

17TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

July 27, 2008

ST. ELIZABETH OF HUNGARY CHURCH

The success of casinos and state lotteries is a witness to our hope that somehow we might strike it rich without effort. The chance of a lifetime, the unhoped for occasion, is to discover in Jesus the kingdom of heaven. In order to attain that treasure we must take the risk of a speculator and sell all that we have in order to buy that which holds the promise of greater wealth. Woe to those who label as foolishness that which is profound wisdom, the ability to appreciate and search for real wealth. "Ask yourself," says Newman, "if the Kingdom would disappear, would you change anything in your life? If you see nothing that you would change, it is because you have risked nothing for Christ and the Kingdom."

A life risked for Christ and the Kingdom is the demand made by baptism. Social, professional, and even family life, are lived within parameters. Only the Christian life is an absolute. The passion for Christ must submerge all other controlling factors in our lives. For the one who wishes to follow Christ must sell all, refusing to tolerate the least measure of hypocrisy or compromise.

Selling all for Christ does not denigrate freedom. Sacrifice and detachment are the necessary consequences of attachment to Jesus in whom are all the treasure of wisdom and knowledge. More than any great cause, Jesus excites within us great joy, all the joy of the world: the joy of discovering the meaning of life, the joy of finding ourselves engaged in the adventure of holiness.

SIMPLE SUPPER COLLECTION will be taken up next Sunday for the support of our two monthly dinners on Burnside. Baskets for your free will offering are at the entrances to the church.

<u>FOOD SUNDAY</u> - Next Sunday is Food Sunday. Please bring some non-perishable food and place it in the basket in the parish hall. This food goes to **Immaculate Heart Parish Food Bank** to help feed the hungry. The basket is left out at all times so that you can bring food any time it is convenient. **Immaculate Heart Food Bank** has expressed a special need for the following items: pasta, tomato sauce (perhaps spaghetti sauce, too?), crackers, soap, and toilet tissue. As always they appreciate items such as canned fruits and veggies, tuna, peanut butter, etc.

CONFIRMATION - If you are in High School and have never been confirmed, please call the parish office. We are planning classes for fall.

RCIA (Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults) - If you or someone you know would like to become Catholic or know more about the Church, please call the parish office.

HELPING OUR PARISH FAMILY - If you are able to help a St. Elizabeth parishioner from time to time with a ride to a church or a doctor's office, to shop for someone homebound, to run an errand or just visit with someone who would like a little company, please call the parish office. Any help would be very much appreciated.



48th ANNUAL FAMILY BARBECUE, August 3, 2008 from 12 pm until 6 pm at Our Lady of Peace Retreat Center, 3600 SW 170th Avenue, Beaverton, OR 97006-5009, to support the ministry and retreat center facilities of the Franciscan Missionary Sisters of Our Lady of Sorrows. For more information and menus, contact the Retreat Center at 503-649-7127 or e-mail sisters@olpretreat.org. Admission is free, featuring food, entertainment, music, sweepstakes tickets, door prizes and children's games.

2008 ARCHBISHOP'S GOLF INVITATIONAL - The 2008 Archbishop's Golf Invitational is scheduled for Monday, September 15, 2008, at the Reserve Vineyards and Golf Club in Aloha, Oregon. Golfers from around the Archdiocese are invited to put together one or more foursomes to represent their parish and/or Catholic school. A \$600 entry fee entitles four golfers to tee prizes, lunch, practice balls, 18 holes of golf with a cart, and the awards dinner. Prizes are plentiful in this scramble format event, which raised much-needed funds for our archdiocesan Seminarians. Last year all team spots were sold out well in advance of the tournament, so to avoid disappointment and secure your spot, apply early for 2008.

For more information visit www.archdpdx.org, or call Doug Tollefson at the Archdiocese of Portland at 503-233-8336, or email him at dtollefson@archdpdx.org.

LITURGICAL READINGS

Today: 1 Kings 3:5,7-12/Psalm 119/ Romans 8:28-30/ Matthew 13:44-52

Monday: Jeremiah 13:1-11/Deuteronomy 32:18-21/ Matthew 13:31-35

Tuesday: Jeremiah 14:17-22/Psalm 79/John 11:19-27

Wednesday: Jeremiah 15:10, 16-21/Psalm 59/Matthew 13:44-46

Thursday: Jeremiah 18:1-6/Psalm 146/Matthew 13:47-53

Friday: Jeremiah 26:1-9/Psalm69/Matthew 13:54-58

Saturday: Jeremiah 26:11-16, 24/Psalm 69/Matthew 14:1-12

Sunday: Isaiah 55:1-3/Psalm 145/Romans 8:35,37-39/Matthew 14:13-21



HOSPITALITY FOR NEXT WEEKEND:

9:00 am: Vince Deguc 11:00 am: Denise and Doug White

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

LAST SUNDAY'S COLLECTION: \$3,279.80 Thank you.



ST. ELIZABETH OF HUNGARY PARISH

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., 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

Matthew 13: 44-52

We continue to hear parables in today's Gospel passage. Jesus compares the Kingdom of Heaven to a "treasure buried in a field" and to a "pearl of great price." Those who find them, like those who find faith in Jesus, are overjoyed and go to great efforts to hang onto what they have found. In all of Jesus' parables we find lessons about how to live our lives as good disciples. We learn to hold onto the promise of eternal life as we would a treasure we find buried in a field, and to protect our faith as we would a pearl of great price.

What is the most import thing in your life? How do you keep it safe? Are you 'overjoyed' by this treasure or do you take it for granted? Say a silent "thank you" for the things you most value in your life.

