

St. Elizabeth of Hungary Catholic Church

A Mission Church of the Cathedral Basilica of the Immaculate Conception

Fourth Sunday of Advent

Staff

Very Reverend Samuel Morehead, Pastor

Reverend Richard Castro Huergo, MC
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Reverend John Ezratty, MC

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Trey Turner, Maintenance

December 18, 2022

Dear brothers and sisters,

This last Monday, December 12, we celebrated the glorious feast of our Lady of Guadalupe. We first had a beautiful Mass followed by lunch that a generous parishioner brought for us. The Sisters of Life were able to join us together with some missionaries and students from the School of Mines. We also had some local students and parishioners that were part of the celebration.

Mass Times

Monday to Friday: 12:15 PM

Sunday: 9:00 AM

After Mass and lunch, we went to a central place on Campus where we prepared treats for the students. We also had a beautiful banner of our Lady of Guadalupe. As the students walked by we invited them to join us for Adoration. After about 90 minutes of tabling we came back to St. Elizabeth's for Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament, confessions, singing and Benediction. It was such a wonderful way of honoring our Mother on her day!

Confession Times

Monday to Friday: 11:40 AM – 12:10 PM

Thursday: 4:20 PM - 5:20 PM

There are two other things I wanted to mention. The first one is that I am very excited for SEEK. We have 23 students from our Campus joining us. This is a very important success for our outreach at Auraria. Keep in mind that we have started our outreach only four months ago. I am very please with this result. I want to commend our FOCUS missionaries for their hard work. But I want to thank especially each member of the St. Elizabeth's community for their prayers and support. We couldn't do this without you!

Eucharistic Adoration

Tuesday: 11:00 AM - 12:00 PM

Thursday: 4:20 PM - 5:20 PM

The other thing I want to say is farewell to Ben and Chris, two of our FOCUS missionaries. They are moving on to be in mission on other campuses in need of young men. We are going to miss them very much and we'll be praying for them. You can read a very beautiful letter they wrote to you all in this bulletin.

Spiritual Talk

Thursday: 4:00 PM

May our Lady of Guadalupe intercede for us so that we prepare a worthy place in our hearts for Jesus to be born next Sunday.

Office Hours

Monday to Friday: 10 AM – 3:00 PM

Yours in Christ,

Fr. Richard, MC

Spiritual Direction for College Students



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

1060 St Francis Way, Denver, CO 80204 – Located in the Auraria Campus
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Gospel Reflection Corner

By Fr. Richard Castro Huergo, MC

In his last book, Venerable Fulton Sheen tells us the story of Little Li: “Elsewhere in China, a priest had just begun Mass when Communists entered and arrested him and made him a prisoner in a house adjoining the little church. From a window in that house he could see the tabernacle. Shortly after his imprisonment, the Communists opened the tabernacle, threw the Hosts on the floor, and stole the Sacred Vessels. The priest then decided to make adoration to Our Lord in the Blessed Sacrament as much as he could day and night. About three o’clock one morning, he saw a child who had been at the morning Mass open a window, climb in, come to the sanctuary floor, get down on both knees, press her tongue to the Host to give herself Holy Communion. The priest told me there were about thirty Hosts in the ciborium. Every single night she came at the same time until there was only one Host left. As she pressed her tongue to receive the Body of Christ, a shot rang out. A Communist soldier had seen her. It proved to be her Viaticum.”

The example of Little Li moved Bishop Sheen to promise making a holy hour before the Blessed Sacrament every single day, a promise that he faithfully kept. It seems to me that the sacrifice of this girl speaks to us about the truth of the real presence. Jesus is truly present in the consecrated bread and wine, with his body, blood, soul and divinity.

We hear today: “Behold, the virgin shall conceive and bear a son, and they shall name him Emmanuel” (Mt 1:23). Emmanuel, “God with us.” God taking on a complete human nature is what we call the Incarnation. Jesus is true God and true man, fully divine and fully human, two natures united in the second person of the Holy Trinity.

The world was in desperate need of salvation. The doors of heaven were closed. We had lost

the friendship of God. At that time, the mercy of God decides to come to our rescue. Not just to send us some help, but to come himself to rescue us. Jesus is God coming to us, the Emmanuel, God with us.

Knowing that he needed to ascend into heaven, Jesus did not want to leave us alone. He wanted to remain with us always. In a way, he wanted to extend the mystery of the Incarnation, the mystery of his presence among us. How to do this? Through the Eucharist.

The Eucharist is an extension of the Incarnation. Jesus in the Blessed Sacrament is Emmanuel, God with us. When the Church speaks about the “real presence” of Jesus in the Eucharist, she means it. Jesus is with us every single day, not just in our hearts through grace, but in our tabernacles, in our Masses, in our Holy Communion with his sacramental presence.

Sometimes we might experience loneliness, anxiety or sadness. At times we might be in a place of spiritual desolation where we don’t feel God’s presence. It might seem that God has abandoned us. But that is never true. God might be silent, but he is always with us. What is the proof of this? Jesus in the Eucharist!

The reality of Jesus’ presence in the consecrated host is what moved Little Li to risk her life to protect those hosts. Reflecting on the testimony of her faith, we should examine ourselves. What is my commitment to the Eucharist? Do I believe in the real presence? Do I believe that Jesus Christ, true God and true man, is in the Eucharist just as he is present at the right hand of the Father right now? And if I believe, do I act accordingly? Do I approach Holy Communion with the love and reverence that Jesus deserves? Do I attend Mass every Sunday, and even sometimes on weekdays? May Jesus fill us with his love in every Holy Communion!

Farewell from Ben and Chris

Good morning everyone! Our names are Chris and Ben, and we are two of the FOCUS missionaries working from St. Elizabeth's this year on the Auraria Campus. This letter really has two purposes. Since all of us are leaving campus and returning home for Christmas break, our first purpose is to wish a Merry Christmas to the community from the FOCUS team!



Ben Taylor

The other purpose is to say thank you and farewell. A big part of FOCUS' work on this campus, which differs from other campuses, is sending the missionaries we have here to other college campuses around the country that need more male support on their missionary teams.

As first year missionaries, we're asked to spend time here in Denver growing closer to God more intensely than we ever have before while awaiting a call that may come to leave at the end of Auraria's semester. The rest of the team will be returning in January, but we'd like to use this space to say thank you.

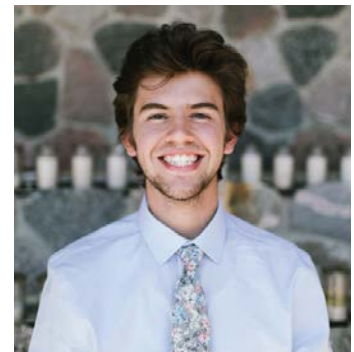
Our job as missionaries is unique. It's certainly not a traditional 9 to 5. There's a lot of flexibility, room for confusion, and hard days on the job having conversations that will probably never be in the comfort zone. We both experienced this with one of the students we met early on in the semester. We met him on campus during outreach one Monday in September, and at first he seemed very shy and it seemed like he may only hangout with us while we were on campus playing sports. However, the more he spent time with us, the more we got to know him, and he began

to show a desire to get to know what the Catholic Faith was all about. He ended up joining a Bible study, said his first Divine Mercy Chaplet, and attended adoration for the first time. It was not easy talking with him about Christ or the Catholic Church at first, but the more he asked questions the more he became intrigued. He is now one of the students constantly coming around, and we are excited for him to be joining us at SEEK in January.

The most underrated which makes the work doable, life giving, and transformative is returning to the embrace of Christ and His mother. Some missionaries share how difficult this part of the job is at their campus. No place to call home, too many disagreements about this or that, feeling out of place, the list goes on and on. You, the community of St. Es, made this part of our job easy. His love pours from your smiles and love vividly into each other and into us. We'd never see students' coming to bible study, having conversions from other religions, returning to prayer and confession

after years away, or coming with 25 of their peers with us to a Catholic conference this winter break if we were not receiving grace from our beloved Lord and His mother. You share this with us. So from those who won't

be returning to receive all of the gifts you have given, thank you for helping save our lives so that we could save others. All praise be to God. Happy Sunday and Merry Christmas!



Chris Bonderer

Campus Outreach

Campus Outreach activities are suspended for Christmas Break.

Activities will resume on January 17, 2023.

Daily and Sunday Masses will continue normally during the break.

Announcements

Christmas Schedule -

Christmas Eve Mass: Saturday, December 24, 4:00 PM

Christmas Day Mass: Sunday, December 25, 9:00 AM

Solemnity of the Blessed Virgin Mary, the Mother of God: Sunday, January 1, 9:00 AM

Note: This year there will be no Mass on Saturday, December 31. Daily Masses, Monday through Friday, will continue at regular times.

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



Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/stelizabethdenver/>

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.

Financials

St. Elizabeth of Hungary Financial Summary

	YTD Actual 11/2022 **	YTD Budget 11/2022
Offertory, Sunday and Electronic	\$57,823	\$54,430
All Revenue Sources *	\$107,008	\$107,028
All Expenses	\$97,523	\$109,822
Difference	\$9,485	-\$2794

*includes a generous one-time \$25,000 gift and \$15,000 ACA Grant

St. Elizabeth of Hungary Sandwich Line

	YTD Actual 11/2022 **	YTD Budget 11/2022
All Sandwich Line Income	\$10,395	\$17,472
All Sandwich Line Expenses	\$16,337	\$17,473
Difference *	-\$5942	-\$1

*Sandwich Line typically runs a deficit in the fall and then runs in the black through the spring however, Sandwich Line is responsible for more of its overhead costs this year than in previous years. We will re-evaluate allocations at the end of this year.

** Data is raw and unreconciled for the month reporting.

Thank you for your support!!



Instagram: <https://www.instagram.com/stelizabethdenver/>