



TWENTY-SIXTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

September 25, 2016

ST. ELIZABETH CATHOLIC CHURCH



AND THAT'S WHY A "PLAN B" IS SO IMPORTANT - Well, it might not have been the best picnic, but it was a grand party! Thanks to everyone who worked so hard to make the picnic potluck of 2016 such a success. Special thanks to our coordinators Cecily Harkins and Patty Frahler, all the folks who worked so hard on set-up, tear-down, shopping, setting out the food and cleaning up. As always, thanks to all the talented cooks in this parish. The food was delicious and bountiful. Remember to pick up your dishes and utensils!

Next Sunday is FOOD SUNDAY-Baskets will be out for Simple Supper Donations and the Food Bank at Immaculate Heart Parish.

The October Edition of THE WORD AMONG US is available in the back of the Church. We have limited copies, so please take only what you will use.

EMERGENCY TRAINING IN CPR & AED - Our own Kevin Shanders, EMS Battalion Chief for Portland Fire & Rescue, will offer training sessions in CPR and Automatic Electric Defibrillation in groups of 10 here at the church. Training sessions take approximately 1.5-2 hours. Interested? A sign-up sheet is in the back. Please indicate what days work best for your schedule. You will be contacted.

RCIA, FIRST COMMUNION AND RECONCILIATION CLASSES - Sign-up sheets are in the back.

HOSPITALITY AT ST E's Could Use A BOOST! We'd welcome more volunteers to host Saturday Wine & Cheese AND Sunday Coffee & Donuts. If we can get more families to sign up, coffee and donuts hosting will be only twice /year. Wine & Cheese is always just once a year. We can pair you with another person/couple if you'd rather not do it alone. Back-up substitutes are also needed! Sign up in the back or contact Elizabeth in the church office if you can help us out. [office@stelizabethportland.net](mailto:office@stelizabethportland.net) or 503-222-2168.

HOSPITALITY FOR NEXT WEEKEND - October 2nd:

9:00 AM: Skip & Nita King 11:00 AM: Ginny & Bob Caudill

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

Collection for last Sunday \$4,646.00. Thank you!

Parables demand careful reading. There is little detailed description about the characters in today's gospel. It is never said that the rich man is wicked. We are never told that Lazarus badgers him for help which he actively refuses. Between them, however, lies an abyss that cannot be bridged. It is the abyss of unawareness and self-sufficiency. The anesthetized conscience of the rich man is no longer touched by the reproach of poverty.

Thus we can understand Jesus' warning: "How hard it will be for the rich to get into the kingdom of God. Indeed, it is easier for a camel to go through a needle's eye than for a rich man to enter the kingdom of heaven" (Luke 18:25). Sometimes we read on the door of elegant buildings: "No Soliciting." What if that prohibition were to be found reversed at the threshold of the kingdom: "The rich need not apply." That is the picture Luke seems to paint.

Is there no redemption then for the rich? At the door of the kingdom there are no rich and no poor. Both are saved by the word of God. That word reveals to men and women their radical interdependence. The self-sufficiency of the rich can blind them to the Lazarus at their gates. The affluence of our society can close our eyes to the cries of the third world. In neglecting their needs, we exclude ourselves from the table of the kingdom.

## LITURGICAL READINGS

- Today: *Twenty-Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time.* Amos 6:1a, 4-7/ Psalm 146/  
1 Timothy 6:11-16/ Luke 16:19-31.
- Monday: Job 1:6-22/ Psalm 17/ Luke 9:46-50.
- Tuesday: *Saint Vincent de Paul, Priest.* Job 3:1-3, 11-17, 20-23/ Psalm 88/  
Luke 9:51-56.
- Wednesday: Job 3:1-3/ Psalm 88/ Luke 9:57-62.
- Thursday: *Saints Michael, Gabriel & Raphael, Archangels.* Daniel 7:9-10, 13-14/  
Psalm 138/ John 1:47-51.
- Friday: Job 38:1, 12-21, 40:3-5/ Psalm 139/ Luke 10:13-16.
- Saturday: Job 42:1-3, 5-6, 12-17/ Psalm 119/ Luke 10:17-24.
- Next Sunday: *Twenty-Seventh Sunday in Ordinary Time.* Hebrews 1:2-3; 2:2-4/ Psalm 95/  
2 Timothy 1:6-8, 13-14/ Luke 17:5-10.

# St. Elizabeth of Hungary Catholic Church

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## PARISH STAFF

Rev. James Martin Kolb, C.S.P., Pastor

Elizabeth Duncan, Parish Assistant - 9:30 a.m. - 5:30 p.m., Monday-Friday

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When the Stranger says: "What is the meaning of this city?  
Do you huddle close together because you love each other?"  
What will you answer? "We all dwell together  
To make money from each other"? or "This is a community"?  
And the Stranger will depart and return to the desert.  
Oh my soul, be prepared for the coming of the Stranger.  
Be prepared for him who knows how to ask questions.

O weariness of men who turn from God  
To the grandeur of your mind and the glory of your action,  
To arts and inventions and daring enterprises.  
To schemes of human greatness thoroughly discredited.  
Binding the earth and the water to your service,  
Exploiting the seas and developing the mountains,  
Dividing the stars into common and preferred.  
Engaged in devising the perfect refrigerator,  
Engaged in working out a rational morality,  
Engaged in printing as many books as possible,  
Plotting of happiness and flinging empty bottles,  
Turning from your vacancy to fevered enthusiasm  
For nation or race or what you call humanity;  
Though you forget the way to the Temple,  
There is one who remembers the way to your door:  
Life you may evade, but Death you shall not.  
You shall not deny the Stranger.

(T.S. Eliot, "Choruses from 'The Rock'", *Collected Poems* 1909-1962,  
Harcourt, Brace Jovanovich, 1964, p.117)

