



# ST. ELIZABETH of the Trinity



**DECEMBER 17, 2023**

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## THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT

THE LORD, YOUR GOD, IS IN YOUR MIDST,  
A MIGHTY SAVIOR;  
HE WILL REJOICE OVER YOU WITH GLADNESS,  
AND RENEW YOU IN HIS LOVE.

—ZEPHANIAH 3:17

It often happens in life that someone must point out how blessed we are because we often fail to appreciate something good that we have. On Christmas or birthdays one of my nephews would receive wonderful gifts like trucks, trains, and other presents but would be fixated on the empty boxes and even the garbage can. The adults would try to point out what was more valuable and meaningful.

The same kind of thing can happen to us in the spiritual life when we misvalue gifts the Lord has given us. Our Heavenly Father sent people to point it out to us and that someone today is St. John the Baptist; ***“I baptize with water; but there is one among you whom you do not recognize, the one who is coming after me, whose sandal strap I am not worthy to untie.”***

John the Baptist represents the last and greatest of the Old Testament prophets and yet he says of himself that he is not worthy to loosen the thong from Jesus’s sandals, which is the action of a servant who would then wash his master’s feet. But John is unworthy even to do this he says. The Lord is trying to build up in us a sense of awe at what is coming. All the promises of the Old Testament are being fulfilled and John the Baptist wants anyone who hears him to know it. God Himself is coming, in person, to save His people!

There are moments in Jesus’ own life when He also tried to help the disciples grasp the gravity of what was happening, that He is the Son of God who has come to save the world; ***“Blessed are your eyes, because they see, and your ears, because they hear. Amen, I say to you, many prophets and righteous people longed to hear what you hear but did not hear it, and to see what you see but did not see it.”*** Think of all the people, like Isaiah from our First Reading, who longed for centuries for the coming of the Messiah. Christ is trying to instill awe about the gift that His disciples had now received at His coming; ***“Blessed are your eyes and ears.”***

We desire joy, peace, love, and real happiness, yet so many people report not being happy, and this trend has worsened over recent years. I recently was asked by a student: ***“Are there video games in heaven?”*** I love games in general, especially when they unite us with other people in a spirit of friendship and community. However, such entertainment can be an isolating, harmful distraction covering an unfilled desire rather than meeting it. The Lord has created us for more than that. We need love and communion, not endless distraction to numb the longing. What do we seek and value hoping it will make us fulfilled and happy?

Sometimes we must be reminded about what really matters in life.

This Monday, December 18<sup>th</sup>, we will have a Holy Hour with Evening Prayer (Vespers) at 6:30 p.m. and Eucharistic Adoration concluding with Benediction at 7:30 p.m. During this Holy Hour there will be multiple priests available for confession. Advent is a time to prepare for Christ in our hearts by receiving more of Him. We receive the Lord in our soul through His mercy in forgiveness of sins as well as through time of quiet prayer before Him. The Lord Himself wants to fulfill our deepest, good desires!

***“Make straight the way of the Lord.”***

God bless,

Fr. Mike

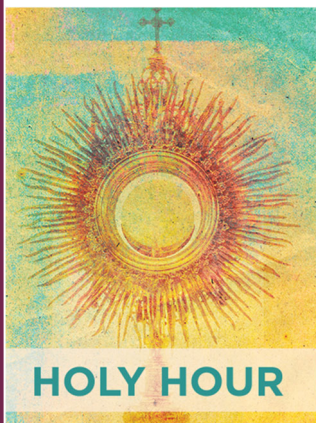
John answered them, “I baptize with water; but there is one among you whom you do not recognize, the one who is coming after me, whose sandal strap I am not worthy to untie.” - Jn 1:26-27



## St. Vincent de Paul Coat Drive

We are going to host a **winter coat drive at all Masses on December 30/31**. We will be collecting CLEAN, new or used coats. The greatest need is for men's adult sizes, but any size will be gratefully accepted. These will be given out to community members in need. Thank you in advance for your donation!

## HOLY HOUR



Please consider joining us during the last full week of Advent in church on **Monday, December 18 at 6:30 p.m. for a Holy Hour.**

- Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament will take place beginning at 6:30 p.m. until Benediction, which will begin around 7:20 p.m.
- Advent Evening Prayer will begin around 6:50 p.m.
- Confessions will be heard after Evening Prayer

Come to visit the Lord, speak to Him, and let Him speak to you during this Holy Hour. Take advantage of this opportunity to show the Lord that You are prepared to celebrate His coming!

## Christmas

*(Holy Day of obligation)*

Masses Sunday, December 24<sup>th</sup> at 4:00 p.m.

Monday, December 25<sup>th</sup> at 7:30, 9:00, 11:00 a.m. and  
1:00 p.m. (Spanish)

## Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God (New Year's Day)

*(Not a day of obligation this year)*

Masses on Sunday, December 31<sup>st</sup> at 4:00 p.m.

Monday, January 1<sup>st</sup> - 9:00 a.m.



## McDonald's Gift Cards for the Homeless



Again this year, Mary Klug and the St. Vincent de Paul Society are collecting McDonald's Gift Cards. These will be distributed to those in need during the Christmas season. For the sake of equity, the cards should be in either \$5 or \$10 denominations. Please be sure the amount is shown on the card.

Drop your donations in the collection basket at church or in the rectory mailbox to the attention of SVDP.

Thank you for your support of this worthy project!

## Prayer Shawl Christmas Party



The December 18<sup>th</sup> Prayer Shawl meeting will be our first ever Christmas Party. Come spend the evening with your friends and we will celebrate the wonderful year we have had and the many people we have helped with our handwork. See you at 7:00 p.m.

## 2024 PARISH WALL CALENDARS



2024 Parish Wall Calendars are now available at all church entrances. There are both English and Spanish versions.

We would like to thank **Colonial Funeral Home** for their sponsorship of these calendars.





## SOMETHING FOR YOU TO CONSIDER

Do you have a strong, expressive voice? Are you unafraid of public speaking?

If your answer is yes to each of these questions, then why not consider becoming a Lector at Mass? Lectors are the people that proclaim the First and Second Readings at Mass and the General Intercessions when no deacon is present.

We currently would like to add to our Lector ranks. We provide training and study materials. Normally Lectors are scheduled one or two times during a given month.

If you'd like to discuss this opportunity further, please contact Jim Madura at the parish Office (773 763-8228).



## Please Remember Our Priests

Priests have dedicated their lives to the ministry of God's children, serving our needs as Catholics without asking for anything in return. Now, it is our turn to show our love and care for their ever-faithful support. Please consider including a legacy gift for Priests' Health and Retirement to support the healthcare needs of our active priests, as well as the medical and housing needs of our retired priests.

For more information, please call Priests' Health and Retirement at 708.449.8026. If you would like to make a gift today, please visit [prmaa.org](http://prmaa.org).

## EARLY BULLETIN DEADLINE

Anything for Dec. 31, including Mass intentions, is due Dec.21

- Jim Madura—[jmadura@archchicago](mailto:jmadura@archchicago)

Donate  
Online



Go to:  
[faithdirect.net](http://faithdirect.net) or  
Scan the QR Code  
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## SICK LIST

Michele Schmidt—Maria Szumski—Gary Sowell—Jeffrey Lalowski—Jadwija Chudzynski—  
Amy Grudzinski—Bernadette Bannach—Patricia Newell—Guzman family—Angela Ross—  
Nicholas Guerrieri—Fr. Dan Fallon—Marie Brasher—Paola Estrada—Judy Biala—Eva Anderson—  
Elise Fernandez—Emery Tanski—Cary Muldoon-Pauly—Sr. Kelly Masdat MSHT—Darlene Russo—  
Constance Anderson—Dolores Nano—Roberto Druca—Doreen Ciesla-Hugglung—Steve Hovde—  
Helzing Aguilar—Flavia Langan—Dennis Cresco—Roger Doering—Alice Ward—Arthur Hamilton—  
Paul Wierdak—Anthony Pfeifer—Paul Konietzny—Kathy Burns—Joan Harriss—  
Daniel Fraczkowski—Jackie Fortier—Charles Jacobucci—Nancy Wesclitz—Ciara Czajkowski—  
Donna J. Kolinski—Richard Muench—Frank Delia—Steve Miller

*(Call the rectory office to have your name - added or removed)*



Discounted tickets on sale after selected Masses:  
Dec. 17 - 11:00 a.m.  
Dec. 31 - 9:00 a.m.



St. Elizabeth of the Trinity Presents  
**CASINO NIGHT**  
A Night to Remember

Join us for an evening of gaming, hors d'oeuvres, open bar, DJ, raffles, cash prizes, and in-person only auction items.

**NEW: Bidding for auction will be online!**



**Ticket Prices:**  
\$65 General Admission\*  
\$100 VIP\* Only 50 Available!



🕒 6pm - 12am

📍 6040 W. Ardmore | Chicago, IL

📅 Saturday, January 13, 2024 <https://e.givesmart.com/events/z02/> 🎟️

\*General Admission: Open bar, hors d'oeuvres, \$100 in gaming chips.  
VIP Admission: Open bar, hors d'oeuvres, \$300 in gaming chips, VIP raffle, VIP gift.



## A CHRISTMAS GIFT FOR YOU



St. Elizabeth of the Trinity Parish has a Christmas gift for you! It is a book entitled *Beautiful Eucharist*.

The world needs the healing and hope only Jesus can provide. He is waiting in the Eucharist to transform families, Churches, communities, and the culture as a whole. *Beautiful Eucharist* is the perfect companion for the Eucharistic Revival and will inspire you to encounter the beauty and power of the Eucharist.

The book contains the real-life stories of twelve different people, and their life-changing encounter with Jesus in the Eucharist, in an easy to read format.

Read this book and pass it along to family and friends. You'll be glad you did.

The book is available in English and Spanish.

The book will be in the vestibule beginning next weekend.




# MOVIE AT PICKWICK

Come join us for a morning of entertainment, and laughter at Pickwick Theater! Newly released **Migration**, by Illumination will be on the big screen 🎬 \$20 per person includes movie admission, popcorn, and a drink 🍿🍷🥤

**JANUARY 5, 2024**

**DOORS OPEN AT 9:30AM  
MOVIE STARTS AT 10:00AM**

**BUY YOUR 🎫 TODAY!**

 <https://e.givesmart.com/events/wHv/>

**\$20**  
INCLUDES  
POPCORN +  
DRINK







# ST. ELIZABETH OF THE TRINITY SCHOOL

6040 W Ardmore Ave  
Chicago, IL 60646  
(773) 763-7080  
[stelizabethtrinityschool.org](http://stelizabethtrinityschool.org)

The first trimester of school has been a busy one for 8th grade. In addition to keeping up with their normal studies, they begun preparing after school for their placement test which took place in early December. They took their tests at some of the best high schools in our area.

They also found time to have their annual car wash fundraiser, had multiple meetings with their Faith Partners, had a great trip to the corn maze, and celebrated Halloween in style!



7th grade has been spending time with their Faith Partners at Mass, and completing craft and service projects, such as making cards for veterans. They also enjoyed fun Halloween activities. In science, students learned about elements and chemical reactions, and in social studies, they prepared for the U.S. Constitution test.



**SAVE THE DATES - CATHOLIC SCHOOLS WEEK  
JANUARY 28 - FEBRUARY 3, 2024**



***Alleluia!***

With this familiar word (generally sung) of the Gospel Acclamation, we all stand for the Gospel. Where does that word come from? According to the *Catechism*, “Alleluia” is a word that means, “Praise the Lord!” (CCC, no. 2589). As the *General Instruction of the Roman Missal* reminds us, this sung acclamation is a rite “by which the gathering of the faithful welcomes and greets the Lord who is about to speak to them in the Gospel and profess their faith by means of the chant. It is sung by everybody, standing, and is led by the choir or a cantor” (GIRM, no. 62).

While we use the word “Alleluia” for the Gospel Acclamation most of the time, as Charles Belmonte notes, “During Lent, instead of Alleluia, an acclamation is made before and after the verse before the Gospel” (*Understanding the Mass*, p. 90). For example, the people might acclaim, “Praise and honor to you, Lord Jesus Christ!” or “Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ, King of endless glory!”

**Honoring the King of Kings**

If you have ever wondered why we stand during the Gospel Acclamation and the proclamation of the Gospel, the above reminder explains it well. According to standard manners and etiquette (which are not always observed in our modern day in the same way as in the past), we always stand when someone important or honored enters the room. For example, when a king or leader would enter, everyone would stand to greet that person. In a similar way, we are honoring the Lord Jesus present before us in the Word of God. We stand to acknowledge his presence, and we stand to give him honor. As the Diocese of Peoria teaches, “we stand in respect as the Master prepares to speak to us just as he spoke to the apostles” (*A Study of the Mass*, p. 8). Other ways to increase our reverence and honor for Jesus present in the Holy Gospel are by using a Book of the Gospels and processions with candles and incense. As you may have noticed, we sometimes use a large, ornate book with decorated pages for the Gospel. This book is placed on the altar before the proclamation of the Gospel, showing the connection between Jesus present in the Word of God and Jesus present in the Holy Eucharist (more on that connection in the future). The Book of the Gospels is a very beautiful way to honor the Holy Gospels, with its decorated pages and beautiful artwork helping us call to mind how blessed we are to be hearing the actual words and actions of Jesus.

**The Dignity of God’s Word**

The honor for Jesus the Word of God increases even more when we use candles and incense. Candles remind us of Jesus the Light of the World and act as a kind of reverential escort for Jesus in the Gospels. Incense, which we use to honor holy people and things, reminds us of the dignity of the Gospels and all of the Word of God, one of God’s main ways of speaking to us.

Have you ever noticed that before going to proclaim the Gospel, the priest stops at the altar, bows in reverence, and then seems to be saying something? What he does there is a prayer asking the Lord to strengthen him for the joyful opportunity and privilege of proclaiming the words of Jesus in the Gospel. As he bows, the priest says silently, “Cleanse my heart and my lips, almighty God, that I may worthily proclaim your holy Gospel.” If a deacon proclaims the Gospel, the celebrant gives him a blessing with similar words. This prayer recognizes the honor of what is about to take place and helps the priest or deacon to prepare for it.

The Gospel Acclamation really fits right in with all these honors which we give to Jesus. It is an acclamation of praise and excitement for Jesus truly present. We are overjoyed if we realize the significance of what is taking place: Jesus Christ, the Messiah and Son of God, the One who came to save the world, the One who walked on this earth nearly 2000 years ago, is speaking to all of us together as his family. No wonder the Church asks us to stand and praise God. No wonder the Church asks us to sing together in joy and praise: *Alleluia!*

# MASS INTENTIONS

Watch St. Elizabeth of the Trinity 9:00 a.m. Sunday Mass live on You Tube - search for St. Elizabeth of the Trinity Parish channel.

## SATURDAY, DECEMBER 16, 2023

5:00 PM — Kuss & Dzedzic families, John & Helen Ptak, Don Love Jr., Mike McLaughlin (16th anniversary), Russell Collins, Debbie O'Hagan

## SUNDAY, DECEMBER 17, 2023

7:30 AM — Betty Aguilar, Robert Trimble, Eugene Fraczkowski  
 9:00 AM — Marco Collins, Constance Ayora  
 11:00 M — Donna Pennock, Karen Peterson, Diane Rizzoto, souls in purgatory  
 12:00 PM - 12:45 PM — CONFESSION  
 1:00 PM — (Spanish) Cesar Hernandez Marin, Julia Suarez, Cirilo Pacheco

## MONDAY, DECEMBER 18, 2023

8:30 AM — Mike Harriss

## TUESDAY, DECEMBER 19, 2023

8:30 AM — Conrad Deane  
 11:00 - 6:00 PM - Adoration / Benediction at 6:00  
 5:30 - 6:00 PM - CONFESSION  
 6:30 PM — John & Katherine Misiuda

## WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 20, 2023

8:30 AM — Pete Eck

## THURSDAY, DECEMBER 21, 2023

8:30 AM — Doran & John Pechous, Oliver Loro, Mr. Cunningham

## FRIDAY, DECEMBER 22, 2023

8:30 AM — Michele

## SATURDAY, DECEMBER 23, 2023

8:30 AM — Jo Fergus, Josephine Mruzec  
 3:30 - 4:30 PM — CONFESSION  
 5:00 PM — Frank & Ann Tadesiak, Joe Gentile (birthday remembrance), Frank & Victoria Zelazo, Mary McDonough (18th anniversary), Nancy & Kevin Paczkowsky, John Gibata, Lorraine & Ralph Schmidt, Dick & Peggy Lameka, Frank & Dorothy Shannon

## SUNDAY, DECEMBER 24, 2023

7:30 AM — Helen & Alexander Kolinski, Ed Sanborn & Stella Dyjak (birthday remembrances), Jo Sanborn, Anna, Joseph, Walter & Rose Dyjak  
 9:00 AM — Henry & Mary Cieccko, Philip Bober  
 11:00 AM — George & Mary Ann Joks, Robert Coffman, Declan & Kathleen Davitt, Rudof & Lucyna Gustek, Milka Stanojevich, Carmen Caraballo Rosario (health)  
 12:00 PM - 12:45 PM — CONFESSION  
 1:00 PM — (Spanish) Julia Juarez, Cesar Hernandez Marin, Cirilo Pacheco

(continued on next column)

4:00 PM — Richard Bartuce, Pat & Jim Martin, Jim, Mary & Michael Gillespie, Jason Mencarini, John Strischek, deceased members of the Ognibene family, Gentile & Colletti families

## Presider Schedule - December 23 & 24

5:00 p.m.—Fr. Grisolano piano  
 7:30 a.m.—Fr. Sepulveda / organ  
 9:00 a.m.—Fr. McCarthy / piano / parish choir  
 11:00 a.m.—Fr. Grisolano / organ  
 1:00 p.m.—(Spanish) Fr. Sepulveda  
 4:00 p.m. (Christmas Mass) Fr. Grisolano / Guitar Ensemble



## SAINTS AND SPECIAL OBSERVANCES

Sunday: 3rd Sunday of Advent  
 Monday:  
 Tuesday:  
 Wednesday:  
 Thursday: St. Peter Canisius, Priest and Doctor of the Church  
 Friday:  
 Saturday: St. John of Kanty, Priest  
 Next Sunday: 4th Sunday of Advent; Christmas Eve  
 ©LPi

## THIS WEEK'S READINGS

Sunday: Is 61:1-2a, 10-11/Lk 1:46-48, 49-50, 53-54 (Is 61:10b)/1 Thes 5:16-24/Jn 1:6-8, 19-28  
 Monday: Jer 23:5-8/Ps 72:1-2, 12-13, 18-19/Mt 1:18-25  
 Tuesday: Jgs 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, 8-9, 10 and 14/Lk 1:57-66  
 Next Sunday: 2 Sm 7:1-5, 8b-12, 14a, 16/Ps 89:2-3, 4-5, 27, 29 (2a)/Rom 16:25-27/Lk 1:26-38



NATIONAL  
**Eucharistic  
Revival**

*“A thousand years of enjoying human  
glory is not worth even an hour spent  
sweetly communing with Jesus  
in the Blessed Sacrament.”*

**St. Pio of Pietrelcina (Padre Pio)**



# ST. ELIZABETH OF THE TRINITY PARISH

6020 WEST ARDMORE AVENUE  
CHICAGO, ILLINOIS 60646-5320



*Pastor*

**Rev. Michael Grisolano**  
mgrisolano@archchicago.org

*Associate Pastor*

**Rev. Leonel Sepulveda**  
lsepulveda@archchicago.org

*Pastor Emeritus*

**Rev. Daniel P. McCarthy**

*Permanent Deacons*

**Deacon Jose Adan Bernabé**  
**Deacon Gregory Bzdon**

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*Bookkeeper*

**Ms. Donna Kay**  
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*School Principal*

**Dr. Kristine Hillmann**  
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*School / Parish Marketing Director*

**Mrs. Jenica Anderson**  
j.anderson@stelizabethtrinityschool.org

## SERVICES

### Weekend Mass Schedule:

Saturday: 5:00 p.m. & Sunday: 7:30, 9:00 & 11:00 a.m. (English) and  
1:00 p.m. (Spanish)

### Daily Mass Schedule:

Monday through Saturday: 8:30 a.m., Tuesday: 6:30 p.m. and  
First Thursday: 7:00 p.m. (Spanish)

### Rosary:

Prayed daily immediately following the 8:30 a.m. Mass

Church is open daily for private prayer until 5:00 p.m.

### Confession:

Tuesday: 5:30 to 6:00 p.m., Thursday: 6:30 to 7:00 p.m. (bilingual)  
Saturday: 3:30 to 4:30 p.m., Sunday: 12:00 to 12:45 p.m.

### Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament

Tuesday: 11:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. (Benediction at 6:00 p.m.)

Last Thursday from 6:30 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. (Benediction at 7:50 p.m.)

Rectory (Parish Office): Monday - Friday - 9:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.

### Baptism:

Please contact Deacon Greg Bzdon to make arrangements:

[gbzdon@archchicago.org](mailto:gbzdon@archchicago.org)

### Becoming a Catholic:

Would you like to learn more about what it means to be a Catholic? The Church calls this process *The Rite of Christian Initiation for Adults (RCIA)*. It is a small group forum where interested people learn more about initiation and membership in the Catholic Church. Please call the parish office for more information.

### Marriage:

Must be arranged six months prior to the ceremony. Please contact a priest to make arrangements.

**Religious Education for Public Grade School Students:** Contact Peggy Bradley for more information.

**Parish Registration:** New parishioners are asked to register at the Rectory.

Forms are also available on our website under the Our Parish tab or in the rear of church.

**Communion Visits:** Ministers of Care bring Communion to the homebound. Contact Tony Lupinski through the parish office to make arrangements.

**Food Pantry:** Open Tuesdays - 9:00 to 10:00 a.m. in the lower level of the gym  
For more Info email us at: [food-pantry@stelizabethtrinityschool.org](mailto:food-pantry@stelizabethtrinityschool.org)

**Bulletin Deadline:** Noon on Fridays (9 days prior to bulletin date)

**Rectory:** 773-763-8228  
**Fax:** 773-774-8461  
**School:** 773-763-7080  
**Website:** [www.stelizabethtrinity.org](http://www.stelizabethtrinity.org)  
**Email:** [parishoffice@setparish.org](mailto:parishoffice@setparish.org)

*"It seems to me that I have found my  
heaven on earth,  
because my heaven is You,  
my God,  
and You are in my soul.  
You in me,  
and I in You – may this be my motto."  
St. Elizabeth of the Trinity*