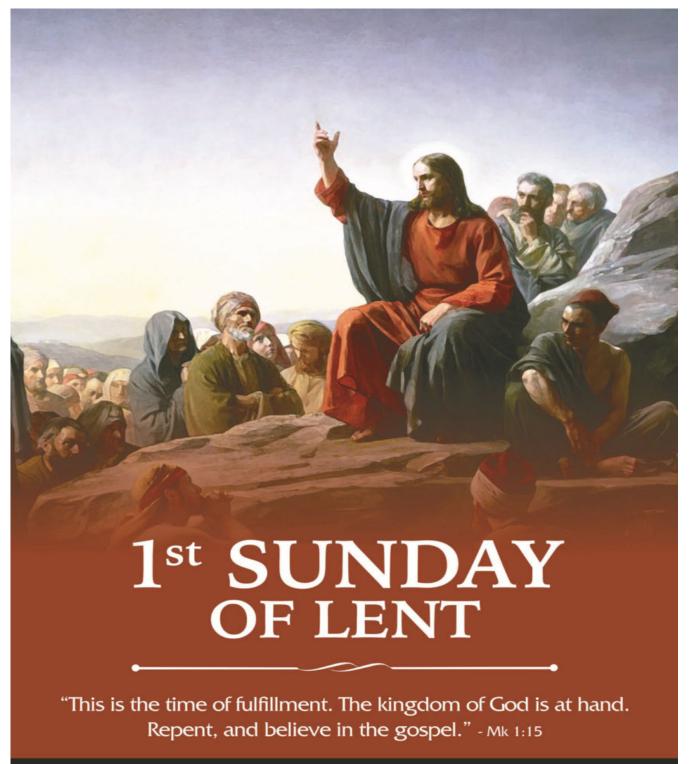


## FEBRUARY 18, 2024



# FROM FR. MIKE

This is the First Sunday of Lent and if you haven't yet come up with simple practices or have already struggled with your practices of prayer, fasting, and almsgiving, now is the time to begin again. While we normally hear of the specific temptations themselves in Matthew and Luke's Gospel, we hear other details in the Gospel of Mark today.

St. Mark tells us that immediately after Christ was baptized in the Jordan His public ministry began, but first the Son of God went into the desert to be tested by Satan. Jesus didn't first go and teach, heal, cast out demons, rather, He went to pray, fast, and was tested. Furthermore, the Gospel says that the Holy Spirit drove Jesus to this; the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, the One God willed this testing to happen right away.

Why? In short, to succeed against the adversary, Satan, who has kept the whole world under his dominion...until now.

There is a detail in the Gospel of Mark that is not in any of the others and that is that Christ was with the wild animals while Satan tempted Him. This reminds one of Adam who at first was in the Garden of Eden with animals but then he and Eve were tempted but sinned. Now the garden has become a desert and Jesus Christ is with not peaceful, but wild animals.

Jesus Christ is recapping in His own person all of salvation history, but where all others failed, Jesus passes the test. The new Adam who is both God and man sees through the Devil's lies and cannot be mastered by sin.

One practical consideration from all this for us is that it is not by mistake that after our own baptism, we too experience temptations. In fact, we should expect that the Devil will assault us more aggressively after our baptism. Sometimes we might think that if we lessen our discipline or spiritual practice that the Devil will leave us alone and we'll be at peace with God. The idea of aiming for mediocrity or even lower is itself a temptation and not a sign of spiritual health.

Temptation isn't in itself healing or good but the very act of being tested, which God allows, compels us to seek the remedies. When we're really tempted, the status quo often won't do and the Lord is asking us to rely on Him and His grace even more. The Lord is on our side, encouraging and helping us in the moment of trial.

Jesus' tempting in the desert also reminds us to not dialogue with the tempter. Satan is a lot more clever and subtle than we are so it's best not to directly engage the evil thoughts lest we start to get confused. Some old-fashioned but truly relevant advice is that we should avoid the near occasion of sin. God allows us to be tested, but we're not meant to look for temptations; caution is the better part of valor.

One practical question that might guide us this Lent in terms of what to "give up" in terms of fasting: What is the thing that distracts me the most from being who the Lord is calling me to be?

I'll leave you with the thoughts of St. Phillip Neri, a good humored and joyful priest about why God allows us to be tempted:

"Do not grieve over the temptations you suffer. When the Lord intends to bestow a particular virtue on us, He often permits us first to be tempted by the opposite vice. Therefore, look upon every temptation as an invitation to grow in a particular virtue and a promise by God that you will be successful, if only you stand fast."

God bless,

Fr. Mike





In today's Gospel, Jesus overcomes the temptations to wealth, power, and esteem. As we begin Lent, may we open our hearts to the grace of prayer, fasting, and almsgiving.

This month, through your gifts, the St. Vincent de Paul Society was able to assist families and individuals by providing food and assistance with utility, rent, and other bills. God Bless You!



#### JOIN US DURING LENT FOR THE FOLLOWING...

#### **Evening Prayer**

Every Monday of Lent at 6:30 p.m.

#### **Stations of the Cross**

Every Friday of Lent at 6:30 p.m. and 7:15 p.m. (Spanish)

#### A SEASON FOR REFLECTION

During this holy time, we are called to pause and pay closer attention to our relationship with God and our neighbors. Reflect on how the Lenten pillars of prayer, fasting, and almsgiving can guide your journey and how the Eucharist helps us to live in solidarity with our sisters and brothers around the world. Visit **crsricebowl.org** to learn more and read this week's Story of Hope.



Please consider supporting this year's Appeal.

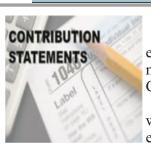
Your generous contribution will be a source of blessing for many people, for yourself and for your loved ones.

## To make a gift by phone: 312.534.7959

#### To mail:

835 North Rush Street Chicago, IL 60611

To give online: annualcatholicappeal.com



#### **2023 CONTRIBUTION STATEMENTS**

2023 contribution statements are now available *by request*. We would prefer to email them to you or have you pick them up at the parish office, but they can also be mailed. You may call or email the parish office if you would like to request a copy. Call 773 763-8228 or email: parishoffice@setparish.org

If you are a Faith Direct user, you can print out your own report through their website. If you have made contributions to the Annual Catholic Appeal your acknowledgement comes directly from the Archdiocese.

#### President's Day



In honor of President's Day, the Parish Office and Parish School will be closed on Monday, February 19.

## **Totus Tuus: Save the Date!**



We hope to have Totus Tuus return to St. Elizabeth of the Trinity this summer July 7th-12th This is a great summer opportunity full of fun and faith formation. Registration will start as soon as our date is confirmed. If you would like to be on a list to get registration information as soon as it is available please email aguinn@archchicago.org

If your family would like to help be a host family for two of the missionaries that week please contact Ashley Guinn in the parish office.



On Thursday February 22, 46 students will receive the Sacrament of Confirmation.

There will be a blessing during the 9:00 am Mass on Sunday Fabruary 18 as the students gather to receive the prayers and encouragements of our community.

Please keep the 46 Confrmandi in your prayers as they make their final preparations..



## SICK LIST

Michele Schmidt—Maria Szumski—Gary Sowell—Jeffrey Lalowski—Jadwija Chudzynski—Amy Grudzinski—Bernadette Bannach—Patricia Newell—Guzman family—Angela Ross—Nicholas Guerrieri—Fr. Dan Fallon—Marie Brasher—Paola Estrada—Judy Biala—Eva Anderson—Elise Fernandez—Emery Tanski—Cary Muldoon-Pauly—Sr. Kelly Masdat MSHT—Darlene Russo—Constance Anderson—Dolores Nano—Roberto Drueca—Steve Hovde—Helzing Aguilar—Flavia Langan—Dennis Cresco—Roger Doering—Alice Ward—Arthur Hamilton—Anthony Pfeifer—Paul Konietzny—Kathy Burns—Joan Harriss—Daniel Fraczkowski—Jackie Fortier—Charles Jacobucci—Nancy Wesclitz—Ciara Czajkowski—Donna J. Kolinski—Richard Muench—Frank Delia—Steve Miller—Raffaela Mucerino—Hector Magnanao—Jose A. Reyes—Carmen R. Reyes

### Demonstrate Love for Thy Neighbor with a QCD Gift

Jesus told us: "Whatever you do for the least of my brothers, you do for me." Every day, we have the opportunity to be the face of Jesus to others. One way you can support your fellow Catholics is by making a gift directly from your individual retirement account (IRA).

A qualified charitable distribution (QCD), also known as an "IRA Charitable Rollover," allows individuals age 70½ or older to authorize their IRA administrator to directly transfer up to \$100,000 annually from their IRA to qualified charities, tax-free.

There are three main benefits of supporting the Annual Catholic Appeal with a QCD gift:

- (1) If you are 72 years old or older, the amount you transfer can satisfy all or part of your required minimum distribution.
- (2) The amount transferred directly to charity does not generate taxable income, which may reduce your annual income level. This may help lower your Medicare premiums and decrease the amount of Social Security that is subject to tax.
- (3) Your gift will directly support the necessary work of parishes, Catholic schools and vital ministries throughout the archdiocese, allowing you to see the impact of your gift now.

If you would like information on how to make a QCD gift to the Annual Catholic Appeal, please contact Krystina M. Campbell, Planned Giving Officer, Archdiocese of Chicago at 312.534.5404 or kcampbell@archchicago.org

St. Elizabeth of the Trinity Holy Name Society "LUCKY TEN" RAFFLE ONLY 600 TICKETS SOLD



\$20 Each - \$5,000 in Prizes

Ten Winners: 1st Prize \$1,500 2nd Prize \$1,000 3rd & 4th Prize \$500 5th - 10th Prize \$250



Drawing to be held on Monday, April 8th, 2024.

Tickets available at the rectory or call Pete Cullen-Conway @ (312) 320-3555 for tickets or email

Petercullen conway@yahoo.com

Winner need not be present.
Proceeds go to further the ministries of the parish.
Prize money will be prorated if all tickets are not sold.



Go to: faithdirect.net or Scan the QR Code or call 866 507-8757





#### **GOSPEL MEDITATION - 1st Sunday of Lent**

When I feel down, I sometimes watch the famous "Double Rainbow" video on YouTube to feel better. It's hilarious. A young man camping in Yosemite Park sees two rainbows stretching across the sky. He bursts into a kind of ecstasy. "Double rainbow, all the way! Oh my God!" he announces. Then he starts to weep. He cries out, "What does it mean?" Beneath the humor of his glorious overreaction is the deep intuition we all have, I think, when we see the colorful bow in the sky. This Sunday, God sends a rainbow to Noah, and to us. What does it mean?

Long before YouTube had the double rainbow, Dante's medieval poem The Divine Comedy featured one in his image of paradise. Seeing two rainbows, he muses that one is born of the other. The bow is God's promise of peace. For Dante, it's even more: nature's encrypted image of the Trinitarian God. One visible rainbow (God the Son) is begotten of another usually invisible one (God the Father) united by invisible light between them (God the Spirit). Like invisible light, Trinitarian glory surrounds us in every moment — but Jesus has made it visible in his glorious body.

Lenten challenge: This might seem silly, but this Lent I invite you to find a rainbow and meditate on it. You might have to make one yourself, like this current desert-dweller will. Gaze on it. See there a natural gift from the Creator, saying to you, "Here I am! I will love and protect you, surrounding you in My glory." This Lent let's embrace that with confidence, rain, or shine.

- Father John Muir

©LPi



## **Monthly Teen Mass**

Feb. 25th at 5:00 pm

with prayer time accompanied with music and Confessions starting at 4:40 and followed by an open Gym until 8:00 pm

All are welcome to join us for prayer and Mass

Teens in grades 7-12 are welcome to join us in the gym, after

mass for some food and fellowship.

If you have questions or are a teen who would like to help lector or alter serve at the Mass please contact Ashley Guinn in the Parish Office or at aguinn@archchicago.org

Of according to the Days and

Stewarsdship Report			
Sunday Giving (Fiscal Year July 2023 - June 2024)			
		December	
	2023		2022
Monthly Total	\$50,309		\$53,968
Yearly Total/ Fiscal YTD	\$277,179		\$283,362
Mass Attendance			
Weekly Average	772		959
		January	
	2024		2023
Monthly Total	\$45,252		\$54,549
Yearly Total/ Fiscal YTD	\$322,432		\$337,911
<u> Mass Attendance</u>			
Weekly Average	741		745



#### St. Elizabeth of the Trinity Catholic School

6040 W. Ardmore Avenue • Chicago, Illinois 60646 773.763.7080 • StElizabethTrinitySchool.org

February, 2024

Dear Parents, Parishioners and Friends of St. Elizabeth,

St. Elizabeth of the Trinity officially opened its doors, amid a pandemic, to students in the fall of 2020, after merging with St. Thecla and Pope Francis Global Academy - North Campus. Since then, we have remained open, offering in-person education for all our students, when other schools did not. We are very fortunate that new families joined St. Elizabeth during these past few years, because we remained open - and provided a Catholic education to all students.

In 2017, Illinois created the Invest in Kids Act, which allowed students to attend a private school with partial or full tuition covered, if they reside in a failing public school district as well as showed financial need. This program, also known as the Tax Credit Scholarship Program, awarded about 14% of our student population the funds to attend St Elizabeth, in the amount of around \$125K. Unfortunately, the Illinois legislature did not renew this program which leaves many families unsure of how they will afford private education. Schools are working tirelessly to work out a budget that will allow their students to remain in school.

I write to all of you today to ask for your financial support to help keep these students at St. Elizabeth. The boards of St. Elizabeth of the Trinity created the Trinity Tuition Assistance Fund, to help cover the costs of tuition for families in need. The tuition for one child per year is \$6840. I am asking for you to give what you can, whether it be \$500 or \$5000! Every little bit helps to ensure these 25 students remain at St. Elizabeth of the Trinity for years to come. And, I hope to continue to grow our Trinity Tuition Assistance Fund, so that anyone who wants to be a part of St. Elizabeth in the future, is able, no matter their financial situation.

If you would like to donate to the Trinity Tuition Assistance Fund (TTAF) you can send a check to my attention at school or donate online through GiveSmart <a href="http://e.givesmart.com/events/AJX">http://e.givesmart.com/events/AJX</a> or Faith Direct <a href="https://membership.faithdirect.net/givenow/IL795/54688">https://membership.faithdirect.net/givenow/IL795/54688</a>. Again, any amount is appreciated as we get this fund started at St Elizabeth. Please know that no matter the amount in the TTAF, Father Mike and I will work with families to ensure that any student who wants to attend St. Elizabeth is able through school and parish support.

Please feel free to contact me if you have any questions. I can be reached at the above number or at <a href="mailto:k.hillmann@stelizabethtrinityschool.org">k.hillmann@stelizabethtrinityschool.org</a>. I thank you for taking the time to consider my request.

Go to Faith Direct

Yours in Christ, Kristine Hillmann, Ed.D. Principal



#### Step-by-Step Walk Through the Mass Do This in Remembrance of Me, Part 28: The Creed as Profession of Faith by FR. LUKE SPANNAGEL



What does the word *Creed* mean? According to Fr. Guy Oury, "A Latin word for the Creed is *symbolum*. Its first meaning is that of a sign, a mark of recognition by which an envoy is accredited or strangers know each other as belonging to the same group. The 'symbol' of faith identifies Christians. People who are not Christian cannot profess it without a lie on their part" (*The Mass*, p. 71). In addition to being a sign of our unity, the Creed also is a summary of core doctrines we believe in and an important part of the Mass. The *General Instruction of the Roman Missal* states, "The purpose of the Creed or Profession of Faith is that the whole gathered people may respond to the Word of God proclaimed in the readings taken from Sacred Scripture and explained in the Homily and that they may also honor and confess the great mysteries of the faith by pronouncing the rule of faith in a formula approved for liturgical use and before the celebration of these mysteries in the Eucharist begins" (*GIRM*, no. 67). In summary, Charles Belmonte says, "The symbol or Creed expresses our response and assent to what we have just heard in the readings and in the homily" (*Understanding the Mass*, p. 99). Having heard the truths of the Faith in the Liturgy of the Word, now we profess them in the Creed.

#### Stand and Profess

Why do we stand up to profess our Faith? As the Diocese of Peoria teaches, "Through the Creed, we as a community of believers stand and profess, in precise terms, the foundations of our faith. We stand for the Creed because of its importance in our Church and in our lives. Of important note is another gesture the Church asks of us as we profess the Creed. As we say '[and by] the Holy Spirit [was incarnate] of the Virgin Mary and became man,' we are to bow in adoration of the Incarnation and birth of our Lord. Interestingly, on those respective solemnities (Annunciation and Christmas) we are to retain the ancient custom of genuflecting during those lines" ("A Study of the Mass," p. 10). As we have reviewed previously, each of the gestures and postures within the liturgy has a meaning and can help us pray more deeply. Throughout the Mass, we stand together for the principal prayers. In a very practical way, standing is another way of giving our assent, as when a crowd stands in applause. Standing adds an additional fervor to the recognition. In a similar way, standing to pray together adds an element of strength to the words we proclaim. Bowing while we recall the Incarnation acknowledges in a humble way how much we honor that significant moment in world history. Genuflecting on the Solemnities of the Annunciation and Christmas adds even more solemn praise to the joy of that moment, reflecting our adoration of our Lord who took on a human nature, becoming man for our sake.

As we profess our faith together, we are joined in a unity that began at our Baptism. "As on the day of our Baptism, when our whole life was entrusted to the 'standard teaching,' let us embrace the Creed of our life-giving faith. To say the Credo with faith is to enter into communion with God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, and also with the whole Church which transmits the faith to us and in whose midst we believe" (*CCC*, no. 197). The *Catechism* quotes St. Ambrose: "The Creed is the spiritual seal, our hearts' meditation and ever-present guardian; it is, unquestionably, the treasure of our soul" (*CCC*, no. 197).

Reflecting upon St. Ambrose's words recalls for me the amazing gift we have been given through our Baptism, being invited into the very life of God. That is definitely worth standing up and professing together!



Watch St. Elizabeth of the Trinity 9:00 a.m. Sunday Mass live on You Tube - search for St. Elizabeth of the Trinity Parish channel.

#### SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 17, 2024

5:00 PM — Reynold Salmi, Julia Keeney, Electo Infante, Don Love, Jr.

#### **SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 18, 2024**

7:30 AM — Morgan Hagan, Charles Weisenfels

9:00 AM — Charles Weisenfels, Jimy Cabrera, Belan Cabrera De La Rosa, Wladyslawa Kondratowicz (14th anniversary)

11:00 AM — P. J. Finerty, Carmen Rosario Castro, Jozefa & Leopold Mocarski

12:00 PM - 12:45 PM — CONFESSION

1:00 PM — (Spanish) Cesar Hernandez Marin, Cirilo Pacheco, Juan Maldonado, Elvia Suarez, Julia Suarez

#### **MONDAY, FEBRUARY 19, 2024**

8:30 AM — William P. Durkin (45th anniversary), Mary Hilmer (14th anniversary)

#### **TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 20, 2024**

8:30 AM — Conrad Deane, Zofia Modzelewska 11:00 - 6:00 PM - Adoration / Benediction at 6:00

5:30 - 6:00 PM - CONFESSION

6:30 PM — John & Katherine Misiuda, Joseph Placzak

#### WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 21, 2024

8:30 AM — Andy Karas

#### THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 22, 2024

8:30 AM — Clare Misko

6:30 PM — CONFIRMATION

#### FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 23, 2024

8:30 AM — Gloria Hicks

#### **SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 24, 2024**

8:30 AM — Mary Ann Krupa, Mary Jo Ruckauf, Janet Toton

3:30 - 4:30 PM—CONFESSION

5:00 PM — deceased members of the Ognibene family, Diane Dudeh, Lorraine Schmidt, Conal Eamonn Gillespie

#### **SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 25, 2024**

7:30 AM — for our parishioners

9:00 AM — Cynthia Rubic

11:00 AM — Ann Mullagh, Carmen Rosario Castro, John J. Fergus, Henryk & Stefan Bujo, Geraldine Pfister

12:00 PM - 12:45 PM — CONFESSION

1:00 PM — (Spanish) Diana Calderon, Cesar Hernandez Marin, Cirilo Pacheco, Carmen Maldonado, Elvia Suarez, Julia Suarez

5:00 — TEEN MASS - for those we know who are in need of prayer

#### Presider Schedule - February 25 & 26

**5:00 p.m.—Fr. Sepulveda** / Deacon Miles preaching / piano

7:30 a.m. — Fr. Sepulveda / organ / Deacon Miles preaching

9:00 a.m. —Fr. Grisolano / piano / parish choir

11:00 a.m.— Fr. McCarthy / organ 1:00 p.m.—(Spanish) Fr. Sepulveda 5:00 p.m. — Fr. Grisolano (Teen Mass)

words of thanks break

from your lips."

— St. Peter Damian

"Do not let your weakness make you impatient...let



Lorraine Piasecki

#### SAINTS AND SPECIAL OBSERVANCES

Sunday: 1st Sunday of Lent Monday: Presidents' Day

Tuesday:

Wednesday: St. Peter Damian, Bishop and Doctor

of the Church

Thursday: The Chair of St. Peter the Apostle Friday: St. Polycarp, Bishop and Martyr

Saturday:

Next Sunday: 2nd Sunday of Lent

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#### THIS WEEK'S READINGS

Sunday: Gn 9:8-15/Ps 25:4-5, 6-7, 8-9 (see 10)/1

Pt 3:18-22/Mk 1:12-15

Monday: Lv 19:1-2, 11-18/Ps 19:8, 9, 10, 15/Mt

25:31-46

Tuesday: Is 55:10-11/Ps 34:4-5, 6-7, 16-17, 18-19/

Mt 6:7-15

Wednesday: Jon 3:1-10/Ps 51:3-4, 12-13, 18-19/Lk

11:29-32

Thursday: 1 Pt 5:1-4/Ps 23:1-3a, 4, 5, 6/Mt 16:13-19 Friday: Ez 18:21-28/Ps 130:1-2, 3-4, 5-7a, 7bc-8/

Mt 5:20-26

Saturday: Dt 26:16-19/Ps 119:1-2, 4-5, 7-8/Mt 5:43

-48

Next Sunday: Gn 22:1-2, 9a, 10-13, 15-18/Ps 116:10,

15, 16-17, 18-19 (116:9)/Rom 8:31b-34/

Mk 9:2-10



With the Eucharist, therefore, heaven comes down to earth, the tomorrow of God descends into the present and it is as if time remains embraced by divine eternity. Pope Benedict XVI

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Rev. Michael Grisolano mgrisolano@archchicago.org

Associate Pastor
Rev. Leonel Sepulveda
Isepulveda@archchicago.org

Pastor Emeritus

Rev. Daniel P. McCarthy

Permanent Deacons

Deacon Jose Adan Bernabé Deacon Gregory Bzdon

Director of Parish Operations

Mr. Michael Parilla

mparilla@archchicago.org

Director of Evangelization and Ministry Mrs. Ashley Guinn aguinn@archchicago.org

Coordinator of Religious Education

Mrs. Peggy Bradley

pbradley@archchicago.org

Pastoral Minister / Bulletin Editor
Mr. Jim Madura
jmadura@archchicago.org

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Mr. Mark Wozniczka mwozniczka@archchicago.org Mr. Jose Angel Abarca (Spanish Mass)

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Bookkeeper

Ms. Donna Kay dkay@archchicago.org

School Principal

**Dr. Kristine Hillmann** k.hillmann@stelizabethtrinityschool.org

School / Parish Marketing Director

Mrs. Jenica Anderson j.anderson@stelizabethtrinityschool.org

**Rectory:** 773-763-8228 **Fax:** 773-774-8461 **School:** 773-763-7080

Website: www.stelizabethtrinity.org Email: parishoffice@setparish.org

#### **SERVICES**

Weekend Mass Schedule:

Saturday: 5:00 p.m. & Sunday: 7:30, 9:00 & 11:00 a.m. (English) and 1:00 p.m. (Spanish)

**Daily Mass Schedule:** 

Monday through Saturday: 8:30 a.m., Tuesday: 6:30 p.m. and First Thursday: 7:00 p.m. (Spanish)

Rosary:

Prayed daily immediately following the 8:30 a.m. Mass Church is open daily for private prayer until 5:00 p.m. Confession:

Tuesday: 5:30 to 6:00 p.m., Thursday: 6:30 to 7:00 p.m. (bilingual) Saturday: 3:30 to 4:30 p.m. , Sunday: 12:00 to 12:45 p.m.

**Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament** 

Tuesday: 11:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. (Benediction at 6:00 p.m.)

Last Thursday from 6:30 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. (Benediction at 7:50 p.m.)

Rectory (Parish Office): Monday - Friday - 9:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.

#### Baptism:

Please contact Deacon Greg Bzdon to make arrangements: <a href="mailto:gbzdon@archchicago.org">gbzdon@archchicago.org</a>

#### **Becoming a Catholic:**

Would you like to learn more about what it means to be a Catholic? The Church calls this process *The Rite of Christian Initiation for Adults (RCIA)*. It is a small group forum where interested people learn more about initiation and membership in the Catholic Church. Please call the parish office for more information.

#### Marriage:

Must be arranged six months prior to the ceremony. Please contact a priest to make arrangements.

**Religious Education for Public Grade School Students:** Contact Peggy Bradley for more information.

**Parish Registration:** New parishioners are asked to register at the Rectory. Forms are also available on our website under the Our Parish tab or in the rear of church.

**Communion Visits:** Ministers of Care bring Communion to the homebound. Contact Tony Lupinski through the parish office to make arrangements.

**Food Pantry**: Open Tuesdays - 9:00 to 10:00 a.m. in the lower level of the gym For more Info email us at: food-pantry@stelizabethtrinityschool.org

Bulletin Deadline: Noon on Fridays (9 days prior to bulletin date)

"It seems to me that I have found my heaven on earth, because my heaven is You, my God, and You are in my soul.
You in me, and I in You – may this be my motto."

St. Elizabeth of the Trinity