



25TH Sunday in Ordinary Time

ST. ELIZABETH OF HUNGARY CHURCH



58% of St. Elizabeth parishioners have donated or made a pledge to the Capital Campaign. In an effort to promote greater parish participation, a venerable parish grandfather has offered to pledge \$25.00 for each new donation or pledge made by September 25th. Can you take advantage of this generous offer to increase our participation numbers?. Gift/Pledge cards are available in the back of the church.

RCIA (Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults) If you or someone you know would like to become Catholic or know more about the Church, or if you are an adult or are in high school and have never been confirmed, please call the parish office to indicate your interest or sign up in the back of the church.. Preparation meetings will begin soon.

FIRST COMMUNION - Classes will begin soon. If you would like to enroll your child, please sign up in the gathering space at the back of the church or call the parish office at 503-222-2168.

HOPE YOU READ the Archbishop's editorial on the New Roman Missal on page 2 of the September 2nd-15th edition of the Catholic Sentinel,

Fr. Jim

CATHOLIC CHARITIES CHRISTMAS CARD CONTEST - It's time once again to begin the contest to select the artwork to be featured on the Catholic Charities 2011 Christmas Card. Children of all parish schools and parish religious education programs are invited to participate. Flyers can be found in the back of the church outlining the contest rules. Artwork must be submitted to St. Elizabeth by September 30. Entries must be submitted by the parish. Individual entries will not be accepted.

BOOK REVIEW- *Letters from a Distant Shore*

You are invited to read a very special true story of faith and family and the miraculous power of prayer from Catholic author **Marie Lawson Fiala**. Marie will be visiting St. Elizabeth's in early Fall 2011 for a parish discussion. Date TBA.

Tragedy shattered Marie Lawson Fiala's life as a wife, mother, and lawyer when her 13-year-old son, Jeremy, was felled by a massive hemorrhage from a ruptured artery deep in his brain. Within an hour, Jeremy was in a coma, sustained only by machines. This memoir of a mother's ferocious care and fierce determination to bring her child home alive and functioning despite devastating loss will win the hearts of families who have ever suffered from physical trauma with loved ones. ***Letters from a Distant Shore*** is available for purchase on amazon.com.

LITURGY & SACRAMENTS St Anthony Catholic Church in Tigard is sponsoring a three Saturday in-depth Continuing Education Class for Adults in cooperation with the Archdiocesan Ministry Formation Office September 24, October 1 & 8, 2011. Learn about the Mass including the new Roman Missal and an overview of the seven Sacraments. Both credit and audit options are available. A brochure and registration form with additional details and contact information are posted on the bulletin board.

"STRANGERS NO LONGER IN THE HOUSEHOLD OF GOD" A conference studying culture, enculturation, multicultural and bilingual liturgies will present a "Parish Day" on October 15, 2011. Open to all, especially pastoral workers and staff, liturgical (and hospital) ministers and musicians. For more information contact the Office of Worship (503-233-8342). A flyer is posted on the bulletin board.

Unemployment is not a strictly modern phenomenon. In Jesus' day those who had no regular work went to the village marketplace every morning, hoping to find a day's labor in a landed man's fields or vineyards. It was a buyers' market. Day laborers worked for whatever they were given. The basic premise of Jesus' story, then, was as familiar to his first hearers as it is to us today.

The story's sting is in its tail. The logic of human justice requires that those who work a full day receive a full day's wage, while those who work one hour receive one hour's pay. It is not so in the kingdom of God. Those who have labored in the ways of righteousness from early morning receive their full reward. But the prostitutes and tax collectors and sinners who arrive at the eleventh hour receive no less. The laws of human justice are workable enough under ordinary circumstances, but, as the prophet Isaiah suggests, they are too narrow to contain the always astonishing love of God.

The Church is the servant of the kingdom of God, bound by the kingdom's laws. We are commanded to invite to supper not only those who have earned a place by their long fidelity but also all those who have just arrived at the gate. The good and the respectable may grumble a bit to find themselves cheek-by-jowl at the Lord's table with sinners. But the host asks, "I am free to do as I please . . . am I not? Or are you envious because I am generous."

LITURGICAL READINGS

Today: 25th Sunday in Ordinary Time Isaiah 55:6-9/ Psalm 145/
Philippians 1:20c-24,27a/ Matthew 20:1-16a

Monday: Ezra 1:1-6/ Psalm 126/ Luke 8:16-18

Tuesday: Ezra 6:7-8/ Psalm 122/ Luke 8:19-21

Wednesday: Ephesians 4:1-7,11-13/ Psalm 19/ Matthew 9:9-13

Thursday: Haggai 1:1-8/ Psalm 149/ Luke 9:7-9

Friday: Haggai 2:1-9/ Psalm 43/ Luke 9:18-22

Saturday: Zechariah 2:5-9,14-15a/ Jeremiah 31:10-13/ Luke 9:43b-45

Next Sunday: 26th Sunday in Ordinary Time Ezekiel 18:25-28/ Psalm 25/
Philippians 2:1-11/ Matthew 21:28-32

COLLECTION FOR LAST SUNDAY: \$3,845.55 Thank you.

HOSPITALITY FOR NEXT WEEKEND:

9:00 AM: Jack and Ronnie Smith 11:00 AM: Kerry, Ann and Jonathan Heisler
If you cannot fulfill your assignment, please make sure you find a substitute. Thank you.

Parables give God room. The parables of Jesus are not historical allegories telling us how God acts with mankind; neither are they moral example-stories telling us how to act before God and towards one another. They are stories which shatter the deep structure of our accepted world and thereby render clear and evident to us the relativity of story itself. They remove our defenses and make us vulnerable to God. It is only in such experiences that God can touch us, and only in such moments does the kingdom of God arrive.

(John Dominic Crossan, *The Dark Interval*, Argus Communications, 1975, pp. 121-122)

St. Elizabeth of Hungary Church

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SCHEDULE OF MASSES

Saturday Vigil Mass: 4:00 p.m.

Sunday: 9:00 a.m. and 11:00 a.m.

Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday and Friday: 8:30 a.m.

Reconciliation: Saturday at 3:00 p.m.

Baptism and Anointing of the Sick: Please call the parish office.

Marriage: Six months' notice required.

PARISH STAFF

Rev. James M. Kolb, C.S.P., Administrator

Joan Enright, Secretary - 9:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m., Monday-Friday

Interested in joining St. Elizabeth Parish? Give us a call. 503-222-2168

Family Faith Sharing Questions

Matthew 20:1-16a

Today's reading from Matthew is a parable that many of us may find very irritating. Part of this is because the parable is about generosity -- not justice. We can also say that it is about salvation and not money. Pretty confusing, huh? Well, try this -- the parable is about a person's personal relationship with God and not about comparison with others. The joy (as well as the challenge) of Jesus' parables is that their true meaning comes at us from several different directions -- that is, it's found at several different levels. This one points out that we all want to be generous and want others to be generous -- at least in theory. But this may break down when someone appears to benefit more than we do. Give a little thought to how often this happens in our daily lives.

Where do you find yourself in the parable? Do you find yourself trying to find the unfair in every relationship?

When and where have you received grace (good fortune) far beyond your expectations?