

The Roman Catholic Parish of Saint Elizabeth of Hungary

*307 Franklin St.
Smethport, PA 16749*

*20 Division St.
Mount Jewett, Pa 16740*



Sacramental Information

Baptism: Parents & Godparents are asked to participate in a Preparation Program prior to scheduling a Baptism.

Matrimony: An appointment with the parish priest, needs to be made at least 6 months prior to the wedding date, before the wedding can be scheduled. PreCana, Engagement Encounter, or NOVA is required.

Sick Calls, Anointing, Communion: Please call the parish office to arrange visits for those sick or homebound.

New Members are always welcome. Contact the parish office to register or use the form on back of bulletin. Moving? Please let us know.

RCIA (Rite of Christian Initiation for Adults): Any individual seeking information on becoming Catholic or learning more about the Catholic Faith should call the parish office.



Liturgy & Reconciliation

- Daily & weekend Mass times for this week are inside bulletin
- Reconciliation held Saturdays at Saint Elizabeth 3:30-4:15 pm, after Mass at St. Joseph, or by appointment at either parish
- Holy Days: Call parish for times
- Nursing Home Masses at Sena Kean and Lakeview Homes held the first and third Thursday each month

PASTORAL STAFF

Pastor Rev. Vincent P. Cieslewicz, Jr. - Saint Elizabeth Rectory— 814-887-9254

Mailing address for both churches: 307 Franklin St. Smethport, PA 16749

Secretary –Patty Roesch

Parish Office 814-887-9254 : 9 AM-1 PM Mon.-Fri.

Religious Education—Jan Adamoski

814-887-4992 or sercc.re@gmail.com

FAX: 887-5271; email: stelizabethrcc@comcast.net

Prayer Requests: 465-3569

<http://www.stelizabethsmethport.org>

Prayer Requests: 814-778-5520

LITURGIES FOR THE WEEK AT ST. ELIZABETH

Saturday, Dec. 7
 5:00 PM + Elmer Campbell
 by Tony & Bernie Valenti

Sunday, Dec. 8 **Second Sunday of Advent**
8:45 AM Reciting of The Rosary
 9:30 AM For The People

Monday, Dec. 9
 7:00 AM Adoration of The Blessed Sacrament
 8:00 AM + Robert Tronetti, Sr.
 by Christ Tronetti

Tuesday, Dec. 10
 7:00 AM Adoration of The Blessed Sacrament
 8:00 AM + Raymond Deegan
 by Bev & Ron

Thursday, Dec. 12
 7:00 AM Adoration of The Blessed Sacrament
 8:00 AM + Gary Bush
 by Bev & Ron

Friday, Dec. 13
 11:00 AM Adoration of The Blessed Sacrament
 12:10 PM Souls in Purgatory
 by Mary Ann Schafer

Saturday, Dec. 14
 3:30-4:45 PM Confession
 5:00 PM For The People

Sunday, Dec. 15 **Third Sunday of Advent**
8:45 AM Reciting of The Rosary
 9:30 AM + Robert A. Nick
 by The Eidson Family

LITURGIES FOR THE WEEK AT ST. JOSEPH

Sunday, Dec. 8 **Second Sunday of Advent**
 8:00 AM + Patrick Eaton
 by Susan Eaton & Family

Sunday, Dec. 15 **Third Sunday of Advent**
 8:00 AM + Vicki & Kari Carrow
 by Bill & Dot Sluga

WEEKLY OFFERING AT ST. ELIZABETH

For the week of Nov. 24, 2019

Weekly Collection: \$ 2,311.00
 Campaign for Human Dev: \$ 339.00

For the week of Dec. 1, 2019

Weekly Collection: \$ 1,568.00

WEEKLY OFFERING AT ST. JOSEPH

For the week of Nov. 24, 2019

Weekly Collection: \$361.00
 Campaign for Human Dev: \$ 82.00

For the week of Dec. 1, 2019

Weekly Collection: \$472.00

**MINISTRY SCHEDULE FOR DEC. 15, 2019
 FOR ST. JOSEPH**

Lector: Patricia Marrero **Ministers:**
 Mary Ann Schaffer
 Mary Smith
 Dave Gerber

Server: Mackenzie

Eucharistic Ministers: Please be sure to check before visiting for any changes or additions. Let us know of changes in the resident list at the nursing homes. Thank you.

All Ministries: Please remember to find a substitute if you cannot serve during the Mass scheduled.

MINISTRY SCHEDULE FOR Dec. 14-15, 2019

St. Elizabeth	Sat. 5:00 PM	Sunday 9:30 AM
Eucharistic Ministers	Mary Jo Kreiner Nikki Kreiner	John Carr Terri Carr Marian Bush
Lectors:	Paul Costa	Jeff Holcomb
Altar Servers:	Ava Vinnie	Ashley John

Eucharistic Ministers- Homebound: Steve Eidson
 Sena Kean Visits: John & Terri Carr
 Lakeview: Marian Bush

REMEMBER IN PRAYER: A Special Intention, Pat Peterson, Special Intention, Rita Bidwell, Shelly Maybury, Jack & Janine Sokoloski, Dylan Lunder, John Crowley, A Special Intention, Patti Price, Caitlyn Bankovich, Elijah Waite, Penny Duncan, Malvina Weakland, Special Intention, Carmela Hamilton, Mary Kay Peters, Adam DeSio.

St. Joseph's for the month of December

SANCTUARY LIGHT is In Loving Memory of **George & Helen Peters** by Robert Barber & Family, Karen Barber



INFANT OF PRAGUE is In Loving Memory of **The Kaye Family** by Carole Cook

Pray for Priests of The Erie Diocese

Dec. 8 Rev. Thomas N. Trocchio
 Dec. 9 Rev. Msgr. Richard J. Stack
 Dec. 10 Rev. Johnathan P. Schmolt
 Dec. 11 Rev. George E. Strohmeyer
 Dec. 12 Rev. Jerry S. Priscaro
 Dec. 13 Rev. Rocco A. Tito
 Dec. 14 The Most Rev. Donald W. Trautman



The Reverend Vincent Cieslewicz
St. Elizabeth of Hungary Parish

Dear Father Cieslewicz,

Thank you for your parish's donation of \$1,050.00 to the *Catholic Rural Ministry of Oil City Deanery* through the Missionary Cooperative Plan. Your generosity and that of your parishioners will help enable their important work to continue.

Thank you also for your hospitality in welcoming your visiting missionary. It is my hope that his/her personal witness furthered your parishioners' understanding of the mission work being done in the Church today, and also enhanced their awareness of our interconnectedness with all our brothers and sisters in Christ throughout the world. It is only with the support of our pastors that the Missionary Cooperative Plan can continue to be a success both educationally for our parishioners and financially for the work of our missionaries. Thank you for your support.

Many Blessing.

Indiar J. Suarez

Directory of Diocesan and International Missions, Office of Catholic Charities



Friendship Table
Thanks You

for any and all contributions you have made to the *Friendship Table*, making it possible to see that no one in our community goes to bed hungry! Since opening in October of 1997 we have been able to provide over 600,00 meals to those needing assistance. Folks like you make it happen. Thank you for donating the leftovers from your Thanksgiving dinner. We appreciate your always thinking of us and will be a treat for all.



Sunday, Dec 08, 2019

SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT

Back to the garden

Among the cards arriving daily are the usual crèche scenes, angels, wise men, shepherds, and Bethlehem stars like searchlights against the night. Truth be told, there are plenty of Santas and reindeer, snowfolk, and cute animals too. But somewhere is the odd pairing of a lion and a lamb snuggling together—which never happens in Isaiah’s prophecy, by the way. The lamb hosts the wolf, and the calf dines with the lion, but no matter. The idea is that the world’s original harmony is achievable—if we all retract our claws and keep our teeth to ourselves. Be a peacemaker!

TODAY’S READINGS: Isaiah 11:1-10; Romans 15:4-9; Matthew 3:1-12 (4). *“The calf and the young lion shall browse together, with a little child to lead them.”*

Monday, Dec 09, 2019

SOLEMNITY OF THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY [PATRONAL FEAST OF THE U.S.A.]

Mary was no angel

Since her very conception, Mary of Nazareth has been named “immaculate,” “pure,” “unblemished.” And rightfully so for she was born without sin and remained so throughout her life. Yet because of this pristineness, we sometimes think Mary was untouched by the messiness of everyday life. But Mary was a flesh-and-blood human and a strong, loving woman. She experienced the beauty and struggles of family and village life. She faced poverty and a refugee’s life, persecution and heart-breaking sorrow when her son was tortured and killed. With Mary as your companion, take time this Advent to peer into your heart and see what beautiful, messy, tender, and broken things you are holding.

TODAY’S READINGS: Genesis 3:9-15, 20; Ephesians 1:3-6, 11-12; Luke 1:26-38 (689). *“God chose us to be holy and unblemished.”*

Tuesday, Dec 10, 2019

HUMAN RIGHTS DAY

Embrace the lost sheep

In today’s gospel, Jesus elevates the importance of the single “lost sheep.” It’s worth leaving the 99 on their own for a time because the lost one has enormous value. Catholic social teaching hinges on the idea that every single human being has infinite worth, including our own lost sheep. Today those who are “outside the fold” include addicts, the homeless, prisoners, refugees, the mentally ill—even our most unlovable relative. Who are the lost sheep in your community? Can you take one small step today to affirm their dignity and worth?

TODAY’S READINGS: Isaiah 40:1-11; Matthew 18:12-14 (182). *“Will he not leave the ninety-nine in the hills and go in search of the stray?”*

Wednesday, Dec 11, 2019

MEMORIAL OF DAMASUS I, POPE

Stick with a church that sticks around

If you love singing “Adeste Fideles” and “Gloria in Excelsis Deo” at this time of year, you can probably thank Pope Damasus I for that. As the bishop of Rome during the fourth century, he championed many aspects of the faith that persist to this day— aspects that have helped ensure the cohesiveness and longevity of Catholic practice. These include: a common language (Latin) for

worship, an official list of books for the Bible, the veneration of Christian martyrs, the denunciation of certain heresies, and the primacy of the bishop of Rome as pope. His actions laid down some of the first stones of a church that Vatican II saw as having an “eternal foundation” based on Christ.

TODAY’S READINGS: Isaiah 40:25-31; Matthew 11:28-30 (183). *“Have you not heard? The Lord is the eternal God.”*

Thursday, Dec 12, 2019

FEAST OF OUR LADY OF GUADALUPE

Of the people and for the people

Our Lady of Guadalupe is probably the most iconic image and story of Mary in North America. One reason for this overwhelming devotion is that she appeared in the form of an indigenous woman to an indigenous man—Indians being the lowest tier of Mexican society both then and now. That God’s own mother could be of the poor and for the poor continues to be a powerful message with strong implications about how we treat one another. In your prayer today, reflect on whose image Mary might take on if she were to appear in your community today.

What would her face look like? And what might she ask of us?

TODAY’S READINGS: Zechariah 2:14-17 or Revelation 11:19a; 12:1-6a, 10ab; Luke 1:26-38 or 1:39-47 (690A). *“A great sign appeared in the sky, a woman clothed with the sun, with the moon under her feet, and on her head a crown of twelve stars.”*

Friday, Dec 13, 2019

MEMORIAL OF LUCY, VIRGIN, MARTYR

See with new eyes

The music of Lucinda Williams is beautiful, simple, and challenging. In 2011, she released the song “Blessed,” a litany to remind us that even in the challenges of life, we are blessed. She sings, for example, “We were blessed by the blind man / Who could see for miles and miles.” We have a patron saint for people who are blind, Saint Lucy. Though tortured, blinded, and martyred, she is remembered as a woman of great vision for her love of Christ and poor people. How can you see “miles and miles” through a challenge you face?

TODAY’S READINGS: Isaiah 48:17-19; Matthew 11:16-19 (185). *“I, the LORD, your God, teach you what is for your good, and lead you on the way you should go.”*

Saturday, Dec 14, 2019

MEMORIAL OF JOHN OF THE CROSS, PRIEST, DOCTOR OF THE CHURCH

The change we need

Here’s a simple truth: People resist change. The greater the change, the greater the resistance, generally speaking—even when the change is long overdue and much for the better. John of the Cross embraced the Carmelite reform initiated by his spiritual sister, the visionary Carmelite Saint Teresa of Avila. However, a group of his fellow Carmelites strongly opposed the reform and went so far as to imprison John and treat him harshly. He persevered, and even wrote most of his famous *Spiritual Canticle* while jailed. Try to see unfair treatment or setbacks that come your way as an opportunity for spiritual growth.

TODAY’S READINGS: Sirach 48:1-4, 9-11; Matthew 17:9a, 10-13 (186). *“I tell you that Elijah has already come, and they did not recognize him but did to him whatever they pleased.”*

Invest just five minutes a day, and your faith will deepen and grow—a day at a time



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At Saint Elizabeth's:

Thurs-Sat. 12-14 Church hall in use all day
 Sat. Dec. 14 Church hall in use all day
 Sun. Dec. 15 1:00 PM St. Elizabeth Christmas Party



At Saint Joseph's:



For safety reasons, those who have registered need to come at their designated registration times. No early birds. Distribution will be held on Tuesday, Dec.

10th. Volunteers are needed from **12:30-4:00 PM** when the truck arrives and when **Distribution begins at 2:00. Help for any amount of time is appreciated.**



Wrapped gifts for the Angel Tree need to be returned to the Church by Wednesday, December 11. If you have any questions please contact Tim and Mary Beth Holohan at 465-2229 or 558-5684."



Help is needed to set the hall for the parish Christmas party "Party in The Pines". Set-up will start at 6:00 PM Thurs, Dec. 12th. Everyone is welcome to help turn the hall into a festive place.

Marriage Moments

"Think in harmony with one another." (Rom. 15:5) In any marriage spouses will have disagreements. That's because we are independent individuals - and that is good. But today, celebrate one quality that you wholeheartedly agree upon.

Parish Development Memorial Fund

Joseph Marinik	Tom & Sally Cioffi
Robert Yancosek	Kay Nogar
Donald Switzer	Audrey Deegan
Donald Switzer	Kim & Dave Soble
Donald Switzer	The International Group
Joseph Marinik	Steve Eidson

Building Fund Memorial

Donald Switzer	Robert Murphy
Donald Switzer	Stacy & Ginny Lunn & Family
Donald Switzer	Rose Campbell

Retirement for The Religious

Support aging religious. Our second collection is for the Retirement Fund for Religious. Many senior Catholic sisters, brothers, and religious order priests served for little or no pay. Today, religious communities often do not have enough savings to meet retirement needs. Your gift helps provide medications, nursing care, and more for tens of thousands of elderly religious. It also helps ensure younger members can continue the good works of their elders. Please be generous.

Families Always Matter in the Diocese of Erie

Get resources and suggestions for your family at the Diocese of Erie's family website, www.erieecd.org/familiesmatter. Feel supported, encouraged, and blessed whether your family is a traditional, single-parent, blended, military, or an adoptive/foster family. Go Families! Also Formed.org using our parish code **TRY7DX**.

Christmas Flowers Sunday, December 15th will be the last day to turn in your flower envelopes to be included in the Christmas bulletin. Please be sure and write or print clearly on the envelope. Thank you.



Child Protection and Creating Safe Environments- Keeping God's Children Protected and Safe: To know that we are children of God is to live in complete love, with deep abiding security and the ability to dream, to sing, to create, to laugh, and to play without worry. As we grow older, we face a new reality – we cannot approach all God's creation with the same trust and confidence. We learn, through sometimes hurtful and damaging experiences, that some people reject the ability that God gave them to love and respect others – they ignore God's call. The diocesan program to safeguard children helps remind us of these very facts. With the help of this program, the faithful are guided and educated about the responsibility of how to keep God's children protected and safe. To see what the Diocese of Erie is doing to help maintain safe environments, visit <https://www.erieecd.org/childprotection/>

THINGS HAPPENING AROUND US

Advent event

During Advent Fr. Vince will host a DVD presentation and lite supper following the 5:00 PM Mass in St. Elizabeth's church hall.

Volunteers are needed: Red Kettle Bell Ringers are needed in Mt. Jewett at Mt. Jewett Market Place to ring the bell on Fridays and Saturdays until 12/21. Friday times are 10:00 AM-6:00 PM, Saturday times are 8:00 AM-6:00 PM, shift would be 2 hours at a time. You may call Pastor Cindy Duffee at 724-456-0927 to sign-up or the United Methodist Church 778-5808 and leave a message.

Give your loved ones the gift of Engagement Encounter

What better way to show your support of an upcoming marriage than with a gift that lasts a lifetime: Engagement Encounter. The next EE will be held on for January 24th through 26th in Erie at St. Mark Catholic Center. Space is limited and early registrations are encouraged. Call the Family Life Office for details at 814-824-1261 or by email at: familylife@erieRCD.org. Remember, "A wedding is one day, but marriage is for a lifetime."