



• 6TH SUNDAY OF EASTER •

**I WILL NOT LEAVE
YOU ORPHANS.**

St. Elizabeth of Hungary/St. Mark

SIXTH SUNDAY OF EASTER | May 10, 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
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OFFICE HOURS / PHONE

Tuesday & Wednesday
9AM—3PM

Phone.....570-472-3061

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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

May 3, 2026

Weekly	\$2317.00
Online	\$748.00
	\$3065.00
Diocesan	-\$110.00
TOTAL	\$2955.00

Thank you for your continued generosity.

Eucharistic Celebration

SATURDAY, MAY 9

4:00pm (M) For All Mothers

6:00pm (E) For All Mothers

SUNDAY, MAY 10 **MOTHER'S DAY**

8:30am (M) For All Mothers

10:30am (E) For All Mothers

MONDAY, MAY 11

9:00am (E) Pete Ferguson *Req. by Mary Ann Brier & Family*

TUESDAY, MAY 12

9:00am (E) Linda Georgetti *Req. by Marcie Georgetti*

WEDNESDAY, MAY 13

9:00am (E) Michele Janowicz *Req. by Greg & Dawn Okrasinski*

THURSDAY, MAY 14

9:00am (E) Gary Walker *Req. by Tom & Sue Kozerski*

6:00pm (M) Marilyn Knight *Req. by Marcie Georgetti*

FRIDAY, MAY 15

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

SATURDAY, MAY 16

4:00pm (M) Eugene & George Cooney *Req. by Kathy & Steve Rector*

6:00pm (E) Michele Janowicz *Req. by Janet Michael*

SUNDAY, MAY 17 **CONFIRMATION**

8:30am (M) St. Elizabeth/St. Mark Confirmands

10:30am (E) St. Elizabeth/St. Mark Confirmands



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, Joseph Kachurak, Patrick Kildea, Michael Lilienthal, Mollie Litchman, Amber Moyer, Carolyn Palencar, Donald Scharf, Mary Soos, Byran Stanton, Verna Stavish, Scott Tiger, 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.



The Sanctuary Candles at both Churches are burning in memory of all mothers, living and deceased.

Congratulations & Welcome

Congratulations to Maverick Orion Cain who was baptized Saturday at St. Mark's.

Proud parents are Skyler and Brittany Cain.

"Blessings to you, sweet child, as you begin your walk with God. May His love shine brightly in your heart forever."

Pray the Rosary



Father Rawel's
Corner



**FAITH SHARED SPIRIT
RECEIVED**

Today's readings remind us how God works in our lives through

faith, hope and love.

Philip went to Samaria and shared the Good News of Jesus Christ boldly. His courage opened hearts to God and people received the Holy Spirit. It manifests that faith received needs to be shared.

Like Philip, we are called to share God's love not just in words, but in real actions; through kindness and care that touch lives daily. Even in simple gesture of love can bring God's presence into someone's life.

Peter's letter strengthens us for life's rough roads. We face challenges, pain and suffering but Christ gives meaning to struggles. He suffered for us and that's how He becomes our source of profound hope and redemption.

Our hurts and pains, when offered to God with open hands, become a sacred bridge to personal growth, deeper trust in divine providence and ultimate union with Him.

Jesus further comforts us, promising that the Father will send another Advocate, the Spirit of Truth, to dwell with us forever. Grief, hurt or fear can darken our days, making them feel endless and lonely. Yet Jesus promises that joy will come in God's time. Our simple prayers always reach Him. Even if the answers come slowly, the Spirit holds our tears and weaves them into healing, hope and lasting peace.

May the Good Lord, help us to love you by keeping your commandments. And grant us grace that we may live our faith with courage, speak with gentleness and share your hope and love with others! AMEN!!!

**HAVE A BLESSED EASTER SEASON AND HAPPY
MOTHER'S DAY!!!**

**“He ascended into
heaven, and is seated
at the right hand
of the Father”**



Thursday, May 14th

**HOLY DAY Of
OBLIGATION**

**Masses
9:00AM
St. Elizabeth**

**6:00PM
St. Mark**



Baskets for our Summer Festival can be dropped off at either church starting [this Saturday](#). Please make sure your basket is wrapped and ready to display. Please have your name with your basket. Thank you in advance for your support of our Summer Festival.

If you have any questions please feel free to contact Chrissy Nordmark at (570) 899-4277, Nicki Pachucki at snap0208@aol.com or Annie Rood (570) 574-8664. Thank you.



**Our Lady of Victory
Church
Harveys Lake, PA 18618**

**Fatima Devotions will be
held every 13th of the
month from May through
October. Services start at 7
pm and include: Fatima**

prayers, the Rosary, and Marian hymns. Light refreshments will be served again this year after the devotions. The public is welcome to attend and celebrate Our Blessed Mother.

2026 Calendar:

**Wednesday, May 13
Saturday, June 13
Monday, July 13
Thursday, August 13
Sunday, September 13
Tuesday, October 13**



Worship & Meditation

Readings for the week of May 10, 2026

Sunday:

Acts 8:5-8, 14-17/Ps 66:1-3, 4-5, 6-7, 16
and 20/1 Pt 3:15-18/Jn 14:15-21

Monday:

Acts 16:11-15/Ps 149:1b-2, 3-4, 5-6a and
9b/Jn 15:26-16:4a

Tuesday:

Acts 16:22-34/Ps 138: 1-2ab, 2cde-3,
7c-8/Jn 16:5-11

Wednesday:

Acts 17:15, 22-18:1/Ps 148: 1-2, 11-12, 13, 14/
Jn 16:12-15

Thursday:

Acts 1:15-17, 20-26/Ps 113: 1-2, 3-4, 5-6,
7-8/Jn 15:9-17

Friday:

Acts 18:9-18/Ps 47:2-3, 4-5, 6-7/
Jn 16:20-23

Saturday:

Acts 18:23-28/Ps 47: 2-3, 8-9, 10/
Jn 16:23b-28

Next Sunday:

Acts 1:1-11/Ps 47: 2-3, 6-7, 8-9/Eph 1:17-
23/Mt 28:16-20



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Gospel Meditation

Encourage Deeper Understanding of Scripture

In my family, we can hardly speak about orphans without tears. My father was adopted as a baby. He frequently told us stories of how his parents welcomed him not just into their home but into their hearts. It was never merely a relocation or a legal transaction. It was the joy of being chosen, of receiving a family, a name, and a place where he belonged forever. Even in his later years, recalling that gift still moves him to tears of tender gratitude.

That is the kind of tenderness behind Jesus' words in today's Gospel: **"I will not leave you orphans; I will come to you."** (John 14:18) He is going away, but not abandoning us. Instead, he sends us the Advocate, the Holy Spirit — his own Spirit, shared with the Father — who dwells in us. Through the Spirit, Christ is present in us, and we are present in him. His Spirit gives us a home and a family.

We deepen this knowledge in the sacraments, in prayer, and in the daily life of the Church. The Spirit is the bond of belonging, the power that makes us God's sons and daughters, not spiritual orphans. And this is not a one-time event. There is always a deeper outpouring of the Spirit available to us, a fresh appropriation of the promise that we are never abandoned.

If only we could be as grateful as my dad is for his adoption, realizing that we have been adopted by God Himself. In Christ, we are never left as orphans.

— *Father John Muir*

Weekly Prayer

Sunday's Readings

First Reading:

For unclean spirits, crying out in a loud voice,
came out of many possessed people,
and many paralyzed or crippled people were cured.
There was great joy in that city. (Acts 8:7-8)

Psalm:

Let all the earth cry out to God with joy. (Ps 66)
Or Alleluia.

Second Reading:

For Christ also suffered for sins once,
the righteous for the sake of the unrighteous,
that he might lead you to God. (1 Pt 3:18)

Gospel:

"Whoever has my commandments and observes them
is the one who loves me.
And whoever loves me will be loved by my Father,
and I will love him and reveal myself to him." (Jn 14:21)

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Live The Liturgy Inspiration of the Week

When we want to see Christ's face, we must look to the Sacraments. "The world will no longer see me," Christ tells his disciples, "but you will see me." This ability to see Jesus is a gift of the Holy Spirit, one made again and again — even today.

Observances for the week of May 10, 2026

- Sunday:** 6th Sunday of Easter; *Mother's Day*
Tuesday: Sts. Nereus and Achilleus, Martyrs;
St. Pancras, Martyr
Wednesday: Our Lady of Fatima
Thursday: The Ascension of the Lord (holy day of
obligation in some U.S. dioceses);
St. Matthias, Apostle
Friday: St. Isidore
Saturday: *Armed Forces Day*
Next Sunday: The Ascension of the Lord; 7th Sunday of Easter;
World Communications Day



Virtues, Explained!

The virtue of courage is intimately linked with that of fortitude — roughly understood as courage in action — and is shown by the person who makes a choice to place his trust in God, not in circumstance.

Blessing for Mother's Day

Dear Lord,
Pour your goodness and grace upon the women of our community today in a special way. For mothers: fill them with joy and blessing. For those who have lost children: hold them in their sorrow. For those who have hoped for children: surround them with Your love. For those who have lost a mother: may they know Your comfort. For those carrying difficulty on this day: bring them consolation. Bless all women this day. Thank you for the love they bring to this world, no matter their circumstances or story. Amen.

(PRACTICING) CATHOLIC

Mini Reflection: We are all in need of redemption. When we accept that redemption, however, we also accept a responsibility. Because now, we become what the world sees of Christ.

The Christ You See

“What if you are the only version of Christ someone sees today?” a friend once asked me.

My blood ran cold. *Jeez, I thought. That would be...really unfortunate.*

The world cannot accept the Holy Spirit, Christ tells us, because the world cannot see and know the Holy Spirit (John 14:17). But the world can see us. The world can know us. In this way, we accomplish the Great Commission: we go forth, and we make disciples of all nations. In all that we are and all that we do, we offer an explanation for our hope (1 Peter 3:15).

We face a unique situation, 2,000 years after the Resurrection, because our mission field is full of people who have already heard about Christ.

And they have zero interest, thanks-and-please-get-off-my-porch.

This Christ they've seen? He puts himself first. He's suspicious of other people. He's not interested in mixing with the wrong crowd. He's been known to lie, to abuse trust, to protect himself.

Here's the problem: they haven't seen Christ at all. They've only seen Christians.

It's easy to blame the obvious culprits: the priest consumed in public scandal, the parish trustee who stole from the coffers. But these are only larger versions of the same failure of which I am guilty each time I shiver at the thought of someone associating my behavior, my words, and my attitude with my Savior.

I am not Christ. I am nowhere close. But I am fortunate enough to be a member of his Body.

We all fail, of course. Every apostle, every saint, every bishop, every priest, every man and woman in the pews: we are all broken. We are all in need of redemption. When we accept that redemption, however, we also accept responsibility. Because now, we become what the world sees of Christ.

Am I ready to be the only version of Christ someone sees today?

— Colleen Jurkiewicz Dorman

Why do we do that?

Catholic Life Explained

Question:

One of my coworkers said that Catholics believe we kill Christ again when we celebrate the Mass, since it is his sacrifice. I know that is not right, but how do we explain it?

Answer:

We do indeed believe that the Mass is the unbloody sacrifice of Jesus on the cross, and we believe that the sacrifice is made present again on the altar—not to repeat it, but to join ourselves to it. We are joined to the saving work of Christ, not just simply remembering it.

The closest thing we might have in our culture is when a couple saves some wedding cake in the freezer, and on their first anniversary, they may watch their wedding video and eat the cake, all to recapture the moment. The Jews celebrate a Seder meal, not to remember the Passover, but to participate in it through the ritual foods, questions, and readings. The *Catechism of the Catholic Church* describes the Mass as the “Holy Sacrifice, because it makes present the one sacrifice of Christ” (#1330). To think that we must sacrifice Christ over and over again would negate what he did on Calvary. To celebrate and renew it each day allows us to participate in it. That is the “source and summit” of Christian life (#1324).

“On that day you will realize that I am in my Father and you are in me and I in you. Whoever has my commandments and observes them is the one who loves me. And whoever loves me will be loved by my Father, and I will love him and reveal myself to him.”

- Jn 14:20-21

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Questions of the Week

Invite Parishioners to Reflect and Respond to Scripture

First Reading:

We hear how even the Samaritans came to believe in Jesus and received the gift of the Holy Spirit. When have you been surprised by God?

Second Reading:

Peter taught his community to learn how to explain their faith to others, even if they are hostile. Do you feel confident defending the faith?

Gospel:

Jesus assures his disciples that God gives us the Holy Spirit to serve as our Advocate. What might you pray for this week from the Holy Spirit?

