

December 7, 2025

*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

stelizabethureka.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



MAKE STRAIGHT
HIS PATHS.

MATTHEW 3:3

SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT

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

MONDAY, DECEMBER 8

Immaculate Conception Mass 8:30am
Immaculate Conception Mass at St. Anne's 6:00pm

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 9

Adoration 8:00am
Daily Mass 8:30am

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 11

Daily Mass 8:30am
Confessions 9:15am

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 12

Daily Mass 8:30am

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 13

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

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 14

Third Sunday of Advent 8:30am

Readings for the Week

Monday: Gn 3:9-15, 20; Ps 98:1, 2-3ab, 3cd-4;
Eph 1:3-6, 11-12; Lk 1:25-38
Tuesday: Is 40:1-11; Ps 96:1-2, 3 & 10ac, 11-12, 13;
Mt 18:12-14
Wednesday: Is 40:25-31; Ps 103:1-2, 3-4, 8 & 10;
Mt 11:28-30
Thursday: Is 41:13-20; Ps 145:1 & 9, 10-11, 12-13ab;
Mt 11:11-15
Friday: Zec 2:14-17 or Rv 11:19a: 12:1-6a, 10ab;
Jdt 13:18bcdem, 19; Lk 1:26-38 or Lk 1:29-47
Saturday: Sir 48:1-4, 9-11; Ps 80:2ac & 3b, 15-16,
18-19; Mt 17:9a, 10-13
Sunday: Is 35:1-6a, 10; Ps 146:6-7, 8-9, 9-10 (see
Is 35:4); Jas 5:7-10; Mt 11:2-11

God's Blessings & Birthday Wishes to:

Mary Szafranski - 12/7, Ken Buch - 12/10,
Bruce Wright - 12/10, Karen Core - 12/11

May you have many more!

LITURGICAL MINISTRIES

Mass Ministers

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 13

4:00pm Mass at the Parish Center

Lector: Robert Bartos

EMCs: see sign-up sheet

Ushers: Mark Elworth, Jo Elworth

Altar Server:

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 14

8:30am Mass at the Church

Lector: Lisa Ward

EMCs: Rod McGuire, Mary Szafranski, Karen Finkeldei

Ushers: Ted Meyer, Mark Leggett

Altar Server: Dan Kees



Mass Intentions

Tuesday, December 9

For the Repose of the Soul of Andrew Semple

Thursday, December 11

For the Repose of the Soul of Rudy Labato

Friday, December 12

For the Repose of the Soul of Andrew Semple

Saturday, December 13

For the Intentions of Zachary Brockman

Sunday, December 14

For the Repose of the Soul of Theresa Lustig



Pray for us...



OUR PARISHIONERS -

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

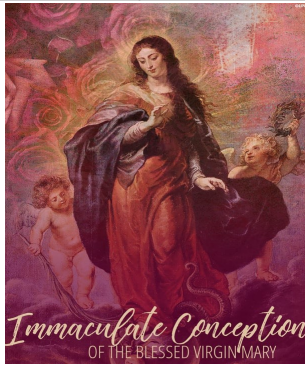
OUR FRIENDS AND FAMILY MEMBERS -

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.

OUR MILITARY - Nic Smith.

THOSE WHO HAVE DIED -





NATL. RETIREMENT FUND FOR RELIGIOUS

This weekend the 2nd collection is to provide nursing care, medicine and other necessities to elderly sisters, brothers and religious order priests in our country who have devoted their lives to helping others. In our diocese, the Benedictines of Subiaco Abbey and the Discalced Carmelite Nuns of Little Rock receive funds from this collection. Please give generously.

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

The Parish Life Committee is announcing upcoming events. Save the dates on your calendar!

Friday, December 12...St. Elizabeth Church Christmas Party (*Gift of Giving Gifts are due).

Feast of Christmas Dinner...turkey and ham entre, with pot luck sides, dessert provided.

Bingo with Hobby Lobby Christmas Décor as prizes

Reservation Sign-Up will begin on weekend of Nov. 22. Please **don't forget to sign up** if you're planning on coming!



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 November 22nd & 23rd was **\$2,610.00**. For the Fiscal year (7/25-6/26) is **\$69,486.35**.

Our **Project Revive Campaign** Update as of 11/12/25:

	<u>Pledges</u>	<u>Payments</u>
Parishioners	\$826,273	\$523,294
Non-Parishioners	\$113,380	\$ 57,615
Donations	<u>\$ 0</u>	<u>\$ 85,233</u>
	\$939,653	\$666,142



GIFT SHOP

December Gift Shop Schedule

Sun., 12/7	9:30-4:00	Stamps
Sat., 12/13	10:00-4:00	Leggett
Sun., 12/14	9:30-4:00	Selleck

St. Vincent de Paul Christmas Program is in need of non-perishable food and stocking stuffers for children ages 1-16. Donations can be made at the Thrift Store in Berryville or placed in plastic bins at the Parish Center and the Church during the first 2 weeks in December.

Support David Reuter's Stoke Recovery Journey

3+ weeks ago David, a long time parishioner at St. Elizabeth, suffered a hemorrhagic stroke. He spent several days in Washington Regional in Fayetteville, then was transferred to Encompass Health Rehab where he worked on strength and mobility on his right side. David is now at home and going to Bentonville for PT twice a week and OT once a week. His recovery is expected to take 18 months to a year. Please pray for him, and if you would like to contribute to his "gofundme" account, the address is <https://www.gofundme.com/f/aqmdx-support-davids-stroke-recovery-journey>



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



**Christopher
Elser**

Second Sunday of Advent

December 7, 2025

GOSPEL MEDITATION

Encourage Deeper Understanding of Scripture

This week we hear that John the Baptist is out in the wilderness eating **“locusts and wild honey” (Mark 1:6)**. It's not just a strange historical detail. It's a symbolic expression of a healthy spiritual diet. The path to Christ includes both the hard and the beautiful, the gritty and the sweet. We have to learn to gulp the locusts and savor the honey.

I remember working with a young couple preparing for marriage. They were sincere, but raw - barely beginning to discover faith. Part of me wanted to rush them ahead, to fill in all the gaps, to bombard them with scripture and church documents. I swallowed that instinct. It was the like eating locusts.

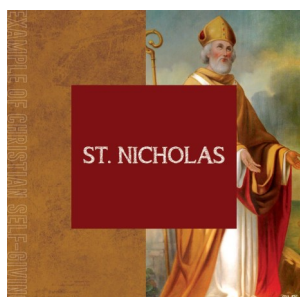
But I also recall them light up as they spoke about each other, about their first child, then their second. And they wanted to be close to God. Something innocent and beautiful was unfolding. That was the honey. I knew God was asking me to savor it.

The Advent, maybe we're each being invited to accept both locusts and honey. Maybe it's time to stop avoiding the difficult parts of faith - prayer that feels dry, the call to repentance, the patience with the troublesome. It's time to eat some locusts.

But we also need to notice the small gifts God gives us: a peaceful moment, a good conversation, the joy of serving someone else, new life, good intentions of our friends. That's the honey. Savor it!

John didn't avoid either. He took it all in. And so can we. What are your locusts? Your honey? If we let God feed us with both, we'll be ready -really ready - for the coming of Christ.

-Father John Muir



DEVOTIONS, *Explained!*

St. Nicholas is sometimes merged with the modern figure of Santa Claus in the collective imagination. But St. Nicholas was a real-life bishop, a follower of Jesus whose example of Christian self-giving endures hundreds of years after his death.



AN EVENING OF REFLECTION

Br. Augustine Defoore, OSB, will lead the Coury House New Year's Evening of Reflection Dec. 31-Jan. 1 on "Reflecting with Icons." Br. Augustine is an iconographer and a member of Subiaco Abbey. The event begins with lunch Dec. 31 and ends after lunch on Jan. 1. Conferences, the opportunity for confession, an early New Year's celebration, adoration and New Year's Day Mass with the monastic community are included in the schedule. Cost is \$150 per person. To register, e-mail couryhouse@subi.org for the reservation link or call 479-934-1290.



PRAYER FOR ADVENT-PEACE

Come, Lord Jesus!

Bring your peace to our world, inspire reconciliation, heal divisions, bind wounds, rewrite scripts.

You are the Prince of Peace, bring that light into every space.

Amen

(PRACTICING) CATHOLIC

Mini Reflection: It is so, so beautiful to be culturally Catholic. But actions, rituals, traditions, sentiments, nostalgia — none of it matters unless it bears the fruit of a transformed heart.

Culturally Catholic

Catholic culture is so thick, you could spread it on a scone. Or a baguette. Or a slice of ciabatta bread. Or naan (Wait, do you put butter on naan? I would, because I'm Midwestern, but I sense that this is, perhaps, incorrect).

Okay, maybe my comparison is imperfect, but what I'm saying is this: Catholic culture is delicious, it's versatile, and it's nourishing. It's the same everywhere, even though it also looks and feels totally unique in every place. The Day of the Dead in Mexico, Simbang Gabi in the Philippines, St. Patrick's Day in Ireland, Meskel in Ethiopia, Semana Santa processions in Spain: these are all touchstones of Catholic culture.

It is so, so beautiful to be culturally Catholic. But today, when I hear John the Baptist's words to the Pharisees and the Sadducees, I am reminded that Catholicism is so much more than just cultural expression.

The Pharisees and Sadducees were loyal sons of Abraham and scrupulous observers of the law of Moses. Their culture, you could say, was strong. But John the Baptist is telling them — and he's telling us — that culture isn't enough.

Actions, rituals, traditions, sentiments, nostalgia — none of it matters unless it bears the fruit of a transformed heart.

It's something to remember especially as we approach Christmas, a time when culture and cultural rituals become so (beautifully) prominent. In the cultural practice of Christmas, we are like the Wise Men approaching the manger, bearing our gifts. But how terrible would it have been if the wise men had hurried away, their culture expressed, their ritual complete, and gone back to the world unchanged by the gaze of the Infant?

So be culturally Catholic. Bring these gifts to the Christ Child — but linger there. Reflect. And then when you return to the world, you will bring Catholic culture with you.

— Colleen Jurkiewicz Dorman

Why do we do that? Catholic Life Explained

Question:

I've heard people call Jesus' conception by the Holy Spirit being "immaculately conceived." Is that what the Immaculate Conception is?

Answer:

While these two events are often confused, they are not the same thing. We celebrated the conception of Jesus on March 25th, the feast of the Annunciation. While that was surely miraculous, it isn't what we refer to as the "immaculate conception." The Immaculate Conception is Mary's conception, and we typically celebrate it on December 8th. If the 8th happens to be a Sunday, the Church moves the feast to December 9th. It is a holy day of obligation. Why does the Church consider it so important to celebrate?

Mary's conception is immaculate because she was conceived without original sin. The angel Gabriel acknowledges this when he hails Mary as "full of grace" (Luke 1:28). Scripture scholars identify several theological ideas that confirm this. In the Old Testament, the sacred, pristine Ark of the Covenant held the presence of God. The presence of God is now held within a new "ark" — the womb of Mary. Genesis 3 also prophesies of a woman who would oppose the devil and whose child would crush the devil's head. Christ is the "New Adam." This passage sets up Mary, then, as the "New Eve." Jesus and Mary are the beginnings of a new creation, one we all can participate in through the grace of our baptism. After all, God's love is more "original" than our sin!

John the Baptist appeared...saying, "Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand!" It was of him that the prophet Isaiah had spoken when he said: A voice of one crying out in the desert, *Prepare the way of the Lord.*

- Mt 3:1a, 2-3b

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

Questions of the Week

Invite Parishioners to Reflect and Respond to Scripture

First Reading:

Isaiah foresaw God's future when the world will be ruled by a new and ideal 'King David' ("a shoot shall sprout from the stump of Jesse") and the earth will be filled with knowledge of the Lord. What do you hope for in your future?

Second Reading:

Paul encouraged the community of believers in Rome to be in harmony with each other in thought and mind. Are there relationships in your life you consider to be harmonious?

Gospel:

John the Baptist taught the people to prepare for the kingdom of heaven by repenting of sins and producing "good fruit." What could you do this second week of Advent to make a positive impact?



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**Pray the St. Andrew
Christmas Novena
During Advent**

*Don't forget to mention an
intention whenever you
receite the prayer!*

Let us pray:



©LPI

Hail and blessed be the
hour and moment in
which the Son of God was
born of the most pure
Virgin Mary, at midnight,
in Bethlehem, in the
piercing cold.



©LPI

In that hour vouchsafe, I
beseech Thee, O my God, to
hear my prayer and grant my
desires through the merits of
Our Savior Jesus Christ, and of
His blessed Mother. Amen.



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Drive-Through Light Display at The Great Passion Play

Friday Nov 28, 2025 Thursday Jan 1, 2026

The Great Passion Play
935 Passion Play Rd.
Eureka Springs, AR 72632



Experience Christmas from Thanksgiving night through January 1 with a by-donation drive-through light display with lights on from dark through 8:00 PM on Fridays through Sundays on the grounds of The Great Passion Play.

During the day, you can experience the Holy Land, Museums, and Backstage Tour! Advanced reservations are required. [Purchase those tickets here.](#)

Also, don't miss the snow train village display in the Great Hall.

For more info visit www.greatpassionplay.org/christmas.



Open every Thursday from: 8:00 AM - 1:00 PM CDT

Eureka Springs Community Center
44 Kingshighway
Eureka Springs, AR 72632


Farmer's Market

Join us in celebrating the authenticity and quality of our locally sourced offerings and supporting the hardworking farmers and artisans behind them.

All farm-raised meat, vegetables, fruit, and poultry sold at our market are sourced from local producers.

Experience the Eureka Springs Farmers Market, where community support and access to healthy food go hand in hand.

As part of our commitment to serving all members of our community, we gladly accept SNAP and WIC benefits at our market. We understand the importance of ensuring access to fresh, locally grown produce for everyone, especially those facing food insecurity.



JUSTICE SHALL
FLOURISH
IN HIS TIME,
AND PEACE
FOREVER.

PSALM 72

second sunday of
ADVENT



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

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 Dan Beeson
Owner

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*St. Elizabeth
Gift Shop*

Behind the Church

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

Want to be part of the largest fraternal organization of
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parish and your community? If so, contact: Grand Knight
Mike Godfrey at: 402-699-9593.



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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

