

# *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.

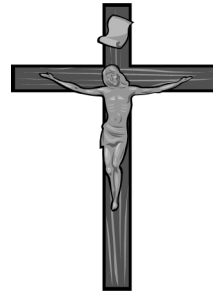
**Sick Calls, Anointing, Communion:** Please call the parish office to arrange visits for those sick or homebound.

**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](mailto:sercc.re@gmail.com)

FAX: 887-5271; email: [stelizabethrcc@comcast.net](mailto:stelizabethrcc@comcast.net)

<http://www.stelizabethsmethport.org>

Prayer Requests: 465-3569

Prayer Requests: 814-778-5520

**SAINT ELIZABETH, SMETHPORT, PA**

**LITURGIES FOR THE WEEK AT ST. ELIZABETH**

Saturday, Dec. 1  
5:00 PM For The People

Sunday, Dec. 2  
**8:45 AM Reciting of The Rosary**  
9:30 AM In Honor of Our Confirmation Students

Monday, Dec. 3  
7:00 AM Adoration of The Blessed Sacrament  
8:00 AM St. Joseph's Shut-ins  
St. Joseph Rosary

Tuesday, Dec. 4  
7:00 AM Adoration of The Blessed Sacrament  
8:00 AM + Joseph Marquart, Sr.  
by Julie, Joe & Mary

Thursday, Dec. 6  
2:15 AM Mass at Sena Kean  
+ Thelma Brooder

4-5:00 PM Confession

Friday, Dec. 7  
**First Friday**  
11:00 AM Adoration of The Blessed Sacrament  
12:10 PM In Reparation for Sins Committed  
Against Sacred Heart of Jesus

**7:00 PM Mass of Anticipation** of The  
Immaculate Conception of The  
Blessed Virgin Mary  
For The People

Saturday, Dec. 8  
**8:00 AM** The Immaculate Conception of The  
Blessed Virgin Mary  
For The People

3:30-4:15 PM Confession

5:00 PM George Geringer  
By Mary Jo Kreiner & Family

Sunday, Dec. 9  
**8:45 AM Reciting of The Rosary**  
9:30 AM For The People  
10:30-11:30 AM Religious Education Students  
Penance Service

**3:00 PM** Parish Penance Service

**LITURGIES FOR THE WEEK AT ST. JOSEPH**

Sunday, Dec. 2  
8:00 AM + Gene Henderson  
by The Henderson's

**Friday, Dec. 7**  
**5:00 PM Mass of Anticipation** of The  
Immaculate Conception of The  
Blessed Virgin Mary  
For The People

Sunday, Dec. 9  
8:00 AM Ellen Forsyth  
by St. Joseph Rosary Society

**St. Elizabeth Women's Fellowship** will meet on  
Wednesday, December 5. We will begin with  
reciting the rosary in church at 11:45 and  
continue with a meeting in the hall. Feel free to  
bring a light dish to pass for lunch. Preparations  
be made for the 2019 soup luncheons.



**REMEMBER IN PRAYER:** A Special Intention, Pat  
Peterson, Rita Bidwell, Shelly Maybury, Jack & Janine  
Sokoloski, Dylan Lunder, John Crowley, Cathy Kaltenbach,  
A Special Intention, Patti Price, Caitlyn Bankovich, Elijah  
Waite, Penny Duncan, Malvina Weakland, Louise DeSio.

**WEEKLY OFFERING AT ST. ELIZABETH**

**For the week of Nov. 18, 2018**

Weekly Collection: \$2,169.00  
Campaign for Human Dev. \$ 446.00

**WEEKLY OFFERING AT ST. JOSEPH**

**For the week of Nov. 18, 2018**

Weekly Collection: \$ 383.00  
Campaign for Human Dev. \$ 72.00

**WEEKLY OFFERING AT ST. ELIZABETH**

**For the week of Nov. 25, 2018**

Weekly Collection: \$1,895.00

**WEEKLY OFFERING AT ST. JOSEPH**

**For the week of Nov. 25, 2018**

Weekly Collection: \$ 308.00

**St. Joseph Rosary Society News:**  
**St. Joseph's Annual Rosary Christmas Party**  
will be held on Tuesday, Dec. 4th at 6:00 PM in  
the parish hall.



**St. Elizabeth Christmas Party**

Get your tickets for the 7th Annual Christmas  
Party. Only \$5.00 per person, children 5 and  
under are free. **Last day for tickets sales is  
Dec. 9th.** No tickets will be sold at the door.



A mobile food bank sponsored by  
St. Elizabeth Church and the Second  
Harvest Food Bank of Erie will be held on  
December 11th at St. Elizabeth Church in  
Smethport for McKean county residents  
who fall within the financial guidelines.

**Only one registration** per dwelling will be accepted and pre-  
registration by phone is required. Those wishing to register  
should contact St. Elizabeth R. C. Church **mobile phone at  
366-3186** on December 3rd from 6 PM to 8 PM. The caller  
must speak with a person. No message should be left on the  
voice mail as that is not monitored. There is a high volume of  
calls during this time, so please be patient. 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. 11th. 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.**



## Sunday, Dec 02, 2018

FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT

### A sober reckoning

Happy Advent! Although this season shares Lent's purple color, it's not meant to evoke the penitential atmosphere of that other preparatory season. Yet Advent does invite us to a more contemplative mood. Apart from the dizzying holiday pace of December, we make room to ponder a mystery. God is with us: as a baby born to mortal limits, as the boundless Lord of the end-times, and as the Spirit that accompanies us right now, through all our days. Our times give us many reasons to be afraid. The perfect love of God-with-us casts out every fear.

TODAY'S READINGS: Jeremiah 33:14-16; 1 Thessalonians 3:12-4:2; Luke 21:25-28, 34-36 (3). *"People will die of fright in anticipation of what is coming upon the world."*

## Monday, Dec 03, 2018

MEMORIAL OF FRANCIS XAVIER, PRIEST

### Dress to impress

One of the founding members of the Jesuits, Saint Francis Xavier (1506-52) is considered to have been one of the greatest missionaries since the apostles. Appointed to re-evangelize portions of the Far East, Francis placed himself with the outcasts, preaching to the sick and dying at hospitals and orphanages and slaves in the street. He understood that, were the fire of Christianity to spread through the East, the kindling must begin at the base of society. Rather than arriving like a royal ambassador, Francis clothed himself with rags and made his home in the lowliest shelters. His example shows us how humble appearances can be the greatest tool for bringing the message of Christ to others.

TODAY'S READINGS: Isaiah 2:1-5; Matthew 8:5-11 (175). *"Amen, I say to you, in no one in Israel have I found such faith."*

## Tuesday, Dec 04, 2018

MEMORIAL OF JOHN DAMASCENE, PRIEST, DOCTOR OF THE CHURCH

### Your cup will overflow

God does not send us away hungry. Remember this promise of faith the next time you find yourself feeling empty. During times of spiritual dryness, trust that you will eventually be fulfilled. As Saint John Damascene observed, as created beings, humans are subject to flux: "By flux," writes this seventh-century church doctor, "I mean . . . depletion, for dry things and wet things and spirit suffer depletion, and require repletion." The best thing you can do to restore your soul is to continue to pray and to do good works. As you feed others, you will soon find yourself satisfied as well.

TODAY'S READINGS: Isaiah 11:1-10; Luke 10:21-24 (176). *"Blessed are the eyes that see what you see."*

## Wednesday, Dec 05, 2018

ADVENT WEEKDAY

### On top of the world

"We've got some difficult days ahead. But it doesn't matter with me now. Because I've been to the mountaintop," Martin Luther King Jr. said in his last public speech. "I just want to do God's will. And He's allowed me to go up to the mountain. And I've looked over. And I've seen the Promised Land." In scripture, mountains are sacred places; the mountaintop is the epitome of the experiences that show us the glory of God. From that vantage

point, everything fades away and we see like God—with a clarity that gives glory and can change the world.

TODAY'S READINGS: Isaiah 25:6-10a; Matthew 15:29-37 (177). *"On this mountain the Lord of hosts will provide for all peoples."*

## Thursday, Dec 06, 2018

MEMORIAL OF NICHOLAS, BISHOP

### He comes bearing gifts

Saint Nicholas spoke out against heresies and was imprisoned for a time for his beliefs. His faithfulness is exemplary, but charity remains his signature virtue. What started with Nicholas tossing a few bags of coins into a poor family's yard has been transformed over centuries of retelling, embellishing, grafting, and adapting into the magical tales of Ole Saint Nick (Father Christmas, Santa Claus, Kris Kringle), whose yearly ambition is to deliver gifts to every girl and boy. We may not bring out our best robes and a fatted calf for the annual return of Santa, but cookies and milk serve nicely to show our gratitude to Saint Nick for inspiring ole souls of every stripe to be jollier and more generous.

TODAY'S READINGS: Isaiah 26:1-6; Matthew 7:21, 24-27 (178). *"Not everyone who says to me, 'Lord, Lord,' will enter the kingdom of heaven, but only the one who does the will of my Father in heaven."*

## Friday, Dec 07, 2018

MEMORIAL OF AMBROSE, BISHOP, DOCTOR OF THE CHURCH

### We're expecting!

Expectant mothers and fathers hear the stories of the coming of the Christ child with new ears. They know what it was like for Mary, large with child and focused on an inward life; and for Joseph, large with anxiety and focused outward on protecting and providing for this expanding family. Yet even those of us who do not anticipate carrying an infant in our arms anytime soon are Christ-bearers, as Saint Ambrose (c. 340-397) reminds us: "Christ has only one mother in the flesh, but we all bring forth Christ in faith." Prepare a place for the newborn!

TODAY'S READINGS: Isaiah 29:17-24; Matthew 9:27-31 (179). *"Let it be done for you according to your faith."*

## Saturday, Dec 08, 2018

SOLEMNITY OF THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY

### Past and present

Advent is a good time to ponder the mysteries of Mary, and the Feast of the Immaculate Conception (which celebrates Mary's conception) is a good place to start. According to Pope Pius IX's 1854 solemn decree on the Immaculate Conception, "Mary was preserved exempt from all stain of original sin by a singular privilege and grace granted by God, in view of the merits of Jesus Christ." Here's the mystery: God preserved Mary from sin through the love of her son. What does this mean? It means that God works in the past as well as the present. It means further that our own past wounds and deeds—which we thought were cast in stone—are available to be transformed, too. What in your past needs healing?

TODAY'S READINGS: Genesis 3:9-15, 20; Ephesians 1:3-6, 11-12; Luke 1:26-38 (689). *"The angel said to her, 'Nothing will be impossible with God.'"*

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



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Sunday, December 16th will be the last day to turn in your flower envelopes to be included in the Christmas bulletin. Please be sure and write clearly on the envelope. Thank you.

**St. Elizabeth** will have a Penance Service on Sunday, December 9th from 10:30-11:30 AM for All Religious Education Students. Parish Penance Service will be at 3:00 PM.



**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! Thank you for sharing your Thanksgiving Dinner with us. We were able to serve 110 people.

### **FAMILY PERSPECTIVE**

At this time of the year we are very conscious of our family as we make preparations for Christmas. Today's gospel warns us not to be consumed by all the consumer activity. This Advent appreciate the gift of people in your life. The best gift this season might be your appreciation of others.

### **MARRIAGE MOMENTS**

Spouses, even very loving spouses, sometimes need a "Do Over." When you catch yourself (or you are caught) saying or doing something hurtful, be humble enough to ask for a *Do Over*. Apologize. Rephrase your statement in a more sensitive way, Make an amend.

### **Families Always Matter in the Diocese of Erie**

Need some ideas to help your family along the journey of life? Visit the Families Always Matter website, [www.ErieRCD.org/familiesmatter](http://www.ErieRCD.org/familiesmatter), to find information/ideas for traditional, single-parent, blended, military, and adoptive/foster families. At the Diocese of Erie, families always matter! Go Families! Also Formed.org using our parish code **TRY7DX**.

### **St. Elizabeth Church**

I want to thank St. Elizabeth Parish for your generous contribution to the Children's Advocacy Center of McKean County (CACMC). Our Center has served 143 children and families thus far in 2018 and the reality is that that number will continue to increase. Since opening our doors in 2013 the CACMC has worked with over 650 children throughout our county. The donation enables our program to continue to create a child-friendly, safe and comfortable environment for all families that visit with us. It is individuals like you that truly inspire communities to become better places to live. In supporting the services of the CACMA you honor the children of McKean County!

**Religious Education News:** Christmas Caroling at Lake View and Sena-Kean - Due by 12-9-18. If the Permission Slip is not received, your child/children cannot attend the event (no exceptions).



### **ICE SKATING PARTY-OLEAN ICE RINK**

Religious Education students and their families are invited to attend an Ice Skating Party on **Dec. 8th** from **1:30-3:00 PM** Light refreshments will be provided. This includes the home school students. Please RSVP to Jan Adamoski at 887-4992 or [sercc.re@gmail.com](mailto:sercc.re@gmail.com).



What are the advent themes?

A: During the four Sundays of Advent, most churches focus on a particular theme from the life of Christ, such as **hope, love, joy and peace**. On the Advent wreath, each Sunday is represented by a purple or a blue candle, with the Sunday that focuses on joy being represented by pink.



**At Saint Elizabeth's:**

Sun. Dec. 2 10:30-11:30 AM Religious Education Classes  
 Wed. Dec. 5 11:45 AM Women's Fellowship Mtg. Parish hall  
 Sun. Dec. 9 10:30-11:30 AM Religious Education Students Penance Service  
 Sun. Dec. 9 3:00 PM Parish Penance Service



**At Saint Joseph's:**

Tues. Dec. 4 6:00 PM St. Joseph's Rosary Society Christmas Party in Center

Pray for Priest-December 2- 8  
 Dec. 3rd Rev. William A. Rice  
 Dec. 4th Rev. Nicholas J. Rouch  
 Dec. 5th Rev. Msgr. Henry J. Schauerman  
 Dec. 6th Rev. Johnathan P. Schmolt  
 Nov. 7th Rev. Paul S. Siebert  
 Nov. 8th Rev. Marc A. Stockton



Thank you to everyone who donated hats and gloves to the Smethport Peer Helpers.



**MINISTRY SCHEDULE FOR DECEMBER 9, 2018 FOR ST. JOSEPH**

**Lector:**  
Brittany Bizzak

**Ministers:**  
Mary Ann Schafer  
Patricia Marrero  
Kevin Housler

**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. 8-9, 2018**

St. Elizabeth	Sat. 5:00 PM	Sunday 9:30 AM
Eucharistic Ministers	Heather Costa Carolee Learn	Bernie Valenti Steven Valenti Marian Bush
Lectors:	Josh Costa	Jeff Holcomb
Altar Servers:	Ava Lila	Elizabeth Zachery



**St. Joseph's  
For the month of December**

**SANCTUARY LIGHT** is In Loving Memory of George & Helen Peters

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

**Parish Development Memorial Fund**

Patrick Eaton by Jim & Marisa Bechakas



**CONGRATULATIONS** to our newly Baptized into the Waters of Life at Saint Elizabeth's Parish! Katherine Suzanne Henderson, daughter of Michael and Christine Henderson was baptized on Saturday, November 24, 2018.

**THINGS HAPPENING AROUND US**

**Holiday Craft & Vendor Market at the Smethport Area High School.** Saturday, Dec. 8th from 10 AM to 4 PM. Free Admission Over 80 Vendors, Chinese Auction, 50/50 Tickets, Variety of Food. Come help support the school organizations.

**St. Elizabeth's** will one again be partnering with the Christian Community Food Bank this Christmas season as part of the "Angel Tree" program. The Parishioners of St. Elizabeth's have been among the most generous supporters of the program since it's inception and your generous support continues to make Christmas special for those in need. **Wrapped gifts will need to be returned to the Church by Sunday, December 9.** If you have any questions please contact Tim and Mary Beth Holohan at 465-2229 or 558-5684.



**Make an Investment in Your Future**

A wedding is one day; but your marriage is for a lifetime! Invest in your marriage by attending Engagement Encounter. Spend a weekend away from the stress of planning for the wedding, and enjoy the special moments of creating your future marriage together. Call the Family Life Office at 814-824-1261 or [familylife@erieRCD.org](mailto:familylife@erieRCD.org) for more information. All couples are welcome; scholarships are available for those in need. The next EE weekend is scheduled for January 25th through 27th at St. Mark's Catholic Center in Erie. To register on line, please visit [www.eriecd.org/ee.htm](http://www.eriecd.org/ee.htm).

Eucharistic Ministers- Homebound: Marian Bush  
 Sena Kean Visits: John & Terri Carr  
 Lakeview: Crystal Raymond