

St. Elizabeth of Hungary/St. Mark

5700 Bear Creek Boulevard, Bear Creek, Pennsylvania 18602



• 13TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME •

**WHOEVER LOSES
HIS LIFE FOR MY
SAKE WILL FIND IT.**

©LPI

THIRTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME | June 28, 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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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 21, 2026

Weekly	\$1704.00
Online	<u>\$848.00</u>
	\$2552.00
Diocesan	<u>\$10.00</u>
TOTAL	\$2542.00

Thank you for your continued generosity.

Eucharistic Celebration

SATURDAY, JUNE 27

4:00pm (M) Dolores Revit *Req. by Kathy & Steve Rector*

6:00pm (E) Sylvia Esjornson *Req. by Dr. Gary & Benedetta Lawrence*

SUNDAY, JUNE 28

8:30am (M) Joseph Bruckner *Req. by Rita Thomas*

10:30am (E) Richard Emmert *Req. by Dr. Gary & Benedetta Lawrence*

MONDAY, JUNE 29

9:00am (E) Angelo Talarico Jr. *Req. by Knights of Columbus #6050*

TUESDAY, JUNE 30

9:00am (E) Zoe Ann Kanavy *Req. by Don & Pam Julian*

WEDNESDAY, JULY 1

9:00am (E) Robert Blake *Req. by Joe & Debbie Foy*

THURSDAY, JULY 2

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

FRIDAY, JULY 3

FIRST FRIDAY

9:00am (E) Angelo Talarico Jr. *Req. by K of C Fr. Barrett Assembly*
Adoration until 12 Noon

SATURDAY, JULY 4

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*



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



Noreen Catani Amico, Patricia Cronauer, 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

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

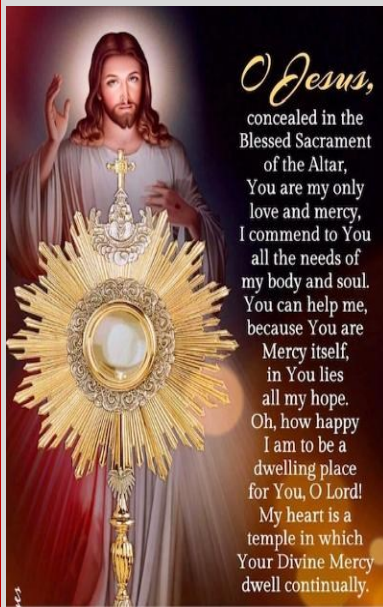
Reminder: Please keep the above PRAYER REQUEST updated and current. If any names need to be added or deleted, please contact office at 570-472-3061. Thank you!



THE MOST BLESSED SACRAMENT IS RESERVED IN OUR CHURCH

We respectfully ask that all observe a reverent silence.

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, July 3, 2026 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

Prayerful sympathy is extended to the family of Charlotte Janc who was buried from St. Elizabeth's Church this past Wednesday. Please remember Charlotte in prayer, along with her family and friends, during this difficult time of loss.



JESUS said:

"Whoever loves father or mother **more than me** is not worthy of me; and whoever loves son or daughter **more than me** is not worthy of me and whoever does not take up the cross and follow me is not worthy of me. **Those who find their life will lose it, and those who lose their life for my sake will find it.**

Matthew 10:37-39

Father Rawel's
Corner

REAL BLESSING IS IN GIVING

Today's readings remind us of famous saying, 'God loves the cheerful giver'.

In the first reading, the wealthy woman, who offers hospitality to Elisha without expecting anything, received the blessings.

In the Gospel, Jesus focuses on giving rather than possessing or receiving. For most of us, it is easy to receive than to give. A seed has the potency to become a tree. However, to actualize that potency and fulfil its purpose, the seed has to give itself to the water and the sand. Indeed, the real actualization of the seed consists of its capacity to give itself.

The real blessing is hidden in our act of giving. The Jewish society believed that receiving anything from God was a blessing. However, Jesus completely changed it by giving up His life; by this greatest example, we believe that the real blessings consist in giving.

The second reading explains this mystery. By giving His life, Jesus received glory and became a real blessing to the whole of humanity.

Jesus invites us to follow Him. Through Baptism, we are dead to sin, which stops us from giving, and we have become new in Christ. This new life enables us to give whatever we have so that we may become a real blessing to the world. Is it possible for us to follow the words of St. Mother Teresa - give until it hurts?

Dear Lord, help us to give generously without holding on to anything so that we may be both the giver and recipient of your blessings.

HAVE A GREAT AND BLESSED SUNDAY!!!!

CELEBRATE AMERICA:

AN INDEPENDENCE DAY CONCERT

The Pennsylvania Northeast Chapter, American Guild of Organists will present Celebrate America: An Independence Day Concert on **Sunday, June 28** at 3:00 p.m. at First Presbyterian Church, 97 South Franklin Street, Wilkes-Barre. The program will feature performances by organists Bernie Gardzalla, Canon Mark Laubach, and Carl Ruck, pianist Dr. Alan Hack, a brass quartet, the professional vocal ensemble *The Lyric Consort*, and a choir under the direction of John Vaida. The concert is free and open to the public. For more information, visit www.agopane.org or call the church office at 570-824-2478.

CONCERT FOR 250TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

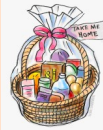
On Monday, June 29 at 7:00 PM, St. John the Evangelist Church, 35 William Street in Pittston, will host an Independence Day Concert in celebration of the 250th Anniversary of the founding of the United States of America. A combined choir with friends from the surrounding area will lead us in song. We will also welcome the choir of Holy Rosary School in Duryea, who will perform during the program. Guest instrumentalists for this year's concert will include a brass quartet (Dale Chase, Dan Coyle, Chuck Smith, and Geoff Speicher), flutist Cindy Thomas, and percussionist Monica Spishock. The program will also feature other instrumental selections. A free-will offering will be accepted.

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.

[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

Join Us in Seoul, South Korea

World Youth Day 2017

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!

Priority registration deadline is

June 30, 2026

Seoul, South Korea

Go on Pilgrimage with the
Diocese of Scranton!

World Youth Day 2027

DIocese of SCRANTON

VERSO

Worship & Meditation

Readings for the week of June 28, 2026

Sunday:

2 Kgs 4:8-11, 14-16a/Ps 89:2-3, 16-17, 18-19/Rom 6:3-4, 8-11/Mt 10:37-42

Monday:

Vigil: Acts 3:1-10/Ps 19:2-3, 4-5/Gal 1:11-20/Jn 21:15-19 **Day:** Acts 12:1-11/ Ps 34:2-3, 4-5, 6-7, 8-9/2 Tm 4:6-8, 17-18/Mt 16:13-19

Tuesday:

Am 3:1-8; 4:11-12/Ps 5:4b-6a, 6b-7, 8/Mt 8:23-27

Wednesday:

Am 5:14-15, 21-24/Ps 50:7, 8-9, 10-11, 12-13, 16bc-17/Mt 8:28-34

Thursday:

Am 7:10-17/Ps 19:8, 9, 10, 11/Mt 9:1-8

Friday:

Eph 2:19-22/Ps 117:1bc, 2/Jn 20:24-29

Saturday:

Am 9:11-15/Ps 85:9ab and 10, 11-12, 13-14/Mt 9:14-17

Next Sunday:

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



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Gospel Meditation

Encourage Deeper Understanding of Scripture

I still remember the first homily I ever preached as a new deacon. It was at the seminary, and the Gospel was this one: **"Whoever loves father or mother more than me is not worthy of me."** (Matthew 10:37-38) Standing before more than 200 classmates and professors, I stumbled awkwardly through my words and realized how strange — almost insane — this teaching sounded. If anyone else said it, we would call it narcissistic or cultish.

And that is the point. I felt the weight of those words in my own heart then, as I still do today. Am I willing to live as though Christ's claim on my love is absolute? Are you?

Over the years, I've learned that the more I do, the more everything else makes sense. Family, friendships, vocation, even my very self: all of it falls into place when my love for Jesus comes first.

That is why he dares to speak this way. Our Lord is not a cult leader hungry for control. He is the Son of God, the source of life and love itself. To put him before everything else is not to lose, but to find...everything, and everyone, in him.

This week, name one thing or one person you are tempted to place before the Lord. Then consciously offer it back to him in prayer.

— *Father John Muir*

Weekly Prayer

Sunday's Readings

First Reading:

When the woman had been called and stood at the door,
Elisha promised, "This time next year
you will be fondling a baby son." (2 Kgs 4:15-16)

Psalm:

For ever I will sing the goodness of the Lord. (Ps 89)

Second Reading:

We were indeed buried with him through baptism
into death,
so that, just as Christ was raised from the dead
by the glory of the Father,
we too might live in newness of life. (Rom 6:4)

Gospel:

Whoever finds his life will lose it,
and whoever loses his life for my sake will find it. (Mt 10:39)

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Live The Liturgy Inspiration of the Week

Whoever receives the one sent in Christ's name
receives Christ. Whoever loves the Word of God
loves God Himself. Who is Christ sending to you
in his name this week? What Word do they speak
into the stillness of your soul? Receive them.
Receive him.

Observances for the week of June 28, 2026

- Sunday:** 13th Sunday in Ordinary Time
Monday: Sts. Peter And Paul, Apostles
Tuesday: The First Martyrs of the Holy Roman Church
Wednesday: St. Junípero Serra, Priest
Friday: St. Thomas, Apostle
Saturday: *Independence Day*
Next Sunday: 14th Sunday in Ordinary Time



Virtues, Explained!

When a person hears a "call," he cannot simply go — he must first figure out where the call is coming from. It's not enough to simply have an idea; the idea needs a good, thorough background check. This is discernment.

Blessing for Marriage

Dear Jesus,
Bless the married couples in our community and grow their bonds of love for each other. Give them the grace to share minds, hearts, dreams, growth, challenges, and strength in every season of life. Make them a sturdy shelter for each other, a place to find comfort and rest.
Amen.

(PRACTICING) CATHOLIC

Mini Reflection: It's easy to receive Jesus, or at least the Jesus presented to us by pop culture. But it's harder to receive God the Son, consubstantial with God the Father who sent him — the one from the Old Testament who says and does a bunch of things that make modern people uncomfortable.

Receiving

I receive a lot of junk mail. I'm on a bunch of people's asking-for-money lists, and so were the people who owned this house before me, and when you put it all together, it results in quite the pile of paper accumulating on my counter.

I leave it there because, while I have received this mail, I don't want to *receive* it. Do you see the difference? To really receive someone or something, you have to look at it, assess it, make space for it. Accept it. Decide it will have a place in your home or your life or whatever, and give it that place.

It's what the righteous woman did with Elisha. She received him. She had a room all ready, waiting for him, even when he wasn't there.

But I refuse to receive the junk mail. I don't have space for it, in my head or on my counter, so after a day or two, I just throw it away without looking through it.

"Whoever receives me receives the one who sent me," Jesus tells us in the Gospel of Matthew.

But what does that mean, exactly?

It's easy to receive Jesus, or at least to receive the Jesus presented to us by modern imagination — that laidback hippie who lets anyone sit at his table, no questions asked. But it's harder to receive the Christ, God the Son, who is consubstantial with God the Father who sent him.

Ah, yes, God the Father — maybe you've heard of Him? He's the one from the Old Testament who says and does a bunch of things that make modern people uncomfortable.

That's a little more of a challenge, isn't it? Takes a little bit more thought. A little more assessment. A little more making-space.

Can we do it? Well, we have to find a way. Because for the record, laidback hippie Jesus doesn't exist. And Old Testament God makes a lot of sense, if you give Him a little thought. If you make a little space.

So make the space. Receive.

— Colleen Jurkiewicz Dorman

Why do we do that?

Catholic Life Explained

Question:

I've heard of the Corporal and Spiritual Works of Mercy. What are they, and what's the difference?

Answer:

As God has shown us mercy, so too are we called to show mercy to those we encounter. We see mercy throughout the Gospels, but the parable in Matthew 25 forms the foundation for the first set of Works of Mercy. This parable of the last judgment shows each person being asked how well they cared for those around them, and being reminded that this care for those in need is care for God Himself. Each person is asked if they have fed the hungry, given drink to the thirsty, clothed the naked, sheltered the stranger, cared for the sick, and visited the imprisoned. These — along with burying the dead — are the Corporal Works of Mercy, as they primarily concern the physical life of a person.

The list of the Spiritual Works of Mercy developed later. These actions of love primarily concern the inner life of a person. They are instructing the ignorant, counseling the doubtful, admonishing sinners, bearing wrongs patiently, forgiving offenses, comforting the afflicted, and praying for both the living and the dead. All of these actions are concrete ways of bringing the love of God into the world.

“Whoever gives only a cup of cold water to one of these little ones to drink because the little one is a disciple--amen, I say to you, he will surely not lose his reward.” - Mt 10:42

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Questions of the Week

Invite Parishioners to Reflect and Respond to Scripture

First Reading:

The Shunammite woman is rewarded for her hospitality to the prophet Elisha. Is there a friend or colleague who needs your kindness this week?

Second Reading:

Paul teaches the Romans that as believers, we have died and risen in Christ and now look forward to living in “newness of life.” Is there something you are really looking forward to?

Gospel:

Jesus sets a high standard for those who choose to follow him. What have you found most rewarding about following Jesus?

