

December 28, 2025

*The Holy
Family*

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

stelizabethereka.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



THE HOLY FAMILY

"Joseph rose and took the child and his mother by night and departed for Egypt." - Mt 2:14

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

©LPI

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 Lehren

svdpberryville.weebly.com

THIS WEEK at Saint Elizabeth

SPECIAL EVENTS & LITURGICAL SCHEDULE

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 30

Adoration 8:00am
Daily Mass 8:30am

THURSDAY, JANUARY 1

Mother Mary of God Mass 8:30am

FRIDAY, JANUARY 2

No Mass

SATURDAY, JANUARY 3

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

SUNDAY, JANUARY 4

The Epiphany of the Lord 8:30am

Readings for the Week

Monday: 1 Jn 2:3-11; Ps 96:1-2a, 2b-3, 5b-6;
Lk 2:22-35
Tuesday: 1 Jn 2:12-17; Ps 96:7-8a, 8b-9, 10; Lk 2:36-40
Wednesday: 1 Jn 2:18-21; Ps 96:1-2, 11-12, 13; Jn 1:1-18
Thursday: Nm 6:22-27; Ps 67:2-3, 5, 6 & 8; Gal 4:4-7;
Lk 2:16-21
Friday: 1 Jn 2:22-28; Ps 98:1, 2-3ab, 3cd-4; Jn 1:19-28
Saturday: 1 Jn 2:29-3:6; Ps 98:1, 3cd-4, 5-6; Jn 1:29-34
Sunday: Is 60:1-6; Ps 72:1-2, 7-8, 10-11, 12-13;
Eph 3:2-3a, 5-6; Mt 2:1-12

God's Blessings & Birthday Wishes to:

Fatima VanZant - 12/27, Robert Bartos - 12/28,
Al Selleck - 12/29, Janice Boyes - 12/30

May you have many more!

PASSIONS

We should employ our passions in the service of life, not
spend life in the service of our passions.

-Richard Steele



LITURGICAL MINISTRIES

Mass Ministers



SATURDAY, JANUARY 3

4:00pm Mass at the Parish Center

Lector: Joe Ricciardi, Fran Ricciardi

EMCs: see sign-up sheet

Ushers: Robert Bartos, Sophie Bartos

Altar Server:

SUNDAY, JANUARY 4

8:30am Mass at the Church

Lector: Mike Godfrey

EMCs: Rod McGuire, Phyllis McGuire, Mindy Godfrey

Ushers: Ted Meyer, Bev Wright

Altar Server: Mike Lubbers



Mass Intentions

Tuesday, December 30

For the Repose of the Soul of Theresa Lustig

Thursday, January 1

For the Repose of the Soul of Theresa Lustig

Friday, January 2

No Mass

Saturday, January 3

For the Intentions of Andrew P.

Sunday, January 4

For the Intentions of Consuelo Corpus

Pray for



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 Dvo-
rah, 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

OUR MILITARY - Nic Smith





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!

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.



Tuan Do

Contact address:

St. Meinrad Seminary,

200 Hill Drive,

St. Meinrad, IN 47577

For more information on our seminarians, go to www.dolr.org/seminarians

Our Seminarians for the month of December, 2025



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 **\$3,958.00**. For the Fiscal year (7/25-6/26) is **\$81,481.35**.

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

The Gift Shop will be closed until March 13th.



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.

The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph

December 28, 2025

GOSPEL MEDITATION

Encourage Deeper Understanding of Scripture

When I was ten, my dad gathered our family around the table in small-town Vermont and told us we were moving to the big desert city of Phoenix, Arizona. We were leaving behind family, friends and everything familiar. None of us knew what to expect.

But something beautiful happened. As we made the move together, our family grew closer. In retrospect, I'm amazed at my parents' courage to go on that adventure. Even as a kid I realized our family found, in that challenge, a deeper unity and mutual love.

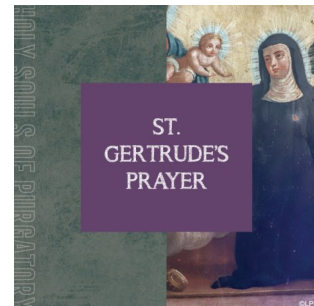
In today's Gospel, Joseph is told: **"Rise, take the child and his mother, and flee..." (Matthew 2:13, 20).** First to Egypt, then later to Israel. The Holy Family is frequently challenged to move and change, to adapt to God's will for them, in order to find safety in the midst of threat. It's not just an idiosyncratic story about survival. It's a spiritual pattern for all of us. Every Christian family is called to be a kind of sanctuary, especially in a world full of noise, busyness and fear.

May I make a practical application for us? The Lord's Day, Sunday, is perhaps the most practical way we imitate this dynamic we see in Joseph and his family. Sunday is not meant to be just like every other day, filled with errands and stress. It's meant to be a day set apart: a holy "escape" into rest, worship, joy, and peace. A day to rise, take your family, and flee into God's presence.

-Father John Muir



St. Basil the Great (329–379) shares his feast day with his friend St. Gregory of Nazianzen. These accomplished men fought against heresies that threatened the foundations of the early Church, shaping doctrines around Christ's divinity and the nature of the Holy Trinity.



DEVOTIONS, Explained!

St. Gertrude's Prayer is a petition said on behalf of the Holy Souls of Purgatory, offering the Blood of Christ in reparation for the sins of the departed.

LIVE THE LITURGY

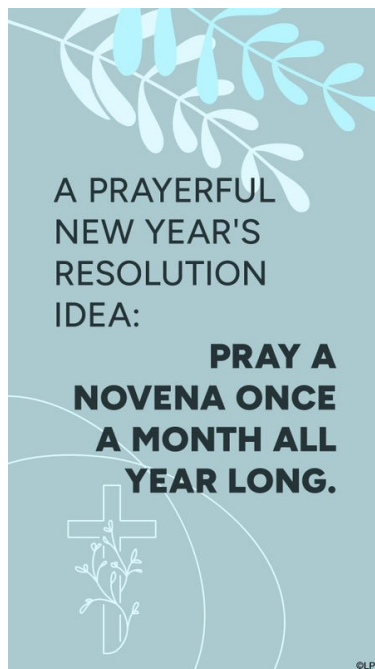
Inspiration of the Week

God created the Holy Family with a great sense of purpose, because he knew that Jesus would be defined by the woman and man who raised him. Who is our "Holy Family" - the people who will define us? Who has God placed within our lives for a specific purpose?

FAMILY BLESSING

May God bless, protect, unite, mend and renew our family. Help us to be instruments of healing and holiness, breaking generational curses, rewriting scripts, overcoming tribulation, joining in gratitude, and growing in joy - together.
Amen.

New Year's Resolutions



(PRACTICING) CATHOLIC

Mini Reflection: If any four-word sentence encapsulates what we can expect from the Christian life, it is this: God had other plans.

Other Plans

I don't know exactly what kind of life Mary and Joseph envisioned when they were first betrothed — back in those simple times when they were just like any other couple who had hopes, dreams and no angels telling them what to do.

Whatever their plans were, I think it's safe to say that the future God had in store for Mary and Joseph was not one either of them expected. I would imagine they both anticipated something a little quieter. A little more stable (no pun intended). A little less tumultuous.

It exhausts me simply to read through the chaos of their movements in today's Gospel. Flee to Egypt, return to Israel (but not Judea! Herod's son is there! Divert to Galilee! Divert!). Settle in Nazareth (let me remind you, this is all happening with a baby in tow, and without the aid of a minivan). Take a deep breath, but don't get too comfortable — now it's almost time to lose your kid in Jerusalem. Then you'll have about 20 years off before he starts raising people from the dead, and that's when things start to get *really* crazy.

The story of the Holy Family is the ultimate example of the phrase "God had other plans." If any four-word sentence encapsulates what we can expect from the Christian life, it is this.

I thought I was meant for that job, but God had other plans. I thought I would live in this place, but God had other plans. I thought I was supposed to become this person, but God had other plans.

We can do all the right things. We can make all the right choices. We can say, over and over again until our voice wears out, "Thy will be done." But all we can know for sure is that God has other plans.

— Colleen Jurkiewicz Dorman

Why do we do that?

Catholic Life Explained

Question:

If I go to the Sacrament of Penance and end up repeating the same sins, does that mean I do not have a strong enough intention to amend my life?

Answer:

There is a popular expression that says, "Be patient. God isn't finished with me yet!" Growing in faith and holiness is an ongoing, life-long project, and our struggle with sin is at the heart of it. As St. Paul says, the good he intends to do, he does not do. The evil he does not intend, he does! It is not always a lack of intention, but more often the allure of evil that makes it difficult to change.

When we confess our sins, we are to come with a fully contrite heart. You need to reflect on your true feelings toward your actions before approaching the sacrament. After confession, there are strategies you can make to avoid falling into the same traps of sin. First, pray for and seek out strength and perseverance through multiple sacraments, charitable work, and personal sacrifice. Second, avoid occasions of sin when you might fail or be sorely tempted. In doing these things, remind yourself daily that it is a spiritual war we wage, and with God's grace, we will succeed.

And because he had been warned in a dream, he departed for the region of Galilee. He went and dwelt in a town called Nazareth, so that what had been spoken through the prophets might be fulfilled, *He shall be called a Nazorean.*
- Mt 2:22b-23

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

Questions of the Week

Invite Parishioners to Reflect and Respond to Scripture

First Reading:

Sirach emphasizes the importance of children honoring and respecting their parents. What are some of your favorite memories of your parents?

Second Reading:

Paul taught the Colossians that families should show mutual respect and love toward one another. How do you encourage these virtues in your family?

Gospel:

We hear how the Holy Family faced some very dangerous circumstances early on. Can you think of some challenges your family has had to overcome?



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Eureka Springs New Years Celebration: A Bash with a Splash

Wednesday Dec 31, 2025 Thursday Jan 1, 2026

Basin Spring Park

4 Spring Street

Historic Downtown Eureka Springs

Fees/Admission

All are welcome to this free family-friendly event

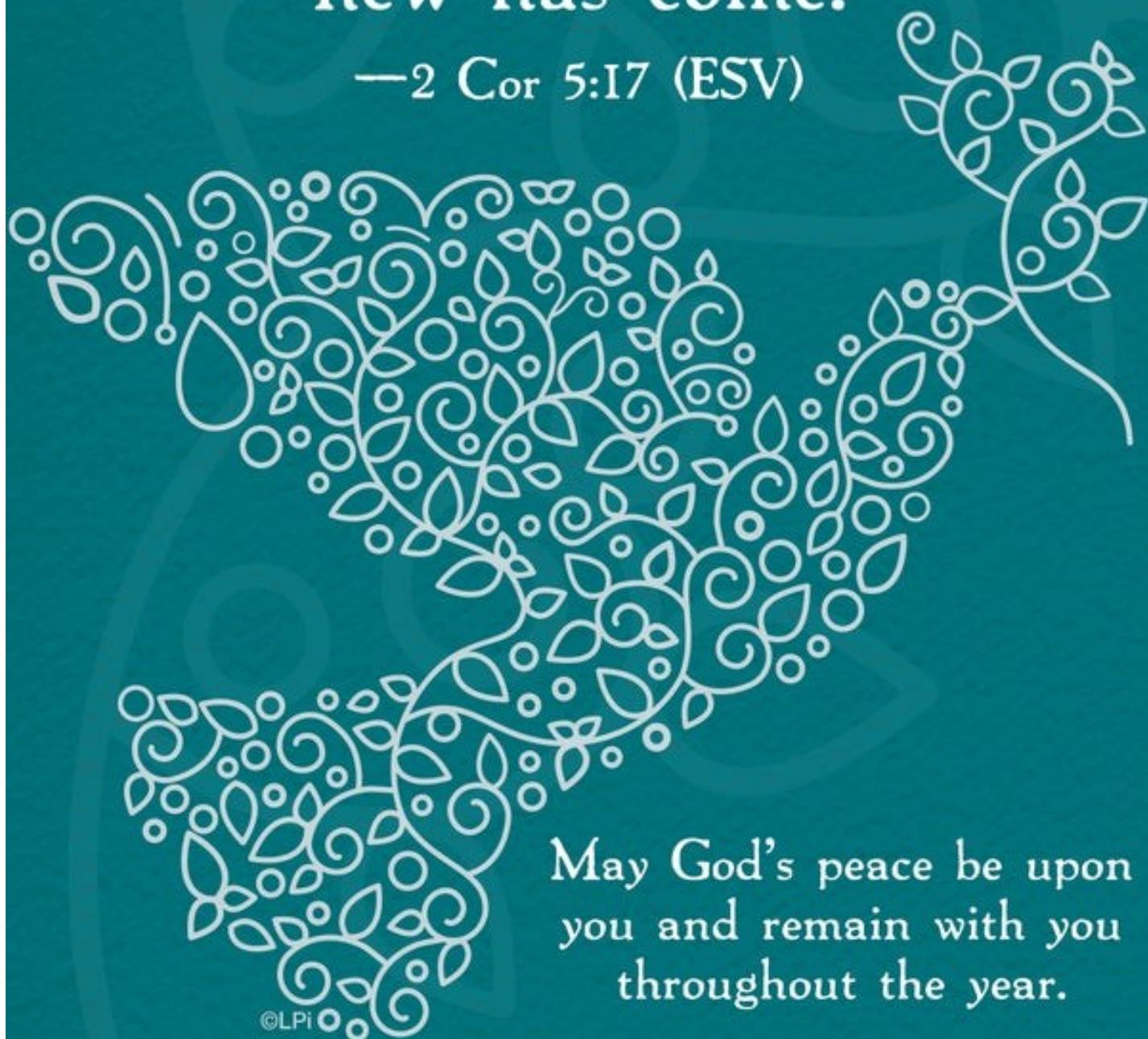


Eureka Springs earned the nickname “The City That Water Built” due to its famed healing springs, discovered by Dr. Alvah Jackson in 1858. The therapeutic properties of the mineral-rich waters quickly transformed the area into a popular resort town, attracting tourists and those seeking health remedies. Hotels, bathhouses, and businesses sprang up as the town grew. While visitors today are not encouraged to drink from the springs, the charm of this Victorian village remains, with its unique blend of history and a quirky, artistic vibe. The town is home to over sixty springs, with the most famous, Basin Spring, located at the heart of downtown and set to be the focal point of the New Year’s water drop.

Join us New Years Eve in the Basin Park from 7pm to the New Year for a celebration like no other!

Therefore, if anyone is in
Christ, he is a new
creation. The old has
passed away; behold, the
new has come.

—2 Cor 5:17 (ESV)



May God's peace be upon
you and remain with you
throughout the year.

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

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jimwitkowski@cox.net

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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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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

