

Saint Cecilia Parish

90 Church Street
Rockaway, New Jersey 07866

Parish Office: 973-627-0313

Website: st-cecilia.org — Office: stcec@optonline.net

Fax: 973-627-4811

To Contact: Fr. Zig: Ext. 12 or speplowski@optonline.net

Fr. Matt: Ext 15 or frmateuszdarlak@gmail.com

School: 973-627-6003

CCD Office: 973-627-0313 Ext. 17

Rev. Sigmund Peplowski
PASTOR

Rev. Mateusz Darlak
PAROCHIAL VICAR

Mrs. Janet Maulbeck
BUSINESS ADMINISTRATOR
and YOUTH PROTECTION/
SAFE ENVIRONMENT
COORDINATOR

Mr. James Clancy
DIRECTOR OF FAITH FORMATION

Mrs. Jaime Ann Patel
PRINCIPAL

Mrs. Diane Boykow
CEMETERY ADMINISTRATOR

Mr. Charles Linnell
MUSIC DIRECTOR



CERTIFICATE OF ELIGIBILITY

All Catholic Churches in the United States require from Catholics serving as a Godparent for Baptism or a sponsor for Confirmation a certificate of eligibility. This document certifies that the Godparent/sponsor is a registered member of the parish, attends Holy Mass, approaches the sacraments regularly and contributes to the support of the Church via the Sunday offering envelope program or "WeShare". It is the responsibility of the individual to meet these requirements as listed in the Code of Canon Law, #874.

SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM

Arrangements for the Sacrament of Baptism can be made by calling Fr. Matt at extension 15.

SACRAMENT OF MATRIMONY

Arrangements are to be made at least ONE YEAR in advance. The date should not be set until the priest has been consulted.

SACRAMENT OF THE SICK

Urgent calls will be attended to at any time of the day or night. If there is anyone at home or in the hospital who cannot get to Mass and the Sacraments because of illness or old age, please inform one of the priests or call the Parish Office @ 973-627-0313.

EMERGENCY PHONE:
862-251-3914

MASSES

Saturday: 4:30 pm, 7:00 pm
Sunday: 8:00 am, 9:15 am
10:45 am and 12:15 pm
5:00 pm (Vietnamese)

Holydays

Vigil 4:30 pm
6:30 am, 8:00 am & 7:00 pm

Weekday Schedule:

Monday - Friday
6:30 am & 8:00 am

Saturday

8:00 am followed by Novena

Confessions

Saturday @ 3:30—4:00 pm &
6:15-6:45 pm (when Mass is
celebrated in the church) &
Monday during Holy Hour
7:00—8:00 pm

Ms. Susan Brennan
TRUSTEE

Mr. James Gallagher
TRUSTEE

PARISH PRAYER LIFE

NOVENA: OUR LADY OF THE MIRACULOUS MEDAL AND OUR LADY OF FATIMA

Saturday morning after the 8:00 am Mass

HOLY HOUR : Monday @ 7:00 pm

RCIA—RITE OF CHRISTIAN INITIATION— FOR ADULTS:

Please contact Sr. Diane @ 973-627-0313 ext: 14

ROSARY PRAYER GROUP: Monday through Sat. @ 7:30 am

FEMININE GENIUS PROJECT: 1st & 3rd Saturday of the
month at 8:00 pm in the parish office.

ST. JOSEPH MEN'S GROUP: 2nd & 4th Saturday of the month
at 6:00 am in the parish office.

PADRE PIO PRAYER GROUP: 1st Wednesday of the month;
10:00 am in the church

ST. MONICA NOVENA: Last Saturday after 8:00 am Mass.

Parish Office Hours

Monday thru Thursday: 8:30 am to 4:00 pm
Friday: 8:30 am to 2:00 pm
Closed for lunch: 12:00 to 1:00

Monday, November 13, Saint Frances Xavier Cabrini, Virgin

6:30 am — Madeline Lusardi req. by her husband, Tony

8:00 am — Sr. Christina Marie Cables, SCC

Tuesday, November 14, Weekday

6:30 am — For the sick listed in our bulletin and their caregivers

8:00 am — Jack Zayac req. by Jim & Dolores McConnell

Wednesday, November 15, Saint Albert the Great, Bishop and Doctor of the Church

6:30 am — Archimedes Baluyut req. by the Dorsey Family

8:00 am — Teresa Laterza

Thursday, November 16, Saint Margaret of Scotland, Saint Gertrude, Virgin

6:30 am — Helen Brussell req. by McDonnell Family

8:00 am — Gloria Valenzuela req. by Jane Rocha

Friday, November 17, Saint Elizabeth of Hungary, Religious

6:30 am — Rt. Rev. Thaddeus Peplowski req. by Fr. Zig

8:00 am — Theodore Jacobsen req. by Darlene, Amanda & Tyler Klus

Saturday, November 18, Saint Rose Philippine Duchesne, Virgin, BVM—Dedication of Basilica of Peter & Paul

8:00 am — Loretta Benna req. by Sophie Boylan

Sunday, November 19, Thirty-Third Sunday in Ordinary Time

4:30 pm — Angela Goritski req. by Chris Lombardi

Thomas Fircincili req. by Bartholomew Family

7:00 pm — Marie Bernier req. by Marie & Ted Wahlstrom

8:00 am — Ellen Flynn req. by Mary Anne Lanni

9:15 am — Anne Louise Nichols req. by Kuhlmeier Family
Barbara Mae Zappulla, 10 yr. Anv. req. by Zappulla Family10:45 am — Mario Zambrano req. by Family
Louise Green req. by Carol Parillo12:15 pm — Sylvia Mae Pugliese req. by Ismael & Lillian Franqui
Florence Gustav Wenzel req. by Palma Family**PRAY FOR THE SICK AND THEIR CAREGIVERS**

Ethan Chandra, Dean Wayne Campbell, Doris Cusick, Jane Gorica, Sam Sessa, Karen Niles, Noel Wadleigh, David Cicchine, Teresa D'Atria, Derek Bascharow, Debbie Malc, Grace McDermott, Joe Horvath, Jr., Elvira Bugaoan, Owen Peter Byrne, Tia Maddaloni, Mason Walker Steussing, Susan Mejia, Derek Bascharow, Jim Rattay, Tom Hull, Kathleen Fazio, Kristin Wich, Kyle Johnson, Kate Darlington, Jake Michael Miraldi, Cheryl Anne Bornemann, Sean Nolan, Maryann Hughes, Peggy Eileen Miars, Ray Kennedy, Richard Corcoran, Madison Rose Leslie, Demetrius Barbee, Frances Finn, Dorothy Murray, Kimberly Dugan, Gale Sessa, Mike Murray, Helene Turner, Michael Turner, Ruben Lorenzo, Michael Alvarez, Mina Simmons-Jones, Joe Maulbeck, Mary Merz, Patricia Smith Schulman, Vincent Fortunato, Joyce Turner, Tom Cumiskey, Dennis O'Brien, Steven Simmons, Ariel, James DiStaiso, Marty Mackin, Brian Bosworth, Dennis Dilger, Robyne LaGrotta, Christopher Darlak, Frieda Solow, Claudia Fontanella, Claire Wasacz, Emilio Viola, James Deegan, Martha Salvesen, Ramiro Hinojosa, Jimmy Buckley, Emily Gatzke, Clare Desmond, Craig Huffman, George Stitik, Stephen Goordman, Cecilia Donofrio, Deidra Zink, Ray Wiest, Anthony Pane, Victoria Zuber, Keith Newman, Francis Sanchez, Raymond Fullam, Franco Maida, John Sandelli, Alan Zenkert, Fran Gatzke, Bob Nielsen, Gert Taylor, Walter Zelinski, Landon Wierks, Clo Callahan, Michael McClain, David Saggioli, Michael Hafke, Tyler Bascharow, Kevin R. Bruno, II, Larry Gatzke, Jeremiah O'Brien, Lanie Bruno, Jill Breslin, Nick Auriemma, Joan Apgar, Richard Sala.

ST. CECILIA CHURCH COLLECTION GOALS**Week Ending : November 5, 2023**

Collection—Checks & Cash	\$ 9,450.50
WeShare Electronic Giving	\$ 5,751.50
Total Weekly Collection	\$ 15,202.00

Yearly Collection Goal (BUDGET)	\$ 785,000.00
Weekly Goal	\$ 14,038.46

Weekly Collection Surplus (Deficit)	\$ 1,163.54
Year To Date Surplus (Deficit)	\$ (10,465.88)



*The Sanctuary Candle burning on our altar
this week is in loving memory of
Vincent Siminski
Requested by Elaine & Mark Romito*

PATRONAL FEAST – The feast of our patron saint, Saint Cecilia, Virgin and Martyr, is Wednesday, November 22nd. A Solemn Mass will be celebrated in our church at 8 o'clock in the morning to commemorate this feast.

THANKSGIVING DAY MASS – Holy Mass on Thanksgiving Day, Thursday, November 23 will be celebrated at 9 o'clock in the morning. As per our tradition, bread will be blessed and distributed to be shared at your holiday dinner. There is NO 6:30 or 8 o'clock Mass on this day! ALSO, on Friday, November 24th, there is only one Mass at 8 o'clock in the morning. 6:30 morning Mass will not be celebrated the day after Thanksgiving.



The people of St. Cecilia Parish are asked to pray for the following people serving our country in the armed services: **SmE3 Andrew Clifford,**

Joseph Giannetti US Navy, Lance Corporal Dennis Wuest, Capt. Kelley E. Robbins, Pvt USMC, Diego Usma, Major Glenn E. Martinez, Sgt. Brian Whalen, Capt. Anthony Odierno, Cpl. Kong V. Nguyen, Cpl. Jim Van Valen, LCPL Anthony Eresman, Sgt. Paul J. Willson, PFC Cano Janeth, Sgt. Bob Autrey, Col. William Paliwada, Sgt 1st Class (E7) Sam Colon, PFC Marylyn Rivera-Sachez, Cpl. Edward C. Thompson, Major Kevin M. Nash, Lt. Amy Cronin, Col. John L. Medeiros, Jr., Sgt. Daniel Healy, Marine Keith Leitner, Sgt. Spencer Lopez, PFC Taryn Kemp, Jeffrey Braunhausen, E7 Joseph Grimsey, Bill Maloney, Greg Bloete, Gian Carlo Bruzzese, Spc. Christopher Little, PFC Brittany Martindell, PO1 (E6) Matthew Fitzgerald, SA Justin C. White, Matthew & Daniel Rosica, Mark Leonard, Sr. Armn. Ashley Valetta, Sgt. John Wisnofsky, Cpl. T.J. Finn, Sgt. Kristopher Faber, Capt. Vincent Presto, Airman First Class William Kussler, Spc. Gregory Villaneuva. We ask God the Father of us all, through the intercession of St. Michael the Archangel, to protect all the men and women in our Armed Forces, to bless them in their efforts toward bringing peace and justice to our world. May they be brought back safely to those they love.

RCIA COMMUNICATIONS 2023

INVITATION TO RCIA— Have you been worshipping with us, but have never officially taken the step to become Catholic? Are you seeking a relationship with Jesus, but have not been Baptized or Confirmed or have not received First Communion? Are you married to a Catholic, but just don't know the next step to become Catholic? The Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults (RCIA) is a process by which non-Catholics learn and normally enter the Catholic Faith. RCIA is also for baptized Catholics who missed receiving Eucharist or Confirmation. Group meetings begin on Sundays starting in October in the St. Cecilia Parish Office. Interested in more info? Leave a message with your phone number and/or email address for Sister Diane at the Parish Office: 973-627-0313 ext. 14.

LOW GLUTEN – Those who cannot tolerate wheat products can receive the Holy Eucharist via a low gluten host which is approved by the National Conference of Catholic Bishops. Person(s) must make themselves identified to the priest no later than 10 minutes before Mass begins by going to the priest sacristy so that the preparation may be made for Mass.

MONTH OF THE FAITHFUL DEPARTED – November is the Month of the Faithful Departed in which we are called upon to offer Masses, prayers and fasting for the poor souls who have not yet become the Saints who reside in Heaven. All of us are reminded of our Catholic duty to pray for our departed loved ones regularly and especially during this month of All Souls. At the altar of Saint Joseph you will find a receptacle for your All Souls Mass remembrance which will be placed on the altar for the Holy Masses which will be offered throughout the month. Also, the Book of the Dead is on the Saint Joseph altar to include the names of the faithful departed. ETERNAL REST GRANT UNTO THEM O LORD-MAY THEY REST IN PEACE!

It's Safe, It's Simple & It's Convenient
Give online with WeShare

Support St. Cecilia Parish today using your debit or credit card or checking or savings account: Visit www.st-cecilia.org and click Donate Online. Select the collection or event of your choice. Set up your donation or payment. That's it! **OR SCAN HERE:**



ARE YOU REGISTERED? – Saint Cecilia's is the best parish in the Diocese of Paterson! I know that I am prejudiced but I truly believe this and I hope you do too! We welcome all people to our parish and are delighted each time new members join our faith community. My question is to all, **ARE YOU REGISTERED AS A PARISHIONER?** If you are not sure, please give the parish office a call (973.627.0313) and speak with Janet or Diane to check and to update any information regarding yourself, such as phone number and e mail address, etc. This information is most helpful for me in providing pastoral care to you and your family. Your parish registration is also necessary when you may be asked to submit a "certificate of eligibility" to serve as a godparent/sponsor. If I do not have your registration information then this can become a difficulty. The Registration form may be found on line by going to the parish website or by receiving a copy from the parish office. Your completed registration form may be mailed to the parish office or placed in the collection basket on Sunday. Register and be counted among those who love and support Saint Cecilia's! – FATHER ZIG

150TH ANNIVERSARY PLANNING – I am inviting all interested parishioners to meet with me on Thursday, November 30th to plan for the celebration of our parish's 150th anniversary in 2025. I would like to inaugurate the anniversary on the First Sunday of Advent, December 1st, 2024, one year from now. There is much to discuss and plan. I am looking for some suggestions which will unite our parish in numerous events, for all ages, throughout 2025. Please come to the meeting on **THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 30TH in HAYES HALL BEGINNING AT 7 O'CLOCK.** – Father Zig

ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION – His Excellency, Bishop Kevin Sweeney will preside at a liturgy in Saint John the Baptist Cathedral in Paterson to honor couples celebrating their marriage anniversaries this year. The ceremony begins at 3 o'clock this afternoon. Honored from our parish are: Dennis & Bernadette McCoach, Roger & Denise Montalto-Rook, and Anthony & Susan Nedo. All the above are celebrating their 50th wedding anniversary this year. **CONGRATULATIONS!**

ECUMENICAL THANKSGIVING SERVICE – The Rockaway Clergy Association will sponsor an Ecumenical Thanksgiving Service on Sunday, November 19th beginning at 7 o'clock in the evening at the Rockaway Assembly of God located at 113 East Main Street in the borough. Father Matt will be participating in this prayer service. Those attending are invited to bring a bag of groceries for the Rockaway Food Closet. An offering will also be taken to support RISE UP, an ecumenical and interfaith project in town which distributes food and clothing to the needy.

580-St. Cecilia

Monday, November 13

7:00 pm—Holy Hour (Church)

7:30 pm—Bible Study (Hayes Hall)

Tuesday, November 14

9:30 am—Bible Study (Hayes Hall)

12:00 pm—Noon Dismissal for DMA

7:00 pm—Confirmation Class 7th & 8th (DMA)

7:45 pm—Light of Christ Prayer Group (HH)

Wednesday, November 15

8:30 am—Soup Kitchen (Hayes Hall)

Thursday, November 16

12:00 pm—Noon Dismissal for DMA

7:00 pm—Saint Cecilia Presents.... (Hayes Hall)

Friday, November 17

4:30 pm—Craft Fair Set-up (Hayes Hall)

6:00 pm—Altar Server Training (Church)

Saturday, November 18

9:00 am—Craft Fair (Hayes Hall)

Sunday, November 19

9:15 am—Children's Liturgy (Hayes Hall)

10:00 am—RCIA (Church)

10:30 am—CCD Class (DMA)

SAINT CECILIA PRESENTS... - The next presentation in this series will take place on Thursday, November 16th at 7 o'clock in the evening in Hayes Hall. The speaker will be Msgr. Raymond Lopatesky who will speak on the Pontifical Swiss Guards, a subject he is very connected with. Please join us to learn about the smallest army in the world which is centuries old.

COAT DRIVE – The Men's Society will conduct a winter coat drive on Saturday and Sunday, November 11-12. Winter coats for men, women and children are needed for the poor and will be distributed through the Market Street Mission in Morristown and Father English Community Center in Paterson. Please, new coats for those in need OR gently used and clean coats ONLY. The drive is held in commemoration of the Feast of Saint Martin of Tours whose feast is November 11th. One of the stories associated with Martin is that he gave his cloak to a poor person suffering from the cold and who later revealed Himself as the Lord Jesus. Please leave your donation on the designated tables in Hayes Hall.

PARISH FINANCIAL REPORT – A financial report of our parish will be printed and appear in the Sunday bulletin on November 26th. The report is prepared by our parish finance council. I am most grateful to the council for their oversight on our parish finances and for the advice they offer me on the management of our parish. – Father Zig

Divine Mercy Academy News**Divine Mercy Academy is hiring!**

We have an open position for a part-time reading specialist. Experience in Orton-Gillingham and/or Wilson Reading System a plus. Send resume to jpatel@dmrockaway.org.

We also have opening for part-time aftercare staff. Please call the school if interested @ 973-627-6003.

Divine Mercy Academy's Grandfriends in Faith Program

We are delighted to announce the revival of our Grandfriends in Faith Program. Ms. Roberti and her fourth grade students would like to extend a warm invitation to senior parishioners to join this wonderful intergenerational program. The goal of this program is to promote love, unity, and warm fellowship between youth and senior adults. The fourth grade class and their Grandfriends will meet throughout the school year in DMA's all purpose room to form a lasting friendship, join creative forces in a craft or activity, and grow in faith. Of course the meeting is never complete without delicious treats provided by the fourth grade parents. Please note that all Grandfriends will be required to complete the Diocesan "Protecting God's Children" process prior to participation. If you are interested in joining Grandfriends in Faith, please contact Mrs. Patel at

jpatel@dmrockaway.org.

Thanksgiving Baskets– The Rockaway Food Closet is in the process of collecting and preparing the distribution of food to the needy in time for Thanksgiving. The deadline to request a Basket is Tuesday, November 14th. If you know of anyone in need, please have them call the St. Cecilia's Rectory Office at 973-627-0313 (Janet) to submit their name. DISTRIBUTION will be Saturday, November 18th from 9:00 am to 12:00 noon at the Presbyterian Church in Rockaway.

Donations of food are gratefully accepted to help supply the Thanksgiving Baskets. Your donations may be brought to the designated area in the stairwell of the church (side closest to the parish office) or left in the church vestibule before November 16th.

Donated Turkeys can only be accepted on Saturday, November 18th from 8:30 am—12:00 pm at the Rockaway Food Closet, 35 Church Street, Rockaway.

May God bless you for the generosity you show to the needy!

BEWARE OF SCAMS – Be on the alert of scams which say they are from me. **THEY ARE NOT!!!** Please call me at the office (973.627.0313x12) if you have **doubt** about a text, email, etc, which is supposedly from me asking for money, gift cards, favors, etc. **PLEASE DO NOT BE FOOLED!!!** Fr. Zig

SAVE THE DATE

Craft and Vendor Fair—St. Cecilia Church Hall
90 Church Street, Rockaway, NJ 07866
Saturday, November 18, 2023
9:00 am - 2:00 pm
For further information email:
saintceciliarosarysociety@gmail.com

SAVE THE DATE—ADVENT RETREAT

Saturday—December 2nd, 2023
Hayes Hall
Breakfast will be served
Sponsored by
The St. Monica Guild
Reservations and Questions contact
Pat Zayac @ 973-625-4572

ROSYGLO RAFFLES – The Rosyglo Foundation in memory of Sister Thomasine Smith, who used to reside at Saint Cecilia Convent, will conduct their annual raffle to benefit the Sisters of Christian Charity (our religious order of Sisters) and scholarships to Catholic Schools (of which our school has benefited). Raffles will be sold at all Masses on Saturday and Sunday, November 18 and 19. I hope you will support this important fund raiser for this most worthwhile cause! – Father Zig

KNIGHTS FUND RAISER – The Knights of Columbus, Council 514 is sponsoring a pancake breakfast on Saturday, November 18th from 8 am to 10 am at Applebee's on Route 46 in the Dover ShopRite Plaza. The donation is \$12 for adults and \$10 for children. Tickets are being sold after Mass or by calling 201.486.3882. Let's support the Knights so that they can continue the good work they do for the Church!

FISH AND CHIPS DINNER – The Men's Society will sponsor their annual fish and chips dinner on Saturday, December 9th in Hayes Hall following the 4:30 p.m. Mass. Dinners are served or can be taken out. Tickets are on Sale following Mass. Proceeds from the dinner will benefit the Saint Faustina Scholarship Fund for Divine Mercy Academy. Your support is greatly appreciated.

TUESDAY NIGHT LECTURE SERIES

Assumption College for Sisters invites you to the Tuesday Night Lectures Series, *Honoring Seasons of Life*. Schedule and topics: Sept. 26, *Season of Creation*, "How can we celebrate and advocate for God's gifts of creation?" with Sr. Patrice Owens, SSC; October 24, *Seasons of Wholeness*, "What are the Eastern Catholic Churches?" with Fr. Sigmund Peplowski; Nov. 14, *Season of Abundance, America's Indigenous Peoples*, "What can their heritage, spirituality teach us?" with Sr. Maire Pauline Demek, SCC and Sr. Carol Schuyler, SCC; Dec. 12, *Season of Emmanuel*, "Our place at the Advent/Christmas table with the Holy Family" with Mr. John Ward. Times: 7 - 8 pm, all lectures via LIVE STREAM. To register contact registrar@acs350.org indicating lectures you wish to attend and include a phone number. Free will offering. All are welcome!

Please Help Support Catholic Charities

We need gently used:

- Clothing • Bedding • Shoes • Small household items Have a clothing donation too big to fit in the box?
- Just call our Toll Free number to arrange for a free pickup at your home. 1-877-343-3651
- Throughout the year, Catholic Charities distributes much needed food through local food pantries and provides many other types of services and assistance including day care for children, day care for elderly persons, counseling, computer training, ESL utility bill assistance, flood assistance, drug/alcohol detox, drug/alcohol treatment, day and residential programs for adults with developmental disabilities and more. Money raised from these donations helps support these and other Catholic Charities programs.

**DROP BOX IS LOCATED IN PARISH PARKING LOT
BEHIND THE RECTORY**

**2023 Diocesan Ministries Appeal
"I Have Called You By Name"**

When you give to the Diocesan Ministries Appeal, you should be confident knowing that it supports four causes: 1) our Catholic Charities' programs, including helping fund the renovation of the Father English Food Pantry in Paterson, 2) seminary education, 3) Catholic 29 urban education and 4) Nazareth Village and retired priests' needs. The Diocesan Ministries Appeal also supports parishes, as 50% of all funds received over a parish's goal is returned to them directly for their own needs. Funds raised in the Diocesan Ministries Appeal stay in the Paterson Diocese and are used only for the purposes described above. Visit www.2023appeal.org to make a gift today.



My dear parishioners,

We celebrate the Lord's Day on this 32nd Sunday in Ordinary Time. We are now quickly coming to the conclusion of the 2023 Liturgical Year with the proclamation of the Sacred Scriptures which focus on the "end times" and the call to be vigilant for the Lord's Second Coming. During these remaining days of Ordinary Time we will be presented with images which are eschatological, that is, about the end of time, our own personal death and the triumphal coming of the Lord on the clouds of glory to judge the quick and the dead. This Sunday's epistle reading from the Apostle Paul's First Letter to the Thessalonians testifies to what the Church believes regarding this topic and the hope held out to those who believe.

The gift of wisdom is brought forth in both the Old Testament and Gospel readings. Wisdom, according to theological definition, "is the first and highest gift of the Holy Spirit, because it is the perfection of faith. Through wisdom, we come to value properly those things which we believe through faith." In the first reading for today wisdom is personified as a lady of grace, knowledge, prudence and charity. In short, wisdom is beautiful and desirable to those who seek her.

The Evangelist Matthew gives us this parable which the Lord had spoken regarding foolishness and wisdom in regard to the "end times." Being prepared and alert are signs of the wise and prudent servant who is awaiting the master's return so as not to be caught unawares. These are indications of the importance of the Master/Bridegroom in the life of the servant who longs to greet the Lord when He comes. The watchful servant longs to be with the Lord to feast at the eternal nuptial banquet in the halls of heaven. The fool disregards the invitation to vigilance as a result of being preoccupied or "drowsy" and as a result is excluded from entrance to "the wedding feast of the Lamb."

The theme of watchful-expectation is predominate as I indicated above. We never know when our last day upon this earth will come and we will be in eternity. Therefore, our vigilance should be shown in our efforts to live in a state of grace. Our spiritual life must be vibrant, our sacramental activity regular and our good works performed in Jesus Name constant. The graces which flow from these things ready us to meet the Lord at whatever day or hour He may call us. We will be ready at that time, with lamp burning, to enter into the eternal banquet God has prepared for all those who love Him.

Are you vigilant and ready?

GLORY TO JESUS CHRIST-GLORY FOREVER!

Father Zig

ST. ELIZABETH OF HUNGARY, Religious
November 17

St. Elizabeth was born in Hungary in 1207, the daughter of Alexander II, King of Hungary. At the age of four she was sent for her education to the court of the Landgrave of Thuringia, to whose infant son she was betrothed. As she grew in age, her piety also increased by leaps and bounds. In 1221, she married Louis of Thuringia and in spite of her position at court began to lead an austere simple life, practiced penance, and devoted herself to works of charity.

Her husband was himself much inclined to religion and highly esteemed her virtue, encouraging her in her exemplary life. They had three children when tragedy struck – Louis was killed while fighting with the Crusaders. After his death, Elizabeth left the court, made arrangements for the care of her children, and in 1228 renounced the world, becoming a tertiary of St. Francis. She built the Franciscan hospital at Marburg and devoted herself to the care of the sick until her death at the age of twenty-four in 1231. She was canonized in 1235 by Pope Gregory IX.

PRAYER *God, You taught St. Elizabeth to recognize and serve Christ in the poor. Grant, through her intercession, that we may always lovingly serve the needy and the oppressed. Amen.*



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