

It's Advent Season

at Saint Elizabeth's

December 13, 2020

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Masses

Sunday: 7:30 am, 9:00 am, 10:30 am,
12 noon & 6:15 pm

Saturday: 9:00 am & 5:00 pm (Anticipated)

Weekday: 7:00 am & 9:00 am

Reconciliation Saturday 12:30 pm

Emergency Number

201-994-5699

Parish Center

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Email: rectory@saintelizabeths.org

Parish School

Website: www.sainte-school.org

Office: 201-891-1481

School Principal

Karen Lewis



Can you find
the hidden picture of
Jesus in this bulletin?

My dear friends at St. Elizabeth's

In my homily last week, I suggested that Advent this year would be different than in prior years because of the struggles we all face during the current pandemic. I know that for me the period between Thanksgiving and Christmas is usually an exciting time of the year filled with the hustle and bustle of shopping at the malls, going to office parties, and family get-togethers. It always seemed that my time was consumed by lists of things to organize and do, cards to be mailed, food to be eaten, and of course, the diet to be neglected.



It is so easy for all of us, myself included, to get caught up in the seasonal tasks and preparations that we forget to stop and reflect on the "reason for the season;" it is not about getting ready for Christmas; it is about getting ready for **CHRIST. It is about the light of God's saving grace entering our hearts. It is about preparing the way of the Lord!** This year, we have a unique opportunity to pause, to step back a bit, and to nourish our spiritual life. There is much we can do to prepare for the coming of Jesus.

Perhaps we can consider Advent this year as a season of Christian "road works," as an opportunity for all of us to put on our hardhats and shine our spiritual flashlights into the darkness to find and straighten out those obstacles and dangers that hinder our preparation for the coming of Jesus. It could mean more prayer time on our knees, perhaps time before the Blessed Sacrament, or the opportunity to fill-in the valleys of our lives through a good confession. It could be picking up the phone and calling a lonely friend or family member or supporting a local charity or food pantry.

This year we are invited to nourish our spiritual life as we journey through Advent towards Christmas. On Tuesday, December 15 at 9:30am and again at 7:30pm, Fr. Ashley Harrington will be at St. Elizabeth's to offer us a reflection titled, *Let's Journey Together This Advent*. The content will be the same in the morning and evening sessions and will be available in the Church and livestreamed. I am looking forward to being inspired by Fr. Ashley and journeying with you!!

As we journey together through Advent toward Christmas, I am reminded of another journey taken 2,000 years ago from Nazareth to Bethlehem by a man named Joseph and a woman called Mary, who was ready to give birth. The woman, whom the Angel Gabriel hailed as full of grace, was carrying God's amazing grace within her womb. His amazing grace, God's gift to the world, was a baby boy born in a cave in Bethlehem. This is the Christmas miracle. God so loved us that He sent His only begotten Son, who was later crucified on a cross to redeem us from sin, and who will come again at the end of time as the King of Glory.

God's grace, Emmanuel - which means "God is with us" - journeyed with Joseph and Mary in their difficult trek to Bethlehem. He journeys with you and me as we struggle through our current circumstances. This Advent let us be prepared to receive the light of God's saving grace, Jesus Christ. This is God's gift to us. O Come, O Come Emmanuel!!

Peace and Blessings!

Deacon Andy

NEWS AND EVENTS

Special Collection for the Retirement Fund for the Religious will be taken this weekend. Your gift will help furnish necessities such as medications and nursing care. This helps ensure younger members can continue the good works of their elders. Please place your offering in the collection box in the back of the church.

Christmas Wafers "Oplatki": The Christmas Wafer commemorates a custom long used in family celebrations. If you would like to continue or to begin this sacred tradition, wafers can be purchased at the Parish Office.



COLLECTIONS FOR THE WEEK ENDING November 30
Offertory \$ 10,606 | Online \$7,352 | Total \$17958

MASS INTENTIONS

Saturday, December 12

9:00 am Memorial Mass
5:00 pm Regina Kraus

Sunday, December 13

7:30 am People of the Parish
9:00 am Lucia, Salvatore
& Luciano Alu
10:30 am Anthony Marangi
12 noon Delia Clemente
6:15 pm Dolores & Jim Fernandez

Monday, December 14

7:00 am Mary Ann Vanlouie
9:00 am Margaret & Harold Bell
Bonnie Bell Gerli

Tuesday, December 15

7:00 am Eileen Probert
9:00 am Josephine Novack

Wednesday, December 16

7:00 am Arthur & Mary Zahauer
9:00 am Capalbo &
Calandra families

Thursday, December 17

7:00 am Christine Szwed
9:00 am Elizabeth Ciarleglio

Friday, December 18

7:00 am Mike Miklas
9:00 am Mary Bertani

Saturday, December 19

9:00 am Memorial Mass
5:00 pm Catherine &
Joseph Francica

Sunday, December 20

7:30 am People of the Parish
9:00 am Nino Caldarone
10:30 am Sonya Cahill
12 noon Helen & Conrad Hurtz
6:15 pm Michael Martino



NEWS AND EVENTS

Let's Journey Together This Advent

Reflection by Father Ashley Harrington

Tuesday, December 15

9:30 AM or 7:30 PM

(same content at both sessions)

In Church or Live Stream

Father Stephen's favorite priest!

All are welcome!



Christmas Flowers: A flower memorial is a great way to remember your loved ones this Christmas. Donation envelopes were included in your envelope packet and are also available in the Narthex or Parish Center. **Clearly** fill in the name of your loved ones and turn in the envelopes with the weekly collection. A special listing of all memorial names will be in our bulletin.



Coat Drive Thank You: The Knights of Columbus thanks the St. Elizabeth community for its support of the "Coats for Kids" campaign. Because of the parish's amazing generosity, the Knights raised a record \$10,300, and purchased 504 brand new coats to distribute to children in need.

Statement of the Catholic Bishops of New Jersey on the Reproductive Freedom Act: The Catholic Church believes and teaches that all human life is sacred from conception to natural death. For that reason, we, the Bishops of each of the dioceses in New Jersey, join in voicing the strongest possible opposition to the "Reproductive Freedom Act."

Without minimizing other serious threats to human life and dignity evident in contemporary American society, the Catholic Church consistently maintains that "the threat of abortion remains our preeminent priority because it directly attacks life itself, because it takes place within the sanctuary of the family, and because of the number of lives destroyed" (USCCB, Forming Consciences for Faithful Citizenship, "Introductory Letter," 2020). As the Catholic Bishops of New Jersey, we urge all Catholics and people of good will to reject this proposed legislative initiative in our state and to contact your State legislators to vigorously express opposition to its passage.

"To everything there is a season and a time for every purpose under heaven."

Your loved one will be announced at Mass for two weeks, then included in the bulletin for six weeks. Call the Parish Center to let us know the names of those we should include in our prayers.

Healing prayers for: Wanda Kondrat, Thomas McLaughlin, Bob Allison, Agnes & Patrick Long, Bruce Boswell, Ginny Schroller, Lourdes Ciatto

Memorials for the week of December 13

Altar Bread and Wine: In memory of Dominic Polimeni
donated by Franchavilla family

Candles on the Altar, Sanctuary Fund: In memory of Carmela Sature
donated by Elizabeth Minnichetti

Flowers for St. Elizabeth Shrine: In memory Norton & Persing family
donated by The Norton family

Flowers for the Holy Family Shrine: In memory of Rosa Alfieri
donated by Angela Del Mastro

St. Elizabeth's Advent Giving Tree is going.... *Virtual!!!*



We have lots of options for you to choose from. Please [ [click here](#)] to select your virtual card.

Once you fill out the form you will be contacted by email within 24 hours by a member of the St. E's Giving Tree Ministry.

Or, you can call Laurie and Dan Kocher at **201-670-8038** and they will help you select a gift item that's just right for you.

NEW Drop Off Dates:

Saturday, December 12th from 8:00am to 6:00pm (or)

Sunday, December 13th from 8:00am to 12:00pm noon.

New Drop Off Location:

St. E's Parish Garages - Look for drop off signage on garage door that weekend.

Thank you for helping to make this Christmas more special to so many!

GROWING WITH THE Gospel CYCLE B



COLOR

Read the Gospel of the week and color the image.



3rd Sunday of Advent • John 1:8-9, 19-28

Christmas Mass Schedule

St. Elizabeth Church



Masks and social distancing will be required.
All Masses will be live-streamed.

Christmas Eve

Thursday December 24

2:00 PM, 3:30 PM, 5:00 PM, 6:30 PM,
8:30 PM, 10:00 PM

Christmas Day

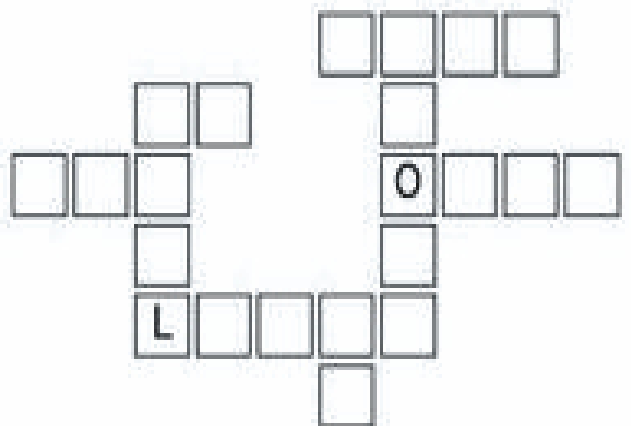
Friday December 25

9:00 AM, 10:30 AM, 12 NOON



PUZZLE

Fit this Gospel message into the empty squares:
He came only to tell about the light.



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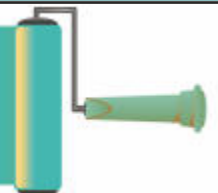


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