

St. Elizabeth of Hungary Catholic Church

A Mission Church of the Cathedral Basilica of the Immaculate Conception

Second Sunday of Advent

Staff

Very Reverend Samuel Morehead, Pastor

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December 4, 2022

Dear brothers and sisters,

I know, I know... I bragged about Argentina's soccer team, and they lost their first match against a very low rated Saudi Arabia. But, even so, the team placed first in its' group and they go forward to the next stage. It was a lesson in humility. For your information, Argentines in general, but especially "porteños," people from Buenos Aires like me, are not exactly well known for their humility!

Mass Times

Monday to Friday: 12:15 PM

Sunday: 9:00 AM

Confession Times

Monday to Friday: 11:40 AM – 12:10 PM

Thursday: 4:20 PM - 5:20 PM

I must also confess that since I'm also an American citizen, I was rooting for team U.S.A. too! It was a joy to see them play so well and getting so far in the soccer world cup. As you might know, I tested positive for COVID last Monday. I had mandated isolation. What could I do? I had to watch soccer! :=) Thankfully, I'm all recovered now. I want to thank Fr. Sam especially for finding replacement Priests all the days that I was out with COVID (or world cup duty...)!

Eucharistic Adoration

Tuesday: 11:00 AM - 12:00 PM

Thursday: 4:20 PM - 5:20 PM

Last week we were delighted to welcome Abby Skinner as our new pianist. This week we welcome Nolan Armbruster, our already beloved FOCUS missionary as our main cantor for the near future. Whenever he is not in town, we will have some other people filling in. We thank Abby and Nolan for their willingness to serve our community!

Spiritual Talk

Thursday: 4:00 PM

A few weeks ago I was interviewed by Fr. Patrick Wainwrith, MC, in this podcast "For College Catholics." We talked about vocation discernment and I talked about the story of my own priestly vocation. If you are interested in knowing a little more about my story you can listen at www.forcollegecatholics.org, episode 87. You might also want to check out Fr. Patrick's other episodes too!

Office Hours

Monday to Friday: 10 AM – 3:00 PM

May our Lady of Guadalupe intercede for you as we approach her glorious feast day.

Spiritual Direction for College Students



Yours in Christ,

Fr. Richard, MC

<https://calendly.com/fatherrichard/spiritual-direction>

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Gospel Reflection Corner

By Fr. Richard Castro Huergo, MC

Francis Xavier was a young man filled with ambition for wordly fame. He had been born in a noble family, but they had lost most of their splendor. Francis Xavier wanted to become an important scholar and therefore studied in the best university of Europe which, at the time, was the Sorbonne of Paris.

When he was about 23 years old, Francis met Ignatius of Loyola at the University. Ignatius was much older, and Francis disregarded him immediately. Nevertheless, Ignatius grew on him, challenging him towards holiness. Finally, one day Ignatius told Francis the Gospel phrase: "What will it profit a man to gain the whole world, and lose his own soul?"

After that, Francis Xavier made the 30-day Spiritual Exercises that changed his life. He decided to consecrate himself to God, become a Priest and join the Religious Order that Ignatius was starting, the Jesuits. Francis Xavier would become a great apostle of Goa, India, South East Asia and Japan. Throughout his life records report that Xavier's hand baptized more than 700,000 people. The frequency was such that, according to an account he later gave, "sometimes, by the bare fatigue of administering that sacrament, he was scarce able to move his arm." Thus, one of his biographies is entitled "Set All Afire."

In today's Gospel we hear St. John the Baptist say that Christ "will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire." St. Francis Xavier lived by that fire of the Holy Spirit that burned in his heart, it is the fire of charity, the fire of love.

How did St. Francis Xavier become a saint? He let that charity take over his heart. Indeed, holiness is the perfection of charity. "Be perfect as my heavenly Father is perfect." In other words, love as the Father loves. Even better, love "with" the Father's love.

The Holy Spirit is the third person of the Trinity. The love between the Father and the Son. And so, when we are baptized with the gift of the Spirit, with the Third Person himself, we receive the theological virtue of charity.

We are called to let the virtue of charity grow and mature to perfection in our souls like St. Francis Xavier did. There are some basic ways in which we can do that.

First, the virtue of charity is a gift, we need to beg for it in prayer. We need to ask with humility for the gift of gifts, the gift of love. Let us tell the Lord that we can't do anything without the gift of his love.

Second, we grow in charity by doing acts of love for God and our neighbor. Making our love constant, without ever getting tired of loving, and effective, by loving first with our actions and our service.

Third, by following the inspirations of the Holy Spirit. The Spirit always whispers in the soul. We need to learn to listen to the subtle voice of God in the heart. The more we follow these inspirations, the more we grow in love.

And lastly, through the reception of the Sacraments, especially the Eucharist. The Eucharist is indeed called the Sacrament of Love. This is because it contains God himself who is love by his very essence. But also because it produces love in us. As we have already said in another homily, Jesus in the Eucharist changes our hearts in his own Sacred Heart. He makes us burn with the fire of his very love.

As we find ourselves almost in the middle of Advent, St. John invites us to conversion, to prepare our hearts to receiving the coming of our Savior. What better way of preparation than setting our hearts on fire by receiving our Lord in the Holy Eucharist with great devotion?

Meet Nolan Armbruster

Hey y'all! My name is Nolan Armbruster and I'm a FOCUS missionary here at the Auraria Campus. It has been such a blessing to serve this St. Elizabeth community! I grew up in Snohomish, Washington which is about 35 miles north of Seattle. I was raised a cradle Catholic and it was always a very important part of my life, but it wasn't the most important thing on my heart. I was very invested in sports and music which took priority over my faith.

When I went to college at Montana State University, I knew that I wanted to hold tightly to my faith, so I got involved with our Catholic campus community. After my first year, I knew I wanted to help more people grow in their love for Christ, so I became a Young Life college leader for a few years. In the middle of my college experience I lost two of my best friends to suicide. I withdrew from school and was set to either pursue God or turn away from Him. But instead, the Lord chose to pursue me and my faith was deeply strengthened as a result of these experiences.

I realized how hard it was to remain a Young Life college leader when I wasn't able to speak into the truths of the Catholic faith, as it was a nondenominational Christian group. I got back involved with my campus ministry as a leader and was so blessed to be able to teach and talk about the church that I fully believe in.

After I graduated in Chemical engineering, I entered the job market. I had gotten denied a job offer for a renewable energy company in Mon-

tana, and I really started contemplating where my life had gone. I had realized I was living my life for myself and not for the Lord. Upon this realization and wanting to turn my life around, I went to adoration, confession, and mass.

That day happened to be the Feast of the Conversion of St. Paul, in whose name I am confirmed. I knew Jesus, through the intercession of St. Paul was calling me higher, and two days later, the Lord made it very clear that I was to join FOCUS as a missionary (in which I knew nothing about). A few weeks later I was brought back to

the renewable energy company; the applicant they hired had declined the offer they proposed. At this point I hadn't interviewed with FOCUS, but I still felt the Lord calling me to His plan, rather than my idea of a dream job in Montana. I think it's pretty clear the decision I made.

I followed God's will for me and turned down the job in Montana, only to get a job with FOCUS. It has been such a blessing to continue to grow in a greater relationship with Christ and build connections

with students and other missionaries. I confidently think I made the right choice and am rejoicing in it.



Nolan Armbruster



Campus Outreach

Sports & Freezie Pops

Mondays: 1:00 PM - 4:00 PM (Quad)
Thursdays: 1:00 PM - 4:00 PM (Quad)

Free Grill Outs

Thursdays 1:00 PM - 4:00 PM
(St. Elizabeth's)

Eucharistic Adoration

Tuesdays 11:00 AM - 12:00 PM
Thursdays 4:20 PM - 5:20 PM
(St. Elizabeth's)

Spiritual Talk

Thursdays 4:00 PM
(St. Elizabeth's)

Youth Group

First Sunday of every month

After Mass through 11:30 AM

Come together for games,
activities and formation

All Middle and High School
young men and women are welcome!

Hosted by Liz Barreca

CORDA

Young Adults (18-30's) Activities

at the
Cathedral Basilica of the Immaculate Conception

Swingin' Sundays

Swing Lessons and Dance Time
(First Sundays)

A Pint with the Priests

Casual Conversations with the Cathedral Clergy
&

Father Sam's Pub Trivia

Team Trivia Challenge for Prizes
(Third Sundays)

For more information:

<https://www.denvercathedral.org/young-adults/>

or email Johanna:

jburke@catholicports.net

Announcements

Liturgical Ministries - Volunteer opportunities for greeters, lectors, altar servers and Eucharistic ministers. Sign up here: www.signupgenius.com/go/10c094da5aa23a0fec61-liturg. If you wish to volunteer for substitute cantor contact Fr. Richard.

Prayers of the Faithful - If you have someone you would like prayers for, let Lisa know at lisa@stelizabethdenver.org and we will include the intention in the Prayers of the Faithful for the upcoming Sunday.

Altar Linens - Volunteers needed for weekly washing of Altar Linens. This is one of those "behind the scenes" ministries that allow for an intimate encounter with Jesus. If interested, please contact Fr Richard.

Sandwich Line - Monday and Tuesday crews can still use some help - Mondays 9am - 12pm. For our Christmas Bags to our guests, your donations of knit hats, gloves and socks are much needed by the 11th of December. Thank you.



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