

Dec. 10, 2023

*2nd Sunday
of Advent*

SAINT ELIZABETH OF HUNGARY CATHOLIC CHURCH

Eureka Springs, Arkansas

Contact Us...

CHURCH

30 Crescent Drive
Eureka Springs, AR
72632

PARISH CENTER

232 Passion Play Road
Eureka Springs, AR
72632

MASS SCHEDULE

Sunday 8:30am
Tuesday 8:30am
Thursday 8:30am
Friday 8:30am

(except 1st Fri. of
month-12noon at PC)
Saturday 4pm at PC

OFFICE HOURS

Tues. & Thurs.
10:00am-4:00pm

PHONE

479.253.2222

FAX

479.253.6616

GIFT SHOP

479.253.8045

WEBSITE

stelizabetheureka.com

OFFICE E-MAIL

secretary@stelizabeth
eureka.com

PASTOR E-MAIL

frjoseph@stelizabeth
eureka.com

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2nd SUNDAY OF ADVENT

"Prepare the way
of the Lord."
- Mk 1:3

Excerpts from the Lectionary for Mass ©2001, 1998, 1970 CCD.

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All visitors to our beautiful town of Eureka Springs are welcome to visit our historic Saint Elizabeth of Hungary Church, and to pray and worship with us. If you are Catholic, and have recently received the Sacrament of Reconciliation, you are also invited to share in the Holy Eucharist. If you are not a practicing Catholic, we invite you to come forward with arms crossed over your chest to receive a sacramental blessing. Pray that we all continue to grow together into the body of Christ, to which the Lord calls us.

SACRAMENTAL LIFE

For Baptism, First Communion or Confirmation, contact our Parish Office, and we will point you in the right direction.

MINISTRY TO SICK & HOMEBOUND

If someone in our community is at home or in the hospital, and in need of Sacramental Care, or to be placed on our prayer list, please let us know at the Parish Office.

GIFT SHOP

St. Elizabeth Gift Shop is located behind the Church in a small building. It is generally open seven days a week (March - Oct.) and weekends through the Holiday season. We carry a large selection of medals, holy cards, rosaries, crucifixes, statuary and religious art. Come on back and check us out!

TO OUR VISITORS

Welcome to our Parish! If you wish to join our Parish family, please call the Parish Office, T&Th, at 253.2222. Registration forms are available in the narthex at both locations.

Getting Married?

Saint Elizabeth welcomes couples from all over the world who want to receive the Catholic Sacrament of Matrimony in our beautiful and historic Church. For more information, please contact the Parish Office, 479.253.2222.

PARISH STAFF & MINISTRY LEADERS

Pastor

Rev. Joseph Archibong

Parish Secretary & Bookkeeper

Nancy Elfter

Director of Music

Sharon Parker

Parish Council Chair, Parish Life,

Gift Shop Manager Rod McGuire

Finance Council Chair

Ted Meyer

Knights of Columbus

Mike Godfrey

Liturgical Ministers & Ministry of Care

Leva Murphy

Religious Education for Youth

Contact St. Anne in Berryville

Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults

Contact St. Anne in Berryville

Saint Joseph's Guild & Gardens

Mike Lubbers

Society of St. Vincent de Paul

Mark Elworth

svdpberryville.weebly.com

THIS WEEK at Saint Elizabeth

SPECIAL EVENTS & LITURGICAL SCHEDULE

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 12

Adoration 8:00am
Daily Mass 8:30am

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 14

Daily Mass 8:30am
Confessions 9:15am

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 15

Daily Mass 8:30am
Christmas Party 5:30pm at the PC

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 16

Confessions 2:30pm at the PC
Holy Rosary 3:30pm at the PC
Vigil Mass 4:00pm at the PC

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 17

Third Sunday of Advent 8:30am

Monday: Is 35:1-10; Ps 85:9ab and 10, 11-12, 13-14; Lk 5:17-26
Tuesday: Zec 2L14-17 or Rv 11:19a; 12:6a, 10ab; Jdt 13:18bcde, 19; Lk 1:26-38 or Lk 1:39-47
Wednesday: Is 40:25-31; Ps 103:1-2, 3-4, 8 and 10; Mt 11:28-30
Thursday: Is 41:13-20; Ps 145:1 and 9, 10-11, 12-13ab; Mt 11:11-15
Friday: Is 48:17-19; Ps 1:1-2, 3, 4 and 6; Mt 11:16-19
Saturday: Sir 48:1-4, 9-11; Ps 80:2ac and 3b, 15-16, 18-19; Mt 17:9a, 10-13

God's Blessings & Birthday Wishes to:

Ken Buch - 12/10, Bruce Wright- 12/10,
Karen Core - 12/11, Matthew McClung - 12/12,
Kathleen Willoughby - 12/13, Fred Bartell - 12/14,
Jeanette Selleck - 12/14

May you have many more!



LITURGICAL MINISTRIES

Mass Ministers



SATURDAY, DECEMBER 16

4:00pm Vigil Mass at the Parish Center

Lector: Jerry Horning

EMCs: see sign-up sheet

Ushers: Richard Boyes, Janice Boyes

Altar Server: Jim Witkowski

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 17

8:30am Mass at the Church

Lector: Cassian Heath

EMCs: Rod McGuire, Mindy Godfrey, Phyllis McGuire

Ushers: Michael Murphy, Mike Godfrey

Altar Server: Leva Murphy



Mass Intentions

Tuesday, December 12

For the Intentions of Larry Lynde

Thursday, December 14

For the Intentions of Dean & Jan Herda

Friday, December 15

For the Intentions of Michael Herda

Saturday, December 16

For the Intentions of Angela Dearood

Sunday, December 17

For the Repose of the Soul of Darline Hober



Pray for us...



OUR PARISHIONERS -

Connie Blazek, Connie Breaux, Richard & Sheila Fowler, Florence Giels, Charlotte Nowlin, Ernie & Helen Wright and Barbara Witkowski.

OUR FRIENDS AND FAMILY MEMBERS -

Patsy Crawford, Marci Krieger, Chuck Maxwell, Joe McDaniel, Eric Pederson, Dale Putrino, David & Becky Sisco, Debra Reid and Libbie Vesekla

THOSE WHO HAVE DIED - Gus Midden

OUR MILITARY - Tyler Horning, George Schwender, and Nic Smith.



Please remember to save the date for **St. Elizabeth's Christmas Party** on Friday, Dec. 15th. There will be Bingo with some fantastic Christmas Decorations as prizes. The names for our **Gift of Giving** will again be available this weekend.



Fourth Sunday of Advent (For Sun. Mass Obligation)

St. Elizabeth Saturday, 12/23, 4:00pm at the P.C.
St. Anne Saturday, 12/23, 8:00pm (English)
St. Anne Sunday, 12/24, 1:00pm (Spanish)

Christmas Eve Vigil Masses

St. Elizabeth Sunday, 12/24, 5:00pm at the Church
St. Anne Sunday, 12/24, 7:00pm (English)

Christmas Day

St. Elizabeth Monday, 12/25, 8:30am at the Church
St. Anne Monday, 12/25, 11:00am (Spanish)

NOTE: As you will notice above, there is NO Mass at 8:30am at the Church on Sunday, Dec. 24th



*Our Seminarians
for the month of
December, 2023*

Chase Feltner

Contact address:

St. Meinrad Seminary,
200 Hill Drive

St. Meinrad, IN 47577

For more information

on our seminarians, go to

www.dolr.org/seminarians



**Ryan
Carlson**



As a parish, we are financially dependent on your generous weekly contributions to pay our bills and keep the lights on and our doors open and even more so during these difficult times. So, as you plan for the weeks and months ahead, please remember your parish family in your prayer and in your financial planning.



GIFT SHOP



December Gift Shop Schedule

Sun. 12/10	9:30-1:00	Selleck
Sat. 12/16	10:00-1:00	N. Barnett
	1:00-4:00	S. McClung
Sun. 12/17	9:30-1:00	Godfrey

Retirement Fund for Religious

Our women and men religious offer gratitude. A sister shares, "I thank the Lord for all who give. I don't think we would make it without them." Thank you for giving to the Retirement Fund for Religious last week. Your donation makes a difference in the lives of elderly women and men religious. To learn more about how your gift helps, visit retiredreligious.org.



SAINT OF THE WEEK

Venerable Bishop Fulton John Sheen was a profound American Catholic bishop, theologian and media personality. Considered one of the first televangelists, his charisma and defense of the faith made him a household name for American Catholic families.

PRAYER

Heavenly Father, source of all holiness, You raise up within the Church in every age men and women who serve with heroic love and dedication. You have blessed Your Church through the life and ministry of Your faithful servant, Archbishop Fulton J. Sheen. He has written and spoken well of Your Divine Son, Jesus Christ, and was a true instrument of the Holy Spirit in touching the hearts of countless people.

If it be according to Your will, for the honor and glory of the Most Holy Trinity and for the salvation of souls, we ask You to move the Church to proclaim him a saint. We ask this prayer through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

Second Sunday of Advent

December 20, 2023



GOSPEL MEDITATION

Encourage Deeper Understanding of Scripture

We like to think we are totally free, but the bitter truth is we simply are not. Or better put, our freedom is limited on every side - by governments, corporate giants, physical and mental frailties, genetic shortcomings, and even the boundaries of time and space, and above all, the burden of our sins and pending deaths. In our day, we are perhaps particularly aware that we are not free to disconnect from the technocratic rulers of the air. If you doubt me, try not paying your internet bill and see what happens. We are not totally free.

It's nothing new, of course, in Jesus' day, everyone felt the crushing weight of the Roman Empire. You can say you're free all you want. But try not paying your taxes to Rome and see what happens.

Once we feel this burden in our own lives - however it comes, we are ready to hear the stunning announcement that commences Mark's gospel, "**The beginning of the Gospel of Jesus Christ, the Son of God.**" It's not a simple perfunctory introduction, but a dramatic announcement of new freedom. The word "gospel" was a political, even military, term. It meant: a great victory has been won and a new king is in charge. This Jesus - not the Roman emperor - is God's son, and he has defeated all that crushes human freedom. It's time to follow him and be truly free. This week let's refuse to submit our freedom to false rulers - especially that of sin. And let's rejoice that Christ is coming to make us perfectly free from all our oppressors.

PILGRIMAGE TO IRELAND

The deadline to save \$100 on a 10-day pilgrimage to Ireland is Dec. 10. **Arkansas Catholic** is hosting the pilgrimage Sept. 11-20, 2024, with vicar general Father John Connell. Immerse yourself in the saints, culture and faith of Ireland with visits to Dublin, Galway and Knock, one of the world's most well-known Marian apparition sites. The land portion costs \$3,788 per person, including eight nights' accommodations, breakfast and dinner daily, deluxe motorcoach transportation, a professional tour escort and entrance fees to scheduled sites. A \$500 deposit is due at the time of registration. For more information, contact Kathy Primm of Sue Smith Vacations at 501-771-0987 or ***Kathy@suesmithvacations.com***.



MASS FOR LIFE 2024

On Sunday, January 21, 2024, Bishop Anthony Taylor will preside at the annual diocesan Mass for Life. The **Mass will be celebrated at St. Andrew Cathedral**, 617 Louisiana St., Little Rock at noon. Please join us for this Mass as we pray especially for an end to abortion and for the legal protection of unborn children. Please contact the Respect Life Office 501-664-0340 ext 326 or email ***cphillips@dolr.org*** for more information.

MARCH FOR LIFE

On behalf of Arkansas Right to Life, the Respect Life Office invites everyone to participate in the 46th annual March for Life, beginning at 2:00pm after the Mass for Life. Join hundreds of Catholics and people of goodwill as we give public witness to our firm belief in the sacredness of life from the very first moment of conception. This year the March's route is along Capitol Ave., beginning at State Street. For more information or to volunteer, please contact **Arkansas Right to Life** 501-663-4237 or email ***artl@artl.org***.



(PRACTICING) CATHOLIC

The World Is Pregnant

There is a character, Rose of Sharon, in John Steinbeck's *Grapes of Wrath* who is pregnant with her first child. As her impoverished family migrates from their native Oklahoma to California, Rose of Sharon's all-consuming preoccupation is her unborn child. Everything she eats, every drink she lets pass her lips, every action she takes — none of it is done without thought for the child that is still so small as to make his mother's expectancy barely discernible to the naked eye.

"For Rose of Sharon was pregnant," wrote Steinbeck. "And the world was pregnant to her."

It is the same for us Christians in the Advent season. We can feel a change coming, and the hope of this change consumes us. It shapes our actions and our plans, we feel it in our hearts and in our souls and in our limbs. From the food we eat to the clothing we wear to the words we use, the unseen Child lives and breathes and works in every small part of this blessed season.

Even the commercial clamor that is the secular "Christmas holiday" cannot fully distract us from the holy sense of anticipation we have. We are baptized, and so it is inside of us, this voice that cries out in the desert. When we hear it, we cannot help but listen.

The Virgin is pregnant, and the world is pregnant to us.

"We await new heavens and a new earth in which righteousness dwells." — 2 Peter 3:13

Colleen Jurkiewicz Dorman

Why do we do that? Catholic Life Explained

Question:

The Bible says that Jesus condemned gambling, but I notice that so many parishes have them at festivals and other events. What's correct?

Answer:

Although Jesus speaks of our relationship with material wealth and the very human struggle with greed, the gospels do not include any specific instructions related to gambling. At the same time, the Church is very sensitive to the needs of those who might struggle with an addiction to gambling, and pastoral care should always be offered to those who struggle with this reality in their life.

While it is true that many parish or school communities include gambling or games of chance in festivals and fundraisers (e.g. bingo, roulette, ring tossing, dunking booths, etc.), there is nothing inherently wrong with these sorts of events, given they are played fairly and within the limits of reason are not morally objectionable. As the Catechism of the Catholic Church reminds us: "Games of chance (card games, etc.) or wagers are not in themselves contrary to justice. They become morally unacceptable when they deprive someone of what is necessary to provide for his needs and those of others" (no. 2413).

As in all things, moderation and a sense of healthy limits should be applied to gambling and games of chance. For those who find themselves living with addiction to gambling, help is available in various 12-step and addiction recovery programs.

Elizabeth, filled with the Holy Spirit, cried out in a loud voice and said, "Most blessed are you among women, and blessed is the fruit of your womb."

- Lk 1:41b-42

Excerpts from the Lectionary for Mass ©2001, 1998, 1970 CCD.

Questions of the Week

Invite Parishioners to Reflect and Respond to Scripture

First Reading

The prophet Isaiah offers comfort and hope to the Israelites who were captive in Babylon in proclaiming that the glory of the Lord is returning to Israel. Do you have family or friends who could use words of encouragement from you?

Second Reading

Peter speaks of being at peace while we wait for the promise of new heavens and a new earth when Christ returns. What gives you peace of mind these days?

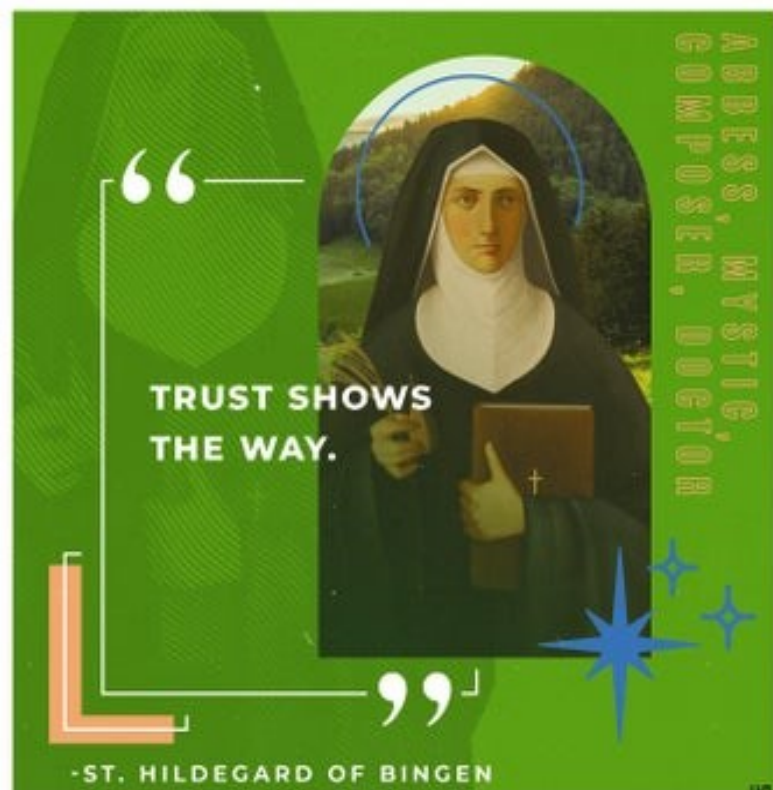
Gospel Reading

Fulfilling the prophecies of Isaiah, John the Baptist proclaimed the arrival of Jesus, "one mightier than I...(who) will baptize you with the Holy Spirit." Where do you sense the Holy Spirit present in your life?



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The angel said to her, "Do not be afraid, Mary, for you have found favor with God. Behold, you will conceive in your womb and bear a son, and you shall name him Jesus." - Lk 1:30-31

Excerpts from the Lectionary for Mass ©2001, 1998, 1970 CCD.

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