

St. Elizabeth of Hungary/St. Mark

5700 Bear Creek Boulevard, Bear Creek, Pennsylvania 18602



14th Sunday

I N O R D I N A R Y T I M E

"I am meek and humble of heart; and you will find rest for yourselves." Matthew 11:29

FOURTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME | July 5, 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 28, 2026

Weekly	\$2422.00
Online	<u>\$673.00</u>
	\$3095.00
Diocesan	- <u>\$252.00</u>
TOTAL	\$2843.00

Thank you for your continued generosity.

Eucharistic Celebration



SATURDAY, JULY 4 **AMERICA'S 250th ANNIVERSARY**

4:00pm (M) Reparation for Blasphemies against Mary's Perpetual Virginity
6:00pm (E) Reparation for Blasphemies against Mary's Perpetual Virginity

SUNDAY, JULY 5

8:30am (M) Father's Day Intentions
10:30am (E) Barbara Jasulevicz *Req. by Tony & Mary Ann Yanchuk*

MONDAY, JULY 6

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

TUESDAY, JULY 7

9:00am (E) Zoe Ann Kanavy *Req. by Butch & Jeannie Bidwell*

WEDNESDAY, JULY 8

9:00am (E) Mary Nesbitt *Req. by Joe & Debbie Foy*

THURSDAY, JULY 9

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

FRIDAY, JULY 10

9:00am (E) Richard Dikant

SATURDAY, JULY 11

4:00pm **(BC Charter School Pavilion)** For All Volunteers
4:00pm (M) **NO MASS**
6:00pm (E) **NO MASS**

SUNDAY, JULY 12

8:30am (M) For the Parishioners
10:30am (E) Daniel Halapin *Req. by Dr. Gary & Benedetta Lawrence*



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



Noreen Catani Amico, Patricia Cronauer, Bobby Everett, Terry Franklin, 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

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

Reminder: Please keep the above PRAYER REQUEST updated and current. If any names need to be added or deleted, please contact office at 570-472-3061. Thank you!



THE MOST BLESSED SACRAMENT IS RESERVED IN OUR CHURCH

We respectfully ask that all observe a reverent silence.



MISSION APPEAL

On the weekend of July 18th-19th the Little Sisters of Mary Immaculate of Gulu will conduct a mission appeal in both St. Mark and St. Elizabeth churches at all Masses.

The Little Sisters of Mary Immaculate of Gulu (LSMIG) are an indigenous Order of Catholic Sisters founded in 1936 in the Archdiocese of Gulu, in Northern Uganda (East Africa).

After nearly 30 years of civil war, the Sisters are dealing with an influx of 1.56 million refugees in Uganda, many of them unaccompanied children.

Sr. Scovia Apiyo and Sr. Nighty Akello will speak at all Masses that weekend on their need for financial support for their mission.

Their Mission Brief is inserted in today's bulletin. Please be as generous as possible. Thank you!



Father Ravel's Corner



"MY YOKE IS EASY, AND MY BURDEN IS LIGHT"

Jesus invites us to take His yoke upon our shoulders. The yoke of Christ can be seen as the sum of our Christian responsibilities and duties. To take the yoke of Christ upon us to put ourselves in a relationship with Christ as servants. Through the words "my yoke is easy", Jesus means that whatever God sends us according to our needs and our abilities.

The second part of Jesus' claim, "my burden is light", doesn't mean that the burden is easy to carry, but that it is laid on us in love and is meant to be carried in love, and that love makes even the heaviest burden light. What are our burdens? We feel burdensome due to some demands and expectations from others. For example: the burdens of responsibility that come with being a parent, teacher, manager, or leader.

How do we deal with these burdens which have become part of our lives? We are invited by the Lord to take upon ourselves the yoke or the burden of discipleship and to learn from Him. Apart from Him, our endeavors of being the will of God are futile.

He is assuring us that His yoke is good and light. The one He offers is modelled after His gentleness and humility.

Dear Lord, help us to put our complete trust in you, for you know what is best for us, unload the burden of our sins and worries. Keep us united in your presence so that we live our lives joyfully and glorify you by our deeds.

HAVE A BLESSED SUNDAY!!!!

St. Elizabeth/St. Mark Community Parish



July 11, 2026 Noon-7PM

Bear Creek Charter School



Festival baskets will be at

St Elizabeth's from June 20 till July 11. Basket donations will be accepted up until July 6.

PARISH FESTIVAL BAKE SALE

At our Parish Festival on July 11th, we will be having a bake sale. And do we need bakers! We ask for cookies, cakes, candies, breads etc.

Please consider prepackaging and letting us know what you have made, perhaps with a label. The volunteers will price the baked goods. Make a note if there are peanuts/nuts in your item, in order to be mindful of those with allergies.

Your baked goods can be brought to the festival grounds any time after 9:00AM on the day of the festival, Saturday, July 11th. If other arrangements are needed, give Bene Lawrence a call at 570-881-5420.

We thank you in advance for your delicious generosity.

SOLEMN NOVENA

IN HONOR OF

Saint Ann

JULY 17 TO 26, 2026

PREACHERS: FR. RICK FRECHETTE, C.P. AND FR. JACK CONLEY, C.P.

NOVENA DEVOTIONS After 8 & 11:45 A.M. & 6:30 P.M. Masses; Novena Devotions only at 3:30 P.M.	DAILY MASSES 7:00, 8:00 & 11:45 A.M. & 6:30 P.M.	MASS OF THE ANOINTING OF THE SICK Thursday, July 23, 1:30 P.M.
DIVINE LITURGY - BYZANTINE RITE Tuesday, July 21, 6:30 P.M.	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 25, 10:00 A.M.; Special Blessing for Families and Grandparents

SUNDAY, JULY 19

MASSES

7:00 A.M., 8:00 A.M.,
11:45 A.M., & 6:30 P.M.

NOVENA DEVOTIONS

After 8:00 & 11:45 A.M. & 6:30 P.M. Masses;
w/Novena only at 3:30 P.M.

SAINT ANN'S FEAST DAY

SUNDAY, JULY 26

CONFESSIONS 4:00 A.M.

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

LANGUAGE SERVICE

1:30 P.M. - POLISH in Upper Basilica
4:45 P.M. - SPANISH in Upper Basilica

Individual Blessing with Relic of St. Ann After Each Devotion

SOLEMN CLOSING SUNDAY, JULY 26, AT 6:30 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 23 at 8:00 pm)

Closing Mass live Sunday, July 26 at 7:30 pm; Rebroadcast Monday, 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.



Home > Departures > WYD Seoul 2027 - Diocese of Scranton

Pilgrimage to World Youth Day

Trip Date: Aug 1, 2027 - Aug 10, 2027

Group Type Private	Activity Level Difficult ●●●	Price From \$2,845 Deposit \$500	Hosted by Diocese of Scranton	Reserve Your Spot or call us at (574) 383-9396
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Join Us in Seoul,

South Korea

World Youth Day 2026

Join more than 1 million young Catholics from around the globe on a pilgrimage with Pope Leo XIV in Seoul, South Korea!

World Youth Day is a life-changing gathering. Start planning your trip today!



Go on Pilgrimage with the Diocese of Scranton!

World Youth Day 2027



Worship & Meditation

Readings for the week of July 5, 2026

Sunday:

Zec 9:9-10/Ps 145:1-2, 8-9, 10-11, 13-14/
Rom 8:9, 11-13/Mt 11:25-30

Monday:

Hos 2:16, 17c-18, 21-22/Ps 145:2-3, 4-5,
6-7, 8-9/Mt 9:18-26

Tuesday:

Hos 8:4-7, 11-13/Ps 115:3-4, 5-6, 7ab-8,
9-10/Mt 9:32-38

Wednesday:

Hos 10:1-3, 7-8, 12/Ps 105:2-3, 4-5, 6-7/
Mt 10:1-7

Thursday:

Hos 11:1-4, 8e-9/Ps 80:2ac and 3b, 15-16/
Mt 10:7-15

Friday:

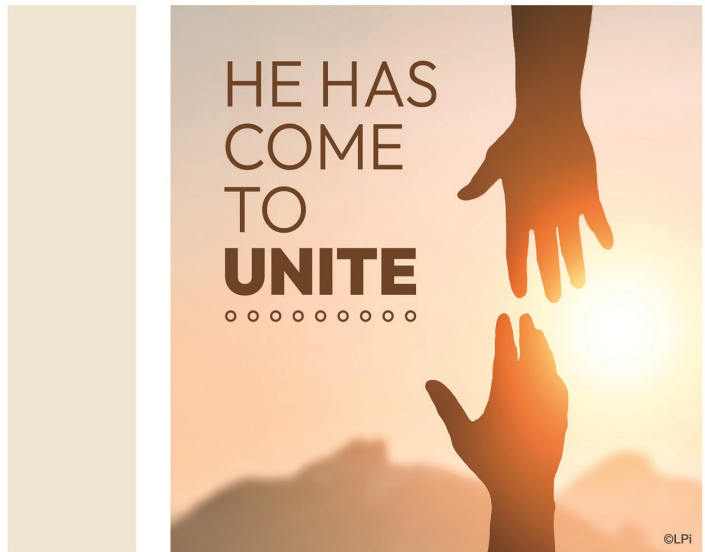
Hos 14:2-10/Ps 51:3-4, 8-9, 12-13, 14 and
17/Mt 10:16-23

Saturday:

Is 6:1-8/Ps 93:1ab, 1cd-2, 5/Mt 10:24-33

Next Sunday:

Is 55:10-11/Ps 65:10, 11, 12-13, 14/
Rom 8:18-23/Mt 13:1-23 or 13:1-9



Gospel Meditation

Encourage Deeper Understanding of Scripture

This weekend, our nation celebrates the 250th anniversary of the signing of the Declaration of Independence. Unlike most nations, the United States was not founded primarily on a shared ethnicity, language, or culture. Instead, our founders built a political community out of diverse peoples united by a shared vision of liberty. That vision echoes something deep in the Christian mystery revealed in today's Gospel.

Jesus returns to his hometown. The people see only what is familiar: the carpenter, the son of Mary, one of their own. As Mark tells us, **"They took offense at him. Jesus said, 'A prophet is not without honor except in his native place and among his own kin and in his own house.'"** Their narrow vision blinds them. Jesus has come to inaugurate a new communion that transcends geography, bloodlines, and culture. He has come to unite all people in himself.

At its best, America's national unity reflects this possibility, which fully subsists only in the Catholic Church. Our unity is not based on ancestry or tribe, but on a shared commitment to higher ideals. For this reason, we can love our country with gratitude while situating patriotism within the broader horizon of faith.

Rooted in Christ, we are less vulnerable to the unholy tribalism that threatens civic life and faith. This weekend, let us thank God for our nation and pray that we also live as citizens of Heaven in Jesus Christ.

— Father John Muir



Weekly Prayer

Sunday's Readings

First Reading:

See, your king shall come to you;
a just savior is he,
meek, and riding on an ass,
on a colt, the foal of an ass. (Zec 9:9)

Psalm:

I will praise your name for ever, my king and my God. (Ps 145)
Or Alleluia.

Second Reading:

For if you live according to the flesh, you will die,
but if by the Spirit you put to death the deeds of the body,
you will live. (Rom 8:13)

Gospel:

Take my yoke upon you and learn from me,
for I am meek and humble of heart;
and you will find rest for yourselves. (Mt 11:29)

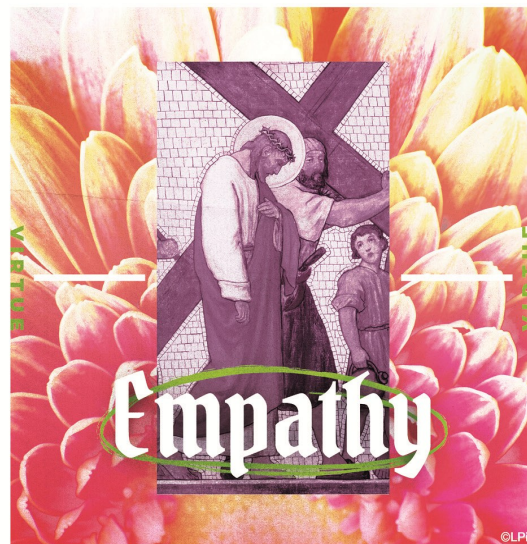
Excerpts from the Lectionary for Mass ©2001, 1998, 1970 CCD.
The English translation of Psalm Responses from Lectionary for Mass © 1969, 1981, 1997,
International Commission on English in the Liturgy Corporation. All rights reserved.

Live The Liturgy Inspiration of the Week

These days, everyone's an expert. We have a world of information at our fingertips. But some answers can't be found in newspapers or even history books. What God hides from the wise, He reveals to the little ones. Are you looking in the right place?

Observances for the week of July 5, 2026

Sunday: 14th Sunday in Ordinary Time
Monday: St. Maria Goretti, Virgin and Martyr
Thursday: St. Augustine Zhao Rong, Priest, and Companions, Martyrs
Saturday: St. Benedict, Abbot
Next Sunday: 15th Sunday in Ordinary Time



Virtues, Explained!

Empathy describes our ability to connect emotionally with the suffering of others, as Christ connected emotionally with our suffering in original sin. This virtue flows directly from the virtue of charity, and growth in charity will enable growth in empathy.

Blessing for Our Country

Dear God,
Bless this land that we love, a land
You created, in love.
We are at our best when we're
close to You.
Please inspire, guide, and govern
our leaders and our vision,
that our greatness may be
founded in and defined in You.
Amen.

(PRACTICING) CATHOLIC

The Smallness of Great Faith

My children attend Catechesis of the Good Shepherd (CGS) for their faith formation. Because of its Montessori basis, CGS atriums, which are something like classrooms, contain lots of objects made from real materials — authentic glass, wood, and ceramic.

This is a polite way of saying there are lots of breakable things in there.

So when my four-year-old entered the atrium on her first day of CGS, my whole body tensed, wondering what she would shatter first. I had to restrain myself from crying out, “Don’t touch anything!” She spotted the prayer table — the low, wooden stand which holds an open Bible, candles, a vase with flowers and a statue of the Good Shepherd. It’s the centerpiece of every atrium.

She knelt before the table. She made the sign of the cross. And she sat there, still and silent.

I stopped dead in my tracks. How had she known to come here? And where did she learn to make the sign of the cross? (Obviously we’ve tried to teach her, but she does it wrong every time!) And why was she sitting there so quietly, so expectantly, in front of a book she can’t read?

A thought came to me so clearly: *Well, Colleen, you can read that book. But can you understand it?*

It is so easy for us to forget that great faith does not require great intelligence. It does not require great knowledge of the world and its workings. Great faith does not require the believer to possess any answers.

Great faith only requires the believer to know his own smallness.

— Colleen Jurkiewicz Dorman

Why do we do that?

Catholic Life Explained

Question:

The Bible says that Jesus condemned gambling, but I notice that so many parishes have them at festivals and other events. What’s correct?

Answer:

Although Jesus speaks of our relationship with material wealth and the very human struggle with greed, the gospels do not include any specific instructions related to gambling. At the same time, the Church is very sensitive to the needs of those who might struggle with an addiction to gambling, and pastoral care should always be offered to those who struggle with this reality in their life.

While it is true that many parish or school communities include gambling or games of chance in festivals and fundraisers (e.g. bingo, roulette, ring tossing, dunking booths, etc.), there is nothing inherently wrong these sorts of events, given they are played fairly and within the limits of reason are not morally objectionable. As the *Catechism of the Catholic Church* reminds us: “Games of chance (card games, etc.) or wagers are not in themselves contrary to justice. They become morally unacceptable when they deprive someone of what is necessary to provide for his needs and those of others” (no. 2413).

As in all things, moderation and a sense of healthy limits should be applied to gambling and games of chance. For those who find themselves living with addiction to gambling, help is available in various 12-step and addiction recovery programs.

“Come to me, all you who labor and are burdened, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you and learn from me, for I am meek and humble of heart; and you will find rest for yourselves. For my yoke is easy, and my burden light.”
- Mt 11:28-30

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

Questions of the Week

Invite Parishioners to Reflect and Respond to Scripture

First Reading:

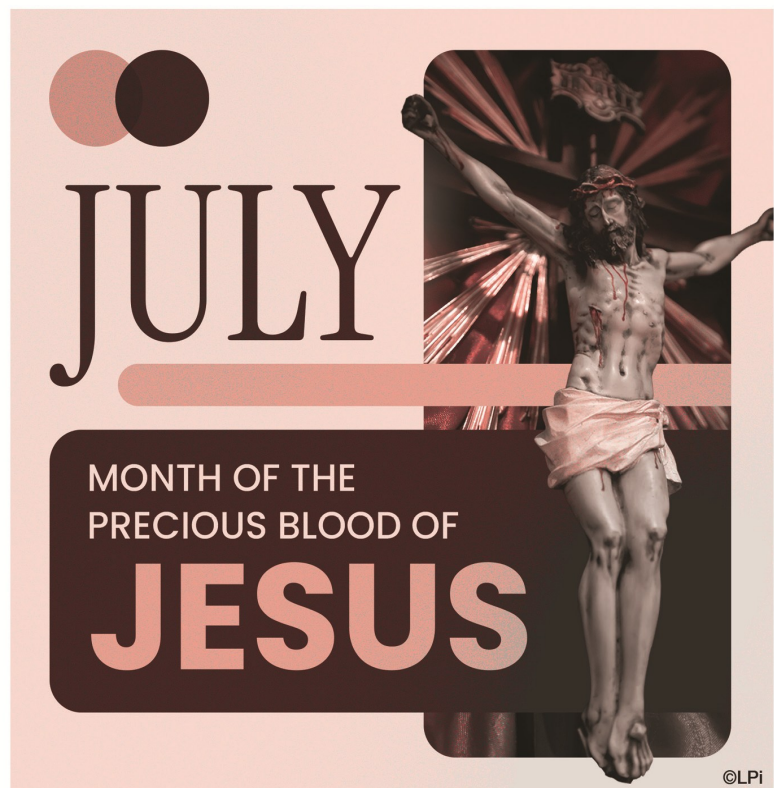
Zechariah speaks of a just and humble king who will lead all people to a future of peace and joy. What are some things that make you genuinely happy?

Second Reading:

Paul teaches that the Spirit of God dwells in those who believe in Jesus. Where do you see the Holy Spirit active in your life?

Gospel:

Jesus speaks of himself as meek and humble of heart, and invites us to find “rest” in him. What are some burdens Jesus could relieve for you?



A Prayer for America's 250th Anniversary



WE
HOLD
THESE
TRUTHS

O God,

Lord of history and of every nation under heaven,
we give You thanks for the 250 years
since the founding of these United States.
Look with favor upon this land which we love.

Grant that its people may be
guided by truth and charity.

Bless all who serve in elected office.

May they govern with integrity and humility.

Strengthen families, renew communities,
and heal every division that weakens our life together.

We ask especially through the intercession of

Mary Immaculate, patroness of these United States,

that this nation may remain a land

where human dignity is honored,

where the weak are protected,

and where hope is never extinguished.

As we mark this 250th year,

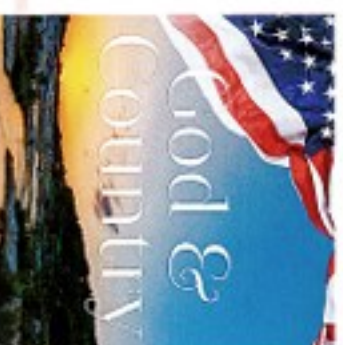
grant that we may recommit ourselves

to life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness

in a way that is ever more just, more united,

and more faithful to Your will.

Through Christ our Lord. Amen.



faith250

Sacred Bonds, Shared Hopes

Imagine rooms full of people from multiple faiths enjoying respectful dialogue, food and fellowship; gatherings to consider the meaning and blessing of our country's founding. We can create this together: a once-in-a-generation opportunity for neighbors to meet neighbors, a chance to regain unity through conversation about some of America's most inspiring words.

What is faith250?

faith250 is a program that invites faith leaders and communities across the country to form clusters of congregations to act as sacred spaces for listening to one another, clarifying our shared civic values, and celebrating our hopes for America. We can shore up the bonds between citizens because houses of worship are one of the few places where neighbors, friends, citizens, and newcomers can regularly meet face to face; where we study text and seek truth together; and where our varied faith traditions each remind us to see the Divine in every human being.

Our work centers on some of America's sacred texts — [*The Declaration of Independence*](#), Emma Lazarus's [*The New Colossus*](#), [*America the Beautiful*](#), and Frederick Douglass's address, [*What to the Slave is the Fourth of July?*](#)

What happens at a multifaith gathering?

A typical faith250 multifaith event runs between two to two-and-a-half hours and includes:

- A shared meal or light refreshments — breaking bread together before the formal discussion begins.
- A welcome from clergy that sets the tone: civic, not partisan; spiritual, not sectarian.
- A reading aloud of one of the four American texts.
- Facilitated small-group discussion, typically at tables of six to eight people, using the faith250 multifaith event handout for that text.
- A brief closing — a reflection, a prayer, or a moment of shared commitment.

How can I participate?

The first gathering is **July 13, 2026, 7PM at Temple Hesed**, 1 Knox Road, Scranton. All are welcome to attend! Registration details coming soon.

PARTICIPATING CONGREGATIONS & ORGANIZATIONS

To learn more, visit <https://faith250.org/what-is-faith250>

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| • Baha'is of Scranto | • Junyin Temple |
| • Bethel AME Chutrch | • Roman Catholic Diocese of Scranton |
| • Christians for the Common Good | • Sisters of IHM |
| • Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints—Clark Summit Stake | • St. Luke's Episcopal Church |
| • Covenant Presbyterian Church | • St. Mark Episcopal Church |
| • Elm Park United Methodist Church | • Temple Hesed |
| • Islamic Center of Scranton | • Temple Israel |



LITTLE SISTERS OF MARY IMMACULATE OF GULU - LSMIG
1000 Fairfield Street, Scranton, PA. 18509
Tel: (+1) 570-817-0642 E-mail: littlestersmig@gmail.com

MISSION BRIEF: THE LITTLE SISTERS OF MARY IMMACULATE OF GULU (LSMIG)

Who we are: The Little Sisters of Mary Immaculate of Gulu (LSMIG) are an indigenous Order of Catholic Sisters founded in 1936 by Servant of God Bishop Angelo Negri, in the Archdiocese of Gulu, in Northern Uganda (East Africa).

The **Charism** of LSMIG is to share *God's love and kindness to All*. Our **mission** is to witness to the love of Jesus Christ to the poor and most vulnerable members of the society through: Catholic education, health, pastoral and social services in hard-to-reach areas. Our mission stations are in Uganda, Kenya, Italy, and the USA.

Our current Need: The LSMIG Sisters are uniquely serving a people of northern Uganda who are emerging from a nearly 30 years of civil war while concurrently dealing with influx of refugees from South Sudan and the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC). Uganda is a home to 1.56 million refugees. Among the refugees are children who arrived in Uganda unaccompanied. The little girls in particular have suffered sexual violence which has made them become child-mothers at 13-15 year of age.

In picture is Sister Lucy providing child care as the mothers go to Class



Our sisters are responding courageously with limited resources, to the need of these refugee children and teen-mothers through catholic education and catholic youth outreach programs. We developed a unique Catholic Elementary Education center blended with Vocational training, Daycare and Kindergarten to support education of the child mothers and their babies on the same campus. Our LSMIG Sisters have made this bold move to break the cycle of teenage pregnancy and child motherhood and to give the teenage-mothers and their babies a second chance in school through an innovative Catholic Education.

We kindly invite you, through your Pastor, to consider financial support for the mission of the Little Sisters of Mary Immaculate of Gulu in Uganda, to break the cycle of child motherhood in the refugee camps and to impart our Catholic values of God's love and kindness to these refugee children through Catholic Education.

You can make your gift with a check or in cash to your Parish, with a memo for the LSMIG.

Please pray for us and be assured of our prayers for you, your Parish, your family and your loved ones. Thank you for your generosity!

May God graciously bless you.

Sister Mary Cecilia Draru, LSMIG
Zonal Leader-USA Mission

LIGHT IN DARKNESS

St. Elizabeth/St. Mark
SummerFest



Saturday, July 11th

Noon – 7:00 p.m.

Bear Creek Community Charter
School Pavilion
Bear Creek Twp.



BINGO



Bake Sale

Basket Raffles
50/50 Drawings

Mass at 4:00 p.m.

Homemade Foods
Pierogi Halupki
Chicken Dinner Pork BBQ
Haluski and MUCH more