thank you all for supporting our calendar raffle!

❖ Auction News

- **Save The Date for the Annual Dinner Dance Auction – March 4th**

The 12th Annual PTO Fundraiser will be held at St. Gregory Hall. Please plan to attend our big event.

- ✓ Contact Shawna Morris/Cheryl Folkerts with donations.

- ✓ Advertisements and/or gift card donations are due on January 6th.
- ✓ Tickets go on sale in January for \$30 each. Ticket prices in February will be \$35.

• Donation Request

Mr. and Mrs. Jakich are going to chair a wine and alcohol raffle at the Annual Dinner Dance Auction. If you would like to donate a standard size bottle of wine or liqueur, please drop off your donation at the parish office by February 10th. Thank you! *Other donation items may be brought to the school or delivered to Shawna Morris/Cheryl Folkerts.*

❖ Looking Ahead

- 12/27 12/30 Kid's Klub and PreK available
- 1/2 St. Elizabeth School is closed (PreK – 8)
- 1/3 Students return to school
- 1/11 Honor Roll after mass
- 1/16 St. Elizabeth School is closed – Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Day
- 1/19 First Reconciliation
- 1/21 Trivia Night – call the school office to reserve a table (618) 877-3300 ext.5
- 1/29 Celebrate Catholic Schools Week 10:30 Mass, Open House

PARISH NEWS

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 Billy Adams by JoAnn, Michael and Makayla Adams.

MERCY MINUTES FOR THE JUBILEE YEAR OF MERCY – “There are no indifferent moments in my life, since every moment of my life is filled with prayer, suffering, and work. If not in one way, then in another. I glorify God; and if God were to give me a second life, I do not know whether I would make

better use of it..." (From the Diary of St. Faustina, 1545)

GC ROCK NEWS

CALLING ALL HIGH SCHOOL YOUTH!
GC Rock is for you!

Merry Christmas!

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

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

Sunday, January 8 – Gathering at St. Elizabeth 6:30-8pm. Bring a friend! Mosaic Baby Bottle Campaign begins at Holy Family!

Sunday, January 15 – Gathering TBD.

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.

SENIOR NEWS

Holy Family Senior Luncheon will be Tuesday, January 10, 2017. Lunch served from 11:00-12:00pm. Cost \$3.00. Bunco will be played for 50 cents.

MINISTERS OF PRAYER

The prayer intentions for January are on the table in the Gathering Space. God Bless 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.

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.

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!"

THE MONTE LAVERNA FRATERNITY OF THE SECULAR FRANCISCANS is happy to announce a newly professed member: our very own Ms. Roberta Papa! Our fraternity is open to all practicing Catholics who wish to enrich their religious life by learning more about St. Francis and St. Clare and modeling their lives by their works. If you would like to find out more, we invite you to attend our next meeting, January 8th from 1:00-3:00 p.m. in the Parish Life Center. Refreshments are served also! We look forward to seeing you there!

OUR GIFTS TO GOD

December 19

Week 25 Regular Income	
112 Envelopes	\$ 4,596.00
(Average Gift \$41.04)	
Loose	480.00
Tuition Assistance	35.00
Annual Fund/Bingo Profit	20,000.00
Bldg. Repair & Maintenance	290.00
Christmas Flowers	110.00

Solemnity of Mary	1.00
Immaculate Conception	11.00
Advent Books	509.85
Special Projects	601.00
TOTAL	\$26,633.85

OTHER GIFTS

Candles	90.00
Catholic Children's Home	300.00
Retired Religious	135.00

SCRIP PROGRESS

Week ending 12/19/16

Shop n Save	Walmart	National
\$3,150.00	\$9,750.00	\$19,455.00

Total Sales: \$32,355.00

Year to Date:

Shop n Save	Walmart	National
\$107,850.00	\$131,450.00	\$183,220.00

TOTAL: \$422,520.00

APPROX. GROSS PROFIT TO DATE:	\$20,180.00
APPROX. CREDIT CARD FEES	(1,481.00)
APPROX. NET PROFIT TO DATE	\$18,699.00

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: _____

