



THE CATHOLIC CHURCH OF SAINT MARY

112 E. Washington Street • P O Box 246
Elizabeth, IL 61028

Parish Mission Statement

The Church of St. Mary, followers of Christ, are inspired by our Catholic faith to build on our traditions through the Eucharist, prayer and education. As the family of God, and with one another, we desire to live our faith in the world.

HOLY FAMILY OF JESUS, MARY AND JOSEPH • December 27, 2020

A Prayer to the Holy Family, for One's Family

Dear Lord, bless our family. Be so kind as to give us the unity, peace, and mutual love that You found in Your own family in the little town of Nazareth. Saint Joseph, bless the head of our family. Obtain for him the strength, the wisdom, and the prudence he needs to support and direct those under his care. Mother Mary, bless the mother of our family. Help her to be pure and kind, gentle and self-sacrificing. For the more she resembles you, the better will our family be. Lord Jesus, bless the children of our family. Help them to be obedient and devoted to their parents. Make them more and more like You. Let them grow, as You did, in wisdom and age and grace before God and man. Holy Family of Nazareth, make our family and home more and more like Yours, until we are all one family, happy and at peace in our true home with You. Amen.



Church of St. Mary Parish Address:
112 E. Washington St., Elizabeth, IL

Phone: 815-858-3422

Email: stmary-elizabeth@rockforddiocese.org:

DRE/DYM & Bookkeeper:.....Norma Schwirtz 815-238-2317

Web:.....www.stmaryelizabethil.org
www.facebook.com/stmary.eliz.il.61028

Parish Office Hours:
8:30am—3:30pm (Tuesday through Thursday)

First Thursday: 8:30am-Mass, Holy Hour and Healing Service (SJ)

First Friday: 8:30am-Mass, Holy Hour & Healing Service (SM)
* Subject to change during holy days.

Confession
Wednesday afternoon 5:00-5:45pm. If you wish to come at a different time, call to make an appointment.

Marriage
If you wish to get married, please call the office and make an appointment at least six months before your wedding date.

Baptism
Please call the office to begin preparation.

Sick or Hospitalized
Please notify the office or Father.

Pregnant? There are alternatives to abortion! If pregnant and in need of assistance, call 1-800-848-love. Freeport Pregnancy Center at 815-232-5433.

Mass Intentions

Saturday, December 26, 2020

6:00 pm (Elizabeth) For the People of St. Mary

Sunday, December 27, 2020

Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph

8:30 am (Elizabeth) Susan Mardjetko birthday by
Roseann Mardjetko

Monday, December 28, 2020– No Mass

Wednesday, December 30, 2020

8:30 am (Elizabeth) † Marlene Chunes by
Tony Chunes

6:00 pm (Elizabeth) † Pat Uhl by Tony Chunes

**Thursday, December 31, Holy Day Mass, Solemnity
of Mary**

6 p.m., 2020 (Elizabeth) † Maury Berlage by Deb
Atfillisch and family

Friday, January 1, 2021 Solemnity of Mary

8:30 am (Elizabeth) For World Peace and
understanding among Nations
and people

Saturday, January 2, 2021

6:00 pm (Elizabeth) † Josephine Leden by family

Sunday, January 3, 2021

8:30 am (Elizabeth) † Lois Mastek by Roseanne
Marjedtko



Lord, look upon me with eyes of mercy. May Your healing hand rest upon me, may Your life-giving powers flow into every cell of my body and into the depths of my soul, cleansing, purifying, restoring me to wholeness and strength for service in Your Kingdom. Amen.

— Cope by Faith

Please keep these people and their families in prayer

Rick Gesiorski
Janet Hughes
Sharon Johnson
Karyl Schuman
Jennifer Sullivan
Jean Wand
Marcotte Family
Marilyn Berlage
Rev. Msgr. Tom Brady

Please call the office if you would like someone added to the prayer list

Gospel Readings for the Week Year B

December 27, 2020

**Sunday: Lk 2:22-40 or
2:22, 39-40**

Monday: Mt 2:13-18

Tuesday: Lk 2:22-35

Wednesday: Lk 2:36-40

Thursday: Jn 1:1-18

Friday: Lk 2:16-21

Saturday: Jn 1:19-28

Next Sunday: Mt 2:1-12

Holy Family

On the feast of the Holy Family, the liturgy of the Word puts before us the joys and hardship of family life. It is in the family, where the Word of God is heard.

Today's feast brings home to us the significance of the family and its importance for our growth. We so often concentrate on the more exciting and spectacular aspects of living; jobs and careers, our advancement in life and our social life, that it is easy to miss and neglect the importance of family life. It is through our growth to human maturity within the family, that we grow in the life of Christ. I think that our growth to human maturity and our growth in Christ become identical. Our growth in Christ produces its fruit in every day of life. Jesus, the Word, grew in fruitfulness, and the Word produces its fruit in us.

As we can see in the scripture, Jesus grew to maturity gradually. In his life, he experienced everything that we humans experience, with the exception of sin. And because we know how hard it is to grow spiritually and we do not become saints in one day, we must have patience to develop our spiritual maturity gradually, be patient with ourselves and others but always listen to the prompting of the Holy Spirit.

Humor for the Week

One Sunday morning, the pastor noticed little Alex standing in the foyer of the church staring up at a large plaque. It was covered with names and small American flags mounted on either side of it. The six-year old had been staring at the plaque for some time, so the pastor walked up, stood beside the little boy, and said quietly, 'Good morning Alex.

"Good morning Pastor," he replied, still focused on the plaque. "Pastor, what is this? The pastor said, "Well son, it's a memorial to all the young men and women who died in the service.' Soberly, they just stood together, staring at the large plaque. Finally, little Alex's voice, barely audible and trembling with fear asked, "Which service, the 8:30 or the 10:45?"



Liturgy

Saturday, January 2 @6:00pm
(SM)

Lector/Com.....Kathy Ondracek

Sunday, January 3 @8:30am (SM)

Lector/Com.....Cheryl Rife

Taking Names and Temperatures:

Saturday.....Toni Mika and
Trent Breed

Sunday.....Dittmar Family

Sanitize Pews after Mass:

Saturday.....Floyd & Mary Mina

St. Mary janitors do a thorough cleaning each Monday so we do not need cleaning volunteers for Sunday at this time. Thank You

Stewardship Report

Not available at publication time

Date:

Weekly Offering Collected

Amount needed to meet goal

Short



JOB AVAILABLE

The Parish of St. Mary is looking for a person who would be willing to do some jobs around the church's premises. For information, please contact the Parish Office at **1-815-858-3422**.



Knights of
Columbus



Meetings will be month to month. Look for the announcement in future bulletins.

Parish News to Share

- We are in need of mass intentions so please contact the office.
- Knights of Columbus Blood Drive Dec 29th from 12:30 – 5:00 p.m. at the Elizabeth Community Building. Appointments are strongly encouraged and please call Nicole at 563-275-0537 . Blood donations are desperately needed.



January 1, 2021
Solemnity of Mary, The Mother of God

For centuries Mary has been praised because she believed. The honoring of Mary can be traced all the way back to the Council of Ephesus that took place in 431.

On the 1st day of January, we celebrate the Solemnity of Mary, the Mother of God. This feast is a celebration of Mary's Motherhood. She is what the Greeks call **Theotokos-God bearer.**

We are reminded on this day of the role the Blessed Virgin Mary played in the plan of our salvation. Through the Holy Spirit, God the Father prepared Mary as the person through whom His Son would become one of us, human. Just as Christmas honor Christ as the "Prince of Peace," the solemnity of Mary, the Mother of God, honors her as the "Queen of peace.. This day is designed as the "World Day of Peace." Let us honor Mary on this day by honoring her Son through the celebration of the Eucharist.

Happy New Year!

In whatever
direction we go,
[God] is there
before us,
calling to us
and coming
to meet us.

—HENRI DE LUBAC

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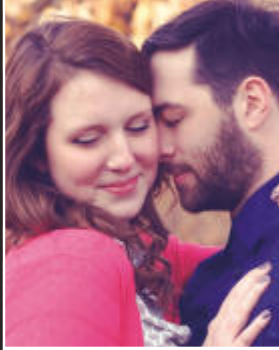
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