



ST. ELIZABETH of the Trinity



DECEMBER 29, 2024

HOLY FAMILY OF JESUS, MARY & JOSEPH

**LOVINGLY
DEDICATED TO
ONE ANOTHER**



I was recently at a family Christmas party and one of the college aged kids was sharing that they had already been on Christmas break for two weeks and had another two weeks off. While I had forgotten how long college breaks are, I was mostly surprised by his comment, only half-way through his Christmas break “I can’t wait to go back to school.” Perhaps studying in Florida had some part to play with that desire, but while he comes from a good and happy family, there does come a point when we want some space even from the people we love most.

Today is the Solemnity of the Holy Family of Jesus, Mary, and Joseph and it’s nice to know that even in that family, where two out of the three of them were without sin, misunderstandings could happen at times. When Jesus was twelve years old, He stayed behind in the Temple of Jerusalem after His whole family had traveled there on a pilgrimage. Joseph and Mary were obviously panicked in looking and not finding Him with the caravan of other family members. When they finally found Him in the temple they asked Him:

“Son, why have you done this to us? Your father and I have been looking for you with great anxiety.” Jesus tried to explain what He was doing and why, but they did not understand what He said to them. We know that Jesus and Mary never committed a sin, so this anxiety producing event was not a question of ill-will but was a misunderstanding.

What lessons can we learn from the Holy Family from this event for our own family life?

-- *Presume goodwill from others first.* When the challenges and stresses of life come, and they will invariably come, they often enough come through our relationships with other people, especially family members. In those instances, we may question those people in our lives, like Mary did “why did you do this?” The Virgin Mary did not think ill of Christ, but we may sometimes jump to the conclusion that others are acting with ill-will in a moment when they are not.

Life can be hard for everyone. When we assume good intent, we acknowledge that some legitimate motive explains confusing or ambiguous behavior. Also, when we give people the benefit of the doubt it helps them to live into the better version of themselves. One of the most hurtful things we can experience from those we love is the attitude that they think we’re trying to hurt them when we are not, so let us treat others the way we would like to be treated.

--*Try to understand where they’re coming from.* The Blessed Mother expressed her anxiety but also tried to understand her Son, pondering His answer in her heart.

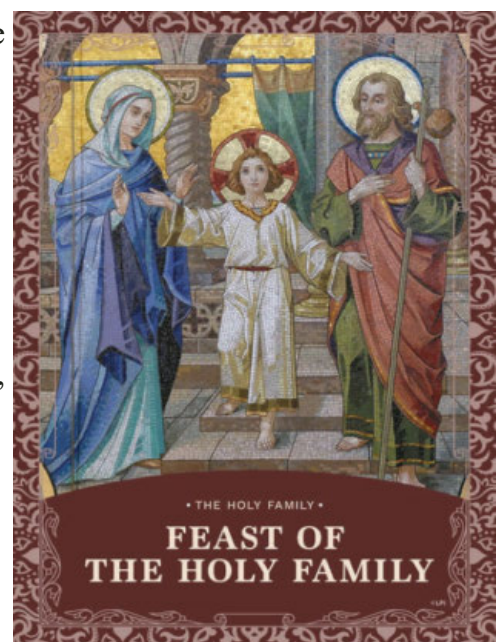
We’re usually good at expressing our concerns to others but may be light in trying to understand them. One of the greatest gifts we can give others is to actively listen to them, to really grasp what they’re going through, what motivates or challenges them, which will help us to understand their behavior better.

Everyone of us wants to be in communities whether at home, school, work, or the parish, where we feel safe and loved and Jesus wants us to help create those environments. When we presume goodwill and actively listen to others, we can grow in compassion and understanding for why people are the way they are, and we can move from mutual fault finding to growth in trust and love. And we can imitate Jesus Himself, who, humanly speaking:

“Advanced in wisdom and age and favor before God and man.”

Merry Christmas,

Fr. Mike





Today is the feast of the Holy Family of Jesus, Mary, and Joseph, and so we can celebrate that we all belong to the holy family of God, which makes us brothers and sisters to each other.

At Christmas this year, through your gifts, the St. Vincent de Paul Society was able to bring joy and hope to our “brothers and sisters” who are poor by assisting individuals and families by helping with food, utility, and rent payments. Thank you for your support!

Prayer for the Jubilee Year



Father in heaven, may the faith you have given us in your son, Jesus Christ, our brother, and the flame of charity enkindled in our hearts by the Holy Spirit, reawaken in us the blessed hope for the coming of your Kingdom.

May your grace transform us into tireless cultivators of the seeds of the Gospel. May those seeds transform from within both humanity and the whole cosmos in the sure expectation of a new heaven and a new earth, when, with the powers of Evil vanquished, your glory will shine eternally.

May the grace of the Jubilee reawaken in us, Pilgrims of Hope, a yearning for the treasures of heaven. May that same grace spread the joy and peace of our Redeemer throughout the earth. To you our God, eternally blessed, be glory and praise for ever. Amen

– Pope Francis

JUBILEE 2025 - THE YEAR OF HOPE

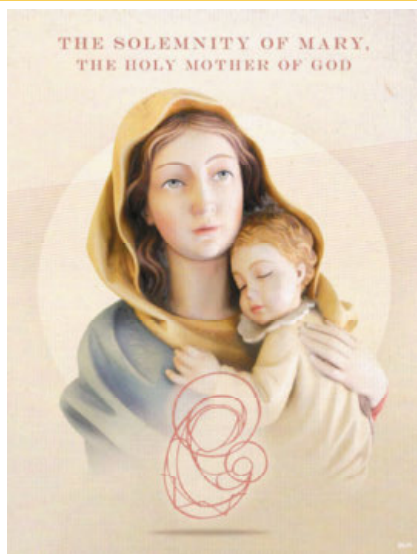
We are excited for Jubilee Year 2025, a time of grace, renewal, and celebration for Catholics around the world! This special Jubilee, declared by Pope Francis, calls us to reflect on God’s boundless mercy and embrace our mission to live out the Gospel in everyday life.

Here in the Archdiocese of Chicago, we will join with the Universal Church in prayer and pilgrimage throughout the year. Cardinal Cupich will open the Jubilee Year locally by celebrating a special Mass at Holy Name Cathedral on December 29, 2024, at 12:30 p.m. Throughout the year, from December 29, 2024 through December 28, 2025, all will be invited to participate in the Jubilee by visiting designated Pilgrimage Sites. The list of designated Pilgrimage Sites will be posted shortly.

Welcome
OUR NEWEST MEMBERS

Baptism

Genevieve Kathalean & Marc Alexander
children of
Patricia (Kraslen) and Cristian Jardon



JANUARY 1 - MARY, THE HOLY MOTHER OF GOD

January 1 is a Holy Day of Obligation.

Our Mass schedule is as follows:

Tuesday, December 31 - 5:00 p.m. and

Wednesday, January 1 - 9:00 a.m. & 11:00 a.m. (Spanish)

Note: On Tuesday, December 31 Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament will begin at 11:00 a.m. and continue until Benediction at 4:30 p.m. Confessions will start at 4:00 p.m.

PARISH OFFICE HOURS

The parish office will close at 1:00 p.m. on Tues., Dec. 31 and will be closed on Wed., Jan. 1. It will reopen at 9:00 a.m. on Thurs, Jan 2.

2025 PARISH WALL CALENDARS

We are expecting that parish calendars will be available in the church vestibule (in both English and Spanish) in early January. This year, they are being sponsored by the parish.



SICK LIST

Michele Schmidt—Maria Szumski—Gary Sowell—Jeffrey Lalowski—Jadwija Chudzynski—
Amy Grudzinski—Bernadette Bannach—Patricia Newell—Guzman family—Angela Ross—
Nicholas Guerrieri—Marie Brasher—Paola Estrada—Eva Anderson—Elise Fernandez—
Emery Tanski—Cary Muldoon-Pauly—Sr. Kelly Masdat MSHT—Darlene Russo—
Constance Anderson—Dolores Nano—Roberto Drueca—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—Raffaella Mucerino—Jose A. Reyes—
Carmen R. Reyes—Calli Olvera—Antoinette Bongiorno—Joe Banks—Eleida Flores—Paul Wierdak—
Joe & Nelda Garza—Kenneth Payne—Gloria Spsychalski—Andrea Emilia Bernabey—
Gustavo Caceres—Ptryk Kozlowski—Larry Garcia—Jeanette Peterson—Annamarie Kelly—
Franklin Wolff—Owen Estep—Joseph Dudek—Carter Glick—James Furlong—John Ford
(Call the rectory office to have your name added or removed)

HOLY NAME SOCIETY PRESENTS:
CHAMPIONSHIP SUNDAY
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WATCH PARTY

SUNDAY • JANUARY 29, 2025



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A CHRISTMAS GIFT FOR YOU FROM THE PARISH

Prayer fascinates us. Studies show that even atheists and agnostics sometimes pray. But what precisely is prayer? How does it “work”? And what are some of the time-tested ways to practice it?

An Introduction to Prayer offers a collection of rich yet brief reflections on prayer in the Catholic spiritual tradition from acclaimed author, speaker, and theologian Bishop Robert Barron. This book explores the answers to questions like:

- Why should I pray?
- What should I say or do when I’m praying?
- Who exactly am I praying to?
- Are there different types of prayer?
- What do the spiritual masters say about prayer?
- How can I establish a solid routine of prayer?

And many more

Perfect for beginners but filled with profound insights for those looking to further their spiritual life, *An Introduction to Prayer* will inspire you to seek out more frequent conversation—and a deeper communion—with God.



FOR OUR SPANISH PARISHIONERS

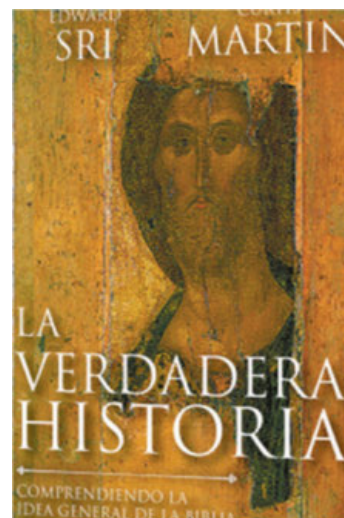
Do you know the real story of the Bible?

What do Adam and Eve, Moses, David, Jesus, and the Apostles have to do with my life?

In The Real Story, Edward Sri and Curtis Martin break open the Word to examine how all these pieces fit together into one cohesive narrative—a story of how, little by little, God has drawn His people into closer union with Himself, culminating in the coming of Jesus Christ and the establishment of His Church.

Through a closer study of the key characters and events in the larger biblical narrative, Sri and Martin show that the Bible ultimately isn’t a collection of disjointed stories, but an epic saga of God’s infinite love for us and His perfect plan for our salvation since the beginning of time.

(Please note that there are also a limited number of these books available in English)





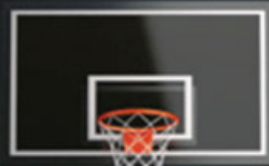
ST. ELIZABETH OF THE TRINITY SCHOOL

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Chicago, IL 60646
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stelizabethtrinityschool.org

Hot Off the Press: Newspaper Club Published their First Issue

Students St. Elizabeth of the Trinity in grades four through eight enjoy this after school activity. They conduct interviews, research, and investigate stories to gather information and develop their perspectives.

With Newspaper Club, students learn the importance of good journalism, how to write, and convey their ideas, and the value of research.



2025 BITTY BASKETBALL

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Saturdays:
January 18th, January 25th, February 1st, February 8th

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Kindergarten and 1st Grade • 10:00 - 11:00am
2nd and 3rd Grade • 11:00 - 12:00pm

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SCHOOL SCIENCE FAIR JUDGES NEEDED

The St. Elizabeth of the Trinity School Science Fair will be on January 23, 2025 and we are in need of judges! As a judge, you will be evaluating students on their science fair presentation while also reading their written reports. Both projects have a rubric to follow. Anyone is able to volunteer (who does NOT have an 8th grade student enrolled in St. Elizabeth) but if you have a background in education, science, or medicine, that is a bonus, but not required. If you can help out on the 23rd from 3:00 - 4:30 p.m. , please contact Mrs. Kathy Dati at: k.dati@stelizabethtrinityschool.org It is really a great experience and our students love showing off their projects!



You may have noticed that people receive Communion in different ways. Is there a right way? **How exactly should we receive Holy Communion?** First of all, it is important to notice that we *receive* Communion. Holy Communion is our greatest gift, a gift to be received through the generous love of Jesus. Holy Communion should never be taken by our own action. As *The General Instruction of the Roman Missal* states, “It is not permitted for the faithful to take the consecrated Bread or the sacred chalice by themselves and, still less, to hand them on from one to another among themselves. The norm established for the Dioceses of the United States of America is that Holy Communion is to be received standing, unless an individual member of the faithful wishes to receive Communion while kneeling” (*GIRM*, 160). Adjustments are possible for those unable to stand or kneel. Many churches have areas where Communion is brought directly to the pew for those who find walking to receive Communion difficult. The instruction makes clear that we are receiving the gift of Holy Communion and not taking this gift for ourselves, a truth we emphasize in the posture we observe as we receive the Sacred Host. For those receiving in the hand, we hold our hands steady with an open palm throne to receive Our Lord truly present. For those receiving on the tongue, we are still as we wait for the placement of the Sacred Host on the tongue.

Why Do We Bow before Receiving Communion?

I often see people bowing before approaching the minister. Should I do that also? Yes! As the *GIRM* continues, “When receiving Holy Communion, the communicant bows his or her head before the Sacrament as a gesture of reverence and receives the Body of the Lord from the minister... When Holy Communion is received under both kinds, the sign of reverence is also made before receiving the Precious Blood” (*GIRM*, 160). As I have often shared when teaching children about postures of prayer and reverence, our sign of reverence actually provides an opportunity for our bodies to help remind our minds and hearts who we believe is before us. We believe that Jesus, Almighty God, Second Person of the Trinity, is there before us in the Holy Eucharist. Our bow helps us recall that he really is there and that we believe he really is there! Like so many parts of our lives that are repeated regularly, we may risk just going through the motions at this part of the Mass. However, if we do that, we would be overlooking Jesus truly there before us! The next time you are approaching Holy Communion, take the challenge of really bowing with reverence and recall Jesus is there. Perhaps pray to yourself those words of St. Thomas: “My Lord and My God” ([John 20:28](#)). Along these lines, the Diocese of Peoria says, “Even the procession toward Communion is a great ritual act, as we humbly approach the Lord Jesus. The Bishops of the United States have asked that we make a bow as a sign of reverence toward the Eucharist before receiving... It is an encounter as we receive him—Body, Blood, Soul and Divinity!” (*A Study of the Mass*, pp. 19–20).

Practical Tips for Receiving Communion

How about some practical tips? Absolutely! As I mentioned above, one great way of being in the mode of “receiving” is to stay still as the minister brings the Host to you. As a practical note, I have often noticed that some people will lunge forward toward the Sacred Host, or at times those intending to receive on the tongue will even bite the host or lick upward. For those receiving in the hand, I have noticed that sometimes people will already be closing their hand before the Host is placed there. I presume these might be ways of trying to help the minister; however, it truly is easiest and perhaps the most prayerful if you remain still until Jesus in the Sacred Host comes to you.

For those receiving in the hand, Fr. Oury notes that St. Cyril offers instruction: “When you approach, do not come with palms of the hand spread flat, nor with fingers wide apart... [M]ake him a throne with your left [hand]. In the hollow of your hand receive the Body of Christ and answer: Amen... [C]onsume [The Host] and be careful that none of it be lost... Tell me, if you were given some grains of gold, would you not guard them with the greatest care so as not to lose any one of them and be the poorer? Should you not be even more careful not to let drop the least particle of what is more precious than gold or precious stones?” (*The Mass*, pp. 121–2; *Mystagogical Catechesis* 5, 21). St. Cyril reminds us to have a worthy reception of the King of Kings, certainly both in receiving him well and also in honoring his presence in even the smallest fragments. St. Cyril invites us to examine our hands and fingers for any particles of the Eucharist after we have received Our Lord.

One last practical tip might be to think about what you are saying when you say, “Amen.” I encourage you to make it a vigorous *Amen*, reminding yourself that word means, “Jesus, I believe you are really here.” This *Amen* is an important prayer of faith at the moment of receiving Holy Communion. Charles Belmonte reflects further on the *Amen*: “Yes, Lord, I believe. I love and I hope in you. I know my time of waiting is over, for my hope is now made into a reality which fulfills the deepest needs of my faith and my charity. You are mine, and I am yours... My soul worships you in stillness” (*Understanding the Mass*, p. 187). Let us make this beautiful prayer of faith our own, the next time and every time we say *Amen* and receive the Body and Blood of Our Lord Jesus!



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 DECEMBER 28, 2024

5:00 PM — Don Love, Jr., deceased members of the Ognibene family, John Gibata, Joe Rangel, Nancy & Kevin Piczkowskyj, Lorraine & Ralph Schmidt Daniel Guerriero

SUNDAY DECEMBER 29, 2024

7:30 AM — for our parishioners
 9:00 AM — Russell Sager, Carmen Rosario Castro (good health), Salvatore Guagliardo
 11:00 AM — Rose Carlson, Maria Ortiz, intention of the Rivero & Chan families
 12:00 PM - 12:45 PM — CONFESSION
 1:00 PM — (Spanish) Diana Calderon, Cesar Hernandez Marin, Celia Alanis

MONDAY DECEMBER 30, 2024

8:30 AM — Charles Boyd, Mencarini & Strischek families

TUESDAY DECEMBER 31, 2024

8:30 AM — Maria Ortiz, Mr. Donnelly, Conrad Deane
 11:00 - 4:30 PM - Adoration / Benediction at 4:30
 5:00 PM — Paul Lombardi, Joseph & Katherine Misiuda

WEDNESDAY JANUARY 1, 2025

9:00 AM — Charles Boyd, living and deceased members of the Barnum, Czosok, Macko, Urzen families, Ralph & Maria Morales (safe travels), Rivero & Chan families (thanksgiving)
 11:00 AM — (Spanish) Kathy Mullins

THURSDAY JANUARY 2, 2025

8:30 AM — Vincent Diamond
 6:30 PM — Bilingual Confessions
 7:00 PM — Spanish Mass

FRIDAY JANUARY 3, 2025

8:30 AM — Ken Levy

SATURDAY JANUARY 4, 2025

8:30 AM — Henry A. Schmalz
 3:00 PM — WEDDING - Patrick O'Hagan & Michelle O'Hagan
 5:00 PM — Ted Lejman, deceased members of the Lejman family, Daniel Chan (birthday)

SUNDAY JANUARY 5, 2025

7:30 AM — for our parishioners
 9:00 AM — Russell Sager
 11:00 AM — for our parishioners
 12:00 PM - 12:45 PM — CONFESSION
 1:00 PM — (Spanish)

Presider Schedule - January 4 & 5

5:00 p.m. — Fr. Sepulveda / piano
 7:30 a.m. — Fr. Grisolano / organ
 9:00 a.m. — Fr. Sepulveda / piano / Parish Choir
 11:00 a.m. — Fr. McCarthy / organ
 1:00 p.m. — (Spanish) Fr. Sepulveda



Patricia Gullery
 Annabell O'Malley

SAINTS AND SPECIAL OBSERVANCES

Sunday: The Holy Family
 Monday:
 Tuesday: St. Sylvester I, Pope; New Year's Eve
 Wednesday: Mary, The Holy Mother of God, New Year's Day, World Day of Peace
 Thursday: Sts. Basil the Great and Gregory Nazianzen, Bishops and Doctors of the Church
 Friday: The Most Holy Name of Jesus
 Saturday: St. Elizabeth Ann Seton, Religious
 Next Sunday: The Epiphany of the Lord

©LPi

THIS WEEK'S READINGS

Sunday: 1 Sm 1:20-22, 24-28/Ps 84:2-3, 5-6, 9-10 (see a)/1 Jn 3:1-2, 21-24/Lk 2:41-52
 Monday: 1 Jn 2:12-17/Ps 96:7-8a, 8b-9, 10/Lk 2:36-40
 Tuesday: 1 Jn 2:18-21/Ps 96:1-2, 11-12, 13/Jn 1:1-18
 Wednesday: Nm 6:22-27/Ps 67:2-3,5, 6, 8 (2a)/Gal 4:4-7/Lk 2:16-21
 Thursday: 1 Jn 2:22-28/Ps 98:1, 2-3ab, 3cd-4/Jn 1:19-28
 Friday: 1 Jn 2:29—3:6/Ps 98:1, 3cd-4, 5-6/Jn 1:29-34
 Saturday: 1 Jn 3:7-10/Ps 98:1, 7-8, 9/Jn 1:35-42
 Next Sunday: Is 60:1-6/Ps 72:1-2, 7-8, 10-11, 12-13 (see 11)/Eph 3:2-3a, 5-6/Mt 2:1-12



Why is there something rather than nothing?

Why is everything so obviously messed up?

What if anything has God done about it?

How should I respond?



“It was a compelling and transformative experience, inspiring spiritual growth and deepening of faith”

“ It was enlightening and thought provoking”

“ I enjoyed meeting new people and talking about faith openly”

“I enjoyed the interaction with my table mates and hearing their perspectives.”

“It was worth hearing and being reminded about what is really important”

If What you heard about Rescue Project sounded interesting our next session starts January 13th. Come join us each week for a meal followed by an engaging video and faith sharing conversation. If you want more information or to register please email Ashley at aguinn@archchicago.org, call the parish office or use the QR Code



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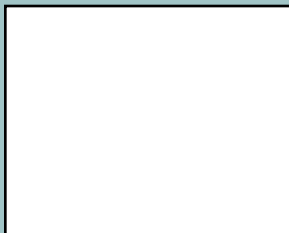
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ST. ELIZABETH OF THE TRINITY PARISH

6020 WEST ARDMORE AVENUE
CHICAGO, ILLINOIS 60646-5320



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mgrisolano@archchicago.org

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lsepulveda@archchicago.org

Pastor Emeritus

Rev. Daniel P. McCarthy

Permanent Deacons

Deacon Jose Adan Bernabé
Deacon Gregory Bzdon

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Director of Evangelization and Ministry

Mrs. Ashley Guinn
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Mrs. Jenica Anderson
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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:

gbzdon@archchicago.org

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 Hugo Munoz 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)

Rectory: 773-763-8228
Fax: 773-774-8461
School: 773-763-7080
Website: www.stelizabethtrinity.org
Email: parishoffice@setparish.org

*"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*