

TWENTY-EIGHTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

COME TO THE FEAST.

— MATTHEW 22:4 —



©LPI

St. Elizabeth of Hungary/St. Mark

5700 Bear Creek Boulevard, Bear Creek, Pennsylvania 18602

TWENTY-EIGHTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME | October 11, 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

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

October 4, 2026

Weekly	\$2690.00
Online	<u>\$786.00</u>
	\$3476.00
Diocesan	- <u>\$72.00</u>
TOTAL	\$3404.00

Thank you for your continued generosity.

Eucharistic Celebration

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 10—SUNDAY, OCTOBER 18, 2026

SATURDAY, OCT 10

4:00pm (M) Brian Rector *Req. by Kathy & Steve Rector*
6:00pm (E) Virginia "Ginny" Corcoran *Req. by Marianne Kocylowski*

SUNDAY, OCT 11 28th SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

8:30am (M) For All the Deceased from 9/11 Attacks
10:30am (E) Joseph Kachurak *Req. by Judy Pomento*

MONDAY, OCT 12

9:00am (E) For the Parishioners

TUESDAY, OCT 13

9:00am (E) For the Parishioners

WEDNESDAY, OCT 14

9:00am (E) Ethel "Pidge" Rebar *Req. by Butch & Jeannie Bidwell*

THURSDAY, OCT 15

9:00am (E) NO MASS

FRIDAY, OCT 16

9:00am (E) Fulmani Toppo *Req. by Friend Cathy*

SATURDAY, OCT 17

4:00pm (M) Kathleen Leary *Req. Kathy & Steve Rector*
6:00pm (E) Stephen Rish Sr. *Req. by Steve & Mer Rish*

SUNDAY, OCT 18 29th SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

8:30am (M) For the Parishioners
10:30am (E) Thomas Parker *Req. by Stan & Jean Swaintek*



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



Noreen Catani Amico, Joanne Austin, Baby Lily, Clarine Benesky, Bobby Everett, Terry Franklin, Kelly Fry, Lea Furlong, James Geremia, Milo Grunza, Bernard Hendrzak, Erin Himes, Jake Johnson, Michael Lilienthal, Mollie Litchman, James McClure, Amber Moyer, Sherry O'Malia, Carolyn Palencar, Dolores Santangelo, Donald Scharf, Mary Soos, Byran Stanton, Verna Stavish, John Tucker, Rev. Anthony Urban, Loretta Washick

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

Please keep Frank "Hank" and Sara Walker and their family in your prayers. Hank passed away Monday, September 28th. His funeral was Saturday, October 3rd at St. Maria Goretti Church in Laflin. Hank was a man of great faith and an integral figure at St. Elizabeth/St. Mark Parish.

Eternal rest grant unto him, O Lord, and let perpetual light shine upon him and all the faithfully departed souls.
Amen.

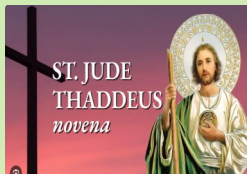


The Sanctuary Candle is burning this week in memory of Stephen Rish Sr. by Steve and Mer Rish.



The Christin Women of our Lady of Hope Parish will be hosting a Cash/Gift Card Bingo October 18th from 1:00 to 4:00 pm in Ava Maria Hall, 40 Park Ave, Wilkes Barre PA. Doors open at noon. Admission is \$20.00 in advance - \$25.00 at the door. Come join the fun. Gift baskets, instant bingo and refreshments will be available.

Please contact Andrea Grella at (570) 606-7463 or contact Sue at the rectory at 570-852-5303 for tickets to attend or for more information.



COMMUNION OF SAINTS PARISH TO HOST 69TH ANNUAL NOVENA TO ST. JUDE

Communion of Saints Parish in Pittston will continue the tradition of the Annual Novena to St. Jude, Patron Saint of Hopeless Cases and Things Despaired Of, beginning Monday, October 19 and ending on the Feast of Sts. Simon and Jude, Wednesday, October 28. All Masses and services will be celebrated in St. Mary, Help of Christians Church, 535 North Main Street in Pittston. Daily Masses will be celebrated at 12 Noon (Monday-Saturday) and Sunday Mass will be celebrated at 8:00 AM. Sung Evening Prayer will be celebrated at 7:00 PM (Monday-Friday). There will be no Evening Prayer on Saturday or Sunday. Confessions will be heard Monday through Saturday beginning at 11:30 AM, and the Rosary will be prayed before each 12 Noon Mass. The blessing with the relic of St. Jude will take place after all Masses and services. For more information, please contact the Communion of Saints parish office at 570-654-0053.



COMMUNION OF SAINTS PARISH CRAFT FAIR

The Communion of Saints Parish annual Craft Fair will be held on SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 7 from 10:00 AM-3:00 PM in the Parish Center of Our Lady of Mt. Carmel Church, 237 William Street in Pittston. Lunch will be available for purchase, and there will be up to 30 vendors. The Craft Fair will be sponsored by the Altar & Rosary Society of Our Lady of Mt. Carmel Church. Please contact for applications.

**Fr. Rawel's
Corner**



GOD'S LIBERATION EXTENDS TO ALL

Today's readings remind us of the inclusive nature of God. God who is present in history and who is also present in chaos prepares a rich banquet and invites all to the banquet.

In the first reading, God is to destroy all that seek to oppress the people. He also would host a feast with rich and most luxurious good possible - fat dishes filled with marrow as well as well - edges distilled wines. The others also give the same hope. This, God's feast is not only the Israelites but also for all people.

In the reading from the Gospel, Jesus prepares a wedding dinner and invites all to the feast. Initially, the invited people just ignored the invitation and refused to attend. They go about their business when they are called a second time.

In a rage, the king dispatches his forces to destroy both the offenders and the city.

Finally, the king sends his servant into the streets to invite everyone, good and bad, to the wedding feast. They invite everyone in and fill the hall. The last invitation, which fills the banquet hall, is open to all. When the king encounters a guest who is not properly attired, the king sends him out of the banquet. Though God gives his grace to all without any condition, our acceptance of His grace should be reflected in our way of life to take part in the eternal kingdom.

Loving Jesus gives us the grace to prepare ourselves for your invitation and be inclusive in all our acts.

HAVE A BLESSED SUNDAY!!!

St. Elizabeth/St. Mark Parish Fund

Homemade Pierogi Sale: \$10/dozen



- Use the **order forms** provided at the back of the church
- You are encouraged to share with friends, family, co-workers, etc.
- All **orders are due on/before Sunday, October 18th**
- Please place the order forms & payment into an **envelope marked "Pierogi Sale"** and drop it in the collection basket at mass
- **Drive-Up Pickup** at the St. Elizabeth Church rectory (garage side) on **Sunday, November 1st @ 11:45-1:30**
- Have questions? Call/text -- Annie Rood 570-574-8664
Chrissy Nordmark 570-899-4277



**100 years of World Mission Sunday
1926—2026**

World Mission

Sunday:

October 18

On Sunday, October 18, we join Catholics around the world in celebrating World Mission Sunday.

Through the Pope's Pontifical Mission Societies, our prayers and gifts help bring the Gospel, food, education, and healthcare to communities in need in more than 1,100 mission dioceses across the globe. Please pray for our missionaries, and give generously in this special second collection. Together, we are the Church's helping hands around the world.



**Our Lady of Victory
Church**

Harveys Lake, PA

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.

Tuesday—October 13, 2026—7:00PM

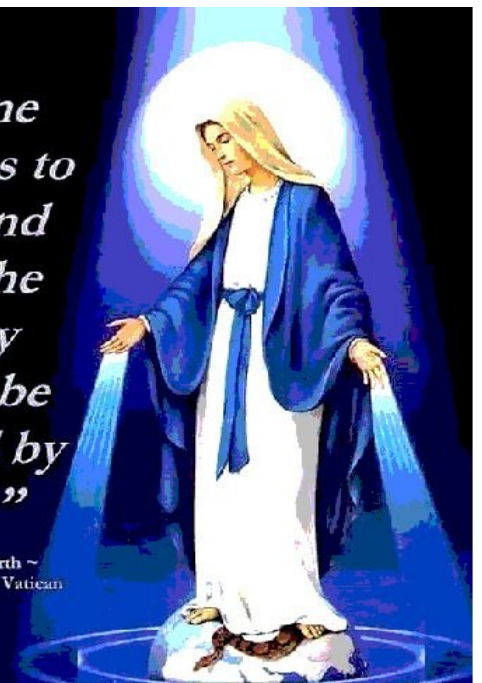
October
dedicated to



*The
Holy
Rosary*

*"Anyone
who goes to
Mary and
prays the
Rosary
cannot be
touched by
Satan."*

*~ Fr. Gabriel Amorth ~
Chief Exorcist of the Vatican*



Worship & Observances

Blessing for Our Common Home

God, bless and protect this beautiful earth You have created, the place we call home. Grow Your compassion in us, as we share our lives in this world, together. Amen.

Readings for the Week of October 11, 2026

Sunday

Is 25:6-10a/Ps 23:1-3a, 3b-4, 5, 6/Phil 4:12-14, 19-20/
Mt 22:1-14 or 22:1-10

Monday

Gal 4:22-24, 26-27, 31-5:1/Ps 113:1b-2, 3-4, 5a and 6-7/
Lk 11:29-32

Tuesday

Gal 5:1-6/Ps 119:41, 43, 44, 45, 47, 48/Lk 11:37-41

Wednesday

Gal 5:18-25/Ps 1:1-2, 3, 4 and 6/Lk 11:42-46

Thursday

Eph 1:1-10/Ps 98:1, 2-3ab, 3cd-4, 5-6/Lk 11:47-54

Friday

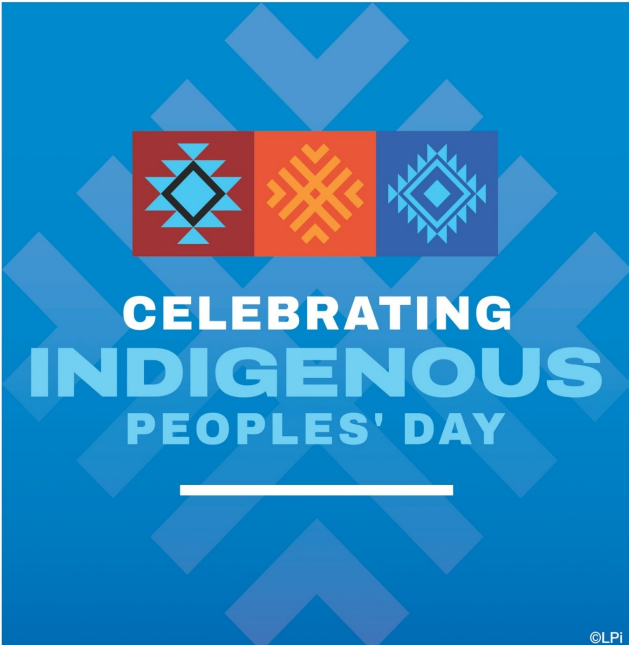
Eph 1:11-14/Ps 33:1-2, 4-5, 12-13/Lk 12:1-7

Saturday

Eph 1:15-23/Ps 8:2-3ab, 4-5, 6-7/Lk 12:8-12

Next Sunday

Is 45:1, 4-6/Ps 96:1 and 3, 4-5, 7-8, 9-10/1 Thes 1:1-5b/
Mt 22:15-21



CELEBRATING INDIGENOUS PEOPLES' DAY

©LPi

Observances for the Week of October 11, 2026

Sunday

28th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Monday

Columbus Day; Indigenous Peoples' Day

Wednesday

St. Callistus I, Pope and Martyr

Thursday

St. Teresa of Jesus, Virgin and Doctor of the Church

Friday

St. Hedwig, Religious;
St. Margaret Mary Alacoque, Virgin

Saturday

St. Ignatius of Antioch, Bishop and Martyr

Next Sunday

29th Sunday in Ordinary Time;
World Mission Sunday

Weekly Scripture



Virtues, Explained!

If the question were posed: “Who is God?” a variety of answers could be given, and more than one could be correct.

The most succinct, however, would be this: God is truth.

“I am the Way, the Truth and the Life,” Jesus tells his disciples (John 14:6). The pursuit of truth, he further instructs, will set them free (John 8:32) from the original untruth uttered and embraced in Eden.

If God is truth, he is honored by truthfulness. Untruthfulness, not surprisingly, is synonymous with disorder and broken relationships among mankind — Eden’s everlasting legacy. The virtue of honesty, writes St. Thomas Aquinas, is “a kind of spiritual beauty” which measures the degree to which we honor one another in how we live truthfully (Sum. II:II, 145, Art 1-4).

Honesty is something that must be known interiorly in order to be visible exteriorly: “Teach me your way, O Lord, that I may walk in your Truth” (Psalm 86:11).

Sunday’s Readings

First Reading

The Lord GOD will wipe away
the tears from every face. (Is 25:8)

Psalm

I shall live in the house of the Lord all the days of my
life. (Ps 23)

Second Reading

I have learned the secret of being well fed and of
going hungry,
of living in abundance and of being in need.
I can do all things in him who strengthens me.
(Phil 4:12-13)

Gospel

“Go out, therefore, into the main roads
and invite to the feast whomever you find.”
(Mt 22:9)

Excerpts from the Lectionary for Mass ©2001, 1998, 1970 CCD.
The English translation of Psalm Responses from Lectionary for
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Liturgy Corporation. All rights reserved.

Live The Liturgy

Inspiration of the Week

When God extends an invitation, we
don’t always respond promptly. So,
what’s the hold-up? Let’s examine our
lives for anything that delays our RSVP.
This is one party we can’t afford to miss.

GOSPEL MEDITATION:
ENCOURAGE DEEPER UNDERSTANDING OF
SCRIPTURE —*Father John Muir*

Some friends invited me to one of the most famous and expensive restaurants in the country. I was grateful and eager to go. One invited friend even flew from another state for the experience. Every bite and sip was truly memorable and delicious. But my friends' teenage children spent much of the time on their phones, complained about the food, and generally ignored the once-in-a-lifetime experience. I wanted to yell, "C'mon, you guys! Look what you're missing!"

In today's parable, Jesus describes people invited to an amazing wedding feast who respond with inexplicable indifference. He says, **"Some ignored the invitation and went away, one to his farm, another to his business" (Matthew 22:5).** The problem is not that they choose evil but that they allow other desires to distract them from an amazing opportunity. The feast is prepared, but their hearts are elsewhere. In Christ Jesus, God offers each of us a wildly extravagant offer: a place at the wedding banquet between heaven and earth.

What are your current excuses for the delay in engaging with Jesus? How are you postponing a deepening of your relationship with him under the guise of responsibility? The good news is that the feast is ready. His invitation remains. Hear the Lord say to us, "C'mon, guys! Look what you're missing!" Then respond with concrete action.



RECOGNIZE GOD IN YOUR ORDINARY
MOMENTS—*by Colleen Jurkiewicz Dorman*

The King of Rejected Meals

"She was the Queen of Rejected Meals."

That's what I want it to say on my tombstone. Etched in marble, deeply, so the wind and rain of a thousand years can never erase it.

Humor, you see, masks my despair. I'm sure many of you know the feeling of sweating over a hot stove for an hour to create a dish that a small, picky eater will push away, lips curled with disgust.

We've all made a feast no one wanted to come to.

It strikes me that "King of Rejected Meals" is an epithet which could likewise be scrawled on the empty tomb. Don't mistake me — I'm not comparing myself to Christ! (And I'm definitely not comparing my sub-par beef-and-zucchini casserole to the Eucharist, the food of life.)

I'm just saying that a lot of evenings, when I'm clearing plates from the table, I wonder why I even bother. I wonder why I don't just give in and let the kids eat potato chips and KitKats for every meal like they want.

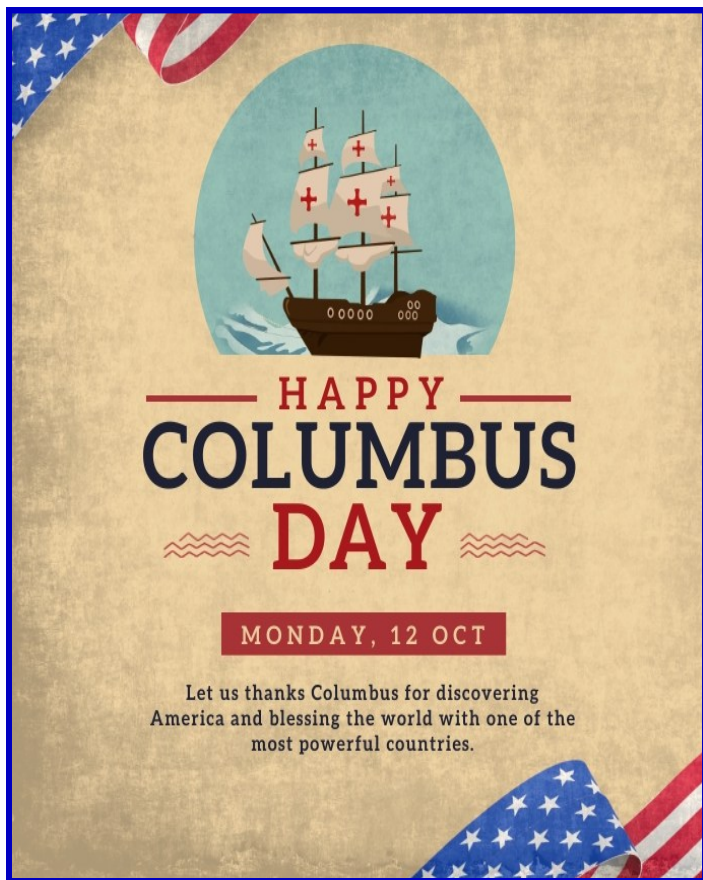
Why don't I? Well, mom guilt, for starters. But it's more than that, really. It's the certainty I have, underneath the resentment, that my efforts aren't in vain, despite all evidence to the contrary.

Hope springs eternal, you see. How can we Christians help but be optimistic? We have been welcomed to a feast laid for others. We find our salvation in the ultimate rejected meal, in recognizing what true nourishment looks and feels and tastes like, even — *especially!* — when the rest of the world does not.

Maybe one day my kids will eat grilled chicken willingly. Who knows? Miracles happen every day.



Liturgical Life



St. Hedwig—Feast Day October 16th
Patron Saint of Silesia, Poland, orphans,
brides, widows and the indebted.

