



FOURTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

JANUARY 29, 2017

ST ELIZABETH OF HUNGARY CATHOLIC CHURCH

FEAST OF THE PRESENTATION OF THE LORD (CANDLEMAS) will be celebrated on Thursday, February 2 at 8:30 AM Mass. This Feast commemorates the presentation of Jesus at the Temple. It falls on February 2, which is traditionally the 40th day of the Christmas-Epiphany season known as Candlemas. Candlemas primarily focuses on Jesus' early life when Mary presented him to God at the Temple in Jerusalem after observing the traditional 40-day period of purification (of mothers) following his birth. According to Luke 2:32, a Jewish man named Simeon held the baby in his arms and said that Jesus would be a light for the Gentiles. Accordingly, on Candlemas, many Christians bring their candles to their local church where they are blessed and used for the remainder of the year. In some Christian cultures (including Fr. Jim's house), Christmas decorations are displayed until Candlemas (or longer).

FEAST OF THE MARTYRDOM OF FATHER ALFRED DELP - On February 2nd at the 8:30 AM Mass we will also celebrate the life of Fr. Alfred Delp. "Let us trust life, since we do not have to live it alone, for God lives it with us." Fr. Delp, his hands bound, scratched those words on the wall of his prison cell on Christmas Eve 1944. On February 2, 1945, Fr. Delp was hanged by the Nazis for high treason at the age of 37.

JOIN US FOR THE CELEBRATION OF GROUNDHOG DAY (EVE)

Following Mass on Wednesday morning, February 1st, we'll celebrate Groundhog Day with breakfast (bring your favorite groundhog recipe) and Groundhog Carols. Only at St. Elizabeth's . . .



CPR AND AUTOMATED EXTERNAL DEFIBRILLATOR

(AED) CLASSES IN FEBRUARY -- Back by popular demand, Kevin Shanders will offer additional certification classes in CPR and AED. Sign-up sheets are in the gathering area. Please indicate the evening(s) that works best for you, and we'll do our best to accommodate your schedule.

CLOTHING COLLECTION FOR THE HOMELESS — Gather any new or gently used umbrellas, coats, hats, gloves, scarfs, sweaters, sweatshirts, fleeces, shoes, boots, and new socks! We'll be collecting clothing at every Mass throughout February for distribution to Portland's homeless.

PLEASE PICK UP YOUR OFFERTORY ENVELOPES!

HOSPITALITY FOR NEXT WEEKEND- February 5th.

9:00 AM – Matt & Emily Sallee

11:00 AM – Frankie & Daryl Anderson

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

Paradox has sometimes been described as truth standing on its head. In today's readings, the kingdom of God stands as the supreme paradox. In this kingdom, everything that seems truly desirable is turned upside down. The prophet Zephaniah announces that those chosen to survive the dreaded upheaval of the "Day of the Lord" are not the rich and powerful but "a people humble and lowly." Paul informs the contentious Corinthians that God continues to choose not the wise, not the wellborn, not the strong, but the weak. Jesus himself claims that the genuinely blessed are not the prosperous and the successful, but those who seem in fact badly treated by providence: the poor, the sorrowful, the needy, the persecuted.

What is this kingdom of God? Is it a home for the riffraff? So it seems, according to the Gospel. It is a place where tax collectors and prostitutes are welcomed before religious purists. It is a banquet whose guests have been gathered from the highways and byways. It is a feast where the Lord himself sits down at table with sinners. It is not that the well-fed are unwelcomed. Matthew, by offering a more spiritualized version of the beatitudes than Luke, suggests that the issue is attitude. Those that are well off by the standards of this world run the risk of complacency. Satisfied with all they have, they are content to seek no more. Not knowing they are hungry, they ignore the Lord's invitation to come and eat the true bread of life.

Blest are they who know their need! They are free to seek first the paradoxical kingdom of God. And those who seek shall find.

LITURGICAL READINGS

Today:	<u>Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time.</u> Zephaniah 2:3; 3:12-13/ Psalm 146/ 1 Corinthians 1:26-31/ Matthew 5:1-12a.
Monday:	Hebrews 11:32-40/ Psalm 31/ Mark 5:1-20.
Tuesday:	<u>St. John Bosco, Priest..</u> Hebrews 12:1-4/Psalm 22/ Mark 5:21-43.
Wednesday:	Hebrews 12:4-7, 11-15/ Psalm 103/ Mark 6: 1-6.
Thursday:	<u>The Presentation of the Lord.</u> Malachi 3:1-4/ Psalm 24/ Hebrews 2:14-18/ Luke 2:22-40.
Friday:	Hebrews 13:1-8/ Psalm 27/ Mark 6:14-29.
Saturday:	<u>Common of the Blessed Virgin Mary.</u> Hebrews 13:15-17, 20-21/ Psalm 23/ Mark 6:30-34.
Next Sun:	<u>Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time.</u> Isaiah 58:7-10/ Psalm 112/ 1 Corinthians 2:1-5/ Matthew 5:13-16.

COLLECTION: Last Sunday \$6,598.00
Catholic Communications Campaign \$555.00
THANK YOU!

ST. ELIZABETH OF HUNGARY PARISH

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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

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

“Blessed are those that have been persecuted for righteousness’ sake: for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.’ This does not refer to the righteousness of God, but to suffering in a just cause, suffering for their own just judgments and actions. For it is by these that they who renounce possessions, fortune, rights, righteousness, honour, and force for the sake of following Christ, will be distinguished from the world. The world will be offended at them, and so the disciples will be persecuted for righteousness’ sake. Not recognition, but rejection, is the reward they get from the world for their message and works. It is important that Jesus gives his blessing not merely to suffering incurred directly for the confession of his name, but to suffering in any just cause. They receive the same promise of the poor, for in persecution they are their equals in poverty.” (Dietrich Bonhoeffer, *The Cost of Discipleship*, Macmillan, 1959, p. 127)