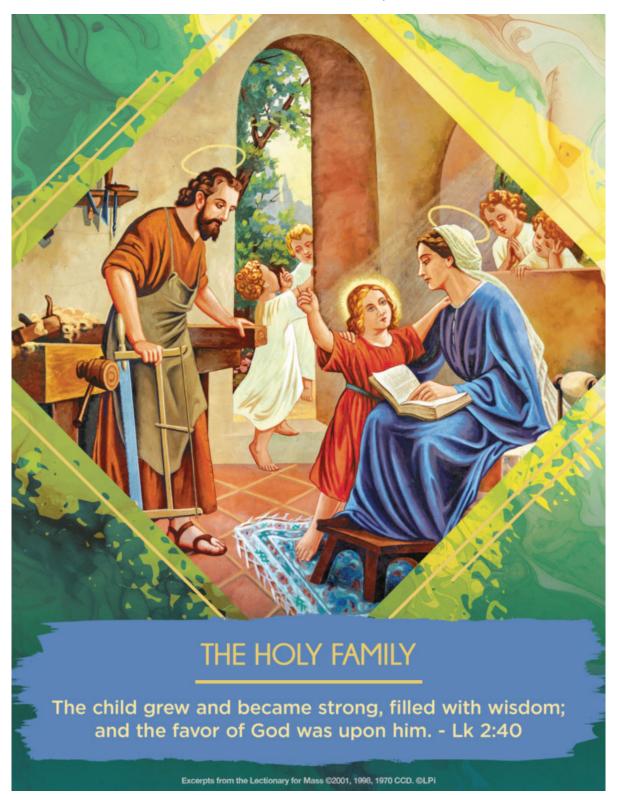


ST. ELIZABETH of the Trinity



DECEMBER 31, 2023



December 31, 2023

FROM FR. MIKE

My mom shared a story from years ago when most of her kids were adolescents. My mom was preparing dinner in the kitchen and my older sister, who was in high school, came home. My sister flung her bag on the floor in a huff and then expressed some annoyance and disappointment over what mom was making for dinner. A phone call came before too much of a heated exchange between them could take place and as often happened then, the call was for the popular sister in question. My sister answered the phone sweetly and had a brief but gracious phone call with her friend. After the phone call, my mom said honestly to her: "I wish you talked to your father the same way you talk to your friends." My sister responded: "I have to be nice to people all day. You're my parents, you have to love me."

How fitting that the Church gives us the Feast of the Holy Family of Jesus, Mary, and Joseph in the midst of the Christmas Season. While everyone is probably glad to still be on Christmas break, it's possible that families are already starting to get under each other's skin a bit. The people that we love the most can also hurt and annoy us the most.

How can our families grow in becoming holier as God would wish? One way was alluded to with the real-life story I shared. One of the things we love about our family is that we can be ourselves, we don't have to feel like we're "on", we can be ourselves and feel safe, not threatened. The comfort of home that we dream of is being loved and accepted just as we are, even if we don't always have that experience in reality, it's what we desire. We love the familiarity of love, however there is the danger that too much familiarity creates contempt. We can start to take those we love for granted and then see their faults more than their goodness.

One way to not take those close to us for granted is to consciously consider and thank them for the nice things they do for us. What parent, child or spouse isn't grateful to hear how their small efforts of love are recognized and appreciated? A kind word, a smile, an offer to help without being asked goes a long way to improving the overall family spirit. Thanking others shows we care about them and recognize their real, if not simple efforts.

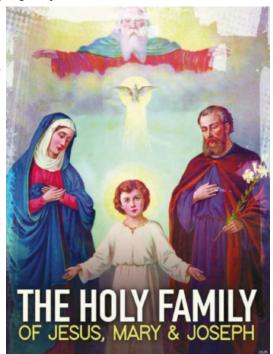
We can also intentionally take time during prayer to consider other's fragility, weaknesses, and anxieties. How much we desire others to understand and have sympathy with our own limitations like

my teenage sister expected our parents to, but often that is a one -way street. Parents can begin modeling to their children by trying to show patience and compassion toward them. Some wisdom a wife shared with her husband when he was ready to scold the children for leaving toys in the yard was: "Do you want to have a relationship with your children in twenty years?" Family relationships have the chance to be the most loving and lifelong relationships we have, but we have to pray not to take each other for granted and show compassion for each other's weaknesses...

O God, who were pleased to give us the shining example of the Holy Family, graciously grant that we may imitate them in practicing the virtues of family life and in the bonds of charity, and so, in the joy of Your house, delight one day in eternal rewards...through Christ our Lord.

God bless,

Fr. Mike



St. Vincent de Paul Coat Drive



We will have a winter coat drive at all Masses this weekend. 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. They'll be given to community members in need.



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

(Not a day of obligation this year)

Sunday, December 31st at 4:00 p.m. Monday, January 1st - 9:00 a.m.

(The morning Masses on December 31st celebrate the Feast of the Holy Family)

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 encounters with Jesus in the Eucharist, in an easy to read format.

Read the 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 can be found in the vestibule.



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 generous sponsorship of these calendars.

PARISH OFFICE HOLIDAY HOURS

The Parish Office will be closed Monday & Tuesday January 1st & 2nd.









Mariana Toledo child of Manuel & Nancy (Martinez) Rodriguez





St. Elizabeth of the Trinity Holy Name Society / Men's Club
Championship Sunday Party
Sunday, January 28, 2024

Doors open at 1:00 p.m. at the Auditorium.

Tables are \$250 (seat 10)

\$30 entry fee at the door for same day walk-ins.

Email <u>st.elizabethhns@gmail.com</u> to reserve a table.



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 Drueca—Steve Hovde—Helzing Aguilar—Flavia Langan—Dennis Cresco—Roger Doering—Alice Ward—Arthur Hamilton—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—Raffaela Mucerino

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



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!

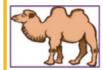


6pm - 12am

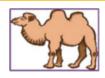
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*General Admission: Open bar, hors d'oeurves, \$100 in gaming chips.

VIP Admission: Open bar, hors d'oeurves, \$300 in gaming chips, VIP raffle, VIP gift.







January 7th: Bring Your Camel to School Day

Religious Education classes resume January 7th. And why are we kicking off 2024 with a caravan of camels? The clues are in the Readings for Epiphany Sunday.

Parents, please read with your children Isaiah, Chapter 60, verses 1 through 6, and the Gospel Reading, Matthew, Chapter 2, versus 1 through 12.

Students should find or make or color a picture of a camel and bring it to R.E. Class on January 7th. Be sure to put their name & grade on it so it can be returned. Last year, our caravan had 101 camels – let's see if we can break that record. Please see the Religious Education webpage on the parish website for information about other homework assigned to all R.E. students regarding the learning of the Our Father and the Hail Mary prayers.





ST. ELIZABETH OF THE TRINITY SCHOOL

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Pre K3 is having fun while they learn! They love playing with their friends, spending time with their Faith Partners, or dancing with Dr. Hillmann. Learning is fun!























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



Step-by-Step Walk Through the Mass Do This in Remembrance of Me, Part 21: The Four Gospels By FR. LUKE SPANNAGEL



Have you ever wondered why there are four Gospels: Matthew, Mark, Luke, and John? Why not just one? For nearly 2000 years, theologians, scholars, and saints have been wondering about this "problem." For some people, differences in the four Gospels regarding details and the order of events can feel like a challenge. Even more, the Gospel according to St. John is very different from the other three. So, what is the deal?

First, the Gospels of Matthew, Mark, and Luke are all very similar. They are called the synoptic Gospels, coming from the word "synopsis," which means, "at one view." For the most part, these three Gospels are similar in content, although each contains a few events, miracles, and teachings which are not in the others. In addition, in each of these Gospels, some of the events are related in a different order. Secondly, the Gospel of John is very different in style; one doesn't need to read more than a few verses to realize it gives us a quite different account of the life of Jesus.

Why Are There Four Gospels?

One of the main reasons for there being four Gospels relates to how they developed. First, Jesus Christ, present on the earth, taught, preached, and worked miracles. After his Death, the Apostles orally proclaimed the Death and Resurrection of Jesus, faithfully recounting his life and words. This oral stage of preaching, as well as catechesis, hymns, and doxologies, became the background for the Gospel writers, called Evangelists. After several years of preaching and meditation, the Gospel writers took the oral sources and earliest body of instruction and wrote it all down in what we know today as the four Gospels.

When the Gospel writers wrote these accounts (under the guidance of the Holy Spirit), they had different audiences and different contexts in mind. This accounts for some of the differences we find in their Gospels. For example, scholars suggest that St. Matthew was writing for a Jewish audience who would know, for example, the Jewish background for rituals and other things Jesus did. Therefore, the Gospel of Matthew doesn't explain the meaning of these things because he is assuming that his readers would already know them. More importantly, because he was writing for a Jewish audience, it was important to St. Matthew that he show that Jesus was the true Messiah they had been waiting for. St. Luke, on the other hand, was a former Gentile who had converted, and he was writing for a Hellenistic (Greek) audience who would not have understood Jewish rituals and traditions. That is why we find in his Gospel more detailed explanations of ceremonial actions. The Gospel of Mark, the first Gospel to be written, presents a powerful narrative of Jesus' life and often includes more vivid detail than the others. St. John, writing a little later than the other three, emphasized specific events to inspire and confirm his readers' faith in Jesus, since he could assume that they would already be familiar with the story of Jesus and his miracles and teachings.

The True Purpose of the Gospels

So, we can see, in writing the Gospels, the writers were not simply recalling the deeds and words of Jesus; they were preaching Jesus, the true Messiah, so that people would really get to know him. The Gospels, in this sense, are kind of like homilies, which are a way to try and help people relate to Jesus and his message of salvation. They are a careful presentation of what Jesus said and did—both an instruction and an invitation to deeper faith.

That we have these four Gospels after 2000 years is really an argument for their Divine Inspiration. Had these documents simply been authored by men, the differences in words, events, and ordering would have been too much to overcome. People would have quickly dismissed Christianity as a religion that could not get its story straight! For us, we can see that God has allowed various accounts with differing details to stand together in the same book of books (the Bible) because they were accepted as inspired by God, even if somewhat different. The early Fathers of the Church let them stand as handed down because they respected the Tradition as received. They respected the received Gospels as sacred and realized that if they tried to "fix them" by rolling them into one narrative, we would be missing out on some special aspect of the life and ministry of Jesus as it was recounted by one or the other of the Gospel writers. They saw the wisdom of God that having four Gospels with four different presentations of Jesus would ensure that all people, no matter what their background or experiences, could listen to or read an account about Jesus Christ that they could understand, that would speak to their hearts, and that would draw them into a life of union with Jesus the Son of God, the true Savior of the world!



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 30, 2023

5:00 PM — Mencarini & Strischek families, Don Love, Michael Byrne, Malachy Byrne, Stephen Delaney

SUNDAY, DECEMER 31, 2023

7:30 AM — Mr. Cunningham

9:00 AM — Greg Uliasz

11:00 AM — Mary Coffman, Carmen Rosario Castro

12:00 PM - 12:45 PM — CONFESSION

1:00 PM — (Spanish) Cesar Hernandez Marin, Cirilo Pacheco, Julia Suarez

4:00 PM — (for Jan 1) Maria Stanojevich

MONDAY, JANUARY 1, 2024

9:00 AM — Charles Boyd, Frank, Theresa, Louis & Baby Louis Cicchetti, Violetta Olivera

TUESDAY, JANUARY 2, 2024

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, JANUARY 3, 2024

8:30 AM — for our parishioners

THURSDAY, JANUARY 4, 2024

8:30 AM — for the homebound of the parish

7:00 PM — (Spanish)

FRIDAY, JANUARY 5, 2024

8:30 AM — Teresa Travina

SATURDAY, JANUARY 6, 2024

8:30 AM — Stanley Markowski (birthday remembrance)

5:00 PM — Marcos Fernandez Sr., Don Love Jr.

SUNDAY, JANUARY 7, 2024

7:30 AM — Helen & Alexander Kolinski, Walter Dyjak (37th anniversary), Anna, Stella & Joseph Dyjak,

Rose Dyjak (birthday remembrance), Joe & Ed Sanborn

9:00 AM — Dawn Cavins

11:00 AM — Hugh Johnson (9th anniversary), Walter & Mary Davitt

12:00 PM - 12:45 PM — CONFESSION

1:00 PM — (Spanish) Cirilo Pacheco

Presider Schedule - January 6 & 7

5:00 p.m.—Fr. Sepulveda piano

7:30 a.m. —Fr. McCarthy / organ

9:00 a.m. —Fr. Grisolano/piano/parish choir

11:00 a.m.—Fr. Grisolano / organ 1:00 p.m.—(Spanish) Fr. Sepulveda





A Memorial Leaf has been added for George Emil Van Durme



Barb Reminger

SAINTS AND SPECIAL OBSERVANCES

Sunday: The Holy Family; New Year's Eve Monday: Mary, The Holy Mother of God, New

Year's Day, World Day of Peace

Tuesday: Sts. Basil the Great and Gregory

Nazianzen, Bishops and Doctors of the

Church

Wednesday: The Most Holy Name of Jesus

Thursday: St. Elizabeth Ann Seton, Religious Friday: St. John Neumann, Bishop

Saturday: St. André Bessette, Religious Next Sunday: The Epiphany of the Lord

©LPi

THIS WEEK'S READINGS

Sunday: Sir 3:2-6, 12-14 or Gn 15:1-6; 21:1-3/Ps

128:1-2, 3, 4-5 or Ps 105:1-2, 3-4, 5-6, 8-9/Col 3:12-21 or 3:12-17 or Heb 11:8, 11

-12, 17-19/Lk 2:22-40 or 2:22, 39-40

Monday: Nm 6:22-27/Ps 67:2-3, 5, 6, 8 (2a)/Gal

4:4-7/Lk 2:16-21

Tuesday: 1 Jn 2:22-28/Ps 98:1, 2-3ab, 3cd-4/Jn

1:19-28

Wednesday: 1 Jn 2:29—3:6/Ps 98:1, 3cd-4, 5-6/Jn

1:29-34

Thursday: 1 Jn 3:7-10/Ps 98:1, 7-8, 9/Jn 1:35-42 Friday: 1 Jn 3:11-21/Ps 100:1b-2, 3, 4, 5/Jn 1:43-

51

Saturday: 1 Jn 5:5-13/Ps 147:12-13, 14-15, 19-20/

Mk 1:7-11 or Lk 3:23-38 or 3:23, 31-34,

36, 38

Next Sunday: Is 60:1-6/Ps 72:1-2, 7-8, 10-11, 12-13

(see 11)/Eph 3:2-3a, 5-6/Mt 2:1-12



"One cannot know the Lord without the habit of adoring, of adoring in silence....I believe, if I am not mistaken, that this prayer of adoration is the least known among us; it is the one we engage in the least. To waste time, if I may say it, before the Lord, before the mystery of Jesus Christ. To adore, there in the silence, in the silence of adoration. He is the Lord and I adore Him."

Pope Francis

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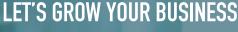
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St. Elizabeth of the Trinity Parish

6020 West Ardmore Avenue Chicago, Illinois 60646-5320



Pastor

Rev. Michael Grisolano mgrisolano@archchicago.org

Associate Pastor
Rev. Leonel Sepulveda
Isepulveda@archchicago.org

Pastor Emeritus

Rev. Daniel P. McCarthy

Permanent Deacons

Deacon Jose Adan Bernabé Deacon Gregory Bzdon

Director of Parish Operations

Mr. Michael Parilla

mparilla@archchicago.org

Director of Evangelization and Ministry Mrs. Ashley Guinn aguinn@archchicago.org

Coordinator of Religious Education

Mrs. Peggy Bradley

pbradley@archchicago.org

Pastoral Minister / Bulletin Editor
Mr. Jim Madura
jmadura@archchicago.org

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Mr. Mark Wozniczka mwozniczka@archchicago.org Mr. Jose Angel Abarca (Spanish Mass)

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Bookkeeper

Ms. Donna Kay dkay@archchicago.org

School Principal

Dr. Kristine Hillmann k.hillmann@stelizabethtrinityschool.org

School / Parish Marketing Director

Mrs. Jenica Anderson

j.anderson@stelizabethtrinityschool.org

Rectory: 773-763-8228 **Fax:** 773-774-8461 **School:** 773-763-7080

Website: www.stelizabethtrinity.org Email: parishoffice@setparish.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

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

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

"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