

FIFTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

GO AND DO LIKEWISE.

— LUKE 10:37 —



St. Elizabeth of Hungary/St. Mark

5700 Bear Creek Boulevard, Bear Creek, Pennsylvania 18602

FIFTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME | JULY 13, 2025

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

July 6, 2025

Weekly	\$2238.00
Online	<u>+\$783.00</u>
	\$3021.00
Diocesan	<u>-\$90.00</u>
TOTAL:	\$2931.00

Thank you for your continued generosity.

\$144 included in above from Car Wash

Eucharistic Celebration

Saturday, July 12, 2025 — Sunday, July 20, 2025

Sat, JULY 12

4:00pm (M) Ron Petro
Colleen MacDaniel

6:00pm (E) Margaret & James Carroll
John & Ann Tucker

Sun, JULY 13

8:30am (M) Alice Hamill
David & Linda Hamill

10:30am (E) Stella Sawicki
Judy Pomento

Mon, JULY 14

9:00am (E) Nicole Lane
Joseph & Marcia Boris

Tues, JULY 15

9:00am (E) Mary Gourke
Judy Pomento

Wed, JULY 16

9:00am (E) Mother Jackquna Bernadina Cardozo

Thurs, JULY 17

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

Fri, JULY 18

9:00am (E) For the Souls in Purgatory

Sat, JULY 19

4:00pm (M) Jack Hack
Barbara Reiss

6:00pm (E) Eileen Kane
Judy Pomento

Sun, JULY 20

8:30am (M) Louis Catina
Ruth Catina

10:30am (E) Stella Sawicki
Stan & Jean Swaintek



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



*Noreen Catani Amico,
Andrew Chismar, Lea Furlong,
Bernard Hendrzak, Jake Johnson,
Joseph Kachurak, Michael Lilienthal,
Mollie Litchman, Carolyn Palencar,
Richard Sawicki, Mary Soos, Byran Stanton,
John Tucker, Rev. Anthony Urban,
Gary Walker, Hank Walker, Loretta Washick*

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

DIOCESE OF SCRANTON
MASS OF
Remembrance
JULY 24, 2025
7:00PM
CATHEDRAL OF ST. PETER
This Mass is offered for the families and friends of those who have died by tragedy.

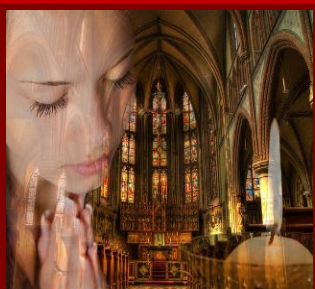
MASS IN REMEMBRANCE OF VICTIMS OF VIOLENT OR TRAGIC DEATH

The Mass is scheduled for Thursday, July 24, 2025 at 7:00PM in St Peter's Cathedral, 315 Wyoming Avenue, Scranton. All persons who have lost a loved one through tragic and traumatic death are invited to this liturgy. The Mass will be televised on CTV: Catholic Television and also by livestream on the diocesan website, www.dioceseofscranton.org.

Names of deceased loved ones will be inscribed in the Book of Remembrance.

**THE MOST BLESSED SACRAMENT
IS RESERVED IN OUR CHURCH**

**We respectfully ask that all
observe a reverent silence.**



Father Rawel's Corner



LOVE BRINGS
HAPPINESS

In today's reading from Deuteronomy, Moses gives the people of Israel a simple choice : follow God's commandments and live a good, prosperous life, or turn away from God and face hardship. It shows that choosing to live by God's will is not just about following rules but about choosing life that leads to true happiness and peace.

In the second reading St. Paul explains that Jesus is the "image of the invisible God," meaning He shows us exactly what God is like. Jesus is the perfect reflection of who God is and what He wants for humanity.

And the Gospel reading about the good Samaritan, teaches us to live out our faith through acts of love and compassion. It goes beyond being kind to those we know, urging us to help anyone in need, even those who are different from us. In a world filled with division, the parable calls for love that breaks down barriers. The Samaritan, who was usually despised, becomes the hero, showing us how to love without limits." Go and do likewise," means that living with Christ's mercy should be part of our everyday lives, not just isolated acts of kindness. By living this way, we reflect God's love and help transform the world into a place of understanding and care.

May the Lord make us like the good Samaritan, showing love mercy and compassion to those in need.

HAVE A WONDERFUL WEEKEND!



2025 Fatima Devotions

**Our Lady of Victory Parish
16 Second Street
Harvey's Lake, PA**

Fatima Devotions every 13th of
the month, starting in May and continuing
through October.

**Devotions begin at 7pm and include
Fatima prayers, the Rosary, and Marian
hymns.**

Light refreshments will be served at the conclusion.

The public is welcome to attend and celebrate our

Blessed Mother. The next

Fatima Devotion will be on

Friday, July 13th at 7pm.

**St. Elizabeth/St. Mark
SummerFest**

**Saturday, August 23, 2025
Noon – 7:00 p.m.**

**Bear Creek Community Charter
School Pavilion
Bear Creek Twp.**

Live MUSIC

**Cornhole
Tournament**

**Basket Raffles
50/50 Drawings**

Bake Sale

BINGO

**Homemade Foods
Pierogi Piggy
Chicken Dinner Pork BBQ
Haluski and MUCH more .**

**If anyone would like to volunteer,
donate a basket, or be a sponsor
feel free to contact Nicki at 570-881-4312.**

Pursue a lasting love ...

MARRIAGE

Create hope for the future!

Natural Family Planning...supporting God's gifts of love and life in marriage



NFP Awareness Week—July 20–26, 2025

“Pursue a lasting love ... Marriage. Create hope for the future! Natural Family Planning, Supporting God’s gifts of love and life in marriage” is the theme of this year’s national Natural Family Planning Awareness Week (July 20–26, 2025).

Natural Family Planning is an umbrella term for certain natural methods used to achieve or postpone pregnancy. It is based on scientific research and day-to-day observations of the signs and symptoms of fertility that occurs as part of each menstrual cycle.

Want to learn more about the methods of NFP offered in our diocese? See, <https://www.dioceseofscranton.org/parish-life/community/marriage/natural-family-planning/>.

Worship & Meditation

Readings for the week of July 13, 2025

Sunday:

Dt 30:10-14/Ps 69:14, 17, 30-31, 33-34, 36, 37 (see 33)/Col 1:15-20/Lk 10:25-37

Monday:

Ex 1:8-14, 22/Ps 124:1b-3, 4-6, 7-8/
Mt 10:34-11:1

Tuesday:

Ex 2:1-15a/Ps 69:3, 14, 30-31, 33-34/
Mt 11:20-24

Wednesday:

Ex 3:1-6, 9-12/Ps 103:1b-2, 3-4, 6-7/
Mt 11:25-27

Thursday:

Ex 3:13-20/Ps 105:1 and 5, 8-9, 24-25, 26-27/Mt 11:28-30

Friday:

Ex 11:10-12:14/Ps 116:12-13, 15 and 16bc, 17-18/Mt 12:1-8

Saturday:

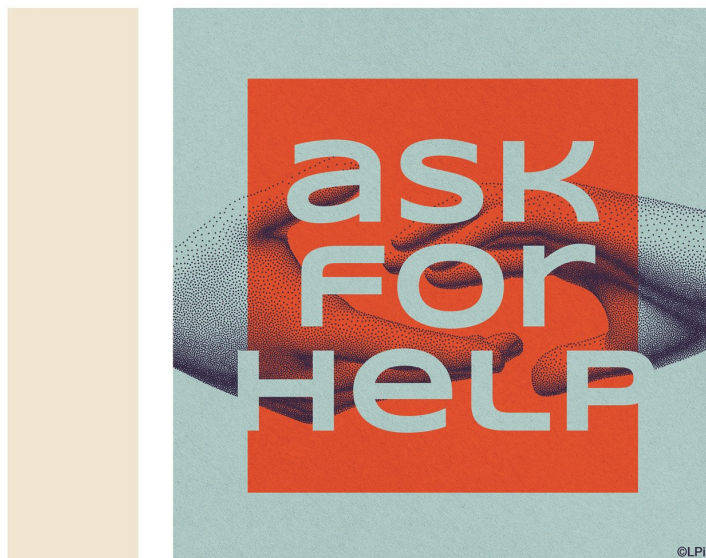
Ex 12:37-42/Ps 136:1 and 23-24, 10-12, 13-15/Mt 12:14-21

Next Sunday:

Gn 18:1-10a/Ps 15:2-3, 3-4, 5 (1a)/
Col 1:24-28/Lk 10:38-42



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Gospel Meditation

Encourage Deeper Understanding of Scripture

I used to be a bad neighbor. I'd get wrapped up in my life and ignore those around me. Then I found sage advice from Benjamin Franklin to this effect: to be a better neighbor, ask someone to do a favor for you. It's counterintuitive, isn't it? Tell strangers that I need their help? Yuck. I'll risk looking needy. Worse, I'll be indebted to them. But I tried it, and it works like a charm. Recently I asked my neighbor Alan for a hacksaw, and Inga for an egg. They kindly obliged, and our friendship is growing.

This week we hear a scribe of the law cynically ask Jesus, **"And who is my neighbor?" (Luke 10:29)**. Like him, we prefer to keep the list of our "neighbors" as short as possible. It requires less interruption and inconvenience. But when Jesus tells the parable of the Good Samaritan, he exposes the lonely, cold-heartedness tendency of the scribe's (and our) heart. My "neighbor" is anyone I encounter who manifests a concrete need. There isn't time to require any other credential because human need opens us to the happy reciprocity which is love.

Jesus' words challenge us this week to ask a neighbor for help in some small way. How marvelous that God himself shows us how. He moves into our world and asks us to love Him with small deeds of love. Maybe that's where Ben Franklin got the idea.

— Father John Muir

Weekly Prayer

Sunday's Readings

First Reading:

No, it is something very near to you,
already in your mouths and in your hearts;
you have only to carry it out." (Dt 30:14)

Psalm:

Your words, Lord, are Spirit and life. (Ps 19)

Second Reading:

Christ Jesus is the image of the invisible God,
the firstborn of all creation. (Col 1:15)

Gospel:

*You shall love the Lord, your God,
with all your heart,
with all your being,
with all your strength,
and with all your mind,
and your neighbor as yourself. (Lk 10:25)*

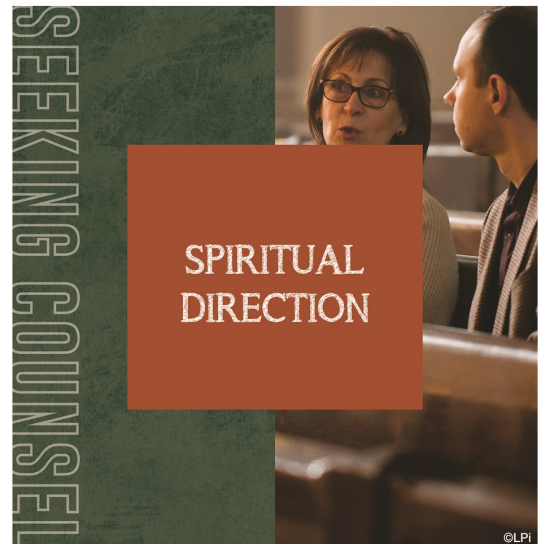
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Live The Liturgy Inspiration of the Week

Everyone is our neighbor — those we love
and those we can't stand, the people we
agree with and the people whose opinions we
hate. In today's Gospel, Jesus tells us that we
must not only see ourselves in every person
we meet — we must see him, too.

Observances for the week of July 13, 2025

- Sunday:** 15th Sunday in Ordinary Time
Monday: St. Kateri Tekakwitha, Virgin
Tuesday: St. Bonaventure, Bishop and Doctor of the Church
Wednesday: Our Lady of Mount Carmel
Friday: St. Camillus de Lellis, Priest
Next Sunday: 16th Sunday in Ordinary Time



Devotions, Explained!

Spiritual direction is the practice
of seeking counsel from someone
who is learned in the faith for the
purpose of discerning the will of
God in one's life.

Prayer for Charity

Give me the grace, Lord, to
truly see those around me: the
overlooked, the uncomfortable,
the odd and disliked.
Your kingdom is one of belonging,
help us to be the types of
neighbors who see and respond
with Godly generosity.
Amen.

(PRACTICING) CATHOLIC

Mini Reflection: As Christians we know that everyone is our neighbor. It's drilled into us from the first time we hear this reading. But do we approach the victims that we see? Or do we draw away from the suffering of others in fear and confusion, thinking: "That's not my problem"?

Crossing the Street

It takes a cold, hard, godless heart to step over a wounded man on the street.

But in the parable of the Good Samaritan, the priest and the Levite didn't step over the half-dead traveler. I think we picture them doing so, in our collective imagining of this well-known story, but the words of the Gospel are quite clear. "When he saw him, he passed by on the opposite side," Jesus says of both.

So they saw him. They saw his need. It made them uncomfortable; it confused them — many scholars have said that Judaic law concerning the touching of dead bodies might have made them reluctant to approach — and so they decided the simplest way to file this situation in the Not My Problem category was to cross the street.

But that still leaves a half-dead guy on the road. And we all, 2,000 years later, still think of the priest and the Levite as cold and hard and godless — even if they didn't *want* to be, even if they didn't think of themselves that way — because the bottom line is, they didn't see the half-dead guy as their problem.

As Christians we know that everyone is our neighbor. It's drilled into us from the first time we hear this reading.

Well, I don't know about you, but I find myself crossing the street a lot more than I should.

There is so much pain and suffering in the world. We certainly can't begin to alleviate it all. But we have to start with the pain and the suffering that we see, that's right in front of us — even if it's something we really, really want to ignore. Even if we find it inconvenient or confusing or scary or weird.

The heroism of the Good Samaritan wasn't in his selfless actions, although those were certainly commendable. It was in his courage. "He approached the victim," Jesus said.

Can we approach the victims we see? Do we have that courage?

— Colleen Jurkiewicz Dorman

Why do we do that?

Catholic Life Explained

Question:

When Jesus says, "*You cannot serve both God and mammon,*" what does he mean? What is mammon?

Answer:

When you hear Scripture proclaimed each Sunday, remember it wasn't originally written in English. Hebrew, Aramaic, Greek — these ancient tongues were the original language of our Old and New Testaments. Most of the time, all of the words are translated into our native language. Sometimes, a word or two is left in the original language. Such is the case in this Scripture passage.

Mammon is an ancient Aramaic word referring to money, wealth, or profit. Earthly wealth isn't bad in itself, nor does it automatically exclude us from being a disciple of Jesus. But what dominates our life? To serve money — that is, to seek accumulation of wealth for its own sake and to structure our lives around it — is morally problematic. What good is our wealth if it isn't at the service of others? What good is our wealth if its pursuit leads us to selfishness, obsession, greed, envy, and comparison? There are many things that can be opposed to our service of God — power, prestige, popularity. Ultimately, something in our lives will be our master. But there is only one God worth serving.

“But a Samaritan traveler who came upon him was moved with compassion at the sight. He approached the victim, poured oil and wine over his wounds and bandaged them. Then he lifted him up on his own animal, took him to an inn, and cared for him.”
- Lk 10:33-34

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Questions of the Week

Invite Parishioners to Reflect and Respond to Scripture

First Reading:

Moses taught the Israelite that the Lord is not remote but nearby to each of us. When was a time you felt especially close to God?

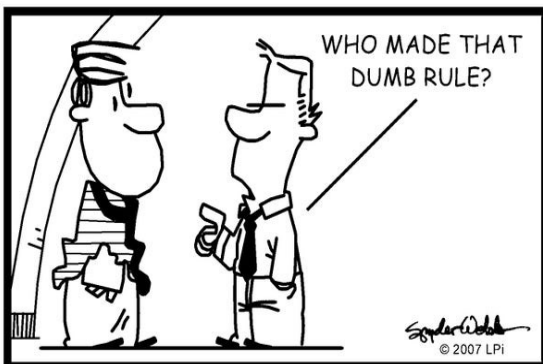
Second Reading:

Today's reading is a poem composed by Paul to describe the divinity and supremacy of Jesus. How do you express your thoughts about Jesus to others?

Gospel:

In the parable of the good Samaritan, Jesus teaches the lawyer that a neighbor is anyone you treat with mercy. Who might you treat with mercy this week?

15TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME



SOLEMN NOVENA

IN HONOR OF

Saint Ann

JULY 17 TO 26, 2025

PREACHERS: FR. CRISTIAN MARTINEZ, C.P. AND FR. CURTIS KIDDY, C.P.

NOVENA DEVOTIONS

After 8 & 11:45 A.M. & 5:30 P.M. Masses; w/Novena only at 3:30 • 7:30 P.M. Mass & Novena in Spanish

DIVINE LITURGY - BYZANTINE RITE

Tuesday, July 22, 5:30 P.M.
7:30 P.M. Mass and Novena in Spanish

DAILY MASSES

7:00, 8:00 & 11:45 A.M. & 5:30 P.M.
July 17-25: 7:30 P.M. Mass in Spanish
Solemn Closing in Spanish: Fri., July 25, 7:30 pm

CONFESSIONS

Lower Basilica for 30 minutes prior to each Mass & the 3:30 P.M. Novena Service, and after all services

CHILDREN'S MASS & NOVENA PRAYERS

Saturday, July 19, 10:00 A.M.;
Special Blessing for Families and Grandparents

MASS OF THE ANOINTING OF THE SICK

Wednesday, July 23, 1:30 P.M.

SUNDAY, JULY 20

MASSES

7:00 A.M., 8:00 A.M., 11:45 A.M., & 5:30 P.M.
7:30 P.M. Mass in Spanish

SUNDAY, JULY 20

Celebration of Grandparents & Elderly at Mass

NOVENA DEVOTIONS

After 8:00 & 11:45 A.M. & 5:30 P.M. Masses; w/Novena only at 3:30 P.M. • 7:30 P.M. Mass & Novena in Spanish

SAINT ANN'S FEAST DAY SATURDAY, JULY 26

CONFESSIONS 4:00 AM

MASSES & DEVOTIONS

4:30, 7:00, 8:00, 10:00 & 11:45 A.M.
3:30 P.M. (Novena only) & 5:30 P.M.

LANGUAGE SERVICE

1:30 PM - POLISH in Upper Basilica

Individual Blessing with Relic of St. Ann After Each Devotion

SOLEMN CLOSING SATURDAY, JULY 26, AT 7:30 P.M.

Pontifical Mass celebrated by Most Reverend Joseph C. Bambera, D.D., J.C.L.

CTV COVERAGE OF THE SOLEMN NOVENA

Every Day at 12:00 pm and 3:30 pm

Weeknights at 7:00 pm (except Thursday July 24 at 8:00 pm)

Closing Mass live Saturday July 26 at 7:30 pm,

Rebroadcast Sunday July 27 at 12:00 pm

BASILICA OF THE NATIONAL SHRINE OF ST. ANN PASSIONIST MONASTERY

1239 SAINT ANN STREET

SCRANTON, PA 18504

For the convenience of the people attending the novena, refreshments will be available on the monastery grounds during the entire novena.

