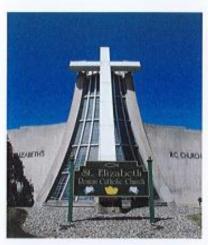
Saint Elizabeth of Hungary Roman Catholic Church

618 Fullerton Ave, Whitehall, PA 18052



Rev. Stanley M. Moczydlowski Pastor

Parish Registration

Roman Catholics living in the parish boundaries should be registered with St. Elizabeth of Hungary. Registration and regular participation at Mass are required for the administration of the Sacraments, Certificate of Eligibility, and attendance in C.Y.O. and P.R.E.P. Please register at the parish office. Registration packets are also located in the church foyer and on the church website.

Sacraments

Reconciliation (Confession) - Saturday 3:30 - 4:15 PM and by appointment.

Baptism - First Sunday of the month. Please contact the parish office early in the pregnancy to begin arrangements. Family must be registered with the parish. Preparation class for parents is held monthly.

Marriage - Engaged couples should contact the parish office at least six months in advance of their proposed wedding in order to set a date with the priest. Either the groom or bride should be a registered parishioner and practicing at St. Elizabeth of Hungary.

RCIA - Rite of Christian Initiation for Adults. Would you like to learn more about the Catholic faith or become Catholic? Please contact the parish office for information and scheduling.

Anointing of the Sick - Hospitals are visited on a regular basis. Please call the parish office to report emergencies.

Godparents & Confirmation Sponsors – You must be registered with the parish, be at least 16 years of age, have received the Sacraments of Baptism and Confirmation, must attend Mass regularly and, if married, the marriage must be recognized by the church. All requests for 'Certificate of Eligibility' are to be made well in advance to the parish office.

Mass Schedule

Sunday: 8:00 AM and 10:00 AM Weekdays: 9:00 AM (Mon, Tues, Wed, Fri)

Thursday: 7:00 PM

Saturday: 8:30 AM (1st Saturday Only)

Saturday: 4:30 PM

Holy Days: Consult Bulletin and Website

Rev. Stanley M. Moczydlowski, M.B.A., M. Div. - Pastor

Rev. Robert J. Potts - In Residence Michael Meder Permanent Deacon

Mary Spieker Director of Religious Education

Website: www.sercc.org e-Mail: info@sercc.org Office Phone: 610-266-0695

Office Hours: 9 AM - 3 PM - Monday-Thursday



Saint Elizabeth Regional School

St. Elizabeth Regional School has a strong tradition of academic excellence anchored by dedicated teachers who inspire students to use the talents and gifts God has given them. We recognize parents as the first teachers of our faith and we support them as we work together to develop happy, faithful, and active children in grades Pre-K through Grade 8.

Mrs. Kimberly Kocher – School Principal
Phone: 610-264-0143
433 Pershing Boulevard, Whitehall, PA 18052
Website: www.sercc.org/school e-Mail: school@sercc.org

Diocesan Office:

Ms. Wendy S. Krisak, M.A. N.C.C. LPC Victim Coordinator 800-791-9209 (Direct Phone Line)

Pamela J. Russo, M.S.W., M.S. - Secretary Youth Protection & CHS PO Box F - Allentown, PA 18105 610-871-5200 Ext. 2204

If you have an allegation of abuse against a bishop, please contact the Catholic Bishop Abuse Reporting Service by calling 800-276-1562.

Wills and Donations

Please consider designating Saint Elizabeth Catholic Parish in your last will and testament so that the blessings the Lord has given you can be extended to future generations.





FROM THE PASTOR'S DESK



Today, we as a Church celebrate the 3rd Sunday of Advent which is called *Gaudete* Sunday. *Gaudete* means to rejoice. It is more than just a nostalgic nicety that the church fits into its liturgical schedule, but there are real reasons to celebrate *Gaudete* Sunday now.

First, *Gaudete* Sunday affirms the value of rejoicing. Isaiah, in the 1st reading, rejoices heartily in the Lord, who is the joy of his soul. In the responsorial, we acclaim together with Mary; 'My soul rejoices in my God'. In the 2nd reading, St. Paul encourages the Thessalonians to 'rejoice always and do not quench the Spirit'. The rejoicing we experience and share with others is a good and holy thing, and we give thanks for the gift of family and friends.

Second, *Gaudete* Sunday gives us reasons for rejoicing. Isaiah rejoices as he brings glad tidings of God's vindication for his people. Mary rejoices in the fulfillment of God's promise to send a Messiah. John the Baptist cries out in the desert because the Lord is on His

way. Paul rejoices as God prepares His people for the return of the risen Lord. Through Isaiah, Mary, John, and Paul, God gives hope to His people waiting for redemption. Given this hope, they can wait with rejoicing. We are God's people today, waiting and rejoicing in what God has already accomplished and will yet accomplish through Christ. This hope God gives prepares our hearts and makes straight the way for Christ.

Finally, *Gaudete* Sunday means that Advent waiting is joyful, hopeful waiting, for Christmas and more. Our Advent rejoicing becomes Christmas rejoicing. It does not end on December 25th, but it carries us into a New Year, and new celebrations of God's redeeming work.

Through the grace of God's Word and the celebration of the Eucharist, our Lord sustains us in joyful hope, not only for Advent and Christmas, but for every season of the year as we await the coming of His Kingdom. *Gaudete!* Rejoice! God bless you, Fr. Stan

OUR PRAYER INTENTIONS*

If admitted to the hospital or ER, please call the parish if you want a priest to visit or need an Anointing.

Maureen Calder Mary Beth Kuhn Joe Samanka
Annette Susko Mckayla Pavie Craig Wilber
Terry Kichline Nick Pontician Mary Louise Gnall
Chris Schoepflin Carolyn Pontician



INTENTIONS

Albert Roma



The bells will ring this for **Howard Sweeney** requested by *Maria Sweeney*.

ADVENT



Advent is the period of preparation for the coming of the birth of Jesus at Christmas and a preparation for the second coming of Christ. The Third Sunday of Advent is called Gaudete (*Rejoice*) Sunday. The rose or pink candle which we light on the Advent Wreath is also called the Shepherd Candle which reflects the joy that comes through Jesus' arrival, and through the salvation He has gifted us.





PRAYING...as Disciples

LITURGY SACRAMENTS DEVOTIONS

Masses / Services

MONDAY	DECEMBER 18	9:00 AM	Noris Grisafi	
TUESDAY	DECEMBER 19	9:00 AM	Irene Minetola	
WEDNESDAY	Y DECEMBER 20	9:00 AM	Dorothy Folajtar	
THURSDAY	DECEMBER 21	7:00 PM	Dorothy Dorsey	
FRIDAY	DECEMBER 22	9:00 AM	Harry Hofelich, Jr.	
SATURDAY	DECEMBER 23	4:30 PM	Catharina Rieker	
			People of the Parish	
SUNDAY	D ECEMBER 24	8:00 AM	Tom Fichter	
		10:00 AM	Stefania Paciej	
		4:30 PM	Christmas Memorials	
		9:00 PM	Christmas Memorials	

TO THOSE WITH HEALTH CONCERNS



We welcome you to Mass each weekend. If you wish to receive Holy Communion and find it difficult to join the Communion line, please let the usher know and an Extraordinary Minister will bring communion to you. Low gluten hosts are available; prior to Mass go to the sacristy to let the celebrant know so the host can be prepared.

RECONCILIATION / CONFESSION

Reconciliation is available before weekend Masses. Saturday 3:30 – 4:15, Sunday 7:15 -7:45 am, 9:15 - 9:45 am and by appointment during weekdays.

EMERGENCY and need a priest? Please call 610-266-0695. After hours use ext. 310, the emergency voice mailbox.

RCIA TOPIC THIS WEEK

All are welcome to attend the Rite of Christian Initiation on Tuesdays each week at 7 pm in the large meeting room on the second floor of the Parish Office. This week's topic will be Advent Stories and family traditions.

ST. ELIZABETH REGIONAL SCHOOL REGISTRATION 2024 - 2025

Registration is open for the 2024 – 2025 school year for those currently enrolled in the 2023 – 2024 school year. The early bird registration discount is \$50. Registration will open in January for new students and registration will be \$100 at that time. Please call the school office for more information.



Parish Office will be closed.... December 25th, 26th and January 1st

Please visit us at: sercc.org

OFFICE — 610-266-0695

Rev. Stanley M. Moczydlowski x100 • pastor@sercc.org

DEACON:

Mike Meder x 202 Servantmike1@yahoo.com

IN RESIDENCE:

Rev. Robert Potts x 323

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Wendy Ohlsen info@sercc.org

BOOKKEEPER:

Wayne Nicklas x 102 bookkeeper@sercc.org

Kathy Garcia x 103 register@sercc.org

MAINTENANCE:

Tom Shak

tom.shak@hotmail.com

SCHOOL PRINCIPAL:

Kim Kocher x 401 principal@sercc.org

SCHOOL ADMINISTRATIVE ASST:

Kathi Connors x 400 school@sercc.org

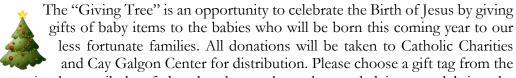
https://www.facebook.com/St-Elizabeth-Catholic-Church-119061511442084 BULLETIN INFO: e-mail all bulletin submissions ten days ahead to info@sercc.org



LIVING...as Disciples

MINISTRY COMMUNITY

ADVENT GIVING TREE



tree in the vestibule of the church, purchase the needed item, and bring the UNWRAPPED gift to church by December 17th. Many thanks and blessings for your kind donations to our brothers and sisters in need.

PARISH CALENDARS

Parish Calendars are available at the entrances in church. Please take what you need or stop by the parish office for your 2024 calendar courtesy of Gilbert Funeral Home.

DIVORCE/SEPARATION BEREAVEMENT PROGRAM



Divorce is a painful reality for many Catholics. Our Lord wants to heal the wounds of separation/divorce and now there is a class at St. Elizabeth that can help. Starting January 10, 2024, on Wednesdays from 6:30 - 8:00 pm in the parish office upstairs conference room. The program consists of eleven sessions. Contact

the facilitator, Jane Zingelman, for more information at 505-688-8663. You can also call the Parish Office to register.

OPLATKI – CHRISTMAS WAFERS

Christmas Wafers are now available at the parish rectory during office hours. Wafers are \$3 per pack which includes four wafers in each package. Oplatki is a long-standing Christmas Eve tradition. It is a beautiful way to enhance your family's spiritual Christmas experience. The Christmas Eve devotion, including prayers and history, are on the back of each envelope.



Many Thanks

At this time, we would like to thank all the volunteers who make our parish what it is. This week – **Our Receptionists**

Ann Frankl (*Monday*), Annie Kern (*Tuesday*), Mary Louise Gnall & Mary Fran Kaminski (*Wednesday*), Joan Glover (*Thursday*) and Patti Sheehan (*Friday*).

Thank you, ladies, - we appreciate you!



RITE OF CHRISTIAN INITIATION OF ADULTS



Welcome to the following catechumen and candidates who have been learning about the Catholic Faith through the RCIA process. They entered the Rite of Welcome on Sun., Dec. 10th. Our candidates look forward to continuing their journey into full communion in the

Catholic Faith. Please continue to pray for: Cheyanne Beaumont, Joseph White, Ryan & Stephanie MacKewen, Anthony Uyaguari, and Mary Martinez Polanco.

SACRAMENTS

New to the parish? — Register as a new member to receive Sacraments.

INFANT BAPTISM:

Baptisms are currently being celebrated on the first Sunday of the month. Registered parish members may contact the parish office as soon as they learn that a child is on the way but should contact the parish office at least two months prior to the Baptism to register for the Baptism Class.

FIRST PENANCE / EUCHARIST:

Normally received in 2nd grade. Parish member's enrollment in St. Elizabeth Regional School or Parish Religious Education Program (P.R.E.P) is required for two years before reception.

CONFIRMATION

Normally received in 8th grade. Parish member's enrollment in St. Elizabeth Regional School or Parish Religious Education Program (P.R.E.P) is required for at least two years before reception.

MARRIAGE:

At least six months before your anticipated wedding. Contact the pastor for a meeting to go over information regarding scheduling and the preparation process.

PASTORAL CARE OF THE SICK

Contact our parish office for the Sacrament of the Anointing of the Sick prior to surgery or during serious illness. Holy Communion is brought to the homebound monthly.

RITE OF CHRISTIAN INITIATION OF ADULTS: (R.C.I.A.)

Is Jesus inviting you to join His Church? Do you want to become Catholic? Contact the parish office to learn more about this process. We look forward to journeying in Faith with you.



ST. ELIZABETH MEMORIAL FUND ENROLLEES

June 2023 – December 2023

St. Elizabeth parish has a memorial fund for those who have passed. Mass is said in perpetuity for these enrollees each month. The names of the enrollees are placed in the Memorial Binder located in the foyer of the main church.

Margaret Beslanovits
Thomas Fichter
Magdalen A. Janny
Helen Klucsarits
Helen Konapelsky
Jan Smiertelny
James Susko



Death leaves a heartache no one can heal. Love leaves a memory no one can steal.

St. Elizabeth of Hungary

2023 Christmas Schedule

Christmas Masses

Christmas Eve

Sunday, Dec 24th, 4:30 pm and 9:00 pm

Christmas Day

Monday, Dec 25th 8:00 am and 10:00 am

New Year's Masses

New Year's Eve

Sunday, Dec 31st, 4:30 pm

New Year's Day Solemnity of Mary Monday, Jan 1st, 9:00 am







FELLOWSHIP...as Disciples

Upcoming Community Events

Part-Time Secretary

The Missionaries of the Sacred Heart is looking for a Part-Time Secretary (25 hours per week) for their new Provincial Office in Bethlehem. Call 630-892-2371 during business hours for an appointment. Computer skills are required.

December (All Cash) Bonanza Bingo!

Delicious food, good times, great people! St. John the Baptist Social Hall, 924 N. Front St. on Sunday December 17th, Regular bingo and all the specials will still be CASH prizes. \$15 for 20 Games, 6 Specials and Lucky 7!

Doors and Kitchen Open at NOON Bingo begins at 1 pm First come – first serve seating. Bring your daubers – NO HARDBOARDS Questions? Call Bill Drost 610-432-3505

Enjoy "Cookies and Milk with Santa"

Bring the family to meet the jolly elf on Sunday, December 17^{th} from 12 - 2 pm in the St. Peter's Church Hall at 4 S. 5^{th} St in Coplay.

The Cathedral Diocesan Choir Angelorum

The choir will have a Christmas Concert at St. Thomas More Church and we would love to have your parishioners join us! On Friday December 29th at 6:30 - 7:30 pm. Enjoy the Christmas season listening to the beautiful singers of Angelorum Choir!

2023 Because We Are Catholic Annual Appeal

Many thanks to those who have already contributed to the 2023 Because We are Catholic Annual Appeal. Your gifts support children and families in our own community and throughout the Diocese of Allentown. If you have not already done so, please include the Because We are Catholic Annual Appeal in your holiday gift-giving plans by making an online donation at www.BecauseWeAreCatholic.org.

As of December 1^{st,} St. Elizabeth parishioners have contributed the following to "Because We Are Catholic". To help us meet our goal please consider sending your contribution before the end of the year. Thank you.

Parish Goal: \$55,891
Total Committed: \$42,558
Total Collected: \$42,233
Number of Donors: 177
Average Gift: \$230
Registered Families: 930











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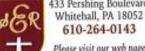
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PRAYER TO ST. MICHAEL

St. Michael the Archangel, Defend us in battle. Be our protection against the wickedness and snares of the devil. May God rebuke him, we humbly pray; and do thou, O Prince of the heavenly host, by the power of God, cast into hell Satan and all the evil spirits who prowl throughout the world seeking the ruin of souls.

Please call the Parish Office if you are admitted to the hospital at 610-266-0695.

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