



EIGHTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME
March 2, 2014

ST. ELIZABETH OF HUNGARY CHURCH

LENT BEGINS ON ASH WEDNESDAY, MARCH 5. Mass with distribution of ashes will be celebrated at 8:30 a.m., 12:00 noon and 7:00 p.m. Ash Wednesday and Good Friday are days of fast and abstinence. All Fridays of Lent are days of abstinence

ARCHBISHOP'S CATHOLIC APPEAL – Thank you to all who have pledged or made a gift to the Archbishop's Catholic Appeal. This weekend pledge envelopes are again available as a follow-up for the parishioners who haven't yet had an opportunity to pledge. It is important for all of us to participate in order to support our universal church here in Western Oregon.

LENTEN PRAYER SERVICE/SOUP AND BREAD SUPPERS

On Tuesdays of Lent, we will gather for a simple meal of soup and bread following a 6:00 p.m. Lenten prayer service. We need volunteers to help set up, serve and clean up. Please sign the sheet at the back of the church if you can help and/or bring soup or bread.

TWO SMALL FAITH SHARING GROUPS have been formed. One will meet on Wednesday evenings, and one on Thursday evenings during Lent to learn more about the Eucharist, pray one of the upcoming Sunday Mass readings, strengthen our sense of community, and prepare to renew our baptismal promises at Easter. If you would like to participate in a group please sign the Small Faith Sharing Group sheet in the back of the church.

CHOIR PRACTICE FOR LENT/EASTER – Choir practices for Lent/Holy Week/Easter have been moved to Mondays for this season due to some scheduling issues. We will begin choir practice on Monday, March 3rd through Monday of Holy Week, April 14th. (Additional practices to be determined by need.) We will start promptly at 6:30 p.m. and finish at 8:20 p.m. Services are held on the following days/times: Holy Thursday, April 17th @ 7:00 p.m., Good Friday, April 18th @ 7:00 p.m.; Easter Vigil, April 19, time to be determined; Easter Sunday, April 20th @ 9:00 & 11:00 a.m.

(We meet one hour before each service except no practice between masses on Sunday.)

CATHOLIC CHARITIES' Annual Celebration of Hope will take place March 15th at the Oregon Convention Center. Presented by Providence Health & Services, the event is an opportunity to celebrate and support the wonderful work of Catholic Charities while meeting old friends and new. The Celebration features cocktails, dinner, and dancing to live music. All net proceeds go towards the organization's work with the poor and most vulnerable in our Archdiocese. Learn more at www.catholiccharitiesoregon.org/CelebrationofHope2014 or call us at 503.688.2628.

CRS RICE BOWL – Our parish is participating in CRS Rice Bowl, Catholic Relief Service's Lenten program, as a way to encounter Jesus through others, especially through the poor on an international scale, but also by serving our neighbors right here in Western Oregon. Twenty-five percent of Rice Bowl proceeds remain here in our community to fund local poverty and hunger alleviation programs. Rice Bowls are available in the back of the church. Be sure to take one home and use the easy and fun resources to deepen your family's Lenten experience.

MISSING PYXES – Have you perhaps borrowed a pyx to take Holy Communion to a sick relative or friend? Please return it so that others will have them available.

To understand today's gospel, we must remember the first beatitude, "How happy are the poor in spirit" (Matthew 5:3). If the kingdom is near at hand, and already mysteriously present with Jesus, then it is of prime importance to opt for God without compromise, to serve him with a single heart, and to give ourselves to him with total confidence in his plan of salvation. No one can serve two masters. No one can serve both God and money!

Any reality which exerts an insidious and brutal mastery over our lives is an idol. Money is often such an idol. Its domination threatens all people and things. The desire to possess it leads nations and families into conflict and into sacrificing the weak. Even those who give themselves wholeheartedly to the worship of a freeing God find themselves enmeshed in the demands of mammon.

Just as a woman caresses her child, God wraps us in gentle care. We are invited to submit all our anxieties to God's providence. Money is often the final barrier which hinders that trust. Yet it is still impossible to rid ourselves of money. The problem is how to use it without becoming its slave. Money is a tool with which we work to cooperate with God in competing creation. We are called to live with confidence at the edge of an insecure universe and exchange thousands of life's anxious cares for the central focus of working for the kingdom.

LITURGICAL READINGS

Today: *Eighth Sunday in Ordinary Time*, Isaiah 49:14-15/ Psalm 62/
1 Corinthians 4:1-5/ Matthew 6:24-34

Monday: 1 Peter 1:3-9/ Psalm 111/ Mark 10:17-27

Tuesday: 1 Peter 1:10-16/ Psalm 98/ Mark 10:28-31

Wednesday: *Ash Wednesday*, Joel 2:12-18/ Psalm 51/ 2 Corinthians 5:20 through 6:2/
Matthew 6:1-6, 16-18

Thursday: Deuteronomy 30:15-20/ Psalm 1/ Luke 9:22-25

Friday: *Saints Perpetua and Felicity, martyrs*, Isaiah 58:1-9a/ Psalm 51/
Matthew 9:14-15

Saturday: *Saint John of God, religious*, Isaiah 58:9b-14/ Psalm 86/ Luke 5:27-32

Next Sunday: *First Sunday of Lent*, Genesis 2:7-9; 3:1-7/ Psalm 51/ Romans 5:12-19/
Matthew 4:1-11

HOSPITALITY FOR NEXT WEEKEND:

9:00 AM: Maureen and Don Binzer 11:00 AM: Peggy and Karl Smith
Please come early. If you cannot fulfill your assignment, please make sure you find a substitute.
Thank you.

COLLECTIONS FOR LAST SUNDAY \$4,588.03 Thank you.

St. Elizabeth of Hungary Church

4112 SW 6th Avenue Drive

Portland, OR 97239

(503)222-2168 * FAX (503)274-2438 * www.stelizabethportland.net

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., Pastor

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

Jesus knows the human heart so well. He knows that in spite of all our good intentions, we fritter away so much time and energy in worry: worry about how we will provide for ourselves and our families, worry about food and clothes, worry about the future and what it might hold. Jesus reassures us. God will provide. Instead of worry and anxiety, we are to seek God's kingdom - not tomorrow, just today.