





**FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT  
DECEMBER 21, 2014**

**ST. ELIZABETH OF HUNGARY CHURCH**

 **CHRISTMAS SCHEDULE** 

Wednesday	December 24, Christmas Eve	Family Mass	4:00 PM
Wednesday	December 24, Christmas Eve	Carols	9:30 PM
Wednesday	December 24, Christmas Eve	Vigil Mass	10:00 PM
Thursday	December 25, Christmas Day	Mass	10:00 AM

Please post on your refrigerator or bulletin board!

**NEW YEAR'S/SOLEMNITY OF MARY** - On December 31, Mass will be celebrated at 4:00 PM and at Noon on January 1.

**THANK YOU!** "We can certainly call you friends because of the way you care for our retired members," writes a religious brother. Your gift to last week's collection for the **Retirement Fund for Religious** benefits some 35,000 senior sisters, brothers, and religious order priests. May God bless you for your generosity!

**A RECONCILIATION SERVICE** will be held at Our Lady of the Lake Catholic Church, 790 "A" Avenue, Lake Oswego, on Monday, December 22 at 7:00 PM.

**ALL CHILDREN ARE INVITED** to make an ornament to bring to the Christmas Eve Family Mass at 4:00 PM where they may participate in our fourteen-year tradition of hanging their ornaments on the Christmas tree at the Offertory.

**MEMORIAL POINSETTIAS** – You may remember a loved one in a special way by making a donation in their name for the purchase of a Christmas poinsettia for the altar. Forms are in the back of the church. Suggested donation is \$10.00.

*Dear St. Elizabeth of Hungary Parish,*

*Thank you for your donations to the Pregnancy Support and Adoption Services at Catholic Charities. You are helping us to assist over 300 women each year, all of whom are preparing for the arrival of their children. This becomes even more important in a world where their choice of life for their children is a miracle on its own. In taking the traveling crib this past month you were able to help them make that choice. Thank you*

*Merry Christmas and a Blessed New Year,  
Pregnancy Support Adoption Staff*

**OFFERTORY ENVELOPES ARE AVAILABLE IN THE BACK OF CHURCH.** Please check off your name on the list when you take your packet. If you did not use envelopes last year and would like to this year, please record your name on a line marked "Open" and take the corresponding packet. Thank you.



It seems to surprise Christians that God's fleshtaking in Christ should have to come to pass in such simplicity and quiet. We are still tempted to read the gospel accounts for concrete details which will reveal spectacular manifestations of divine power in the life of a homespun maiden of Israel. If the story does reveal anything of the extraordinary, it is because it lies in the tradition of other stories from Israel's history, stories which recount the birth of great heroes of the people.

Mary's "yes" is the hinge of human-divine history. The God who created all makes the fulfillment of his promise dependent upon one of the most dispossessed and powerless of his children. The fact that God so ordains the working out of his plan shows the powerlessness of our might and the relentlessness of his surprising love. As we rush about making wars or dazzling loved ones with the brightness and size of our gifts, it serves us well to pause in silence and to let our imaginations enter into the humble setting of hearth and heart where God's almighty Word waited upon the "yes" of a woman.

### LITURGICAL READINGS

- Today: Fourth Sunday of Advent. 2 Samuel 7:1-5, 8b-12, 14a, 16/ Psalm 89/  
Romans 16:25-27/ Luke 1:26-38
- Monday: 1 Samuel 1:24-28/ (Psalm) 1 Samuel 2:1, 4-7, 8a-d/ Luke 1:46-56
- Tuesday: Malachi 3:1-4, 23-24/ Psalm 25/ Luke 1:57-66
- Wednesday: Vigil of the Nativity of the Lord. Isaiah 9:1-6/ Psalm 96/ Titus 2:11-14/  
Luke 2:1-14
- Thursday: The Nativity of the Lord (Christmas). Isaiah 62:11-12/ Psalm 97/ Titus 3:4-7/  
Luke 2:15-20
- Friday: Saint Stephen, the First Martyr. Acts 6:8-10; 7:54-59/ Psalm 31/  
Matthew 10:17-22
- Saturday: Saint John, Apostle, Evangelist. 1 John 1:1-4/ Psalm 97/ John 20:2-8
- Next Sunday: The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph. Genesis 15:1-6; 21:1-3/  
Psalm 105/ Hebrews 11:8, 11-12, 17-19/ Luke 2:22-40

### HOSPITALITY FOR NEXT WEEKEND:

9:00 AM: Coleen & Jim Connolly 11:00 AM: Pat and Corky Fleck

Please come early. If you cannot fulfill your assignment, please make sure you find a substitute. Thank you.

**COLLECTION FOR LAST SUNDAY:** \$5,177.00

**RETIREMENT FOR THE RELIGIOUS:** \$1,936.80

Thank you for your generosity!



## 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.

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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

## Reflection

*"May it be done to me according to your word."  
As many times as we have heard Mary's response to the angel Gabriel, these words should never cease to amaze us. What a great risk Mary was taking in saying "yes" to all that God planned for her. Could we be as spontaneous and as free with our response to God's invitation in our lives? Mary was willing to sacrifice her entire self for God; perhaps God needs us for a few minutes to attend to someone in need, to reach out to someone with love, to care for someone with compassion. May our reply be a fervent "yes!"*