



# ST. ELIZABETH of the Trinity



**JANUARY 7, 2024**



## THE EPIPHANY OF THE LORD

When Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea, in the days of King Herod, behold, magi from the east arrived in Jerusalem, saying, "Where is the newborn king of the Jews? We saw his star at its rising and have come to do him homage." - Mt 2:1-2

### The Epiphany of the Lord

This Sunday, the Scriptures present us with the Magi from the East who are looking for the newborn infant-king of the Jews. At first consideration, the divine fascination that drove them not only to consider the journey but also to begin and complete it is quite noteworthy. These Magi embarked on a quest unlike anything they had done or experienced before in their lives. There is a unique infusion of grace that assures them the whole journey will be worth it. This assurance tells them that everything will work out—and it does! Even though they meet with Herod, whose selfish plan could have upended their journey's mission, the ever-present Spirit of God whispers at the right moment, enabling them to make the right and safest decision: go back home by taking an alternate route.

The Magi, indeed, were looking for the Christ King—and they found Him lying in a manger. Their quest, in the end, consisted of finding God. But for what purpose? What do we think they did with what they saw in Bethlehem? Most surely, in one fashion or another, they proclaimed the beauty of finding the God-King. Tellingly, the people they went back home to reencounter heard of the baby King and the splendor that ignited in their hearts. So that, if we wanted to summarize what truly transpired in the journey of the Magi, we could say that these three men from the East sought the light, saw it, and radiated it back to those who wished to see.

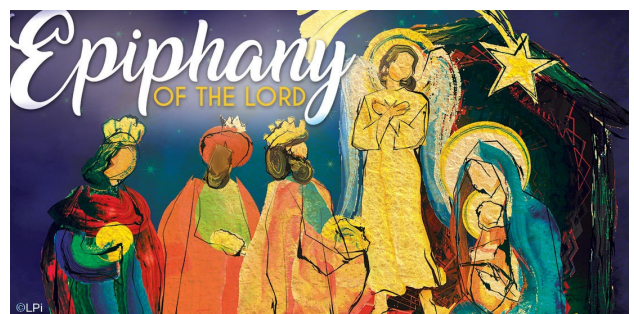
Navigating back to current and recent times, it becomes apparent that the divine fascination that moved the Magi has disappeared. That is, those who actively seek the God-King have been gradually disappearing. To an extent, we could contend that this has always been the case. At all times in history, only a portion of humanity has actively sought God. While this may be true, it has been the case in a different way than today. In the past, God-seekers like the Magi found God and spread the Good News to those around them. This action would gradually create “ripples” of evangelization that could, in time, expand far and wide. So that even if these “ripples” never fully blanketed the planet, they at least made it more likely that many more could encounter the beauty of our God-King.

Today, we have not upkept these evangelization ripples or zones, but we must ensure we do. Why? Think of the world as a still lake. If you throw a pebble at it, its ripple effect will expand. Now consider what happens when someone else does likewise but in a different zone of the lake. Well, both ripples would aid the coverage of the lake, even if we know that they will not cover all of it. Now, what would occur if multiple ripples arose throughout the body of water? They will cover more and more of its area. There would still be some zones without coverage because of the circular nature of ripples, but great work would have been accomplished.

Our mission must precisely be to recover our ability to find Christ our King and spread the Good News of this blessed finding. We must do it in such a way that our evangelization spreads like ripples in a still lake. Our families, for instance, could be the creators of new evangelizing ripples so that more and more people can find Christ's light. May it be so!

God Bless!

Fr. Leo







Today we celebrate the Feast of the Epiphany, where the Magi find the newborn King and offer Him gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh.

**In the spirit of the Magi, please put your gift in the St. Vincent de Paul Society Poor Box so that comfort and peace can once again be given to a newborn child.**

*Blessing of the Home and Household on Epiphany*

*Lord God of heaven and earth,  
you revealed your only-begotten Son to every nation  
by the guidance of a star.*

*Bless this house  
and all who inhabit it.*

*Fill us with the light of Christ,  
that our concern for others  
may reflect your love.*

*We ask this through Christ our Lord.  
Amen.*

- *United States Conference  
of Catholic Bishops*



ST. ELIZABETH OF THE TRINITY  
RELIGIOUS EDUCATION PROGRAM

R.E. Classes resume on January 7<sup>th</sup>  
No R. E. Class on January 14<sup>th</sup>  
Classes resume on January 21<sup>st</sup>



**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 [st.elizabethhns@gmail.com](mailto:st.elizabethhns@gmail.com) to reserve a table.**

## Have You “Insured” Our Parish?

A life insurance gift is a powerful and simple way to provide future support for our parish. Here are two ways to give a gift of life insurance to St. Elizabeth of the Trinity:

**Name our parish as a beneficiary of the policy.** Simply update your beneficiary designation form with your policy holder and list the primary or contingent beneficiary as: **“St. Elizabeth of the Trinity Parish, The Catholic Bishop of Chicago, a Corporation Sole”**

**Make an outright gift of an existing policy.** You can irrevocably name our parish as owner and beneficiary of a policy with accumulated cash value that you and your family no longer need. You qualify for a federal income tax charitable deduction when you itemize on your taxes. Also, if you continue to pay premiums on the policy, each payment is tax deductible as a charitable gift, if you itemize.

For more information on making a gift of life insurance to our parish, we recommend you consult your financial planner, attorney, or insurance representative. Please contact Marguerite Q. Zappa, Planned Giving Officer, Archdiocese of Chicago at 312.848.3068 or [mzappa@archchicago.org](mailto:mzappa@archchicago.org) with any additional questions.

### The Gifts of Christmas: Cherished Memories, An Epiphany and A Book

This Christmas, I received three notable gifts - no, not gold, frankincense, and myrrh; but cherished memories, an epiphany and a wonderful book.

My holiday was spent in Minneapolis with my siblings, enjoying the traditional Ukrainian Christmas Eve dinner and attending Mass to celebrate the Nativity of Our Lord. We watched home movies of what we dubbed “The Wonder Years: 1957 to 1967”, documenting not just the birthdays and graduations and trips to Niagara Falls, but all the sacraments as well: baptisms, weddings, and First Communions. And the priceless annual photo shoots of everyone dressed in their ‘Sunday Best’ before marching off to Easter and Christmas Masses. The grainy but cherished videos captured what was important to Catholic families then, where going to church to celebrate the sacraments was paramount. The gift of revisiting memories with my family was priceless.

My second gift was an epiphany. As I watched the video montage of a decade of growing up in a Catholic family, I once again realized what a priceless gift of faith was left to us by our parents. And now the task of bringing up the next generation of Catholics falls to each and everyone of us. That is what I love about being a part of the faith formation team at St. Elizabeth of the Trinity: the opportunity to introduce Jesus to our children through the sacraments. Which brings me to my third gift: the *Beautiful Eucharist* book.



This book is available in the church vestibule, a gift from the parish to all of us. It is promoted as a collection of “lifechanging reflections” on the Eucharist, and how “Jesus is waiting in the Eucharist to transform families, Churches, communities, and the culture as a whole.” Lifechanging? Really? What is the last book you read that was truly lifechanging? Well, you may not find this one on Oprah’s Book Club reading list, but I can tell you that this book does have messages that can be lifechanging.

I read Matthew Kelly’s introduction, and I could not put the book down. This book will deepen your appreciation for the most wonderous gift given to us – the Eucharist. This is the devotion to Jesus that will fill our pews, that will embolden us to pass on the faith to our children, that will change our culture, (and maybe fill the pages of Facebook and Instagram with even more pictures of families celebrating the sacraments, dressed in their Sunday best.) I encourage you to grab a copy of *Beautiful Eucharist* and read the intro and at least one of the 12 short reflections. Let me know what you think – I’d love to hear from you. May the Light of Christmas continue to shine brightly in your hearts and in your homes.

- Peggy Bradley, Coordinator of Religious Education



## 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—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 Weslitz—Ciara Czajkowski—Donna J. Kolinski—Richard Muench—  
Frank Delia—Steve Miller—Raffaella Mucerino**

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



**NOTE THE DATE CHANGE!**



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!**



**Saturday: February 17, 2024**

**6040 W. Ardmore | Chicago, IL**

**6pm - 12am**

<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.



## WHEN IS CHRISTMAS OVER?

Christmas is December 25, right? Or maybe it's an eight-day celebration — something called an “octave?” But aren't there 12 days of Christmas?

The answer to each of those questions is “yes.” When Catholics talk about “Christmas,” they mean more than one thing — actually they mean several overlapping things. And, well, if you're not versed in the lingo, that can get a bit confusing. So how do you keep 'em all straight? And how do you know if it's still Christmas?

While it seems ubiquitous today, celebrating birthdays is not a universal custom across all cultures and times — some reasons are obvious, like the fact that not all people in all times have had an easy way even to know the date of auspicious occasions. Other reasons are important but less obvious — the fact that some cultures mark important initiation or ritual days instead of birthdays, for example.

Because of their own cultural contexts, the earliest Christians were more likely to celebrate as big annual feasts of the Incarnation either the Epiphany — which in the East commemorates the Baptism of the Lord in the Jordan River — or to celebrate the Lord's Presentation and circumcision in the Temple.

But early Christianity was a cross-cultural phenomena, and Roman Christians, like North African Copts and a few others, were accustomed to annual birthday celebrations for important leaders — and in some cases, to small celebrations for the birthdays of friends and relatives. Because of that, in some corners of the Church liturgical feasts for the Lord's birth began quite early in Christian history.

By the fourth century, Roman Christians were celebrating annually the birth of Jesus Christ as its own liturgical feast. The date was fixed on December 25 by at least the 330s. It is often thought that December 25 was chosen to celebrate the Lord's nativity because it was the date of the winter solstice in the Roman calendar, and possibly already the Roman feast of a sun god. But, actually, there is little evidence that a feast for *Sol Invictus* was celebrated on Dec. 25 until decades after the Christian feast of Christmas was fixed on that date.

Cardinal Joseph Ratzinger, in “The Spirit of the Liturgy,” points out that before they celebrated Christmas, many Christian communities were already celebrating the Annunciation, which marks Christ's conception.

Since the Annunciation was celebrated March 25 (also believed by many Church Fathers to be the date on which Christ was crucified), it would make sense that Christ's birth would be celebrated nine months later, on Dec. 25.

The Octave of Christmas is celebrated as an eight-day feast which begins on the Nativity, Dec. 25, and continues to January 1, the Solemnity of Mary, the Mother of God. Since at least the fourth century, Christians have celebrated the most important liturgical feasts with “octaves” — eight days of celebration. Christmas has been celebrated as an octave since at least the seventh century, and is today one of two octaves celebrated by the Church — the other is Easter. During the Christmas octave, the “Gloria” is sung each day during Mass, and each day is generally regarded as a day of great feasting.

But there is also the traditional Christmas season of 12 days, which traditionally began on Dec. 25 and ended on January 6, the Feast of the Epiphany.

This is a little tricky in the United States, since the Epiphany feast is not always on the same day. It has been moved from January 6 to “the Sunday between January 2 and January 8” — this year, January 7. But Western Christians have traditionally continued the Christmas season celebrations through January 6, during “twelvetide.” In many cultures, gifts were exchanged throughout the season.

But why Lords A-leapin' and all that? Well, the song is a traditional English Christmas carol, with origins mostly unknown. But it is a great pub song, so you can probably surmise how it got so popular.

Well, here's the deal so far: We've got Christmas Day. Then we've got the Octave. We've got the traditional Twelve Days of Christmas.

But then, we've *also* got the liturgical season of Christmas, which ends on the Feast of the Baptism of the Lord, celebrated in 2024 on January 8. After the Feast of the Baptism of the Lord, “Ordinary Time” begins on the liturgical calendar, and you can definitely say that Christmas is over.

- adapted from an article in *The Pillar* on 12/27/23

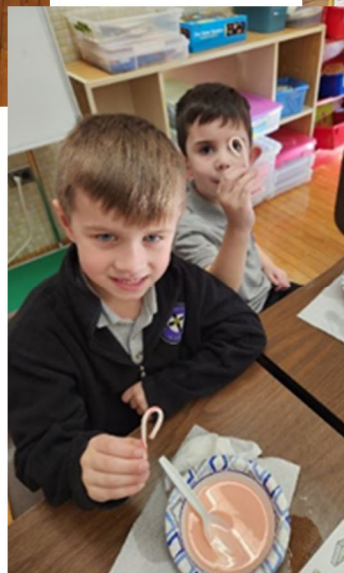




# ST. ELIZABETH OF THE TRINITY SCHOOL

6040 W Ardmore Ave  
Chicago, IL 60646  
(773) 763-7080  
stelizabethtrinityschool.org

The month of December was full of many learning activities for Kindergarten. They learned about the meaning of the Advent season and celebrated St. Nicholas Day with gold chocolate coins and enjoyed a special visitor. In science they used candy canes for many experiments. Kindergarten students also enjoyed writing letters to Santa and making beautiful ornaments for their families.



CATHOLIC SCHOOLS WEEK - JAN. 28 - FEB. 3, 2024



## NATIONAL Eucharistic Revival

### Step-by-Step Walk Through the Mass Do This in Remembrance of Me, Part 22: The Harmony of the Gospels By FR. LUKE SPANNAGEL



Is anyone else still thinking about having four different Gospels? This question was discussed and pondered by some of the earliest Christians. Some tried to develop a harmonious account of the life, death, and teachings of Jesus, and the result was a kind of one-volume gospel. Although we don't have any historical manuscripts of it, a one-volume harmonization called "The Gospel" is referred to by some early Christian writers, including St. Ignatius of Antioch (writing around 115 AD). There is a manuscript dated 170 AD by a man named Tatian, who was a student of St. Justin Martyr. This manuscript is called the *Diatessaron* and is subtitled "The Gospel Harmony." Others tried this as well through the ages, including St. Augustine (writing in 405 AD) who wrote a work titled "On the Harmony of the Evangelists."

#### Uniquely Harmonious

Remarkably, what each person found was that the four Gospels could not be squeezed into one without losing something important. As we have reviewed previously, every detail of each of the Gospels is written for a specific purpose. To miss one of these details is to miss an important part of the life of Jesus and his message of salvation to the world. Each of the four Gospel writers gives us a special understanding of Jesus, something we would miss if we forced them into just one Gospel. As the early Church moved forward toward the finalizing of the Canon of Scripture (the official list of the books included in the Bible), we see that the four Gospels are consistently included and honored.

#### The Canon of Scripture

The Canon of the Bible is the official list of texts discerned and compiled by the Roman Catholic Church over time and confirmed by Church Councils, first completed around the time of the Council of Hippo in 390 AD. This list was reiterated by the Council of Trent in the 1500s and again at the First Vatican Council in the 1800s. We believe that certain books are inspired by the Holy Spirit and therefore are included in the canon. No known inspired book is outside the canon and no non-inspired book is inside it. Since the Church is entrusted with Sacred Scripture, the Church declares what is included in the canon. A couple of other definitions are helpful here:

**Inspiration:** The Holy Spirit was present and inspired the human writers of the Bible so what God intended—and only those things—were not only understood correctly, but following from this understanding, the Gospel writers wrote them down, expressed in appropriate and meaningful language. (See *Providentissimus Deus*, 1, 4, and 14).

**Inerrancy:** The Bible is free from errors, not just in faith and morals, but in all parts that pertain to and which God wished to teach for our salvation. (See *Dei Verbum*, 6 and 11).

These definitions help us know with confidence that what we are reading is God's Word to us, and they can also help us understand what we read. We come to see the unity of all of Scripture and that all the books are important. We read through the lens of our lived faith and tradition. We value how Scripture has been understood and prayed with over the last 2000 years. We recognize that the Church Fathers and saints have much to tell us about Scripture and how it helps us live life in Christ today.

#### A Synopsis of the Gospels

An interesting alternative to the idea of a Gospel harmony is called a Synopsis of the Gospels. A synopsis keeps all four Gospels intact as they were written and arranges the passages in four columns so that all four Gospels are side-by-side. The passages are arranged and spaced out so that one can compare the details of each Gospel account. Doing this really helps one see how each of the four writers gives a special flavor to the life and ministry of Jesus. A synopsis is like having each of the Gospel writers with us, sitting in his own armchair, telling us about Jesus.





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, JANUARY 6, 2024**

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

**MONDAY, JANUARY 8, 2024**

8:30 AM — Margaret Mally, Edwin Pelz

**TUESDAY, JANUARY 9, 2024**

8:30 AM — Edward Rzendzian (special intention), 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 10, 2024**

8:30 AM — for our parishioners

**THURSDAY, JANUARY 11, 2024**

8:30 AM — Mary Iacullo (birthday remembrance), Gabriel Granados, Margaret Rodden Wydar

6:30 PM — CONFESSION (bilingual)

**FRIDAY, JANUARY 12, 2024**

8:30 AM — for the homebound of the parish

**SATURDAY, JANUARY 13, 2024**

8:30 AM — Eugene Holz, Theresa C. Cicchetti

5:00 PM — deceased members of the Ognibene Family, Margaret Rodden Wydar

**SUNDAY, JANUARY 14, 2024**

7:30 AM — Alice Erie

9:00 AM — for our parishioners

11:00 AM — Agatha Kubik, Geraldine Gudani

12:00 PM - 12:45 PM — CONFESSION

1:00 PM — (Spanish) Edwardo Granados

**Presider Schedule - January 13 & 14**

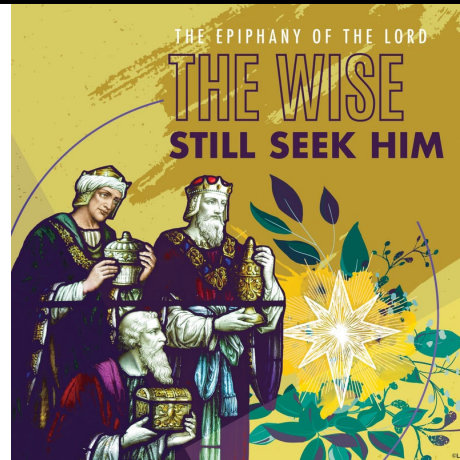
5:00 p.m.—Fr. McCarthy / *Guitar Ensemble*

7:30 a.m. —Fr. Grisolano / *organ*

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

11:00 a.m.—Fr. McCarthy / *organ*

1:00 p.m.—(Spanish) Fr. Sepulveda



Jack Baillie

**SAINTS AND SPECIAL OBSERVANCES**

Sunday: The Epiphany of the Lord

Monday: The Baptism of the Lord

Tuesday:

Wednesday:

Thursday:

Friday:

Saturday: St. Hilary, Bishop and Doctor of the Church; BVM

Next Sunday: 2nd Sunday in Ordinary Time

©LPi

**THIS WEEK'S READINGS**

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

Monday: Is 55:1-11/Is 12:2-3, 4bcd, 5-6 (3)/1 Jn 5:1-9/Mk 1:7-11

Tuesday: 1 Sm 1:9-20/1 Sm 2:1, 4-5, 6-7, 8abcd/Mk 1:21-28

Wednesday: 1 Sm 3:1-10, 19-20/Ps 40:2 and 5, 7-8a, 8b-9, 10/Mk 1:29-39

Thursday: 1 Sm 4:1-11/Ps 44:10-11, 14-15, 24-25/Mk 1:40-45

Friday: 1 Sm 8:4-7, 10-22a/Ps 89:16-17, 18-19/Mk 2:1-12

Saturday: 1 Sm 9:1-4, 17-19; 10:1a/Ps 21:2-3, 4-5, 6-7/Mk 2:13-17

Next Sunday: 1 Sm 3:3b-10, 19/Ps 40:2, 4 7-8, 8-9, 10 (8a, 9a)/1 Cor 6:13c-15a, 17-20/Jn 1:35-42



NATIONAL  
**Eucharistic  
Revival**

*“Every time the Mass is celebrated  
the center of the universe  
is on this altar,  
and that’s what  
keeps us all going.”*

Cardinal Francis George



# ST. ELIZABETH OF THE TRINITY PARISH

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mgrisolano@archchicago.org

*Associate Pastor*

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lsepulveda@archchicago.org

*Pastor Emeritus*

**Rev. Daniel P. McCarthy**

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**Deacon Gregory Bzdon**

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**Mr. Jose Angel Abarca** (*Spanish Mass*)

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*School / Parish Marketing Director*

**Mrs. Jenica Anderson**  
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**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](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)

*"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*