



• 11TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME •

GO RATHER TO THE LOST SHEEP.

©LPI

St. Elizabeth of Hungary/St. Mark

5700 Bear Creek Boulevard, Bear Creek, Pennsylvania 18602

ELEVENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME | June 14, 2026

St. Elizabeth Church (E)
5700 Bear Creek Blvd
Bear Creek, PA 18602

St. Mark Church (M)
1052 Bear Lake Rd
Thornhurst, PA 18424

Mission Statement

Humbly guided by the Holy Spirit, our mission is to help people:

~ Through prayer and worship, discover God's desire to be in a relationship with us ~ Discover and develop the gifts and talents God has bestowed on each person ~ Share our faith in Jesus Christ through a welcoming community, beautiful liturgy and ongoing faith formation ~ Be of service to one another, to the communities in which we live and especially to those in need. ~

SERVED BY

Rev. Rawel Toppo
Administrator
rawelt81@gmail.com

Rev. Anthony M. Urban
Pastor Emeritus

Rev. William J. Karle
Pastor Emeritus

PARISH WEBSITE

Churchofstelizabethstmark.org

FIND US ON FACEBOOK



The Roman Catholic Community
of St Elizabeth of Hungary and
St. Mark



WORSHIP SCHEDULE

Monday-Wednesday, Friday 9:00AM
(E)

First Fridays —Adoration after Mass—
12Noon (E)

Weekend Masses

Saturday 4:00PM (M)

Saturday 6:00PM (E)

Sunday 8:30AM (M)

Sunday 10:30AM (E)

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION

St. Mark's Church—1/2 hr before all
Masses

St. Elizabeth's Church —1/2 hr before
all Masses

~ or anytime by appointment ~

OFFICE STAFF

Amanda Proch
Business Manager
stelizabethbearcreek@
outlook.com

Mer Rish
Office Secretary
Director of Music & Liturgy
stelimar@ptd.net

OFFICE HOURS / PHONE

Tuesday & Wednesday
9AM—3PM

Phone.....570-472-3061

Fax.....570-472-3503

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

Emily Bell
Renee Sipple

Directors of Religious Education
saintelizabethccd@gmail.com

DAILY TV MASS

WARMING FAITHFUL HEARTS

Cathedral of St Peter in Scranton, available on
CTV: Catholic Television of the
Diocese of Scranton.

Weekdays 12:10p.m., 3:30p.m. and 7:00p.m.

Weekends, Saturday Vigil Mass 5:30 p.m. and
rebroadcast on Sunday morning at 10:00a.m.

STEWARDSHIP

June 7, 2026

Weekly	\$2439.00
Online	<u>\$931.00</u>
	\$3370.00
Diocesan	<u>\$112.00</u>
TOTAL	\$3258.00

Thank you for your continued generosity.

Eucharistic Celebration

SATURDAY, JUNE 13

4:00pm (M) Marilyn Barbini Lucchino *Req. by Charlie & Elaine Morehead*

6:00pm (E) Kathy Dudish *Req. by Stan & Jean Swaintek*

SUNDAY, JUNE 14

8:30am (M) Margareta Conforti *Req. by Melissa Planker*

10:30am (E) Gary Walker *Req. by Theodore & Diane Haas*

MONDAY, JUNE 15

9:00am (E) Angelo Talarico Jr. *Req. by Charles & Carol Burd*

TUESDAY, JUNE 16

9:00am (E) David M. Soda *Req. by Theodore & Diane Haas*

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 17

9:00am (E) Nancy Cawley *Req. by Paul & Julie Lukasiewicz*

THURSDAY, JUNE 18

9:00am (E) **NO MASS**

FRIDAY, JUNE 19

9:00am (E) James Riches *Req. by Mike & Peggy Ward*

SATURDAY, JUNE 20

4:00pm (M) For All Fathers

6:00pm (E) For All Fathers

SUNDAY, JUNE 21

8:30am (M) For All Fathers

10:30am (E) For All Fathers



This week we pray for our sick,
elderly and homebound parishioners
and friends, especially...



Noreen Catani Amico, Patricia Cronauer,
Richard Emmert, Bobby Everett, Kelly Fry,
Lea Furlong, James Geremia, Bernard Hendrzak,
Erin Himes, Jake Johnson, Patrick Kildea,
Michael Lilienthal, Mollie Litchman,
Amber Moyer, Carolyn Palencar, Donald Scharf,
Mary Soos, Byran Stanton,
Verna Stavish, Milo Grunza, Rick Thomas,
John Tucker, Rev. Anthony Urban, Hank Walker,
Loretta Washick, Michelle Welebob

Please notify office when names should be removed. 570-472-3061



Notice Regarding Sexual Abuse of a Minor

It is the policy of the Diocese of Scranton to report any allegation of sexual abuse of a minor to law enforcement. If you are a victim of sexual abuse committed by a priest, deacon, religious or lay employee or volunteer of the Diocese of Scranton, you are encouraged to immediately report the matter to law enforcement. If any priest, deacon, religious, lay employee or volunteer of the Diocese of Scranton has cause or reason to suspect that a minor has been subjected to any form of abuse, including child sexual abuse, the matter will be reported to law enforcement.

It is also the policy of the Diocese to adhere to all civil and state regulations. In accordance with the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania's Child Protective Services Laws, reports of suspected child abuse should also be made immediately by phone to the 24-Hour Child Abuse hotline (ChildLine) at 1-800-932-0313 or electronically at www.compass.state.pa.us/cwis. To this end, the Diocese is equally committed to adhering to the norms of the Code of Canon Law and to upholding the tenets of the USCCB Charter for the Protection of Children and Young People, which includes supporting victims of sexual abuse in their pursuit of emotional and spiritual well-being. As such, information regarding an allegation of sexual abuse of a minor should also be reported to the Victim Assistance Coordinator Mary Beth Pacuska at 570-862-7551.

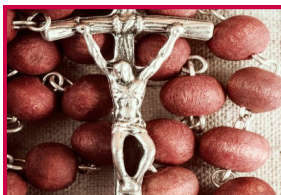
St. Elizabeth/St. Mark Community Parish



July 11, 2026 Noon-7PM
Bear Creek Charter School



Festival baskets will be at
St Mark's May 30 till June 14 and at
St Elizabeth's from June 20 till July 11.
Basket donations will be accepted up
until July 6.



Pray the
Rosary

Father Rawel's Corner



A CALL FOR INCLUSIVITY

The three readings are interconnected through the central theme of God's love and compassion towards humanity.

He urges His followers to extend the same affection and empathy to others. The expression of love and compassion ought to emanate from the heart of every person. It is easy to demonstrate love and compassion towards those who reciprocate, but loving our enemies, as Jesus exemplified, can be arduous. The ultimate expression of God's love for humanity was revealed through Christ's death on the cross, despite our sinfulness.

As thought by Jesus, it is important that we extend our love even to our enemies, demonstrating a selfless form of love and a compassionate spirit that is humble and generous towards those in need. In doing so, we will be spreading the Gospel of love and compassion, as we have freely received it ourselves. This bears witness to the fact that the kingdom of God is present among us.

In the midst of the world's diverse array of caste, color, creed, culture, race, religion, and ideologies, what measures can we take to foster a more inclusive society? Can a love and compassion demonstrated by Christ offer a solution to the present-day conflicts and contradictions? If it does, what step must we take, and how can we go about implementing them?

Let us pray to Jesus, our Lord and Savior, for the fortitude to carry out this vocation, by being a beacon of God's love to all we encounter in our day-to-day life.

HAVE A WONDERFUL AND GRACEFUL SUNDAY!!!!

Current Seminarians

Jeremy Barket—Sacred Heart of Jesus, Dupont
Cody Yarnall—St. Matthew, East Stroudsburg
Jacob Mutchler—St. Matthew, East Stroudsburg
Nicholas Wasko—St. Ann Basilica, Scranton
Daniel O'Brien—St. John the Evangelist, Pittston
Roberto Carlos Acevedo Ruiz—St. Pius of Pietrelcina, Hazleton
Leonel Ojo Gonzalez—St. Faustina Kowalska, Nanticoke
Peter Stec—St. Robert Bellarmine, Wilkes-Barre
Liam Barry—Epiphany, Sayre
Antonio Ingargiola—Ss. Anthony and Rocco, Dunmore

New Seminarians

Faustinus Ugo—Christ the King, Archbald. Faustinus will begin at St. Vincent in Latrobe this fall to study theology.

Daniel Kotsko—St. Faustina Kowalska, Nanticoke. Dan will begin at St. Mary's in Baltimore this fall to study theology.

Kenneth Francis—Nativity of Our Lord, Duryea. Ken will attend the Propaedeutic Stage at St. Pius X this fall.

Matthew Kelly—St. Gregory, Clarks Green. Matt will attend the Propaedeutic Stage at St. Pius X this fall.

Zachariah Levin—Queen of Peace, Brodheadsville. Zach will attend the Propaedeutic Stage at St. Pius X this fall.

Stephen Chronowski—Ss. Peter and Paul, Plains. Steve will attend the Propaedeutic Stage at St. Pius X this fall.

**Divine Mercy
PARISH
PICNIC 2026**

**FRIDAY, SATURDAY, SUNDAY
JUNE 19 - 20 - 21**

5:00PM to 10:00PM

DELICIOUS FOOD **CHILDREN'S GAMES** **BAKE SALE** **THEME BASKETS** **BAR** **BIG 6 WHEEL** **BINGO**

**DON'T MISS OUR DELICIOUS
POTATO PANCAKES!**

LIVE ENTERTAINMENT
★ *Friday* ★
BY
**BROADWAY
ON THE BOULEVARD
AND
FLAXY MORGAN**

LIVE ENTERTAINMENT
★ *Saturday* ★
BY
**VELEZ STUDIO
OF DANCE
AND
THE IMPASTAS**

LIVE ENTERTAINMENT
★ *Sunday* ★
BY
STRANGERS

📍 **312 Davis St., Scranton PA 18505** ☎ **570-344-1724**

OUTDOOR MASS *will be held*
SUNDAY, JUNE 21 at 4:00PM



*All are invited to the
Ordination of
Rev. Mr.
Jan Carlo Perez*
10 a.m. June 27, 2026
Cathedral of St. Peter,
Scranton

**FLAG
DAY**

— JUNE 14 —

Worship & Meditation

Readings for the week of June 14, 2026

Sunday:

Ex 19:2-6a/Ps 100:1-2, 3, 5/Rom 5:6-11/
Mt 9:36-10:8

Monday:

1 Kgs 21:1-16/Ps 5:2-3ab, 4b-6a, 6b-7/
Mt 5:38-42

Tuesday:

1 Kgs 21:17-29/Ps 51:3-4, 5-6ab, 11 and 16/
Mt 5:43-48

Wednesday:

2 Kgs 2:1, 6-14/Ps 31:20, 21, 24/
Mt 6:1-6, 16-18

Thursday:

Sir 48:1-14/ Ps 97:1-2, 3-4, 5-6, 7/
Mt 6:7-15

Friday:

2 Kgs 11:1-4, 9-18, 20/Ps 132:11, 12, 13-14,
17-18/Mt 6:19-23

Saturday:

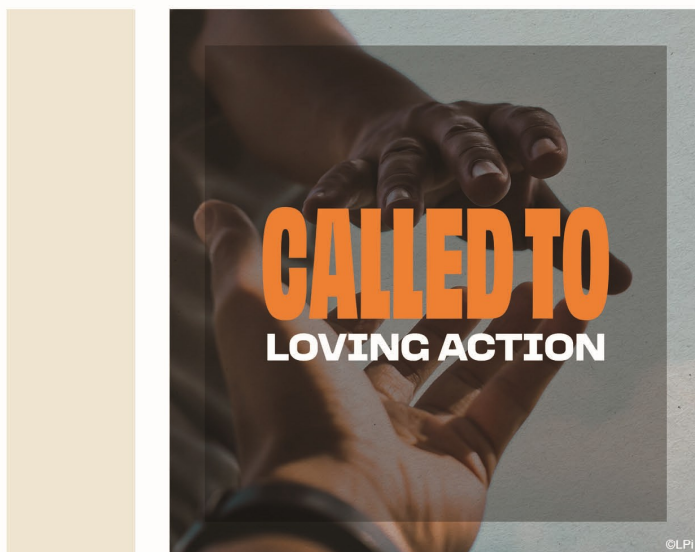
2 Chr 24:17-25/Ps 89:4-5, 29-30, 31-32,
33-34/Mt 6:24-34

Next Sunday:

Jer 20:10-13/Ps 69:8-10, 14 and 17, 33-35/
Rom 5:12-15/Mt 10:26-33



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Gospel Meditation

Encourage Deeper Understanding of Scripture

A few years ago, I met a woman in my parish who was a successful lawyer. Yet in her free time, she poured her energy into a nonprofit she founded to advocate for children with special needs. When I asked what inspired her, she spoke of her niece, who was born with disabilities. Her niece was both a glorious gift and a constant challenge. Out of that painful, beautiful experience, she felt called to create something lasting for other children and parents. The nonprofit thrived, not because she had mapped it all out, but because she was deeply moved to act.

In today's Gospel, Jesus is **“moved with compassion” for the crowd, for they were “like sheep without a shepherd.”** (Matthew 9:36) So he calls his disciples, ordinary men with no special qualifications, and sends them to heal, preach, and cast out demons. Their mission flows not from their skills but from his authority and the Spirit's gifts.

The Second Vatican Council teaches that the Spirit continually pours out charisms, special graces for the good of the Church and the world (cf. *Lumen Gentium* 4 & 12). These often arise from the unfolding of our lives: from what breaks your heart, what fills you with hope, what suffering has shaped you. The Spirit works through those very experiences to equip us with gifts that build up others.

What is your charism? Well, what needs around you call you to loving action? This could be where Christ is sending you. Allow your heart to be moved like Christ's. Then get to work.

— *Father John Muir*

Weekly Prayer

Sunday's Readings

First Reading:

Therefore, if you hearken to my voice and keep my covenant, you shall be my special possession, dearer to me than all other people, though all the earth is mine. (Ex 19:5)

Psalm:

We are his people: the sheep of his flock. (Ps 100)

Second Reading:

But God proves his love for us in that while we were still sinners Christ died for us. (Rom 5:8)

Gospel:

At the sight of the crowds, Jesus' heart was moved with pity for them because they were troubled and abandoned, like sheep without a shepherd. (Mt 9:36)

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Live The Liturgy Inspiration of the Week

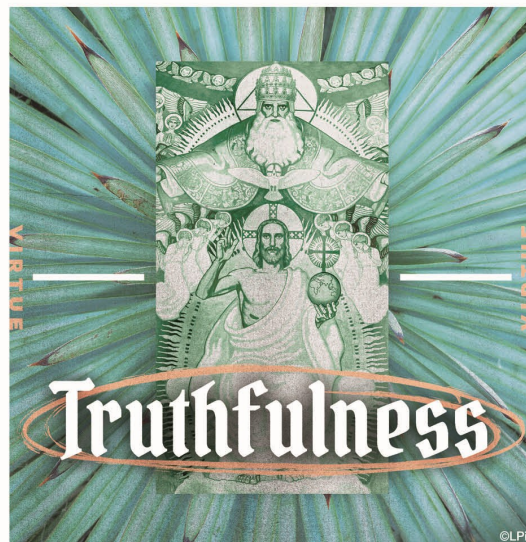
In his mercy, Jesus sent his Apostles into ministry — and the Apostles are still ministering today. We see them in the sanctuary, in the confessional. They are our priests, sent to shepherd Christ's sheep. This week, let's pray for our shepherds.

Observances for the week of June 14, 2026

Sunday: 11th Sunday in Ordinary Time; *Flag Day*

Friday: St. Romuald, Abbot; *World Refugee Day*; *Juneteenth*

Next Sunday: 12th Sunday in Ordinary Time; *Father's Day*



Virtues, Explained!

God Himself is Truth. Therefore, if we belong to God, we must live truthfully — in small matters and in large ones, so that the witness we bear to the ultimate Truth of God shall always be taken seriously.

Prayer of Discipleship

Dear Jesus,
You've called every soul to yourself, aware of our faults and failures, but also our gifts, perspectives, our talents, and our dreams. As we grow to know you, help us to more fully understand ourselves and, in doing so, to use our unique positions to spread your love to the world.
Amen.

(PRACTICING) CATHOLIC

Mini Reflection: We often find it hard to love the Church if we find it hard to love a particular priest, a particular bishop. That's the thing about priests and bishops and all the laborers in the field: they are human. They are sinners. Just like you and me.

Laborers

"The harvest is abundant, but the laborers are few."

This excerpt from Matthew's Gospel has become a catchphrase in the modern Church. We give ourselves vertigo with the amount of head-shaking we do over the much-lamented "decline in numbers."

Which numbers, you ask? Well, take your pick — numbers of baptized Catholic children who continue to profess their faith in adulthood, numbers of registered parishioners, numbers of priests ordained each year. All are a fraction of what they were generations ago.

That last one — the priests — that's a particular worry for us, isn't it? So we pray, "Send us laborers, Lord! Make them holy. Make them earnest."

And then we add, in the silence of our hearts: "Make them perfect."

It's no secret that part of the reason the pews are empty is because we often find it hard to love the Church if we find it hard to love a particular priest, a particular bishop, or a particular human representative of the Church.

Because that's the thing about priests and bishops and all the laborers in the field: they are human. They are sinners. Just like you and me.

We must consider this: today's Gospel lists the Apostles whom Jesus sent out in ministry to heal, console, and evangelize, and right at the end — like a record scratch — comes the name of Judas Iscariot, the betrayer. If ever a laborer failed in his work, it was Judas.

And surely, when he did, his fellow laborers were so demoralized and so disenchanted that they considered laying down their tools and leaving the harvest to wither and die.

But they did not, and we must not.

Without cost we have received, and without cost we are called to give.

So we labor on, for the day is drawing to a close, and the threshing time is near.

— Colleen Jurkiewicz Dorman

Why do we do that?

Catholic Life Explained

Question:

A member of my parish was recently arrested for a white-collar crime. I don't approve of what he did, but he is a great neighbor and a nice person. How should I treat someone like him?

Answer:

There is a litany of expressions that fit this situation: Everyone makes mistakes. Hate the sin, love the sinner. Judge not, lest you be judged. All of these proverbs and sayings highlight the fact that we are here to help each other on the way to salvation. Our hope and goal is that everyone grows in grace, drawing closer to God and to the promise of eternal life. Part of that process is our struggle, collectively and individually, with sin. And that is the ugly part. Sin is not nice, pretty, or inviting when laid out for all to see. Nor is it easy for the person caught in the spotlight.

Kindness and support are not the same thing as approval. We recognize that good people can do bad things and in their struggle, they need the help of others. Our kindness is often the flicker of hope that allows someone to face the consequences of sin while focusing on the promise of redemption. Your desire to help and support your neighbor is the response of grace to sin, and the same response of Jesus to us.

“Go rather to the lost sheep of the house of Israel. As you go, make this proclamation: ‘The kingdom of heaven is at hand.’ Cure the sick, raise the dead, cleanse lepers, drive out demons. Without cost you have received; without cost you are to give.”

- Mt 10:6-8

Excerpts from the Lectionary for Mass ©2001, 1998, 1970 CCD.

Questions of the Week

Invite Parishioners to Reflect and Respond to Scripture

First Reading:

God reveals to Moses His intention to make Israel a “treasured possession among all the peoples...a kingdom of priests, a holy nation.” Have you ever received an incredible gift you never saw coming?

Second Reading:

Paul teaches us that as believers, we have been reconciled to God through our Lord Jesus Christ. Can you think of a time when you reconciled with a friend or family member?

Gospel:

Jesus commissioned his 12 Apostles to carry on his missionary work of healing the sick and exorcising unclean spirits. Do you have a sense of mission for your life?

11TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

