



Go to work!

THE ASCENSION OF THE LORD

May 4, 2008

ST. ELIZABETH OF HUNGARY CHURCH

FIRST COMMUNION - At the 11:00 a.m. Mass today eleven children will receive the Holy Eucharist for the first time. Congratulations and blessings to Ben Blessington, Riley Elske, Isabel Garcia, Natalia Garcia, Max Glynn, Norah Glynn, Olivia Glynn, Peach Milton, William Nisbet, Mathias Schwab, Pascale Schwab, Maria Laura Valerin and their parents. Please keep them in your prayers.



73RD ANNUAL SEMINARY TEA, May 14, 2008, 2-5 PM at the beautiful Dunthorpe home of Dr. and Mrs. Brian Shaffer. Complimentary valet shuttle service and free parking at Lewis & Clark College residence hall parking lot. Meet Archbishop John Vlazny and Bishop Kenneth Steiner. Tickets \$20 available at the door or mail check made out to Seminary Tea to Susan Welch, 18010 Skyland Circle, Lake Oswego 97034. Tea benefits the education of Portland Seminarians. Please make donation checks payable to the Archdiocese of Portland and designate for the Education of Seminarians studying for our Archdiocese.

MOTHER'S DAY FLOWER SALE - The Mother and Child Education Center (formerly Birthright) needs volunteers to sell flowers here at St. Elizabeth's at the 4:00 pm and the 11:00 am masses next weekend. If you would like to help, please call the parish office at 503-222-2168. Thank you.



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!*

CATHOLIC HOME MISSIONS - Next Sunday, our parish will be taking up a collection for the Catholic Home Missions Appeal. This Appeal supports missions here in the United States. The CHMA offers Catholics across our country a wonderful opportunity to help fellow Catholics practice their faith in such rugged areas as Alaska, Appalachia, the Deep South, the Rocky Mountain States, the Southwest, Puerto Rico, and island dioceses in the Pacific and Caribbean. The appeal also provides funding for the Archdiocese for the Military Services. Chaplains offer Mass, the sacraments, and other ministry to military men, and their families at 220 bases.

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

WE ARE STILL IN NEED OF PEOPLE TO HELP WITH TRANSITIONS PROJECTS ONCE A MONTH. PLEASE CALL JOAN AT 503-222-2168. THANK YOU!

THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT OF THE 2008 ANNUAL CATHOLIC APPEAL. To date St. Elizabeth Parish has pledged \$36,370.00 to the 2008 ACA. If you have not yet had an opportunity to make a donation or pledge you may still do so. Envelopes are available in the back of the church.

The Ascension is one facet of the rich Easter mystery. The reading from Acts relates the event of Jesus leaving his apostles. As a natural or supernatural phenomenon, it certainly merits considerable fascination. Yet the New Testament leaves us without details. We too can gaze up into the heavens and wonder about the Ascension, but this day is not really about a departure.

It is a day that unfolds the promise that Jesus will return. It reminds us that Jesus is with us always. Indeed Christ is the vibrant head of the Church which is his body. We do not observe a departure. We celebrate a presence.

Thus this day in the fifty-day sweep of Easter is a peculiarly opportune time for relishing our hope and status. We can discover Christ's presence at every turn, renew our flagging spirits with tastes of the kingdom. It simply takes eyes of faith, our innermost vision that sees the great hope, glorious heritage, and immeasurable scope of Christ's power.

We should approach this day with open hearts. We do not gather at Eucharist to have the Ascension explained or to memorize exegetical points. We come to be inspired, to offer praise, proclaim the risen One who never leaves us.

LITURGICAL READINGS

Today: The Ascension of the Lord Acts 1:1-11/ Psalm 47/ Ephesians 1:17-23/
Matthew 28:16-20

Monday: Acts 19:1-8/ Psalm 68/ John 16:29-33

Tuesday: Acts 20:17-27/ Psalm 68/ John 17:1-11a

Wednesday: Acts 20:28-38/ Psalm 68/ John 17:11b-19

Thursday: Acts 22:30 and 23:6-11/ Psalm 16/ John 17:20-26

Friday: Acts 25:13b-21/ Psalm 103/ John 21:15-19

Saturday: Acts 28: 16-20, 30-31/ Psalm 11/ John 21:20-25

Next Sunday: Pentecost Acts 2:1-11/ Psalm 104/ 1 Corinthians 12:3b-7, 12-13/ John 20:19-23

HOSPITALITY FOR NEXT WEEKEND:

9:00 am: Colleen and Werner Nistler 11:00 am: Julie and Lee Steiner

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

LAST SUNDAY'S COLLECTION: \$2,912.15 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

Ascension of the Lord

Acts 1-11

The reading from Acts tells us that, before Jesus ascended, the apostles asked him about the restoration of the Kingdom of Israel. We know from prophetic and apocalyptic Jewish writings that many Jews in Jesus' day believed that a royal messiah of King David's line would rise to restore their kingdom. The apostles' question about Israel's political fortune makes sense in this context. Almost like parents querying a recently graduated son or daughter, the disciples want to know (now that forty days have passed) when Jesus plans to get to work meeting their expectations. And how does Jesus respond? By telling the apostles that *they* will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes upon them; and then ascending before their eyes.

The Ascension is a vivid story demonstrating a truth we learn over and over again: God is not subject to human expectations. If we imagine God will act as we expect, perhaps we will find that we, like the apostles, are the actors God has in mind.