



"He shall stand firm and shepherd his flock."

**DECEMBER 20, 2009**

**FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT**

**ST. ELIZABETH OF HUNGARY CHURCH**



## CHRISTMAS MASS SCHEDULE



Thursday	December 24, Christmas Eve
Thursday	December 24, Christmas Eve
Thursday	December 24, Christmas Eve
Friday	December 25, Christmas Day

Family Mass	4:00 PM
Carols	9:30 PM
Vigil Mass	10:00 PM
Mass	10:00 AM

**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. The names of those memorialized will be published. Forms are in the back of the church. Suggested donation is \$10.00.



**PARISH PHOTO DIRECTORY.** Please get your pictures in as soon as possible for the parish directory. Photos are taken after any mass. For questions or comments call or email Mark Myers at ([mark@StElizabethPortland.net](mailto:mark@StElizabethPortland.net), or 503-244-3555).

**ST. ELIZABETH CHOIR** - The final rehearsal for Christmas Eve and Christmas Day will be held from 7:00 PM to 8:25 PM on Tuesday, December 22.

**OFFERTORY ENVELOPES** are available in the back of the church. Please check off your name on the list when you take your packet. If you would like to begin using envelopes, please record your name on a blank line and take the corresponding packet.

**THANK YOU TO THE WARE FAMILIES** for once again providing and hanging the Advent wreath in honor of their mother, Jean, who decorated the church for many years.

**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 nine-year old tradition of hanging their ornaments on our Christmas tree at the Offertory.



**RECONCILIATION SERVICE** - Dec. 22 at 7:00 PM at Our Lady of the Lake, 8th and "A" Ave., Lake Oswego.

Here is an event which is touching but ordinary: two pregnant women meet. Yet the children born by these two women will play an extraordinary part in the unfolding of God's plan. In Mary's visitation to Elizabeth, life hastens to meet human hope. Mary's son, the one "whose origin is from of old, from ancient times," incarnates in humanity invisible divinity. Elizabeth's child will bring Israel's waiting to its highest intensity.

"Blessed is she who trusted that the Lord's words to her would be fulfilled!" In Elizabeth's cry, we catch an allusion to the annunciation through which Mary, overshadowed by the Spirit, became the Mother of God. The visitation completes and confirms the angel's message. It bears witness to the dynamism of the Spirit who progressively permeates the protagonists of the infancy narrative. Mary undertakes with fervor the first apostolic journey in order to share her joy with her cousin. Elizabeth humbles herself before her visitor and blesses her among all women. John already leaps for joy, thus inaugurating his role as precursor. These many humble signs reveal that, from conception of Jesus, the river of life flows out to water the whole earth.

The same gospel event is relived whenever Christians proclaim to each other in simplicity of heart God's presence in their lives, and whenever they celebrate in thanksgiving the wonders that the Lord has done for them.

### LITURGICAL READINGS

Today: Fourth Sunday of Advent Micah 5:1-4a/ Psalm 80/ Hebrews 10:5-10/  
Luke 1:39-45

Monday: Zephaniah 3:14-18a/ Psalm 33/ Luke 1:39-45

Tuesday: 1 Samuel 1:24-28/ 1 Samuel 2:1, 4-8/ Luke 1:46-56

Wednesday: Malachi 3:1-4, 23-24/ Psalm 25/ Luke 1:57-66

Thursday: Vigil of Christmas Isaiah 9:1-6/ Psalm 96/ Titus 2:11-14/ Luke 2:1-14

Friday: The Nativity of the Lord Isaiah 62:11-12/ Psalm 89/ Titus 3:4-7/ Luke 2:15-20

Saturday: Stephen, 1st Martyr Acts 6:8-10; 7:54-59/ Psalm 31/ Matthew 10:17-22

Next Sunday: The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary, and Joseph 1 Samuel 1:20-22, 24-28  
Psalm 84/ 1 John 3:1-2, 21-24/ Luke 2:41-52

**COLLECTION FOR LAST SUNDAY:** \$3,692.00

**RETIREMENT FOR THE RELIGIOUS:** \$3,207.00

**SIMPLE SUPPER:** \$50.00 Thank you.

### **HOSPITALITY FOR NEXT WEEKEND:**

9:00 AM: Maureen and Don Binzer

11:00 AM: Pat and Corky Fleck

If you cannot fulfill your assignment, please make sure you find a substitute. 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](http://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

### **FAMILY FAITH SHARING QUESTIONS**

#### **Luke 1:39-45**

Mary went to the hill country of Judah to see her cousin, Elizabeth, who was going to have a baby. When Mary greeted Elizabeth, the baby in her womb began to move and Elizabeth was filled with the Holy Spirit. She said to Mary,

*"God has blessed you more than all other women  
and has blessed the baby in your womb.*

*The Lord has blessed you because you believed in His promise."*

We honor Mary because she became the Mother of Jesus by saying "yes" to God. Mary's faith and trust in God is what makes her special.

*How can we say "yes" to God, as Mary did, and bring Jesus to the world?*