



# 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.*



## Mass Schedule

### Saturday, January 16, 2021

6:00 pm (Elizabeth) † Maury Berlage by  
Deb Altfillisch family

### Sunday, January 17, 2021

8:30 am (Elizabeth) For the people

### Wednesday, January 20, 2021

8:30 am (Elizabeth) † Pat Uhl by Rita Resh  
6:00 pm (Elizabeth) † 2020 Purgatorial  
Society

### Friday, January 22, 2021

8:30 am (Elizabeth) † Sean Cassidy by Mr. &  
Mrs. McDevitt

### Saturday, January 23, 2021

6:00 pm (Elizabeth) † Paul Moran by Mr. &  
Mrs. McDevitt

### Sunday, January 24, 2021

8:30 am (Elizabeth) † Clinton Reese by Karla  
Grube



## SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

John was standing with two of his disciples, and as he watched Jesus walk by, he said, "Behold, the Lamb of God." The two disciples heard what he said and followed Jesus. - Jn 1:35-37

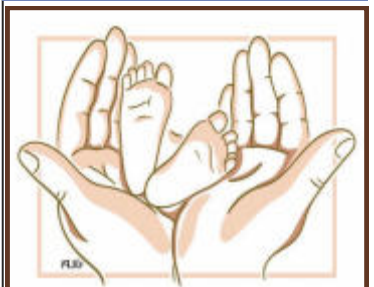
Excerpts from the Lectionary for Mass ©2001, 1998, 1970 CCD

ELP

## Gospel Readings for the week of January 17, 2021

Sunday, January 17, 2021:	Jn 1:35-42
Monday, January 18, 2021:	Mk 2:18-22
Tuesday, January 19, 2021	Mk 2:23-28
Wednesday, January 20, 2021:	Mk 3:1-6
Thursday, January 21, 2021:	Mk 3:7-12
Friday, January 22, 2021:	Mk 3:13-19
Saturday, January 23, 2021:	Mk 3:20-21
Next Sunday, January 24, 2021:	Mk 1:14-20

Friday January 22, 2021  
Day of Prayer for  
protection of all the  
unborn



## January 18-25 is the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity

**Father God,**  
**Your word says the prayer of faith shall heal the sick and broken hearted. We ask you come today to those in need and they receive your healing by faith.....unknown**



*In Our Thoughts and Prayers*

Jennifer Sullivan  
 Ed Ersfeldt  
 Rich Gesiorski  
 Frank Schwirtz  
 Jennifer Robinson  
 Mark Puls



If you have a prayer request please notify the office.

**Liturgy and Safety Protocols**  
**Saturday, Jan. 23, 2021**  
**6:00pm(SM)**  
**Lector/Com.....Noelle Reese**  
**Registration and Temperatures:**  
**Saturday.....Minas**  
**Sanitizing.....Minas**  
**Sunday, Jan. 24, 2021**  
**8:30am (SM)**  
**Lector/Com.....Jan Thraen**  
**Registration and Temperatures:**  
**Cheryl Rife and Cindy Bohnsack**  
**Sunday.....Staff**

**Friendship**

We are a very proud and generous nation.

When an earthquake shakes the foundation of our life security-we rebuild it. When a twister crumbles the houses of a community—we roll up our sleeves and everyone helps to raise new homes. When our life as a nation is changed because of an assassin's bullet—we come together and become stronger than before. When an innocent life is abruptly broken by a hit and run driver—we seek justice. When a disaster strikes the furthest corner of the globe, we rush in raising funds and sending volunteers bringing life back to normal. Now we hear and read so many fascinating stories about those in losing themselves are finding themselves in this battle with an invisible enemy: COVID 19. And the challenge: the number of infected citizens is steadily growing and so the death roll. Suddenly we are all equal: we all experience the feeling of fear.

On the reverse of the one dollar banknote it is printed: IN GOD WE TRUST. We have made this statement known throughout the entire world but now we are asking ourselves: Has God left us? Are we alone in this struggle? Where is He now, when we need Him the most?

I am reading the Book of Daniel and the story reminds me of our current situation. Some 25 centuries ago the supreme ruler of Babylon, Nebuchadnezzar defeated Jerusalem. Thousands of Jews were deported to a foreign land where they found themselves surrounded by idolaters and had to face a king-despot-Nebuchadnezzar. Among the deportees were Daniel and his friends, Hananiah, Mishael, and Azariah.

Daniel and his friends-now slaves-had their futures in doubt, but they used their qualities as an opportunity for jobs in the king's palace. They took advantage of the opportunity without allowing the opportunity to take advantage of them,. They refused to give up their convictions, applying God's will to their lives; they resisted to change their good habits they formed. They were able to communicate with God of their ancestors because they made prayer their habit, even when it meant being thrown into a den of hungry lions—Belteshazzar, which is the Babylonians name of Daniel—or thrown into a fire in the furnace—Shadrack, Meshach and Abednego (Babylonian names of Hananiah, Mishael and Azariah). These men made me think of the meaning of friendship. As much the four meant to each other as friends they never allowed their friendship to become an obstacle between them and God, their friendship did not replace God in their lives; not even in the face of death. They shared their friendship in moments of hardship and success, not hesitating to place their lives in the hands of God, unwilling to compromise their religious convictions in the face of death, surviving the blazing furnace. This is who are today, facing an invisible enemy.

Let us make friends again.

Church of St. Mary  
112 E. Washington St.  
Elizabeth, IL 61028  
Phone: 815-858-3422

Email: [stmary-elizabeth@rockforddiocese.org](mailto:stmary-elizabeth@rockforddiocese.org)  
Web: [www.stmaryelizabethil.org](http://www.stmaryelizabethil.org)

Office hours: Tuesday-Thursday 8:30-3:30

#### HEALING SERVICES AND SACRAMENTAL INFORMATION

**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

## Stewardship Report

Date: January 10, 2021

Weekly Offering :\$1701.00

Weekly expenditures:\$2600.00

Deficit: \$899.00

Christmas:\$40.00

Solemnity of Mary: \$70.00

National Appeal: \$290.00

#### Office Hours and Staff Changes

Tuesday and Thursday Norma will be in the office from 8:30-3:30 those days. Fr. Joachim will be available on Wednesdays for any information, reconciliation or any needs.

Cheryl Rife and Noelle Reese will assume Religious Education programming.



#### Knights of Columbus

Fr. Ron Conro Knights of Columbus meetings TBA. Please watch the bulletin for information.

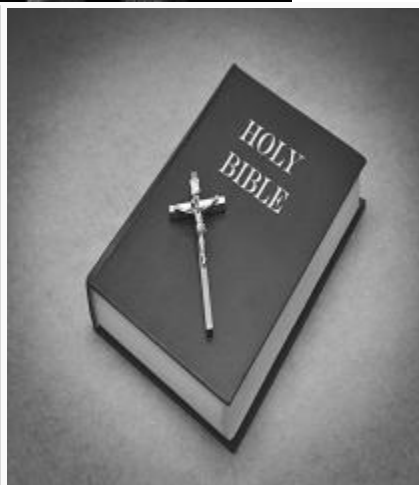
"The time is always right  
to do what is right."

Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.

WEEK OF  
PRAYER  
for  
CHRISTIAN  
UNITY

#### Word Of Life

There is such a wide spectrum of issues involving the protection of human life and the promotion of human dignity. Good people frequently disagree on which problems to address, which policies to adopt and how best to apply them. But for citizens and elected officials alike, the basic principle is simple: *We must begin with a commitment never to intentionally kill, or collude in the killing, of any innocent human life, no matter how broken, unformed, disabled or desperate that life may seem.* In other words, the choice of certain ways of acting is *always and radically incompatible* with the love of God and the dignity of the human person created in His image."  
*USCCB "Living the Gospel of Life," 1998*



Acts 17:28

For in Him we live and  
move and have our  
being

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