



We thank you, God for all your gifts,
even for ashes, still witnesses of life that was.
Yours is the Spirit that puts flesh on dry bones
and animates what is without you lifeless.
As we begin the Lenten journey,
let us be as Jesus' death on the cross,
let us be as these ashes from which only you can bring life.
Let this season be an experience of big and little deaths for us,
deaths that usher in your kingdom and your reign,
deaths that open heaven and that make this world your sovereign
place.
Bless the ashes left by our wars, our violence and our oppression,
by our hates and sins and crimes and neglects,
by our racism, our waste, our pollution, our terrible inequities.
Bless them with a grace that stirs new life,
and let your Spirit blow into them a fire that warms the world.
Let life come to us through these ashes,
as life floods the world through the cross of Jesus Christ.
Through him, with him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
all glory and honor are yours, almighty God, forever and ever.
Amen.

From Ashes to Easter
Liturgical Conference, Inc. 1974

SIXTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME
February 15, 2015

ST. ELIZABETH OF HUNGARY CHURCH

LENT BEGINS ON ASH WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 18. Mass with distribution of ashes will be celebrated at 8:30 AM, 12:00 NOON and 7:00 PM. Ash Wednesday and Good Friday are days of fast and abstinence. All Fridays of Lent are days of abstinence.

ARCHBISHOP'S CATHOLIC APPEAL – Thank you to all who have pledged or made a gift to the Archbishop's Catholic Appeal. This weekend pledge envelopes are again available as a follow-up for parishioners who haven't had an opportunity to pledge. It is important for all of us to participate in order to support our universal Church here in Western Oregon.

HUNGERING FOR THE JOURNEY – Every year, parishioners in our Archdiocese contribute generously to CRS Rice Bowl. This generosity not only serves the poor on an international scale, but also serves our neighbors right here in Western Oregon. Seventy-five percent of CRS Rice Bowl proceeds help fund development projects designed to increase food security in communities in over 40 countries. Twenty-five percent of CRS Rice bowl proceeds remain here in our community to fund local poverty and hunger alleviation programs.

SMALL GROUP FAITH-SHARING – Three Small Groups have been formed:

- Tuesdays at 4:30 PM before Soup and Bread Supper
Location: The "Little House" at St. Elizabeth's
- Wednesdays at 2:00 PM
Location: The home of Joe and Marsha Belusko, 3328 SW Barbur Blvd. #1
- Thursdays at 7:00 PM
Location: The home of Joyce Erland, 4932 SW Fairvale Court, Portland

LENTEN PRAYER SERVICE/SOUP AND BREAD SUPPERS – On Tuesdays of Lent, beginning February 24 through March 24, we will gather for a simple meal of soup and bread following a 6:00 pm Lenten prayer service. We need a **Coordinator** for the suppers and **volunteers** to help set up, serve and clean up. **Please sign up if you can help and/or if you will bring soup or bread.**

CHOIR PRACTICE Everyone note that choir practice will be held on Wednesdays, beginning this **WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 11TH**. with the exception that **two practices will be held on Tuesdays, February 17th and March 31st**, due to Ash Wednesday and Holy week. Prayer Service/Soup Supper will be held Tuesdays, February 24 through March 24.

THE CALL: TO KNOW, LOVE AND SERVE – Nichlas and Joelle Schaal, along with Resurrection Catholic Parish Music Ministry will be hosting a free concert based on the music of their new CD, ***The Call: to know, Love, and Serve***. It will be a wonderful evening of music and prayer, with a special focus on the season of Lent. The concert will be held at Resurrection Catholic Parish, 21060 SW Stafford Rd., Tualatin, OR 97062 on March 7, at 7:00 pm. Contact Nichlas or Joelle Schaal for more information at schaalmusic@gmail.com or visit www.schaalmusic.com.

In Jesus' day, leprosy meant not only incurable physical disintegration, but also social and cultural death. It was the supreme "plague" which God inflicted on sinners. It is under the image of a leper that Isaiah depicts the sinful people. It is under this same image that he describes a mysterious Servant who expiates Israel's sin.

In this context, Jesus' face-to-face meeting with the leper takes on its full meaning. We see the unclean before the Holy One, the outcast before the Servant who will be cast out, the leper who is impure before the pure one who will be disfigured like a leper. It is the sinful world that the Savior touches and purifies. The Messiah has arrived. In him, the banished of society, the living dead are restored.

In different degrees, under different forms, leprosy still creates barriers between people. Today's lepers are the very ill forgotten in hospitals, the marginal poor shut up in unhealthy tenements, the addicts shunned by high-minded societies. Before all these lepers, we ourselves must take part in the simple story of the encounter between Jesus and the leper. For we too must recognize that we are all lepers. We must disclose the sins that we keep hidden. We must cry out in acknowledgment of our moral frailty. Thus we regain life and take our places in the community of the redeemed. Once touched and healed, we can in turn proclaim the Word. Rejoicing in health regained, we can welcome the outcast and the rejected, acknowledged in their human dignity.

LITURGICAL READINGS

Today:	<i>Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time.</i> Leviticus 13:1-2, 44-46/ Psalm 32/ 1 Corinthians 10:31 through 11:1/ Mark 1:40-45
Monday :	Genesis 4:1-15, 25/ Psalm 50/ Mark 8:11-13
Tuesday	Genesis 6:5-8; 7:1-5, 10/ Psalm 29 /Mark 8:14-21
Wednesday:	<i>Ash Wednesday.</i> Joel 2:12-18/ Psalm 51/ 2 Corinthians 5:20 through 6:2/ Matthew 6:1-6, 16-18
Thursday:	Deuteronomy 30:15-20/ Psalm 1/ Luke 9:22-25
Friday:	Isaiah 58:1-9a/ Psalm 51/ Matthew 9:14-15
Saturday:	<i>Saint Peter Damian, Bishop, Doctor of the Church.</i> Isaiah 58:9b-14/ Psalm 86/ Luke 5:27-32
Next Sunday:	<i>First Sunday of Lent.</i> Genesis 9:8-15/ Psalm 25/ 1 Peter 3:18-22/ Mark 1:12-15

HOSPITALITY FOR NEXT WEEKEND:

9:00 am: Barbara Kitzberger and Kay Fagan

11:00 AM: Tom and Traci Galbraith

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

COLLECTION FOR LAST SUNDAY: \$5,646.00 Thank you.

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.

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

Although the leper, who is restored to health and wholeness, disobeys the Lord and broadcasts the news of his healing, there is something necessary in his telling. It is likely that another healing takes place in the hearts of those who receive this man back into their midst. Jesus's ministry of healing is directed not only at those afflicted with illness or a demon but at those who have placed the troubled ones at the fringe of society. They are in need of a restored and renewed vision. Could the same be said of us? Do our hearts need a bit of healing as well to welcome those we keep at a safe distance from ourselves?