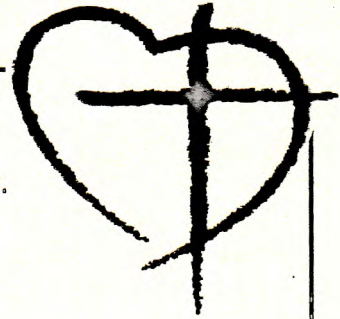


We thank you , God for all your gifts,
even for ashes, still witnesses of life that was.
Yours is the Spirit that puts flesh on dry bones
and animates what is without you lifeless.
As we begin the Lenten journey,
let us be as Jesus' death on the cross,
let us be as these ashes from which only you can 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



**EIGHTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME
FEBRUARY 26, 2017**

ST. ELIZABETH OF HUNGARY CATHOLIC CHURCH

ASH WEDNESDAY – March 1, 2017

Mass with distribution of ashes will be celebrated at
8:30 AM -- NOON -- 7:00 PM.

Ash Wednesday marks the beginning of Lent, when we fast in various ways, find ways to share our blessings with others and endeavor to grow more deeply in the Christian life. Ash Wednesday and Good Friday are days of fasting and abstinence. All Fridays during Lent are days of abstinence.

NEXT WEEKEND IS FOOD SUNDAY! Our baskets will be out for Simple Supper and the food pantry at Immaculate Heart Parish.

ST. ALEXANDER UPDATE: Pictures of the construction progress at St. Alexander are on the bulletin board in the gathering area. Take a look! The new church construction is impressive and the structure is beautiful!

SMALL GROUP FAITH SHARING: This Lent our small groups will reflect and meditate on the Joy of the Gospel by Pope Francis. Groups are now forming; we hope to start groups this week and next. Sign-up sheets are in the gathering area. Share and grow in your faith this Lent – This is not a catechism class!

LENTEN PRAYER SERVICE /SOUP AND BREAD SUPPERS: On Tuesdays during Lent, beginning Tuesday, March 7 through April 4, we will gather for a 6:00 PM Lenten Prayer Service followed by a simple meal of soup and bread. This is a wonderful tradition at St. Elizabeth's, and we hope that everyone can enjoy at least one of our Tuesday night gatherings during Lent. Mark your calendars! Sign-up sheets are out!

CATHOLIC RELIEF SERVICES RICE BOWL: We're participating in Rice Bowl again this year as a way to encounter Jesus through helping others, especially the poor. Rice Bowls are available in the back of the church.

LENTEN PRAYER AND DEVOTIONAL MATERIALS are available in the back of the church. Please take any that you will use and enjoy. (More are on the way.)

ATTENTION PARENTS: If you'd like age appropriate, meaningful Lent materials to help your children understand and grow in their faith this Lenten Season, consider these resources: Liturgy Training Publications (LTP.org) and Creative Communications (catholic.creativecommunications.com).

Last Weekend's Collection: \$4,828.00. Thank You!

To understand today's Gospel, we must remember the first beatitude, "How happy are the poor in spirit" (Matt 5:3). If the kingdom is near to hand, and already mysteriously present with Jesus, then it is of prime importance to opt for God without compromise, to serve him with a single heart, and to give ourselves to him with total confidence in his plan of salvation. No one can serve two masters. No one can serve both God and money!

Any reality which exerts an insidious and brutal mastery over our lives is an idol. Money is often such an idol. Its domination threatens all people and things. The desire to possess it leads nations and families into conflict and into sacrificing the weak. Even those who give themselves wholeheartedly to the worship of a freeing God find themselves enmeshed in the demands of mammon.

Just as a woman caresses her child, God wraps us in gentle care. We are invited to submit all our anxieties to God's providence. Money is often the final barrier that hinders that trust. Yet it is still impossible to rid ourselves of money. The problem is how to use it without becoming its slave. Money is a tool with which we work to cooperate with God in completing creation. We are called to live with confidence at the edge of an insecure universe and exchange thousands of life's anxious cares for the central focus of working for the kingdom.

LITURGICAL READINGS

Today:	<u>Eighth Sunday in Ordinary Time.</u> Isaiah 49:14-15/ Psalm 62/ 1 Corinthians 4:1-5/ Matthew 6:24-34.
Monday:	Sirach 17:20-24/ Psalm 32/ Mark 10:17-27.
Tuesday:	Sirach 35:1-12/ Psalm 50/ Mark 10:28-31.
Wednesday:	<u>Ash Wednesday.</u> Joel 2:12-18/ Psalm 51/ 2 Corinthians 5:20-6:2/ 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:	Isaiah 58:9b-14/ Psalm 86/ Luke 5:27-32.
Next Sun:	<u>First Sunday of Lent.</u> Genesis 2:7-9; 3:1-7/ Psalm 51/ Romans 5:12-19/ Matthew 4:1-11.

CLOTHING COLLECTION FOR THE HOMELESS Ends February 28th:

Collections of used umbrellas, coats, gloves, hats, scarfs, sweatshirts, sweaters, fleeces, shoes/boots, men's jeans/pants, new socks /underwear. Drop items off at Mass or at the church office Monday and Tuesday this week. Your response has been nothing short of phenomenal! Thank you!

Continued on back page . . .

ST. ELIZABETH OF HUNGARY PARISH

4112 SW 6th Avenue Drive

Portland, OR 97239

(503)222-2168 * office@stelizabethportland.net 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., Pastor

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

Interested in joining St. Elizabeth Parish? Give us a call. 503-222-2168

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JOIN THE CHOIR FOR HOLY WEEK! If you enjoy singing and can carry a tune or if you play an instrument, please consider joining our choir during Holy Week.

CHOIR PRACTICE SCHEDULE:

Tuesday, February 28,

Wednesdays March 8th, 15th, 22nd, 29th and April 5th

Tuesday, April 11.

All practices run from 6:30 - 8:30 PM

HOSPITALITY FOR NEXT WEEKEND- March 5th.

9:00 AM - Mary Swick and Charlotte Richardson

11:00 AM - Molly Milan & Lynda Jackson

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

TO OUR FAIRY GODMOTHER/FATHER: Thanks for the new microwave! It is wonderful and a HUGE improvement! Whoever you are - your generosity is appreciated!

