



ST. ELIZABETH of the Trinity



AUGUST 24, 2025



21st SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

"People will come from the east and the west and from the north and the south and will recline at table in the kingdom of God. For behold, some are last who will be first, and some are first who will be last."

- Lk 13:29-30

FROM FR. DEO

August 24, 2025



Striving to enter through the narrow gate

Dear sisters and brothers,

Peace be with you! We continue our journey through the Gospel of Luke, where Jesus, on His way to Jerusalem, offers profound teachings about the Kingdom of Heaven. In today's passage (Luke 13:22-30) someone asks Him: "*Lord, will only a few people be saved?*" And instead of giving a direct answer, Jesus turns the question back to the crowd and to us: "*Strive to enter through the narrow gate.*" I'd like to focus my meditation on the imagery of the narrow gate and its implications for our Christian discipleship.

In today's world, we are constantly surrounded by messages that promote ease, self-interest, comfort, and compromise. We are often led to believe that life is best lived by taking the easy road—doing whatever feels good, following our own version of "truth," and building a reality shaped more by personal preference than by objective moral grounding. For many, success is measured by popularity, wealth, influence, or approval. But this mindset of seeking salvation without sacrifice resembles what may be called the "wide gate": the popular path, the path of least resistance. It demands nothing, promises everything, and appeals to comfort over conversion. But the glow of its rewards is short-lived. This can influence how we live our faith, gradually reducing it to the bare minimum. For some, life is busy and attending Sunday Mass in person has become occasional. For others, the sacramental life, especially confession, is rarely sought. Our homes may no longer be places of daily prayer. This is not a judgment, but a heartfelt concern—one that calls for sincere pastoral and spiritual discernment.

In contrast to the easy and popular path, Jesus speaks of the narrow gate—the challenging but life-giving way of authentic discipleship. When asked about how many would be saved, Jesus shifts the focus from others to a personal call to enter through the narrow gate. In fact, Christians of the first century were being persecuted, made fun of, and rejected for being followers of Christ. The evangelist Luke offers a clear and urgent warning, urging his audience to choose the path of holiness with greater urgency, sincerity, and effort: "*Strive to enter through the narrow gate.*" But what is the narrow gate?

For Pope Benedict XVI, the narrow gate is the path of truth, self-denial, humility, mercy, obedience, and love. It is the way of the cross. It's the path that refuses shortcuts, choosing the truth of the Gospel, even when it's unpopular or costly. Ultimately, the narrow gate is not a rulebook, but a Person — Jesus Christ. To enter by this gate means to live in a relationship with Him and allow that relationship to transform how we live. It is not about suffering for its own sake, but about freedom through truth and a life of deep meaning, even in difficulty. Jesus assures us that the narrow gate "is a path that leads to life, not only eternal life, but also a more meaningful and fulfilling life here and now." (*Homily, WYD, August 21, 2005*)

Jesus also warns us that many will try to enter but they will not be recognized and say: "*We ate and drank in your company,*" but He will reply, "*I do not know you.*" That's a hard truth. Being inside the church does not guarantee an entry into Heaven. Going to Mass, even knowing Scripture is important but not enough if we don't develop a personal relationship with Him. In other words, being intentional disciples is not just about what we believe, but how we live, putting the Gospel into action — in our parish, families, workplaces, and communities. Our Catholic faith is rich not only in teachings but also in practices that deeply nourish our soul: daily prayer, Sunday Eucharist, regular confession, the Rosary, acts of charity, Scripture reading, Eucharistic Adoration, and active participation in the various ministries of the Church.

The Holy Spirit is calling each of us to be active participants, not just spectators, in our parish life. I'm available for spiritual guidance, pastoral discernment or any personal concerns. To schedule a meeting or phone call, please call the Parish Office (773 763-8228), email me (dembonyumugenzi@archchicago.org) or you may also approach me after Mass with quick questions.

Lastly, we kicked off the new School year on Wednesday. We want our students to be grounded in Christ, with hearts open to learning, hands ready to serve, and spirits lifted in prayer. We invite you to prayerfully consider supporting the *Trinity Tuition Assistance Fund*. (See Principal Hillmann's letter on the school page of this bulletin for more information.) Your generosity ensures that no child is turned away from the blessings of faith-based learning. Please pray for our children, educators, and parents so that they may grow in wisdom and grace.



In today's Gospel, Jesus tells us to "Strive to enter through the narrow gate." Our call to be disciples and to follow Jesus demands that we learn to live for the sake of others.

Your gift to the St. Vincent de Paul Society, through the "Poor Boxes" in the church vestibule, will help you to "live for the sake of others." Thank You!

St Vincent DePaul Society Bundle Weekend

August 23 and 24th

Before and After all Masses

THIS WEEKEND!

THIS WEEKEND!

*Bring you gently used clothing,
shoes, linens, and small
appliances to the back parking
lot to share with others!*

We do not accept **any** furniture, dishes,
books, or videotapes



Any questions, please contact Jill Powers at jill@svdpcchicago.org

THANK YOU THANK YOU THANK YOU

Dear Friends,

As most of you know already, in spring I was diagnosed with blocked arteries to my heart. The initial remedy (insertion of stents) didn't work. The solution then, was a minimally invasive heart procedure. This occurred on July 31. Before & after the surgery, doctors guaranteed a full recovery in 1-2 months time. The surgery was a success & I am now on the mend. I was in the hospital for 11 days & have been in the rectory since then. The process of recovery & rehab has been slow & difficult at times. I'm still told, however, that I'm on schedule for a full recovery. For this I am grateful to God.

I'm also grateful to many of God's good people:

- The medical staff at Loyola University Medical Center have been skilled & compassionate through it all. Regular checkups at Loyola are a given. I have home health care coming to the Rectory now. Cardiac rehab will be the next step.
- My sister, Mary, has been an angel. A retired nurse, she has been with me every step of the way, encouraging me and challenging me to work harder in my rehab.
- Fr Deo & Fr Leo have been kind & generous with their time and energy. They're never too busy for a cheery visit. Every day I'm blessed to receive Holy Communion from either one.
- You, the people of St Elizabeth of the Trinity made my return to the Rectory last week a great joy with your abundance of cards, notes, emails and, especially the promise of your prayers. Friends from my other priestly assignments and my many cousins in Ireland have also made all of this easier with their greetings and prayers as well. I will never be able to thank you enough but please know of my gratitude and prayers.

Doctors tell me I should be ready to go by the 1st week of October. I pray they're right. Until then, please continue to pray for me. I'll keep you updated here in the bulletin.

Eternally grateful,

Fr. McC

NOTICE

Due to the school roof replacement project, parking in front of school on Ardmore is very limited. We anticipate the job will be completed by the middle of September. We appreciate your understanding.



Class of '26 Car Wash

The St.
Eliza-
beth of

The Trinity 8th Grade class will be holding their annual car wash fundraiser in the gym parking lot on **Saturday, Sept. 13th from 9:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.**

The cost is \$10 for cars and \$15 for vans/SUV's and donations are welcome.

Thank you for supporting our 8th grade class!

ST. ELIZABETH OF THE TRINITY PARISH

SANCTUARY ANGELS

CONSIDER JOINING OUR CHURCH CLEANING MINISTRY AND HELP CARE FOR OUR SACRED SPACE, REFLECTING THE LOVE WE SHARE AS A PARISH COMMUNITY.



HELP US UPKEEP OUR BELOVED CHURCH BY PARTICIPATING IN THE CLEANING OF THE SANCTUARY FLOOR AND FIXTURES, DEEP CLEANING PEWS AND THE SACRISTY.

CONTACT FR. LEO FOR MORE INFO.



Religious Education

Join Us for the RE for the 2025-26 School Year

Registration is now open for children from 1st to 8th grade. Forms are available online, at the back of church, or by using the QR code above.

Tuition for this upcoming year will be \$275 plus \$75 for each additional child and our first class is Sunday September 7th

We look forward to helping your child to grow in their faith and love for Jesus!

We can always use more help if you would like to be a catechist or a classroom aid please contact Ashley Guinn in the parish office.



SCAN ME



SICK LIST

Bernadette Bannach—Elise Fernandez—Dolores Nano—Arthur Hamilton—Michele Schmidt—Joe & Nelda Garza—Jimmy Retondo—Elizabeth Hofstede—Donna Kolinski—JoAnn Keto—Jane Berg

(Call the parish office to have your name added or removed)

ATTENTION: ALL MEN OF THE PARISH - THIS IS FOR YOU!



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- Incredible, gut-wrenching testimonies from three TMIY Core Team Leaders who found the love and mercy of Christ amidst impossible odds.
- How the freedom of the Holy Spirit is unleashed by true humility.
- A Lenten journey battling the darkness of the seven deadly sins through the counteracting light of seven saints.

SPEAKERS:



PROGRAM INFORMATION

Tuesday Evenings
beginning September 2, 2025
St. Elizabeth of the Trinity Parish
In the school auditorium
6040 W. Ardmore Ave.

SCHEDULE

7:30 p.m. Gather
7:45 p.m. Video Presentation
8:15 p.m. Table Discussion
8:45 p.m. Conclusion

REGISTRATION

Enroll by scanning the QR Code or by filling out a registration card found in the church vestibule or the parish office.



Join Us for Rescue Project Starting September 14th

Sessions will be from 10-11:30 AM in English and Spanish



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?



Ever ask yourself these questions?

We invite you to join us for The Rescue
Project.

Together we can discover The Story.

How Our Past Participants Described Their Experience of Encountering Jesus In the Rescue Project:

"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"

Come join us each week for some
hospitality 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



SCAN ME



St. Elizabeth of the Trinity Catholic School

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

Dear Parents, Parishioners and Friends of St. Elizabeth,

At St. Elizabeth of the Trinity, we believe that our Catholic school is more than a place of learning, it is a place of holistic formation, where academic excellence and Catholic identity meet; where Christ is known and loved; and where students are shaped not only for success in life, but for holiness and service in the Church. We believe every child deserves access to a nurturing, high quality education that supports both their academic success and spiritual growth. We are proud to serve a diverse community of students and families who are deeply committed to learning, character development, and community engagement.

Each year, a growing number of our families face financial challenges that put their children's education at risk. With your support, we can ensure that no student has to leave our school simply because of financial hardship.

Several years ago the Tax Credit Scholarship (TCS) was abolished and we created the Trinity Tuition Assistance Fund (TTAF) to replace it. We are reaching out to ask for your help in providing tuition assistance to students in need. Your contribution will directly support families who are struggling and ensure their children can remain at St. Elizabeth of the Trinity, continuing to learn, thrive, and build a better future. For the 2025-2026 school year, we have over 30 students receiving financial aid.

Whether it's \$100, \$500, or more, your gift makes a meaningful difference. You are not just helping pay for tuition—you are helping a child grow in faith and knowledge by staying with their teachers, their friends, and the learning environment where they feel safe and supported.

Thank you for believing in the power of Catholic education and for supporting our students and families. Together, we can make sure every student who belongs at St Elizabeth of the Trinity can stay.

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 Faith Direct

<https://membership.faithdirect.net/givenow/IL795/54688>. Please know that no matter the amount in the TTAF, Father Deo and I will work with families to ensure that any student who wants to attend St. Elizabeth of the Trinity School 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 k.hillmann@stelizabethtrinityschool.org. I thank you for taking the time to consider my request.

Yours in Christ,
Kristine Hillmann, Ed.D.

5th Annual PARISH St. Elizabeth of the Trinity SOCIAL



Celebrate the 5th year of our beloved Parish Social—an evening full of fun, fellowship, and community spirit! This free event brings together our school and church families for a night of connection and celebration.

**SATURDAY,
SEPTEMBER 20, 2025**

**FOLLOWING
4 PM MASS**

**6040 W. ARDMORE
CHICAGO, IL**

Food from Firewater Saloon



- Bags Tournament
- Live Band
- Kids Tent

To keep this event free and fun for everyone, we're gratefully accepting:

- Volunteers to help with setup and activities
- Donations via Faith Direct:
- In-person donations at the school or rectory

✉ 2025TrinitySocial@gmail.com

SCAN ME





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 AUGUST 23, 2025

5:00 PM — James J. Divita, John & Helen Ptak, Don Love, Jr., Rita Lombardi

SUNDAY AUGUST 24, 2025

7:30 AM — for our parishioners
9:00 AM — Christina Alvarez, Loretta Revers, souls in Purgatory
11:00 AM — Christina Alvarez, +Richard, +Joey & +Baby Rudolf, +Michael James Shannon
12:00 PM - 12:45 PM — CONFESSION
1:00 PM — (Spanish) Cesar Hernandez Marin

MONDAY AUGUST 25, 2025

8:30 AM — Edward O'Malley

TUESDAY AUGUST 26, 2025

8:30 AM — for those on our memorial trees and boards
11:00 - 6:00 PM - Adoration / Benediction at 6:00 PM
6:30 PM — Richard Milkiwski (special intention)

WEDNESDAY AUGUST 27, 2025

8:30 AM — for the homebound of the parish

THURSDAY AUGUST 28, 2025

8:30 AM — Zofia Kalembe, +Christine Wasowski
6:30 PM — Bilingual Confessions

FRIDAY AUGUST 29, 2025

8:30 AM — Mike Kelly

SATURDAY AUGUST 30, 2025

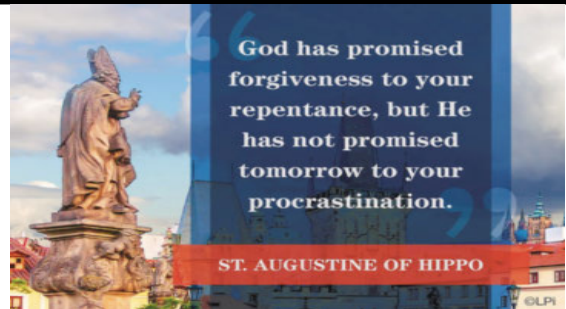
8:30 AM — +Charles Boyd
5:00 PM — deceased members of the Ognibene family, Robert & Mary Rice (50th wedding anniversary), Cathy McDonough (health)

SUNDAY AUGUST 31, 2025

7:30 AM — for our parishioners
9:00 AM — George Berndt, souls in Purgatory
11:00 AM — for our parishioners
12:00 PM - 12:45 PM — CONFESSION
1:00 PM — (Spanish) Carlos Alexis Hernandez Perez, Cesar Hernandez Marin, Diana Calderon

Presider Schedule - August 30 & 31

5:00 p.m. — Fr. Andy Matijevic/ piano
7:30 a.m. — Fr. Andy Matijevic / organ
9:00 a.m. — Fr. Leo / piano
11:00 a.m. — Fr. Leo / organ
1:00 p.m. — (Spanish) Fr. Leo



Robert Brown & Yahil Ruvalcaba - I



SAINTS AND SPECIAL OBSERVANCES

Sunday: 21st Sunday in Ordinary Time
Monday: St. Louis; St. Joseph Calasan, Priest
Tuesday:
Wednesday: St. Monica
Thursday: St. Augustine, Bishop and Doctor of the Church
Friday: The Passion of St. John the Baptist
Saturday:
Next Sunday: 22nd Sunday in Ordinary Time
©LPi

THIS WEEK'S READINGS

Sunday: Is 66:18-21/Ps 117:1, 2 (Mk 16:15)/Heb 12:5-7, 11-13/Lk 13:22-30
Monday: 1 Thes 1:1-5, 8b-10/Ps 149:1b-2, 3-4, 5-6a and 9b/Mt 23:13-22
Tuesday: 1 Thes 2:1-8/Ps 139:1-3, 4-6/Mt 23:23-26
Wednesday: 1 Thes 2:9-13/Ps 139:7-8, 9-10, 11-12ab/Mt 23:27-32
Thursday: 1 Thes 3:7-13/Ps 128:1-2, 4-5/Mt 24:42-51
Friday: 1 Thes 4:1-8 (429)/Ps 97:1 and 2b, 5-6, 10, 11-12/Mk 6:17-29
Saturday: 1 Thes 4:9-11/Ps 98:1, 7-8, 9/Mt 25:14-30
Next Sunday: Sir 3:17-18, 20, 28-29/Ps 15:2-3, 3-4, 4-5 (1a)/Heb 12:18-19, 22-24a/Lk 14:1, 7-14

New Eucharistic Adoration Opportunity at t. Elizabeth of the Trinity

Jesus is truly present in the Holy Eucharist and longs to be with us in our daily lives. We are excited to announce an additional opportunity for Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament.

It will be every Thursday starting on September 4 after the 8:30 a.m. Mass until Benediction at 6:50 p.m. in Spanish.

The Blessed Sacrament will be exposed throughout the day for private prayer and Adoration. Come and spend time with our Lord - whether for a few minutes - or an entire hour.

Let us draw closer to Christ, who is waiting for us with love.

Please note that this is in addition to the normal Tuesday Adoration schedule.

Minister of Care Training

A Basic Minister of Care Training Course for those who wish to bring our Lord in Holy Communion to the homebound or in nursing facilities will be offered this Fall. Chaplain Rick Nash and Jim Vlazny of Our Lady of Perpetual Help Parish in Glenview will facilitate this training.

The training will take place on two **Saturdays, October 25th and November 1st at Our Lady of Perpetual Help Parish, Hickey Hall, 1772 Glenview Road, Glenview.** Per Archdiocesan guidelines, it is important that new Ministers of Care attend both Saturday training sessions to be mandated. There will also be a session here at SEOT.

For more information or to register, please contact our parish Minister of Care Coordinator Tony Lupinski through the Parish Office.

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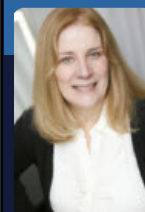
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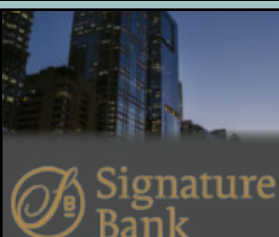
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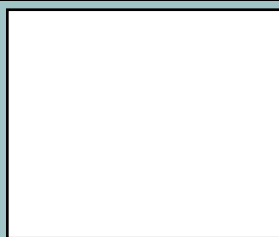
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St. Elizabeth of the Trinity Parish, Chicago, IL

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ST. ELIZABETH OF THE TRINITY PARISH

6020 WEST ARDMORE AVENUE
CHICAGO, ILLINOIS 60646-5320



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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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Mr. Jose Angel Abarca (*Spanish Mass*)

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Mr. Jose Munoz
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School Principal

Dr. Kristine Hillmann
k.hillmann@stelizabethtrinityschool.org

School / Parish Marketing Director

Mrs. Jenica Anderson
j.anderson@stelizabethtrinityschool.org

Scan QR Code for Examination of Conscience
and a Confession Guide



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., and 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.)**

Parish Office (Rector): 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 Order of Christian Initiation for Adults (OCIA)*. 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 Ashley Guinn for more information.

Parish Registration: New parishioners are asked to register at the Rector. 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)

Rector: 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*