

St. Elizabeth of Hungary/St. Mark

5700 Bear Creek Boulevard, Bear Creek, Pennsylvania 18602

SEVENTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

KNOCK
AND THE DOOR
WILL BE OPENED
TO YOU.

— LUKE 11:9 —

GLPI

SEVENTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME | JULY 27, 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 20, 2025

Weekly	\$2377.00
Online	<u>+\$778.00</u>
	\$3155.00
Diocesan	<u>-\$10.00</u>
TOTAL:	\$3145.00

Thank you for your continued generosity.

Parish Weekly Budget set at \$5000

Eucharistic Celebration

Saturday, July 26, 2025 — Sunday, August 3, 2025

Sat, JULY 26

4:00pm (M) Eugene Cooney
Steve & Kathy Rector

6:00pm (E) John & Agnes Tucker
John & Ann Tucker

Sun, JULY 27

8:30am (M) For the Parishioners

10:30am (E) Mr. & Mrs. Theodore Haas Sr.
Theodore & Diane Haas

Mon, JULY 28

9:00am (E) Jim Ruth

Tues, JULY 29

9:00am (E) Nancy Beauregard
Ted & Diane Haas

Wed, JULY 30

9:00am (E) Anthony Donato
Rose Paulowskey

Thurs, JULY 31

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

Fri, AUG 1

FIRST FRIDAY
Adoration after Mass –12Noon

9:00am (E) Robert Pomento & Edward Walsh
Judy Pomento

Sat, AUG 2

4:00pm (M) Katherine Wood
Barbara Reiss

6:00pm (E) Nancy Hallinan
Dr. Gary & Benedetta Lawrence

Sun, AUG 3

8:30am (M) David M. Soda
Ted & Diane Haas

10:30am (E) Stella Sawicki
Dr. Gary & Benedetta Lawrence



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



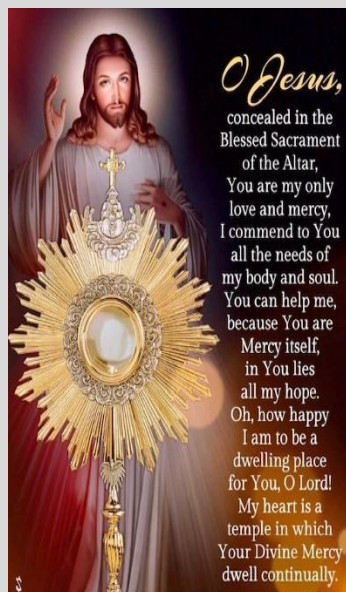
*Noreen Catani Amico,
Andrew Chismar, Lea Furlong,
Bernard Hendrzak, Jake Johnson,
Joseph Kachurak, Michael Lilienthal,
Mollie Litchman, Carolyn Palencar,
Richard Sawicki, Mary Soos, Byran Stanton,
John Tucker, Rev. Anthony Urban,
Gary Walker, Hank Walker, Loretta Washick*

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

Please keep Steve & Nicki Pachucki and their
family in your prayers. Steve's dad, Edmund
Pachucki passed away and was buried from
St. Elizabeth's Church this past Monday.

*Eternal rest grant unto Edmund and let perpet-
ual light shine upon him, and may the souls of
all the faithful departed, through the mercy of
God rest in peace. AMEN.*

YOU ARE CALLED TO SIT WITH THE LORD



O Jesus,
concealed in the
Blessed Sacrament
of the Altar,
You are my only
love and mercy,
I commend to You
all the needs of
my body and soul.
You can help me,
because You are
Mercy itself,
in You lies
all my hope.
Oh, how happy
I am to be a
dwelling place
for You, O Lord!
My heart is a
temple in which
Your Divine Mercy
dwell continually.

ADORATION of the BLESSED SACRAMENT

**First Friday,
August 1, 2025
immediately
following the
9AM Mass**

**All are
welcome**

**"Of all the devotions, that of adoring Jesus in
the Blessed Sacrament is the greatest after
the sacraments, the dearest to God and the
one most helpful to us."**

-St. Alphonsus Liguori



*The Sanctuary Candle is burning this week
in memory of Bonnie Mosley
by Francis and Molly Litchman.*

Father Rawel's Corner



FAITH BEYOND SEEING

Genesis 22:20-32 re-counts how Abraham learns about his family and the children born to his relatives. This passage reminds us that God's plans are far greater than what we can see in the present. Just as God worked through Abraham's family, He is also at work in our lives. We are called to trust Him and remain faithful, even when we do not see the full picture.

Colossians:12-14 emphasizes that, through Christ, we are made new. Our sins are forgiven, and the debt we owed due to sin has been cancelled through His sacrifice on the Cross.

Luke 11:1-13 presents a powerful teaching on prayer. When the disciples ask Jesus to teach them how to pray, Jesus gives them the Lord's prayer - a simple yet profound model for communicating with God. This prayer highlights essential elements: honoring God's name, seeking His will, asking for daily provision, seeking forgiveness, and praying for guidance and protection.

May the Lord teach us to pray with faith, trust and persistence, seeking His will daily and relying on His loving care.

HAVE A BLESSED WEEKEND!



SAINT JOSEPH'S CENTER

SUMMER FESTIVAL



FRIDAY
JULY 25
4 to 10 pm

SATURDAY
JULY 26
4 to 10 pm

SUNDAY
JULY 27
Noon to 7 pm



FOOD FUN GAMES

Location: Marywood University
Plenty of Free Parking & Shuttle Service

STJOSEPHSCENTER.ORG



JULY 25 & 26
7 TO 9 PM

TELETHON



Join the Saint Joseph's Center for their Annual Summer Festival at Marywood University on Friday, July 25th, from 4:00 PM to 10:00 PM, Saturday, July 26th, from 4:00 PM to 10:00 PM, and Sunday, July 27th, from 12:00 PM to 7:00 PM.

WNEP will host its Annual Telethon on Friday, July 25th, and Saturday, July 26th, from 7:00 PM to 9:00 PM at the Festival Grounds on the Marywood University campus. Television viewers can tune in to watch WNEP-TV 16 and learn more about the positive impact that Saint Joseph's Center is having on the community.

Those attending the Summer Festival will find favorite menu items such as tacos, wings, potato pancakes, pizza frita, funnel cakes, baked goods, ice cream, porketta, and lemonade. Bingo, children's games, and the giant slide will keep everyone busy. Take a chance to win more than 200 prizes or shop at one of several stands featuring great items.

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.

ST. ELIZABETH/ ST. MARK SUMMERFEST

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

Volunteers
needed

Become a
sponsor!

Worship & Meditation

Readings for the week of July 27, 2025

Sunday:

Gn 18:20-32/Ps 138:1-2, 2-3, 6-7, 7-8 (3a)/
Col 2:12-14/Lk 11:1-13

Monday:

Ex 32:15-24, 30-34/Ps 106:19-20, 21-22,
23/Mt 13:31-35

Tuesday:

Ex 33:7-11; 34:5b-9, 28/Ps 103:6-7, 8-9,
10-11, 12-13/Jn 11:19-27 or Lk 10:38-42

Wednesday:

Ex 34:29-35/Ps 99:5, 6, 7, 9/Mt 13:44-46

Thursday:

Ex 40:16-21, 34-38/Ps 84:3, 4, 5-6a and
8a, 11/Mt 13:47-53

Friday:

Lv 23:1, 4-11, 15-16, 27, 34b-37/Ps 81:3-4,
5-6, 10-11ab/Mt 13:54-58

Saturday:

Lv 25:1, 8-17/Ps 67:2-3, 5, 7-8/Mt 14:1-12

Next Sunday:

Eccl 1:2; 2:21-23/Ps 90:3-4, 5-6, 12-13, 14,
17 (1)/Col 3:1-5, 9-11/Lk 12:13-21



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Gospel Meditation

Encourage Deeper Understanding of Scripture

Once I went to a hospice facility to celebrate Last Rites for an elderly dying man. His family had told me that he had been uncommunicative for days. At the conclusion of the ritual, we began to recite the Our Father prayer. To everyone's surprise, his lips moved, clearly mouthing the words to the Lord's prayer. Stripped of most of his faculties, the man could still pray those precious God-given petitions. A lifetime of prayer had planted the words even deeper than his failing consciousness.

Do we want the Lord's prayer to be as deeply embedded in us? If we want to be people of hope, we should. Recall that our Lord immediately follows the prayer by saying: **"Ask, and it will be given to you; search, and you will find; knock, and the door will be opened to you" (Luke 11:9).** We only ask, search and knock because we hope that the request is not in vain. Everything we could possibly hope for is contained in the prayer. Praying the Our Father deepens our hope.

We should consciously pour all our hopes into the Lord's prayer; we should allow it to be an expression of hope, not simply rote words. Then, over time, it builds up our hope in God. It sinks deep into our souls and bodies. How blessed we are when these words of hope are on our lips, even when everything else seems to fail.

— *Father John Muir*

Weekly Prayer

Sunday's Readings

First Reading:

Far be it from you to do such a thing,
to make the innocent die with the guilty
so that the innocent and the guilty would be treated alike!
Should not the judge of all the world act with justice?" (Gn 18:25)

Psalm:

Lord, on the day I called for help, you answered me. (Ps 138)

Second Reading:

You were buried with him in baptism,
in which you were also raised with him
through faith in the power of God. (Col 2:12)

Gospel:

"And I tell you, ask and you will receive;
seek and you will find;
knock and the door will be opened to you." (Lk 11:9)

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Live The Liturgy Inspiration of the Week

"Lord, teach us to pray." The disciples are asking how to approach God, how to communicate with Him. Jesus' answer? Have no fear, and have no embarrassment. God waits at the door. Knock. The conversation is yours to start.

Observances for the week of July 27, 2025

- Sunday:** 17th Sunday in Ordinary Time
Tuesday: Sts. Martha, Mary and Lazarus
Wednesday: St. Peter Chrysologus,
Bishop and Doctor of the Church
Thursday: St. Ignatius of Loyola, Priest
Friday: St. Alphonsus Liguori,
Bishop and Doctor of the Church
Saturday: St. Eusebius of Vercelli, Bishop;
St. Peter Julian Eymard, Priest
Next Sunday: 18th Sunday in Ordinary Time



Devotions, *Explained!*

The daily examen is a spiritual practice whereby one places himself in the presence of God, prayerfully reflecting on the blessings of the day, the actions he took, and the invitation God has for his future decisions.

Prayer for Hope

Lord,
Restore my hope!
Where I fear the future, write a
new script in my heart.
Where I doubt Your goodness, fill
me anew.
Give me steadfast hope for a
beautiful tomorrow.
Amen.

(PRACTICING) CATHOLIC

Mini Reflection: Whatever is interrupting communication between your heart and the One who crafted it, it can be overcome. There is no door thick enough, no night dark enough, no sleep strong enough.

Ask and You Shall Receive

It's easy to look at today's Gospel reading and come away with a view of God as disinterested and irritated, reluctant to give us what we need unless we bang down his door, hound him to the furthest reaches of heaven, wrench him from his reverie and force him to answer just so we'll finally go away.

Well, that's not what Jesus means by the parable of the friend at midnight — but it's also not surprising that we would think that it is. The whole point of this Gospel is that communication between God and man has been broken. It's not as easy as it once was, as it should be, as it could be.

In this parable, there exists many barriers between the supplicant and his friend. The time of day is not ideal. The door is locked. Their dispositions are opposite — one is in the middle of a REM cycle and the other is deeply agitated. They appear to be two people who are not primed to communicate well. Everything is working against them.

The same could well be said of God and the human race. Here we are in a fallen world, surrounded by sin and pain and sickness and death to the extent that it infiltrates not just our bodies but our souls, our minds, our attitudes.

We are the friend caught unprepared in the dead of night. We don't always know how to talk to God (*That door is thick! Will he hear us if we knock?*). We don't always know if we should (*It's all my fault that I ran out of loaves, after all*). We don't even know if we want to (*It's nighttime! He might be angry!*).

Everything is working against us.

It doesn't matter, Jesus tells us. Whatever is interrupting communication between your heart and the One who crafted it, the One who desires its full and irrevocable attention, it can be overcome. There is no door thick enough, no night dark enough, no sleep strong enough.

So knock.

— Colleen Jurkiewicz Dorman

Why do we do that?

Catholic Life Explained

Question:

This time of year, I attend a lot of weddings. Why do Catholic weddings need to take place in a church?

Answer:

Technically, there is a clause in Church law that could allow for weddings to take place outside of a church, in a suitable space under special circumstances, but it requires the rare permission of the bishop. But the meaning of marriage goes very, very deep, and the Church has a vested interest in protecting that meaning. As Catholics, we don't see a wedding as an event that needs a pleasing backdrop.

Marriage is a sacrament, both an occasion of joyful promise and symbolic solemnity. It is a spiritual event. The loving bond of marriage symbolizes the mystical union between Christ and his Church. The man and woman profess lifelong vows of fidelity, and they receive supernatural grace from God to keep their promises. Receiving the sacrament of Marriage in a church has broader symbolic meaning for the couple as well. Marriage isn't simply two people in isolation from the world around them. Marriage is the joining of families and the beginning of a new, holy mission in the life of the couple. Weddings are sacred occasions, and it's fitting that they occur in sacred spaces.

“And I tell you, ask and you will receive; seek and you will find; knock and the door will be opened to you. For everyone who asks, receives; and the one who seeks, finds; and to the one who knocks, the door will be opened.” - Lk 11:9-10

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Questions of the Week

Invite Parishioners to Reflect and Respond to Scripture

First Reading:

Abraham questions God about how He passes judgment on people. What questions do you have for the Lord?

Second Reading:

Paul teaches the believers in Colossae that through his cross and resurrection from the dead, Jesus united Jews and Gentiles by their shared faith in him. How does your faith in Jesus bring you closer to others?

Gospel:

Jesus encourages his disciples to be persistent and bold in praying to God. Can you think of a time when God answered a bold prayer from you?

17TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

