# SAINT ELIZABETH OF HUNGARY 3rd Sunday of CATHOLIC CHURCH Advent

Eureka Springs, *Fi*rkansas

## 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)

4pm at PC Saturday

#### OFFICE HOURS

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

#### PHONE

479.253.2222 479.253.6616 FAX

#### **GIFT SHOP**

479,253,8045

#### WEBSITE

stelizabetheureka.com

#### OFFICE E-MAIL

secretary@stelizabeth eureka.com

#### PASTOR E-MAIL

frjoseph@stelizabeth eureka.com

SOCIETY OF ST. VINCENT DE PAUL

870.423.3572

#### ST. ANNE CHURCH

614 Main St. Berryville, AR 72616 870.423.3927



### 3RD SUNDAY **OF ADVENT**

A man named John was sent from God. He came for testimony, to testify to the light, so that all might believe through him. - Jn 1:6-7

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.

## Setting 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 PAGE TWO December 17, 2023



## SPECIAL EVENTS & LITURGICAL SCHEDULE

#### TUESDAY, DECEMBER 19

Adoration 8:00am
Daily Mass 8:30am

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 21

Daily Mass 8:30am Confessions 9:15am

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 22

Daily Mass 8:30am

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 23

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

#### SUNDAY, DECEMBER 24

Third Sunday of Advent 5:00pm

## Readings for the Week

Monday: Jer 23:5-8; Ps 72:1-2, 12-13, 18-19;

Mt 118-25

Tuesday: Igs. 13:2-7, 24-25a; Ps 71:3-4a, 5-6ab,

16-17; Lk 1:5-25

Wednesday: Is 7:10-14; Ps 24:1-2, 3-4ab, 5-6;

Lk 1:26-38

Thursday: Sg 2:8-14 or Zep 3:14-18a; Ps 33:2-3,

11-12, 20-21; Lk 1:39-45

Friday: 1 Sm 1:24-28; 1 Sm 2:1, 4-5, 6-7, 8abcd;

Lk 1:46-56

Saturday: Mal 3:1-4, 23-24; Ps 25:4-5ab, 8-0, 10 &

14; Lk 1:57-66

## God's Blessings & Birthday Wishes to:

Doug Gautier - 12/16, David Maul– 12/17, Jason Diggs - 12/21, Sandy McClung - 12/22

May you have many more!





#### SATURDAY, DECEMBER 23

4:00pm Vigil Mass at the Parish Center

Lector: Barb McClung
EMCs: see sign-up sheet

Ushers: Mark Elworth, Jo Elworth Altar Server: Jim Witkowski SUNDAY, DECEMBER 24

8:30am Mass at the Church

Lector: Rod McGuire

EMCs: Phyllis McGuire, Mary Szafranski, Karen Finkeldei

Ushers: Ted Meyer, Bev Wright

Altar Server: Mike Lubbers



#### Mass Intentions

Tuesday, December 19

For the Repose of the Souls of <u>Charles & Marion Byrne & Matthew Eady.</u> For the Intentions of <u>John Calandroi</u>

Thursday, December 21

For the Repose of the Soul of Patricia Carmack and the

Intentons of Zoey Gibson

Friday, December 22

For Peace in the Middle East, Israel & the Ukraine

Saturday, December 23

For Peace in the Middle East, Israel & the Ukraine

Sunday, December 24

For the Repose of the Souls of Harold & Alma Chapman





#### **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.



The Gift Shop Lunch was a huge success and so much fun! The gifts at the right are just a small example of the gifts the volunteers were given. Always recruiting new



volunteers. If interested, call.



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

## STEWARDSHIP

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 difficulties times. So, as you plan for the weeks and months ahead, please remember your parish family in your prayer and in your financial planning.



Sun. 12/17 9:30-1:00 Godfrey Sat. 12/23 10:00-1:00 S. McClung 1:00-4:00 Meyer

The Knights of Columbus will be holding their monthly meeting Monday, Dec. 18th at the St. Elizabeth Parish Center. The meeting begins at 5:30pm. This month we will be serving clam chowder and chili before the meeting, so come early at 5:00pm. At this month's meeting we will be holding an Exemplification, induction ceremony for new members. If you are a Catholic male, in good standing with the Church and are at least 18 years old, please consider coming to the meeting and joining the K of C.

#### SAINT OF THE WEEK



Blessed Maria Franziska Schervier was a German Catholic nun who devoted her life to serving the poor and the sick. She founded the Franciscan Sisters of Aschen and began chapters in the United States where she and her sisters also founded a number of hospitals.

#### **PRAYER**

Almighty, just and merciful God, Blessed Frances Schervier spent her whole life giving back to You all the gifts that You had given her. She cared for the poor and the sick and radiated Your loving presence to all that she met. We beseech You now to glorify Your servant, Frances. Give her the honor of sainthood if it is in accordance with Your will. We ask this through Jesus, Your Son, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, forever and ever. Amen.

## Third Sunday of Fedvent

### December 17, 2023

#### **GOSPEL MEDITATION**

#### Encourage Deeper Understanding of Scripture

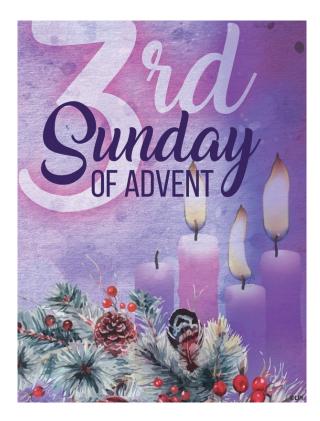
Why do we believe in Jesus and the Catholic Church? Why should we continue to do so? We've never seen him face-to-face (at least not most of us, I assume). Most of us have never had mystical visions of angels or saints. We live in the same world as our atheist and secularists friends. Why do we believe in Christ if we've never seen him?

The simple, symbolic answer the Gospel presents to us this week might surprise us: we believe because of John the Baptist. Early in John's Gospel we hear: "There was a man sent from God, his name was John. He came for testimony, to bear witness to the light, that all might believe through him." The Baptist powerfully announces Jesus. This is a historical fact, and it is also now a pattern at work in our lives.

John the Baptist stands for the entirety of the old covenant, everything entrusted to the Jewish people. And yet he prophetically opens the door to something entirely new in Jesus, to the revival and fulfillment of God's promises. In every generation, and in every human life, God continues to do this. He has done it through people named Augustine, Francis, Catherine, Theresa and countless others. In my life, the Baptist's spirit has come through persons named Eric, Paul, Mary and Ron. I challenge you to name at least three people through whom God has announced the coming of Jesus in your life. Consciously thank God for their testimony. And let's commit ourselves to listening to the spirit of John the Baptist testify again this week so that we might more strongly believe in the light.

#### SPIRITUAL HIGHLIGHTS OF ITALY

Take your **Faith on a Journey,** to see the Spiritual Highlights of Italy on this 9-day experience. April 23, 2024 through May 1, 2024. Your included destinations while on this Journey: **Day 1** - Arrive in Rome, Italy. **Day 2** - Rome. **Day 3** - Rome. Excursion to Castel Gandolfo. **Day 4** - Rome - Pietrelcina - San Giovanni Rotonda. **Day 5** - San Giovanni Rotondo. Excursion to Monte Sant' Angelo. **Day 6** - San Giovanni Rotondo - Lanciano - Loreto - Assisi Area. **Day 7** - Assisi. **Day 8** - Assisi Area - Cascia - Rome. **Day 9** - Rome. Plus Mass will be offered on your journey. Land prices begin at only \$1929 per person. Call 860-399-1785.



#### **EVENING OF RECOLLECTION**

Fr. Jerome Kodell, OSB, will be the speaker at the New Year's Evening of Recollection at Coury House in Subiaco Dec. 31-Jan. 1. His topic will be "Responding to the Timeless Within: Becoming a Saint." The retreat begins with registration between 10:00am and noon; lunch; conference, reconciliation, dinner, Vespers followed by a celebration of the New Year with the monks, eucharistic adoration 11:30pm to midnight; breakfast on New Year's Day, conference, Mass, lunch and departure. Cost is \$260 for a couple (or \$130 per person in a shared room); \$150 for a private room and \$85 for commuters. Call 479-934-1290 or email couryhouse@subi.org for more information or to make reservations. Fr. Jerome is a popular retreat director, author and respected Biblical scholar. He was abbot of Subiaco Abbey for 25 years before resigning the position.



## **Liturgical** Life

# CATHOLIC

#### Testimony

When my grandmother heard the news that my cousin had fallen from a second-story window, she immediately went and washed her hair.

Grandma had been sitting alone in her house, listening to the morning radio when the announcer shared a news bulletin stating that the previous night, a little boy with the same name as her grandson, living in the same community and of the same age, had fallen onto the pavement from a window on the second floor of his house. He had been rushed to the hospital but miraculously survived his injuries.

She thought she was hallucinating and wanted to look pretty when the "men in white coats" came to take her away. Thus, the hair-washing.

As it happens, the whole story was true — it was her grandson, but this was before the age of mobile phones and had happened so late at night that his parents had been unable to notify any family members before the whole thing showed up on the news.

It wasn't until my grandmother received a phone call from another relative corroborating the story that she realized it hadn't been a figment of her imagination. What a waste of styled hair, no hospital committal for her that day.

There are certain truths that we cannot accept unless they are supported by the testimony of others. We find them to be unbelievable without the reassurance of another person whispering, "It's okay. I see it, too."

This is the value of testimony, and the purpose of John the Baptist and every saint who ever died with the name of Jesus Christ on their lips. And this is the sacred duty of all the baptized, to give testimony with our words and our actions.

How will you testify today?

"He was not the light, but came to testify to the light." — John 1:8

Colleen Jurkiewicz Dorman

#### Why do we do that? Catholic Life Explained

#### Question:

Why do Catholics give the sign of peace to one another at Mass?

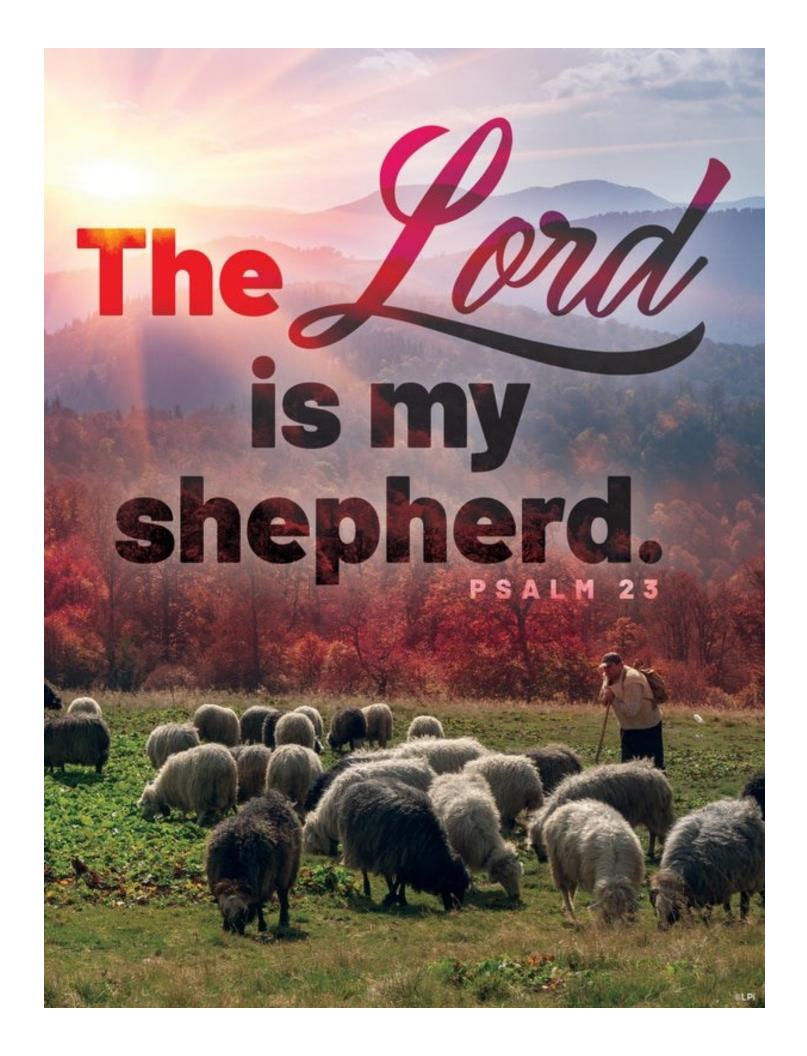
#### Answer:

The sign of peace is a part of the Mass that takes place immediately after we offer the Lord's Prayer. Inspired by the Jesus' words to his first followers, we stand together in a spirit of communion to pray as Jesus taught us: "Our Father who art in heaven..." In this prayer, we call for the coming of God's kingdom in all its fullness and ask that God provides for our needs — "Give us, this day, our daily bread" — to forgive our sins and to bring us to the joy of heaven.

It is almost natural, then, that the rite of peace would follow. As the celebrant prays that Christ's peace will fill our hearts, our communities, the Church, and the whole world, we extend to those around us a sign of peace (usually a hug or a handshake) as a symbol of the communion that we experience now and will experience forever in the fullness of the reign of God.

We are also reminded of Jesus' teachings that if we are at prayer and remember that a brother or sister is holding something against us, then we are to go and seek reconciliation with them before we continue our prayer (see Matthew 5:23). And so, the sign of peace also reminds us of the need to truly be in communion — united in love and peace — with God and one another before we approach the altar to receive the Eucharist.

So, the next time you're at Mass and the time comes for the sign of peace, remember that this is a moment to celebrate the gift of Christ's peace that each of us has received from God and to pass that peace along to those around us. We need this moment to practice, because this is also the same peace of Christ that we are instructed to carry out into the world at the end of Mass when the priest or deacon says to us, "Go, in peace, glorifying the Lord by your life."



66-

OH MY GOD,
FORGIVE WHAT
I HAVE BEEN,
CORRECT WHAT
I AM, AND DIRECT
WHAT I SHALL BE.

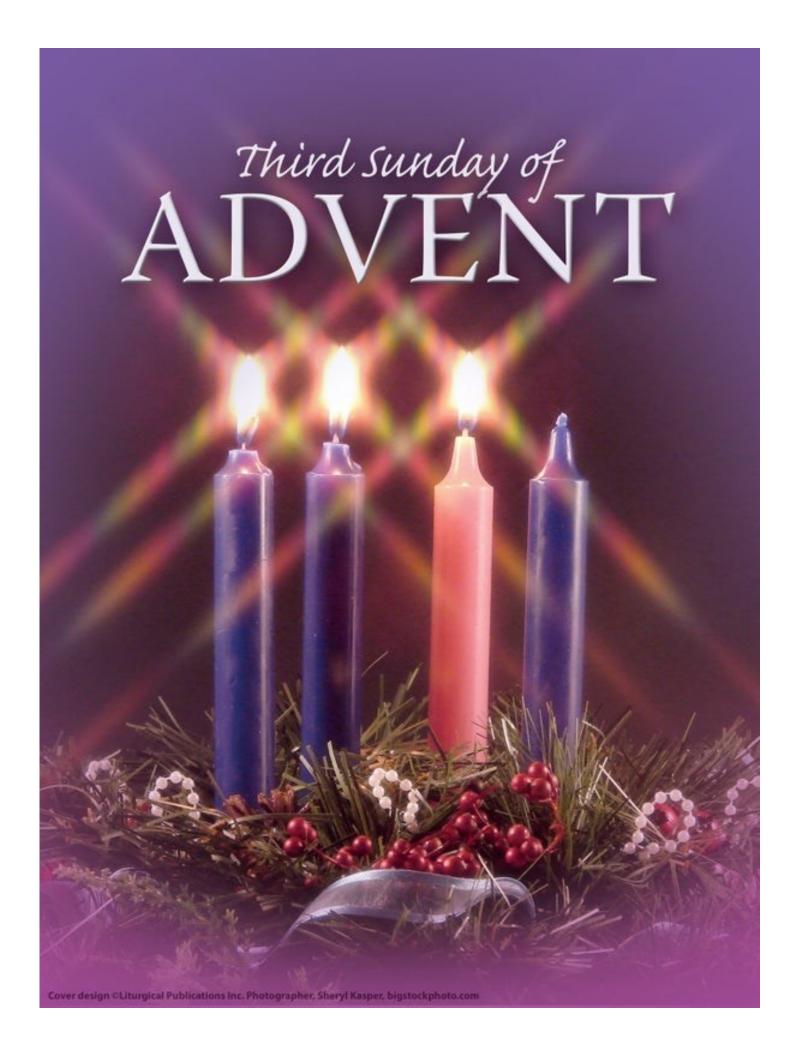
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-ST. ELIZABETH ANN SETON



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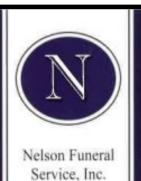
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