



# ST. ELIZABETH of the Trinity



**JANUARY 11, 2026**



• THE BAPTISM OF THE LORD •

**“THIS IS MY  
BELOVED SON.”**

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# FROM FR. DEO

January 11, 2026



Dear Sisters and Brothers,

God is good all the time... All the time God is good!

Today we celebrate the Baptism of the Lord. This feast brings the Christmas season to a close and marks the beginning of Jesus' public ministry.

The Gospel of Matthew recounts the baptism of Jesus in the Jordan: "*After Jesus was baptized, he came up from the water and behold, the heavens were opened for him, and he saw the Spirit of God descending like a dove and coming upon him. And a voice came from the heavens, saying, "This is my beloved Son, with whom I am well pleased."*"

This is the manifestation (Epiphany) of Jesus as Messiah of Israel and Son of God. God is made known as Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. The presence of the Triune God at this baptism, reveals Jesus' true identity and mission. By stepping into the Jordan River, the Second Person of the Trinity blesses all water and prepares the way for our salvation through our own baptism. The Heavens' opening also indicates that God is no longer distant from us; He has entered our history and our lives through His Son.

We may wonder: why did Jesus, the sinless Son of God, submit to the "baptism of repentance" meant for sinners? He came to the Jordan to stand with us, fully entering our human condition. As Saint Maximus of Turin reminds us, "*Our Divine Lord Jesus Christ was baptized not to be made holy by the waters, but to make the waters holy.*" He chooses to stand among sinners, not because He needs repentance, but because He comes to save. In humble obedience to the Father's will, He begins the path that will lead to the cross—the baptism of His death, accepted out of love for us.

What does the baptism of Jesus mean for us? It reminds us of our identity as children of God. Through Baptism, we become part of God's family, members of the Church, and temples of the Holy Spirit. Baptism is not only a past event but a daily call to live as children of God by serving others with humility and bringing God's love into the world.

In parish news, after listening to parishioners and consulting with all involved, I have decided to bring the venerated icon of the Black Madonna, enshrined in Częstochowa, Poland, back into our church. This is a gesture of welcome, unity, and respect for cultural faith expression. We are reminded that the Church is a home for all, and Mary embraces every culture with her love. We will inform you of the time when, as a community, we can joyfully and solemnly bring her back.

We trust *The Seven Pillars of Catholic Spirituality*, gifted to you at Christmas, is enriching your faith. (There are still copies available in the vestibule). You are kindly invited to share a comment about the book or an insight that has inspired you by sending an email to the Rectory. We look forward to reporting on your collective thoughts about the book in a future "Parishioners' Corner" article. Your reflections will be a valuable blessing to our parish community.

In Christ,

Fr. Deo





After Jesus was Baptized He saw the Spirit of God descending like a dove and a voice was heard saying: "This is My beloved Son, with whom I am well pleased." As we give to the poor, we also can hear these same words.

Have you considered joining the St. Vincent de Paul Society so that you can live your Baptism more fully?

ST. ELIZABETH OF THE TRINITY HOLY NAME SOCIETY PRESENTS:  
CHAMPIONSHIP SUNDAY

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A donation of between \$10 and \$20 from all envelope users to cover these expenses would be most appreciated.

Thank you for your continued support!



## 2025 CONTRIBUTION STATEMENTS

2025 contribution statements will be available by request beginning January 20. You may request one by: calling the parish office (773 763-8228), by stopping by the parish office, or by emailing the parish office at [parishoffice@setparish.org](mailto:parishoffice@setparish.org))

We prefer to email the statements or have you pick them up.

Thank you for your continuing support of our parish!

## An Invitation to All Men of the Parish

*That Man Is You - The Fight of Faith* equips and enables men to engage in the cosmic, spiritual battle raging in our day. Biblical identities will emerge to inspire heroic lives of service to a calling greater than ourselves. Uncover the ultimate truth that sheds light on all things: God's own identity. Fight the good fight of faith to win an imperishable crown of glory.



Join us for a video presentation followed by deep, meaningful, personal, and safe conversations and fellowship on Tuesdays at 7:30 p.m. until 9:00 p.m. in the auditorium beginning January 20. All men are welcome. Come and see how this experience can make you a better man!

Learn more at [thatmanisyou.com](http://thatmanisyou.com).



## 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—  
MaryAnn Hermesdorf—Lidia Piper—John Kottra—Rosemary Marinello—Marion Calvino—  
Giovanni Randazzo—Ann Sychowski

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

**Something Exciting is Coming to St. Elizabeth of the Trinity!**

# *This Is Our Faith*

This series will explore what the Catholic Church teaches and believes by studying the *Catechism of the Catholic Church*.

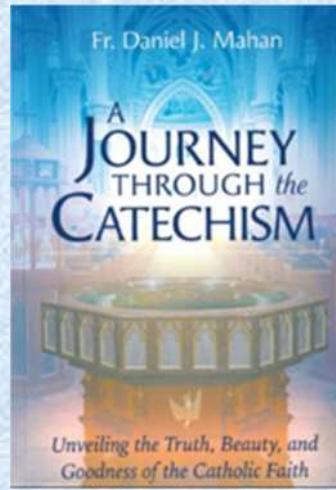
- What do we believe?
- Why do we believe what we do?
- Where do these beliefs come from?
- Why are all of them important?

We will explore Church tradition and scripture, in addition to the Catechism. This series is ideal for life-long Catholics who want to learn more about their faith as well as seekers and newly received people into the Church.

Sessions will be offered twice each week starting on

**Tuesday, February 24 from 1:30 p.m. to 3:00 p.m. and run through May 19**  
or

**Wednesday, February 25 from 6:30 p.m. – 8:00 p.m. through May 20.**



Meetings will be held in the lower level of the rectory.

Reading from the book *A Journey Through the Catechism* will be required prior to each session. There will be a \$20 fee to purchase the book. Bibles and Catechisms will also be available to those who would like to purchase them.

Contact Jim Madura at (773) 763-8828 or [jmadura@archchicago.org](mailto:jmadura@archchicago.org) for more information or to register.

Hurry – space is limited!

## **Science Fair Judges Needed**

The St. Elizabeth of the Trinity School Science Fair will be on Thursday, January 22, 2026 and we need 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 can volunteer (who does NOT have an 8th grade student enrolled in St. Elizabeth). If you can help on the 22nd from 3:00 - 4:30 p.m., please contact Mrs. Kathy Dati. It is really a great experience, and our students love showing off their projects!

[k.dati@stelizabethtrinityschool.org](mailto:k.dati@stelizabethtrinityschool.org).



# Catholic Schools Week

## Open House

St. Elizabeth of the  
Trinity School



### Contact:

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<https://seotts.org>

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### *The Food Pantry*

It's no secret that the St. Elizabeth of the Trinity Food Pantry continues to be generously supported by parishioners plus other good people. Likewise, it's no secret that the ongoing impetus is Jesus's call to action: "I was hungry and you gave me to eat..." Yet not everyone knows the full story about this special ministry.

The Food Pantry, which is managed by a volunteer team of approximately eight dedicated parishioners, is located in the lower level of the school gym and is open on Tuesdays from 9:00 a.m. to 10:00 a.m. The patrons who come to the pantry are not asked to prove financial need and there are no geographical restrictions imposed. The Food Pantry serves about 22 to 40 families each week.

Just prior to opening, a drawing is held to determine in what order patrons will go through the pantry and select approximately 12 food items. In other words, they are not given a pre-selected, one-size-fits-all assortment. This means patrons can customize their choices to fit their household.

Beyond the staples, the Food Pantry offers, on an alternating-week schedule, milk or eggs. Also, the Panera Bread "Dough-Nation" program regularly delivers baked goods. And when in season, fresh produce is supplied by community gardens and individual home gardeners, adding an extra dimension to the offerings.

However, the St. Elizabeth of the Trinity Food Pantry provides something far more momentous than the tangibles of cans of beans, boxes of cereal, and rolls of toilet paper. The Food Pantry volunteers exude genuine Christian joy in their service. On behalf of the parish community, they interact with patrons and treat them with the dignity they deserve as children of God and as neighbors.

The tone is set by volunteers who welcome patrons with a friendly greeting, and during the wintery months invite them to visit in a community room area prior to their food shopping. There are Spanish and Polish speaking volunteers on the team who help provide a comfortable experience. The caring service attitude is confirmed in details such as regular checking for expired dates on food items.

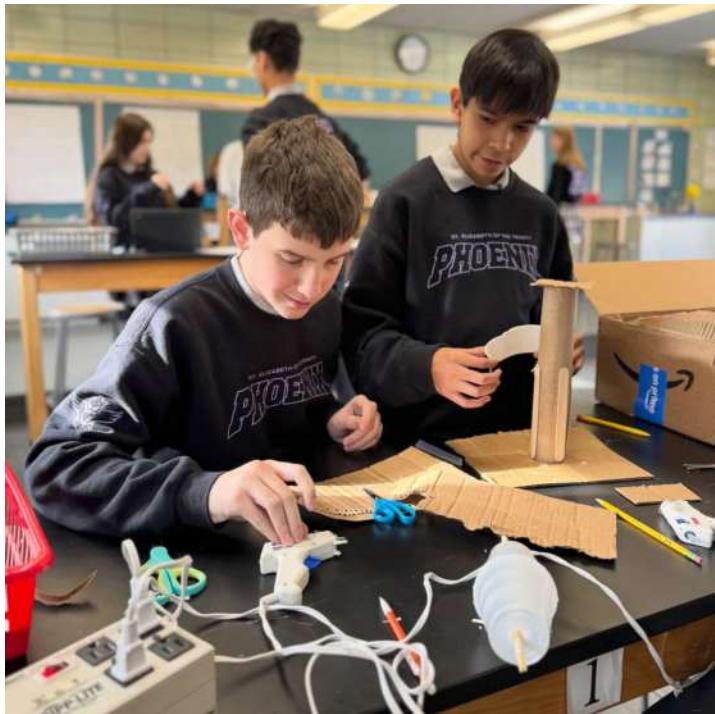
Behind the scenes, volunteer "shoppers" scour websites and sales papers in the hunt for bargains to stretch funds donated for stocking the pantry. These shoppers discuss pricing data with the same intensity as a couple of Chicago Bears' fans analyzing player stats on a Monday morning.

The Food Pantry has benefited from the support of food drives from the St. Elizabeth of the Trinity parish school, the Women's Group, the St. Vincent de Paul Society, the Kolping Center, the Boy Scouts, and other local parishes and schools.

Sincere thanks go to parishioners who generously support this ministry by dropping off food items in the church vestibule or the shed outside the gym -- as well as placing monetary donations (marked "Food Pantry") in the Sunday collection basket. And, if you would like to volunteer, please contact the Rectory for more information.

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"Parishioners Corner" is a dedicated space for parishioners. All are invited to share their thoughts about the parish merger and building the new reality of SEOTT. In addition, we invite parishioner thoughts about a journey of faith, a moment of grace, a prayer intention, or a reflection on the readings. Email your thoughts (anonymously if you wish) to the Rectory office.



### Windmill Challenge

Recently in our school's eighth grade, students built and tested windmills with provided materials to explore wind energy and the principles of aerodynamics and mechanical work. The challenge was to see how much weight the windmills could lift.





Watch St. Elizabeth of the Trinity Sunday Mass on YouTube - search for the St. Elizabeth of the Trinity Parish channel.

### SATURDAY JANUARY 10, 2026

5:00 PM — +Don Love, +Eugene Fraczkowski, +Bridget Byrne, +Jeffrey Cahil Rivera (birthday), +Paula Settefrati (6<sup>th</sup> anniversary)

### SUNDAY JANUARY 11, 2026

7:30 AM — +Helen & +Alexander Kolinski, +Rose Dyjak (birthday), +Walter Dyjak (39th anniversary), +Jo & +Ed Sanborn, +Anna, +Estelle, +Joseph & +Edward Dyjak

9:00 AM — +Tom Gutzman, +Teresa Chiriboga (1st anniversary), souls in Purgatory

11:00 AM — Helena Aylward (good health), +Margaret Rodden Wydra (birthday remembrance)

2:00 PM - 12:45 PM — CONFESSIONS

1:00 PM — +Justiniano Pacheco, Gabriel Granados, +Cesar Hernandez Marin, +Jesus & Adrian Hernandez

### MONDAY JANUARY 12, 2026

8:30 AM — for those in our prayer garden

### TUESDAY JANUARY 13, 2026

8:30 AM — +Theresa Cicchetti (birthday)

11:00 - 6:00 PM - Adoration / Benediction at 6:00 PM

5:30 - 6:00 PM - CONFESSION

6:30 PM — for the intentions of the Holy Father

### WEDNESDAY JANUARY 14, 2026

8:30 AM — Eduardo Granados, +Aggie Kubik (9<sup>th</sup> anniversary)

### THURSDAY JANUARY 15, 2026

8:30 AM — James Albert

11:00—6:50 PM — Adoration / Benediction

6:00 - 7:00 PM — bilingual CONFESSION

### FRIDAY JANUARY 16, 2026

8:30 AM — for those on our memorial trees and boards

### SATURDAY JANUARY 17, 2026

8:30 AM — Gabriela Lara

3:30 - 4:30 - CONFESSION

5:00 PM — +Don Love Jr., +Roger Jaeger

### SUNDAY JANUARY 18, 2026

7:30 AM — for our parishioners

9:00 AM — souls in Purgatory

11:00 AM — Mary Coffman (good health), +Bridget Byrne, +Robert Joseph Caston, +Maria Magnolia Gomez

2:00 PM - 12:45 PM — CONFESSIONS

1:00 PM — +Cesar Hernandez Marin, +Jesus & Adrian Hernandez, +Justiniano Pacheco

### Presider Schedule - January 17 & 18

5:00 p.m. — Fr. Leo / *Guitar Ensemble*

7:30 a.m. — Fr. Leo / *organ*

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

11:00 a.m. — Fr. Deo / *organ*

1:00 p.m. — (Spanish) Fr. Leo



Jozes Grudzien

Maria Vega

Maria Florencia Barela

### SAINTS AND SPECIAL OBSERVANCES

Sunday: The Baptism of the Lord

Monday:

Tuesday: St. Hilary, Bishop and Doctor of the Church

Wednesday:

Thursday:

Friday:

Saturday: St. Anthony, Abbot

Next Sunday: 2nd Sunday in Ordinary Time

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### THIS WEEK'S READINGS

Sunday: Is 42:1-4, 6-7/Ps 29:1-2, 3-4, 3, 9-10/  
Acts 10:34-38/Mt 3:13-17

Monday: 1 Sm 1:1-8/Ps 116:12-13, 14-17, 18-19/  
Mk 1:14-20

Tuesday: 1 Sm 1:9-20/1 Sam 2:1, 4-5, 6-7, 8abcd/  
Mk 1:21-28

Wednesday: 1 Sm 3:1-10, 19-20/Ps 40:2 and 5, 7-8a,  
8b-9, 10/Mk 1:29-39

Thursday: 1 Sm 4:1-11/Ps 44:10-11, 14-15, 24-25/  
Mk 1:40-45

Friday: 1 Sm 8:4-7, 10-22a/Ps 89:16-17, 18-19/  
Mk 2:1-12

Saturday: 1 Sm 9:1-4, 17-19; 10:1a/Ps 21:2-3, 4-5,  
6-7/Mk 2:13-17

Next Sunday: Is 49:3, 5-6/Ps 40:2 and 4, 7-8, 8-9, 10/1  
Cor 1:1-3/Jn 1:29-34



## MINISTRY OF CARE TRAINING

will be offered from 8:30 a.m. to 4 p.m.  
 Saturday, January 31, 2026 at  
**AdventHealth LaGrange Hospital,**  
**5101 Willow Springs Road, La Grange, IL**  
**60525.** Lunch will be provided during the  
 free training.

Participants must be 18 years of age  
 or older and have the support of their  
 pastor and the Minister of Care Parish  
 Coordinator. Topics will include the  
 spirituality, theology and the rites of the  
 Pastoral Care of the Sick.

Contact Deacon Tom Carlson to enroll:  
[tcarlson@archchicago.org](mailto:tcarlson@archchicago.org) or  
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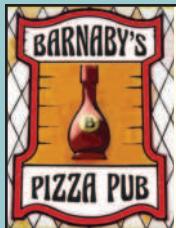
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St. Elizabeth of the Trinity Parish, Chicago, IL

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# ST. ELIZABETH OF THE TRINITY PARISH

6020 WEST ARDMORE AVENUE  
CHICAGO, ILLINOIS 60646-5320



*Administrator*  
**Rev. Deogratias "Deo" Mbonyumugenzi**  
[dembonyumugenzi@archchicago.org](mailto:dembonyumugenzi@archchicago.org)

*Associate Pastor*  
**Rev. Leonel "Leo" Sepulveda**  
[lsepulveda@archchicago.org](mailto:lsepulveda@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](mailto:mparilla@archchicago.org)

*Director of Evangelization and Lifelong Formation*  
**Mrs. Ashley Guinn**  
[aguinn@archchicago.org](mailto:aguinn@archchicago.org)

*Pastoral Minister / Bulletin Editor*  
**Mr. Jim Madura**  
[jmadura@archchicago.org](mailto:jmadura@archchicago.org)

*Music*  
**Mr. Mark Wozniczka**  
[mwozniczka@archchicago.org](mailto:mwozniczka@archchicago.org)  
**Mr. Jose Angel Abarca (Spanish Mass)**

*Administrative Assistants*  
**Mrs. Bea Cavoto**  
[bcavoto@archchicago.org](mailto:bcavoto@archchicago.org)  
**Mrs. Gigi Aguilar**  
[guagilar@archchicago.org](mailto:guagilar@archchicago.org)

*Bookkeeper*  
**Mr. Jose Munoz**  
[jomunoz@archchicago.org](mailto:jomunoz@archchicago.org)

*School Principal*  
**Dr. Kristine Hillmann**  
[k.hillmann@stelizabethtrinityschool.org](mailto:k.hillmann@stelizabethtrinityschool.org)

*Marketing Director*  
**Mrs. Jenica Anderson**  
[j.anderson@stelizabethtrinityschool.org](mailto:j.anderson@stelizabethtrinityschool.org)

**Rectory:** 773-763-8228  
**Fax:** 773-774-8461  
**School:** 773-763-7080  
**Website:** [www.stelizabethtrinity.org](http://www.stelizabethtrinity.org)  
**Email:** [parishoffice@setparish.org](mailto:parishoffice@setparish.org)

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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)

**Low Gluten Hosts:** available from priest in center aisle at all Masses

**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:** 6:00 to 7:00 p.m.,  
**Saturday:** 3:30 to 4:30 p.m., and **Sunday:** 12:00 to 12:45 p.m.  
(all are bilingual)

### Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament

**Tuesday:** 11:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. (Benediction at 6:00 p.m.)  
**Thursday:** starts after the 8:30 a.m. Mass until Benediction at  
6:50 p.m. (in Spanish)

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

### Baptism:

Please contact Deacon Greg Bzdon to make arrangements:  
[gbzdon@archchicago.org](mailto: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 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](mailto: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*