



FOURTH SUNDAY OF EASTER
April 13, 2008

ST. ELIZABETH OF HUNGARY CHURCH

TODAY IS THE 45TH ANNUAL WORLD DAY OF PRAYER FOR VOCATIONS. Please remember in your prayers all that have chosen or in discernment for vocations of single life, married life, consecrated life and ordained life. Pray that God may help them reach the fullness of their talents in the journey he has planned for them.

A JOYFUL WELCOME to the newest member of the Christian community, **Nathan Scott Scharringhausen**, who will be baptized this Saturday. We offer our prayers and best wishes to his parents, **Gordon and Shannon Scharringhausen**.

HELP THE HOMELESS - The Downtown Chapel is seeking new volunteers for its morning Hospitality Center (Mon - Fri, 9 am - Noon). Volunteers help provide basic needs like food, clothing, hygiene, and blankets, while building relationships with the poor and homeless in a safe and welcoming environment. Volunteers also participate in reflections about their daily experiences. If you want to learn more about how you can get involved, please contact Andy at the Downtown Chapel: 503-228-0746 X13 or volunteer@downtownchapel.org.

BLANKETS & CLOTHING DONATIONS NEEDED - The Downtown Chapel is currently in need of blankets & adult clothing. Although the weather is getting nicer, people in our community still need assistance with staying warm at night. All donations to the Downtown Chapel are always distributed free of charge to those people who are most in need. Please consider donating articles that you no longer need, visiting garage sales, or purchasing these items at value stores. The Downtown Chapel is located at 601 West Burnside, and a tax receipt is always available. Donations can be dropped off Monday - Friday, 10am - Noon, 1pm - 3pm. We recommend calling or emailing before bringing your donations: 503.228.0746 or info@downtownchapel.org.

SUMMER CONFERENCE 2008 - *Refresh, renew and refocus!* July 30- August 3, 2008
This year's theme . . . Building the Church. . . THE SPIRIT MOVING STILL
A retreat for all ages! Set on the beautiful campus of the University of Portland
5 days to experience your faith through study, prayer, and play for adults and children
See bulletin board or www.summerconf.org

ST. ELIZABETH GOLF SCRAMBLE - SAVE THE DATE! - The St. Elizabeth Golf Scramble will be held at 2:00 pm, June 22nd at Wildwood Golf Course. Information and registration forms are available at the back of the church. Contact Greg Kaminski with questions (h: 503 524-3837, w:977-4570; email:gm.kaminski@vewrizon.net). *Start the summer with an enjoyable round of golf and a time to get to know friends at St. Elizabeth!*

BEYOND THE RAMP - Engaging People with Disabilities in Faith Communities, an interfaith conference for clergy, people with disabilities, congregational lay leaders, families of people with disabilities, professional service providers will be held at St. Anthony Village (a fully accessible facility), 3560 SE 79th Avenue, Portland on Friday, May 2, 2008 from 8:30 AM to 4:00 PM. See bulletin board or call Interfaith Disabilities Network of Oregon @ 503-226-7079.

The image of the good shepherd has nothing to do with saccharine sentimentality. Shepherds were important figures in the Palestinian landscape. They bore total responsibility for the flocks on which their people depended. They saw to it that the sheep found adequate grazing and water in a land that could be harsh and forbidding. They kept the animals safe from wild predators and human marauders, sometimes at the cost of their own lives. If the shepherds were unfaithful, the sheep could not long survive. It is no wonder that the people of the Old Testament cast God himself in the image of the good shepherd, sustainer and protector of the flock of Israel.

The Church found the perfect fulfillment of this image in the risen Christ, who had laid down his own life to become the very source of life for his people. He nourishes his flock with the word and the bread of life. In the mixed metaphors of today's gospel, he is the gate through which they pass in the safety of the sheepfold and the shepherd who defends them from all threats of evil

In the First Letter of Peter, Christ the shepherd is called the "Guardian of your souls." The Greek word used is episkopos, more commonly translated "bishop." Although Christ is no longer visibly present to us as he was to his first hearers, he continues to nourish and to preserve his people through the Church's ministers. On Good Shepherd Sunday, then, we give thanks for the gift of all the good and faithful shepherds who lay down their lives in daily service to the Lord's flock.

LITURGICAL READINGS

Today: Acts 2:14a, 36-41/ Psalm 23/ 1 Peter 2:20b-25/ John 10:1-10

Monday: Acts 11:1-18/ Psalm 42/ John 10:11-18

Tuesday: Acts 11:19-26/ Psalm 87/ John 10:22-30

Wednesday: Acts 12:24 -- 13:5a/ Psalm 67/ John 12:44-50

Thursday: Acts 13:13-25/ Psalm 89/ John 13:16-20

Friday: Acts 13:26-33/ Psalm 2/ John 14:1-6

Saturday: Acts 13:44-52/ Psalm 98/ John 14:7-14

Next Sunday: Acts 6:1-7/ Psalm 33/ 1 Peter 2:4-9/ John 14:1-12

HOSPITALITY FOR NEXT WEEKEND:

4:00 pm: Kathy and Augie Gatto

9:00 am: May Hulme and Joan Enright 11:00 am: The Nisbet Family

If you cannot fulfill your assignment, please make sure you find a substitute. Thank you!

LAST SUNDAY'S COLLECTION: \$4,553.25 **SIMPLE SUPPER:** \$165.00 Thank you.

**WE NEED PEOPLE TO COOK DINNER FOR TRANSITIONS
PROJECTS ONCE A MONTH. PLEASE CALL JOAN. 503-222-2168**

ST. ELIZABETH OF HUNGARY PARISH

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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

Fourth Sunday of Easter

John 10:1-10

In this passage from the Book of John, Jesus talks about how a shepherd takes care of his sheep -- letting his sheep into a sheepfold through a gate, and keeping them safe there. This is what is called a metaphor. For while Jesus is talking about the relationship between sheep and shepherds, he is also talking about the relationship between himself and his disciples -- that is, between himself and US. He is like a shepherd and we are like his sheep -- when we follow him, He cares for us and keeps us safe.

In what ways is Jesus a shepherd in your life?

Who are the other "good shepherds" in your life?

How are you a "good shepherd" to other people?