

St. Elizabeth of Hungary Catholic Church

A Mission Church of the Cathedral Basilica of the Immaculate Conception

Third Sunday of Advent

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December 11, 2022

Dear brothers and sisters,

Tomorrow, December 12, we will celebrate the Feast of our Lady of Guadalupe, my favorite Marian advocacy. The earliest account of the apparitions is in a document called "Nican Mopohua" which is very beautiful. I want to transcribe here some of the loving words of our Lady of Guadalupe to St. Juan Diego:

As soon as she heard the explanations of Juan Diego, the Merciful Perfect Virgin answered him:

"Listen, put it into your heart, my youngest-and-dearest son, that the thing that frightened you, the thing that afflicted you is nothing. Do not let it disturb you. Do not fear this sickness nor any other sickness, nor any sharp and hurtful thing.

Am I not here, I, who am your mother? Are you not under my shadow and protection? Am I not the source of your joy? Are you not in the hollow of my mantle, in the crossing of my arms? Do you need something more?

Let nothing else worry you, disturb you. Do not let your uncle's illness pressure you with grief, because he will not die of it now. You may be certain that he is already well".

And at that very moment his uncle became well, as they later found out.

And when Juan Diego heard the blessed breath, the blessed words, of the Queen of Heaven, he was greatly comforted by them, and his heart became peaceful.

I invite you to carefully and slowly read and reflect on these words as addressed to you personally. Mary is truly our mother, and she loves us with a powerful, sweet, merciful love. Let us allow ourselves to be mothered by her.

May our Lady of Guadalupe keep us in the crossing of her arms.

Yours in Christ,

Fr. Richard, MC



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

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

Eucharistic Adoration

Tuesday: 11:00 AM - 12:00 PM

Thursday: 4:20 PM - 5:20 PM

Spiritual Talk

Thursday: 4:00 PM

Office Hours

Monday to Friday: 10 AM – 3:00 PM

Spiritual Direction for College Students

1060 St Francis Way, Denver, CO 80204 – Located in the Auraria Campus
info@stelizabethdenver.org – (303) 534-4014 – www.stelizabethdenver.org

Gospel Reflection Corner

By Fr. Richard Castro Huergo, MC

Today is Guadete Sunday. The Latin term “guadete” means rejoice. We find this term in today’s entrance antiphon: “Rejoice in the Lord always; again I say, rejoice. Indeed, the Lord is near.” (Phil 4: 4-5)

The approach of the Savior by whom “the blind regain their sight, the lame walk, lepers are cleansed, the deaf hear, the dead are raised, and the poor have the good news proclaimed to them” gives us joy. Jesus quotes the prophet Isaiah in today’s Gospel, demonstrating that he is the Messiah.

Joy is the delight of possessing a good. We could talk about three kinds of joy. The first one is sinful joy. For instance, a bank robber rejoices in a perfectly executed robbery, or a liar rejoices in a very well-planned deceit. In this case the “good” we rejoice about is not something really good, but only in appearance.

The second kind of joy is merely human joy. As I’m writing this on Friday, Argentina has just won a game against Netherlands and we advance to the semifinals of the soccer’s World Cup. This is, indeed, a good joy, based on something that is truly good but limited.

Finally, the third kind of joy is spiritual joy. In this joy we delight on the possession of a divine, supernatural good. This is today’s joy, when we delight in Christ our Savior. And we delight in him in two ways. We delight in him because of how good and wonderful he is, but we also delight in him because he comes to save us, because we are the object of his salvation.

Joy is an act or fruit of love. Because we love something, we rejoice in it and in possessing it. And the higher the good we love is, the more intense and wonderful is the joy that comes from it. I rejoice in Argentina’s soccer team win, but I rejoice more in Christ my Savior.

Love has two other fruits: peace and mercy. Peace is the possession of a good with tranquility and without hindrance. We find peace when we possess some good we have been working for definitively. For instance, someone after working for years to become a doctor, finally becomes one. The ultimate peace is a fruit of the love of God. When we love God, we are at peace because our will is in union with God’s will and because we love those around us as God wants us to love them.

Lastly, we have mercy. As a fruit of loving God, we are impelled to practice the works of mercy with our brothers and sisters. This is so true that if in our Christian life we don’t practice the works of mercy, our love for God is not sincere. We can surely see this in Christ’s account of the final judgment. We will be judged on the works of mercy.

We find a great example of mercy in the Blessed Virgin Mary. She is filled with joy and peace after the Incarnation. The Angel Gabriel announces to her that she will be the Mother of God. But Mary does not stay idle, she sets out “in haste” to serve her cousin Elizabeth. Her burning love of God impels her to help those in need around her. We also see her willingness to serve in the wedding at Cana when she interceded with Jesus for the couple that ran out of wine.

Finally, if the love is a source of joy, peace and mercy, and if the Eucharist is a source of love, then peace, joy and mercy are also fruits of the Eucharist. Let us attend the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass often and receive Holy Communion with devotion and we will notice in our lives an increase of joy, peace and mercy.

Let’s rejoice today as we approach the great celebration of Christmas. May we find peace and joy in the birth of our Savior and make it fruitful in abundant works of mercy for those around us.

Meet Hannah Hafner

Hello everyone! My name is Hannah Hafner. I'm a full-time nurse and work part-time on mission with the FOCUS missionaries of St. Elizabeth's!

Growing up I always had a pretty good relationship with Christ. As a cradle Catholic, I went to daily mass and weekly Eucharistic adoration. These together really instilled my love of the Eucharist.

However, as most cradle Catholics do, I took the Catholic faith for granted. It wasn't until my freshman year of college that I was really challenged in my faith and learned to make the Catholic faith my own. I experienced several difficult things that year and was unsure of the direction God wanted for my life. I felt lost, lonely, and hurt by various friendships. Yet, I felt like God was trying to pull me closer to Him through all my struggles.

FOCUS played a huge part in me re-encountering Christ. I attended the SLS conference in Chicago after much encouragement from my sister who was a part of FOCUS at the time. I went hoping to find answers. I felt very lost, and confused, and had not felt peace for months. During the Eucharistic procession, I suddenly be-

came overwhelmed with a great sense of peace and began crying uncontrollably. I had clarity for the first time in months. I felt called to leave studies as an Electrical Engineer student and instead pursue nursing. It was a difficult journey, but I knew God was accompanying me through the whole process. If He brought me to it, He was going to bring me through it. He lined up everything perfectly and I ended up transferring

colleges. I was accepted into the Nursing program at Benedictine College in Kansas the following year and graduated with my BSN a few years later.

I found a community of young Catholics and was able to start a new phase of my journey in the faith as I began my journey as a nurse. I grew in friendship with some amazing people who helped me grow closer to Jesus through the beauty of the everyday things of life.



Hannah Hafner

Now I get to encounter Jesus every day through my patients and students that I meet. It's a blessing to be able to be a witness to the love and joy of God. I'm honored and blessed to be a part of FOCUS here on the Auraria campus. I'm praying for all the students and staff here and am excited to continue meeting you all!

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

NOTE: Youth Group will not meet on the first
Sunday in January. Contact Liz for alternate
plans.

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-liturgy. 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 9am - 12pm. We are in great need of men's shoes and boots - new or used.



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