

# St. Elizabeth of Hungary Catholic Church

*A Mission Church of the Cathedral Basilica of the Immaculate Conception*

## The Epiphany of the Lord

### Staff

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### 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



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

Dear brother and sisters,

January 8, 2023

We have all made it in one piece to St. Louis, MO and back for the SEEK 2023 Conference. It was an amazing experience for our students, missionaries and for me personally. We were able to take more than 20 students. After counting all the missionaries, we were more than 30 people representing St. Elizabeth's at the Conference.

I could go on and on about how wonderful the Conference was. But instead, I challenge each one of you to get it straight from the horse's mouth: talk to a student or missionary and ask them their three top highlights from the conference. It is so much better so see the smiles on their faces than to read my writing. :)

On January 15 we will have the first meeting of our new Evangelization Advisory Committee. As you know, we don't have a Parish Council since we depend on the Cathedral. However, Fr. Sam suggested that we have some kind of advisory committee so that the faithful can be more involved in the outreach to St. Elizabeth's people.

As I see it, St. Elizabeth evangelizes three groups of people: the students, the Sandwich Line guests and our parishioners. Therefore, I thought it appropriate to have representatives of each group to help me better understand and be more effective in our outreach to them. The committee will include a FOCUS missionary, an Auraria student, a volunteer of the Sandwich Line, a Christ in the City missionary that serves at St. Elizabeth and four or five of our long-time parishioners.

This committee will take on most of the liturgy organizational responsibilities of the liturgy committee, while I will take on some of them. Please, pray that our new initiative will produce great fruit for the spiritual growth of all of St. Elizabeth's people.

May you feel the daily protection of *Maria de Guadalupe* over each one of you and your families.

Yours in Christ,

Fr. Richard, MC

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# Gospel Reflection Corner

By Fr. Richard Castro Huergo, MC

**T**he Cologne Cathedral is a renowned monument of German Catholicism and Gothic architecture and was declared a World Heritage Site in 1996. It is Germany's most visited landmark, attracting an average of 20,000 people a day. At 157 m (515 ft), the cathedral is the tallest twin-spired church in the world, the second tallest church in Europe after Ulm Minster, and the third tallest church of any kind in the world. It is the largest Gothic church in Northern Europe and has the second-tallest spires. The towers for its two huge spires give the cathedral the largest façade of any church in the world.

Cologne's medieval builders had planned a grand structure to house the reliquary of the Three Kings and fit for its role as a place of worship for the Holy Roman Emperor. Why go to so much trouble to honor three wise men coming from afar? It is because they give us so many lessons about walking the Christian life.

Let's begin with the star. The wise men were most probably what today we consider scientists studying the universe. They would be very familiar with the movements of the stars. In antiquity many civilizations could predict the seasons and the crops with great accuracy. They didn't have the Weather Channel, but they were able to read nature in an impressive way.

Scientists at that time were often interested not only in one area of knowledge, but in a variety of them. They knew math, the stars, physics, philosophy and theology very well. They were definitely very interested in the beliefs of different cultures. Through trading with the Jewish people, they were probably familiar with the promise of a Messiah.

In this context they saw a particularly peculiar star, or comet, and they understood that it would guide them to the Savior. But one thing is to un-

derstand and another to actually follow. They left everything following the star. Our first lesson is to follow the Will of God. After careful discernment, we need to make a leap of faith and follow like the wise men.

The wise men followed the star, but the star hid from them in Jerusalem. This might have been hard for them, but they did not give up, they kept trusting. Sometimes, in the spiritual life, after careful discernment we start following, but the Lord hides for a while and doubt, dryness and anxiety attack us.

We need to imitate the wise men in not abandoning our resolutions, in keeping our trust in the Lord, in doing his Most Holy Will even when we don't feel anything, in walking through the dark night even when feeling alone. The second lesson then, is trust in the midst of darkness.

But our story has an extremely happy ending. They found Jesus with Mary and "they prostrated themselves and did him homage." Following the star faithfully has its very tough challenges. At times it becomes almost impossible, but it always leads to finding Jesus. It must also be said that even though the wise men felt a little lost when the star hid, it was Jesus himself who strengthened them from inside out. Our third lesson is that the star always leads to Jesus and that Jesus at times hides but he never abandons us.

Finally, "they opened their treasures" and offered Jesus their gifts. They might have thought that they were giving Jesus a favor, but actually they received infinitely more than they gave. Just consider for a moment the torrent of graces of love, peace and joy with which the Lord flooded their souls. The last lesson is that Jesus is never outdone in generosity.

# SEEK 2023



## 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

**Liturgical Ministries** - Volunteer opportunities for greeters, lectors, altar servers and Eucharistic ministers. Sign up here: [www.signupgenius.com/go/10c094da5aa23a0fec61-liturg](http://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](mailto: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.

## Spiritual Exercises

### Silent Retreat for Women

January 27-29

Hideaway Retreat Center, 3805 Walker Rd  
Colorado Springs, CO 80908

Phone : 858-768-0872

Email: [colorado@spiritualexercises.net](mailto:colorado@spiritualexercises.net)

<https://www.mileschristi.org/event/colorado-springs-co-3/>

The Spiritual Exercises are a weekend silent retreat for women 16+ with spiritual talks and time for personal meditation.

The retreats are preached by the priests of Miles Christi, according to the method and the principles of St. Ignatius of Loyola.

Apart from the spiritual talks and time for prayer, each day there will also be Holy Mass, Holy Rosary, and opportunity for confessions.

This retreat will start on Friday at 4 pm and conclude on Sunday at 5 pm.

As experience has shown throughout the centuries, the Spiritual Exercises have proven to be an excellent means of conversion and sanctification. In addition, the Magisterium of the Church has commended them numerous times.



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