

December 21, 2025

*4th 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

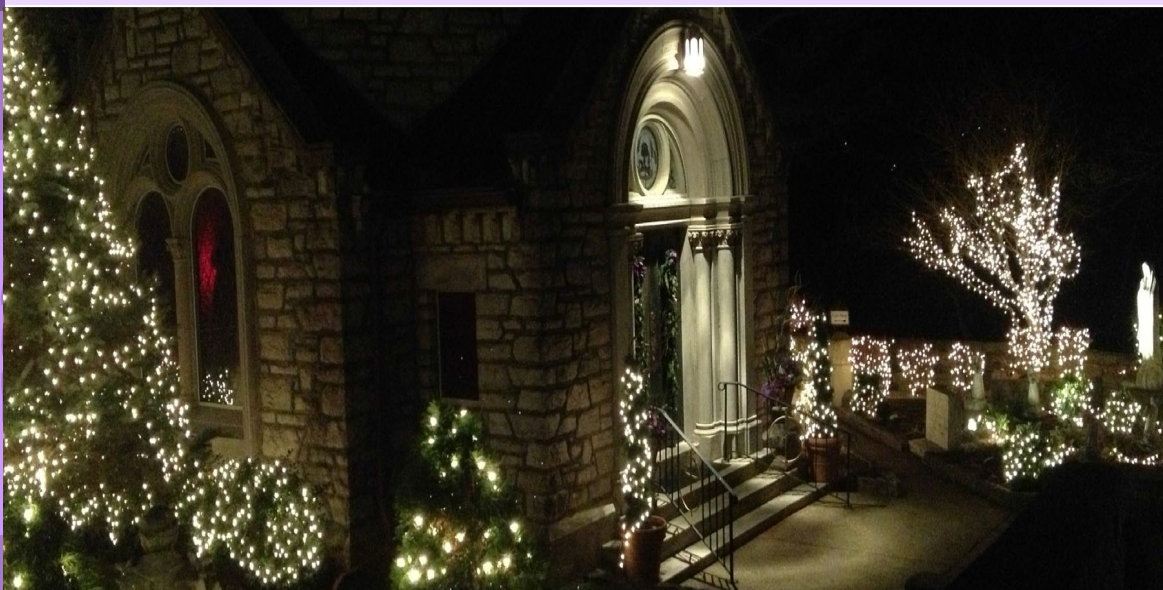
SOCIETY OF ST.

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870.423.3572

ST. ANNE CHURCH

614 Main St.
Berryville, AR 72616
870.423.3927



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 five days a week (March - Nov.) 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

David Lehen

svdpberryville.weebly.com

THIS WEEK at Saint Elizabeth

SPECIAL EVENTS & LITURGICAL SCHEDULE

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 23

Adoration 8:00am
Daily Mass 8:30am

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 24

Christmas Eve Mass 4:00pm at the PC

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 25

Christmas Mass 8:30am

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 26

Daily Mass 8:30am

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 27

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

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 28

The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary & Joseph 8:30am

Monday: 1 Sm 1:24-28; 1 Sm 2:1, 4-5, 6-7, 8abcd;
Lk 1:45-56
Tuesday: Mal 3:1-4, 23-24; Ps 25:4-5ab, 8-9, 10 & 14;
Lk 1:57-66
Wednesday: Morning: 2 Sm 7:1-5, 8b-12, 14a, 16;
Ps 89:2-3, 4-5, 27 & 29; Lk 1:67-79
Thursday *Vigil:* Is 62:1-5; Ps 89:4-5, 16-17, 27, 29 (2a); Acts 13:16-17, 22-25; Mt 1:1-25 or 1:18-25 *Night:* Is 9:1-6; Ps 96:1-2, 2-3, 11-12, 13 (Lk 2:11); Ti 2:11-14; Lk 2:1-14 *Dawn:* Is 62:11-12; Ps 97:1, 6, 11-12; Ti 3:4-7; Lk 2:15-20 *Day:* Is 52:7-10; Ps 98:1, 2-3, 3-4, 5-6 (3c); Heb 1:1-6; Jn 1:1-18 or 1:1-5, 9-14
Friday: Acts 6:8-10; 7:54-59; Ps 31:3cd-4, 6 & 8ab, 16bc & 17; Mt 10:17-22
Saturday 1 Jn 1:1-4; Ps 97:1-2, 5-6, 11-12; Jn 20:1a, 2-8
Sunday: Sir 3:2-6, 12-14; Ps 128:1-2, 3, 4-5 (see 1); Col 3:12-21 or 3:12-17; Mt 2:13-15, 19-23

God's Blessings & Birthday Wishes to:

Sandy McClung - 12/22, Michelle Frey - 12/24,
Paul Becker - 12/26

May you have many more!

LITURGICAL MINISTRIES

Mass Ministers

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 27

4:00pm Mass at the Parish Center

Lector: Barb McClung

EMCs: see sign-up sheet

Ushers: The Simmons Family

Altar Server:

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 28

8:30am Mass at the Church

Lector: Phyllis McGuire

EMCs: Rod McGuire, Sandy McClung, Karen Finkeldei

Ushers: Mike Murphy, Gary Finkeldei

Altar Server: Leva Murphy



Mass Intentions



Tuesday, December 23

For the Repose of the Soul of Theresa Lustig

Wednesday, December 24

For the Intentions of the Parishioners

Thursday, December 25

For the Intentions of the Parishioners

Friday, December 26

For the Repose of the Soul of Theresa Lustig

Saturday, December 27

For the Repose of the Soul of Theresa Lustig

Sunday, December 28

For the Repose of the Soul of Eric James Carter

Pray for us...



OUR PARISHIONERS -

Connie Blazek, Rob Breaux, Florence Giels, Joe Ricciardi, Fran Ricciardi and Barbara Witkowski.

OUR FRIENDS AND FAMILY MEMBERS -

Regina Booth, Bradshaw Cate, Sam Donelson, Carol Dvorah, Marsha Havens, Pam Heinzl, Kathleen Horosinski, Marci Krieger, Betty McClard, Joe McDaniel, Billy Metzger, Carol Morgan-Eagle, Gene Ochrymowich, Eric Pederson, David Reuter, Connie Stielow, Ed Terrill, Libbie Vesekla and Betty Wallace.

THOSE WHO HAVE DIED - Joe Shaughnessy





Gift Shop Volunteers holding up their new blue Gift Shop Logo Shirts at their luncheon at Sparky's on Monday, Dec. 8th. What a fun time!!

Christmas Mass Schedule

Christmas Eve - Wednesday, 12/24

St. Elizabeth - 4:00pm at the Parish Center

St. Anne - 7:00pm, English

Christmas Day - Thursday, 12/25

St. Elizabeth - 8:30am at the Church

St. Anne - 11:00am, Spanish

Mary Mother of God - Holy Day of Obligation

Wednesday, 12/31

St. Anne - 6:00pm

Thursday, 1/1

St. Elizabeth - 8:30am at the Church

A Reminder: **Extended Adoration** is the last Tuesday of every month from 9:00 - 11:00am at the Church.



*Our Seminararians
for the month of
December, 2025*

Tuan Do

Contact address:

St. Meinrad Seminary,

200 Hill Drive,

St. Meinrad, IN 47577

For more information

on our seminararians, go to

www.dolr.org/seminarians



**Christopher
Elser**



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. So, as you plan for the weeks and months ahead, please remember your parish family in your prayer and in your financial planning. The Sunday Collection for December 6th & 7th was **\$4,108.00**. For the Fiscal year (7/25-6/26) is **\$81,053.35**.

Our **Project Revive Campaign** Update as of 12/2/25:

	<u>Pledges</u>	<u>Payments</u>
Parishioners	\$829,073	\$524,069
Non-Parishioners	\$113,380	\$ 57,613
Donations	<u>\$ 0</u>	<u>\$ 87,007</u>
	\$942,453	\$668,689



GIFT SHOP

December Gift Shop Schedule

Sun., 12/21

9:30-4:00

Godfrey

Closed until March of 2025

aSpire

aSpire is a free e-mail newsletter covering the Catholic faith, Pope Leo and the Diocese of Little Rock. Brief, casual and entertaining - it's news you might have missed, simple inspirations and useful tips for achieving your successful Catholic life.

Delivered free to your inbox twice a month.

Visit Arkansas-catholic.org/aspire-email-newsletter to subscribe.

Christmas Collection

The collection at all masses on Christmas Eve and Christmas Day will be for the Clergy Welfare Fund. This fund provides retirement and health care benefits to retired and infirm priests around our diocese. Our priests spend every day of their adult lives as humble and devoted servants, doing God's work and serving us until age or infirmity calls them to retirement. Your contributions to the Clergy Welfare Fund make our priests' retirement possible. 100% of donations for this special collection will remain within our diocese. Please share with our priests the generosity that they continue to share with us.



Third Sunday of Advent

December 21, 2025

GOSPEL MEDITATION

Encourage Deeper Understanding of Scripture

A priest friend recently told me a remarkable story. One of his cousins reported having a vivid dream in which an angel told him the family needed to exhume their grandmother's body from a cemetery in New York and return it to her birthplace in Romania. She had been dead nearly ten years. As you might expect, the family thought it was, well, crazy. But astonishingly they exhumed her body. It was incorrupt, showing no signs of decomposition. That experience sparked healing, faith, and reconciliation throughout the family.

In this Sunday's Gospel, Joseph also received a dream. He's confused, afraid. But in the quiet of sleep, God speaks: **"Do not be afraid to take Mary your wife into your home" (Matthew 1:20).** When he wakes, Joseph acts. He doesn't overanalyze or dismiss the message. He trusts, and acts.

God still speaks - not necessarily through literal dreams but through those deeper intuitions of the heart. St. Ignatius of Loyola taught that God's voice draws us into peace, courage and love. But we have to listen to it. Advent is a time for stillness. As we prepare for Christ's coming, we're invited to enter that quiet space where God's voice can be heard.

When and how do you become most receptive to God? Is it in silence? In prayer? In nature? At Mass? This week, go there. Be still. Listen. And like Joseph, have the courage to act on what God shows you.

- Father John Muir



DEVOTIONS, *Explained!*

Las Posadas is a Mexican tradition which recreates the Holy Family's search for lodging in Bethlehem. This nine-day devotion anticipates the birth of Jesus Christ, who seeks refuge in the heart of every man and woman.



DIRECTORY NEWS: If you are submitting a picture for the directory, please send it to the church office along with \$15 to defray the cost of adding the picture. Please include your names, address and phone numbers, and how you want it to be published in the directory. These will be included in the directory unless you state otherwise. If you have already given a picture to Nanette please send your \$15 to the office with your name. It is not too late to change your mind and have your picture made by a professional photographer on January 6th. Go to ucdir.com, church code at 164, password photos, (case sensitive). This needs to be done by the end of the year, otherwise we will be forced to cancel if we can't get enough participants. You can invite friends, neighbors, and family to participate even though they are not a member of the parish. **DEADLINE** for submitting pictures is January 16th.

GROUP PICTURES will be taken on January 16th at 11:00 at the Parish Center. If you participate in any of the various parish groups or organization, please mark your calendar for this day so that we can document the various groups that support this wonderful parish and add them to the directory.

PRAYER FOR ADVENT - MIRACLES

Dear God,
You are in the miracle business. I still believe that You can move mountains and separate seas. Break into every unknown and astound us with Your goodness and grace.
Amen.

St. Elizabeth's Christmas Dinner, held at the Parish Center last Friday, December 12th. Really scrumptious food, a great time to socialize and much fun playing Bingo.....fantastic prizes too!



THE GIFT OF GIVING

St. Elizabeth Parishioners did a wonderful job of giving Christmas gifts to the folks in our Nursing Homes. We can be proud.





St. Stephen | Feast Day December 26

The Acts of the Apostles tells the story of St. Stephen, the first Christian martyr. A man filled with grace and power, he worked great wonders among the people. Some Jews debated with St. Stephen but could not match his wisdom and spirit. Eventually, a charge of blasphemy was brought up against him, and the local population demanded that he be tried and sentenced. He was seized and carried before the Sanhedrin.

Despite the danger he faced, in front of the Sanhedrin and his accusers, St. Stephen gave a long speech about the history of Israel and the blessings that God had given upon His chosen people. He talked about how Israel had become disobedient despite God's abundant mercy. This enraged his accusers, and eventually the crowd dragged him out of the city and stoned him to death.

Even in his final moments, St. Stephen displayed great forgiveness and even asked God not to hold the sins of his attackers against them. Hundreds of years after his death, he is still a role model for us to follow.

(PRACTICING) CATHOLIC

Mini Reflection: Advent is drawing quickly to a close, and Christmas is coming soon. The change is upon us. Do we rise to accept it, or do we fall on our faces in fear?

The First Transfiguration

I imagine Joseph waking up the morning after the dream, blinking in the dim half-light of the dawn.

One day, decades from now, the baby his wife carries will stand on a mountaintop. His face will shine like the sun, and those who look upon him will fall down upon their own faces in fear.

We call this the transfiguration, and Joseph won't be there to see it. But that doesn't matter. What those men will learn on the mountaintop, Joseph already knows. He learned it last night.

Today, he shrugs off the remnants of slumber and stands up.

"Rise, and do not be afraid." This is what the baby — a baby no longer, but a man now, one in the last days of his life — will say to his companions on the mountain a few decades from now. They will look up to see him standing there the same as he always was, and they will realize that he did not change at all. They did.

"Do not be afraid." This is what the angel said last night as he revealed to Joseph the will of God: that Joseph take Mary and the Child as his own, despite having so many reasons not to do so. And today Joseph wakes up and the world is the same as it always was: Mary is pregnant, and the Child does not belong to him.

No, the world has not changed. Joseph has.

He rises, and goes to Mary.

Advent is drawing quickly to a close, and Christmas is coming soon. The change is upon us. Do we rise to accept it, or do we fall on our faces in fear?

— Colleen Jurkiewicz Dorman

Why do we do that?

Catholic Life Explained

Question:

What is the difference between tithing and stewardship?

Answer:

Both tithing and stewardship are part of a spiritual way of life that calls us to use all of our resources for the service of the Gospel. Everything we are and everything we have comes from God. Offering back to God what He has given us is part of how we worship and give thanks to God.

Tithing is the practice of giving back 10 percent of what we earn. It comes from the Old English word for "ten." The first Scriptural example of tithing came from Abraham who gave a tenth of his possessions to the priest Melchizedek. He did so as an act of thanksgiving to God.

Stewardship as a way of life calls us to use well all that we have and all that we are, placing all things in service of others and God. Stewardship helps us see the good we can accomplish by making God and our spiritual life the most important values in our life. Whatever we accumulate in this life stays here. We can't take it with us! Both tithing and stewardship help us remember that nothing is mine or even ours ... all belongs to God.

Behold, the virgin shall conceive and bear a son, and they shall name him Emmanuel, which means "God is with us." When Joseph awoke, he did as the angel of the Lord had commanded him and took his wife into his home. - Mt 1:23-24

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

Questions of the Week

Invite Parishioners to Reflect and Respond to Scripture

First Reading:

Seven hundred years before the birth of Jesus, Isaiah prophesies to King Ahaz that a virgin would bear a son and name him, Emmanuel ("God is with us"). When have you felt close to God this Advent season?

Second Reading:

Paul instructs the Roman Christians that they are "called to be holy." What do you see as some of the steps toward growing in holiness?

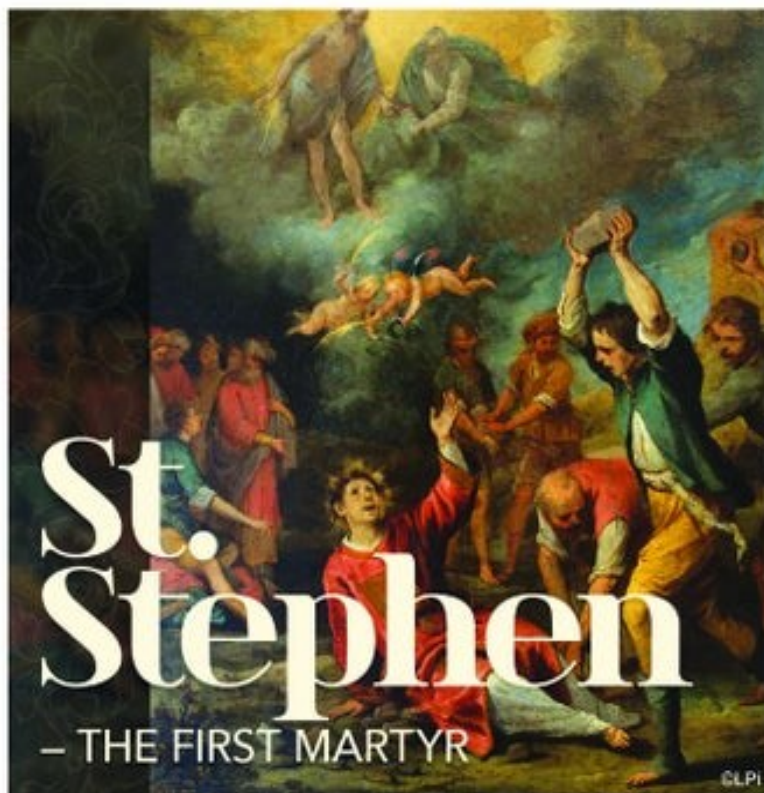
Gospel:

We hear how Joseph struggled initially with the news of Mary's pregnancy. How do you discern making difficult decisions?



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VOCE NWA presents Handel's Messiah

Saturday Dec 20, 2025

2:00 PM - 4:00 PM CST

Inspiration Point Center for the Arts

16311 US-62

Eureka Springs, AR 72632

Fees/Admission

Get tickets at:

<https://ci.ovationtix.com/36915/production/1254280?performanceId=11706300>



Experience the magic of Handel's Messiah with VOCE (Voices of the Ozarks) NWA, a newly formed ensemble of professional local singers, on Saturday, December 20, 2025, at Inspiration Point Center for the Arts

This authentic chamber performance features a double quartet of singers with orchestra, echoing the scale and intimacy of Handel's original oratorio. The result is a rich, immersive musical journey that captures the true spirit of the season.

Be part of the tradition—lift your voice with VOCE NWA in the stirring Hallelujah Chorus during the second half!

Recommended age: 9+

Length: Just over 2 hours, plus intermission

Extras: Seasonal treats and Christmas-themed options available for purchase

<https://ci.ovationtix.com/36915/production/1254280?performanceId=11706300>

2nd Annual Pictures with the Grinch

Saturday Dec 20, 2025

10:00 AM - 5:00 PM CST

Basin Spring Park

4 Spring Street

Historic Downtown Eureka Springs



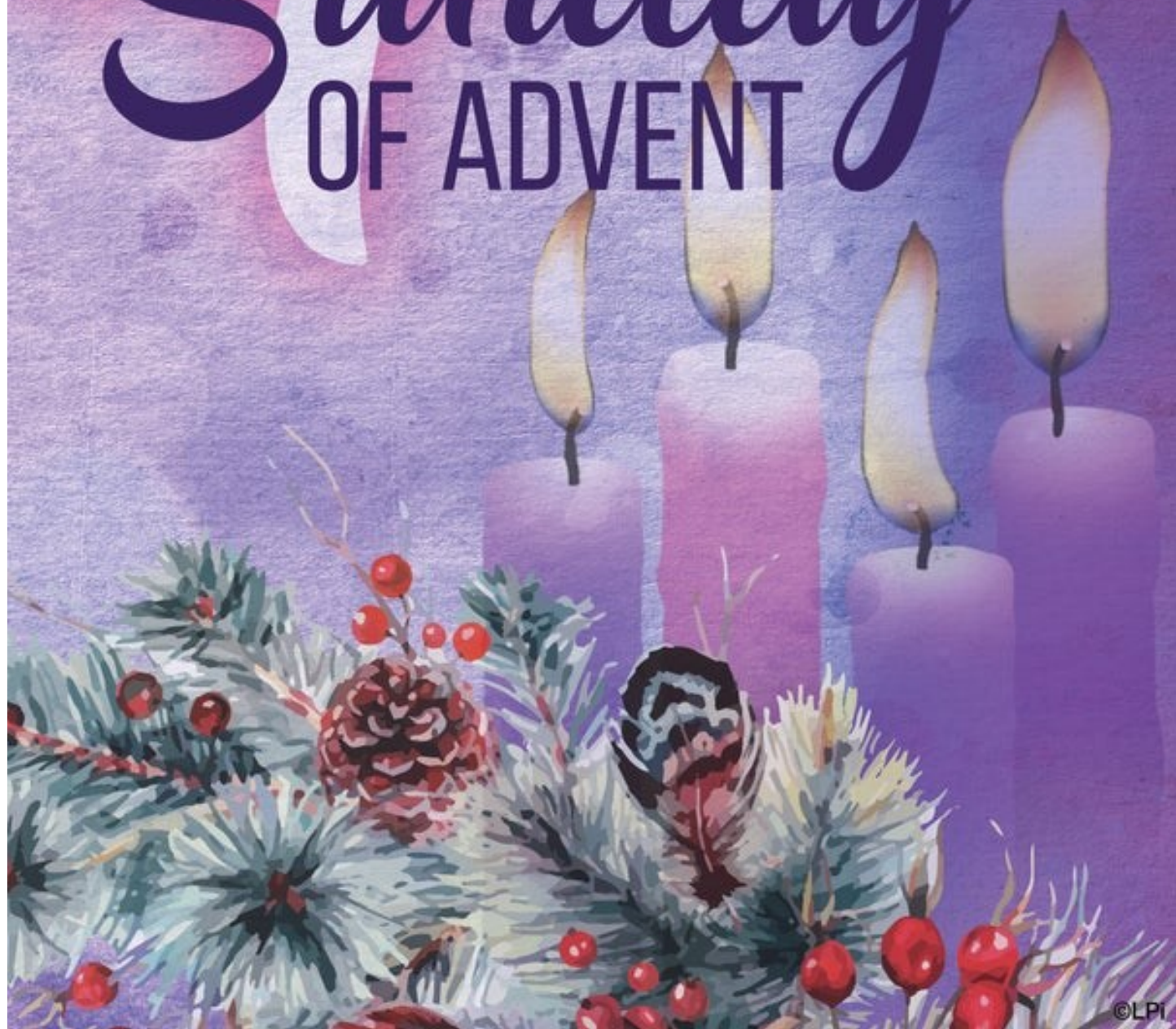
We will have our 2nd annual Pictures with the Grinch at the Basin Park from 10AM-5PM on December 20th 🌲



There also might be a special appearance from Sasquatch 🦋 that day as well!! Hope to see everyone there!!

Thank you for supporting Eureka Springs FFA 💙💛

4th Sunday OF ADVENT



Pray for the
success of our
campaign to
restore
St. Elizabeth
Church.

Adkins Refrigeration
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 Dan Beeson
Owner

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Eureka Springs, AR 72631

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*St. Elizabeth
Gift Shop*

Behind the Church

Open Thurs. -
Tues. 10:00-4:00

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Mike Godfrey at: 402-699-9593.



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SPARKY'S

Great Burgers, Steaks and Chicken
Mon.-Sat. 11:00am - 11:00pm

Ruth Goodwin Hager
479-253-6001

Hwy. 62 E.,
Eureka Springs, AR 72632



How You Can Help

- + Financially. Your support will fund roof replacement and restoration, gutters and downspouts, structural reinforcement, interior preservation, lighting and ground improvements for the historic church.
- + Prayerfully. Please support us in your prayers!

THANK YOU!

Visit www.StElizabethEureka.com or scan QR code

