

# St. Elizabeth of Hungary Catholic Church

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

## Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time

### Staff

Very Reverend Samuel Morehead, Pastor

Reverend Richard Castro Huergo, MC  
[frichard@stelizabethdenver.org](mailto:frichard@stelizabethdenver.org)

Reverend John Ezratty, MC

Lisa McMahan-Griffen, Business Manager  
[lisa@stelizabethdenver.org](mailto:lisa@stelizabethdenver.org)

Trey Turner, Maintenance

January 29, 2023

Dear brothers and sisters,

This week was crazy busy. I was wondering if I was doing nothing before or if I did too much this week. In any case, I had a lot of projects on my mind.

As you know, this weekend, we had the Spiritual Exercises in Colorado Springs. I had to prepare all the liturgical things for it since the retreat house is not Catholic, and we had to put together a full chapel in one of the rooms.

Also, Fr. John and I are still settling in the Friary's second floor. We have also been preparing a guest room for a visiting priest from San Diego to stay in.

Fr. Sam, Lisa, and I met to discuss the two FEMA security grants we have been awarded. It is fascinating to see how these grants will enable us to be more effective in our ministry while keeping our volunteers and everyone involved safe. However, we need to comply with a very complex set of requirements.

When coming to St. Elizabeth's, I underestimated how time-consuming the administration aspect of the ministry is. As a priest in a religious order, I had few administration responsibilities and could spend most of my time in direct ministry. My admiration and prayers go to all the people who, from behind the scenes, make the work of evangelization possible in Denver.

Finally, I have also been working on a Lenten Campaign to raise funds for St. Elizabeth's. Thanks to generous donors, we have been able to avoid digging into our savings for the current fiscal year. However, we still need to raise \$36,000 to close the gap. I would appreciate your prayers for this intention.

May our Lady of Guadalupe continue watching over our families and each of us.

Yours in Christ,

Fr. Richard, MC

### Mass Times

Monday to Friday: 12:15 PM

Sunday: 9:00 AM

### Confession Times

Monday to Friday: 11:40 AM – 12:10 PM

### Eucharistic Adoration

Tuesdays and Thursdays: 11:00 AM - 12:00 PM

### Office Hours

Monday to Friday: 10 AM – 3:00 PM

### Spiritual Direction for College Students



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

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

# Gospel Reflection Corner

By Fr. Richard Castro Huergo, MC

In 2000, the American Civil Liberties Union threatened a lawsuit unless a Kansas City courthouse removed a Ten Commandments monument from its lawn. The monument was moved about 100 feet across the street to St. Anthony's Catholic Church so that it would be on private property and no longer subject to the whims of lawyers and judges. In response, businessman John Menghini founded Project Moses with the goal of installing Ten Commandments monuments on the grounds of places of worship, religious schools, and private properties throughout the country.

There is a crucial detail I want us to pay attention to. The Ten Commandments monuments promoted by Project Moses have the Beatitudes on the other side. When I was in the seminary, a Bishop told me he suggested putting the Beatitudes on the other side of these monuments to Project Moses. His reasoning was that the Beatitudes are the Ten Commandments' positive side. In a way, the Ten Commandments say what not to do, while the Beatitudes say what to do to be happy. Further, most of the Ten Commandments tell us about the minimum evil we should avoid, while the Beatitudes are about the most extraordinary holiness we can aim for.

This point is crucial since our spiritual life cannot be reduced to a laundry list of things to avoid. Instead, things to avoid are only a starting point. From there, we can elevate ourselves to an infinity of possibilities. Each virtue can be practiced to a heroic level.

This is one of the reasons why Aquinas and many other theologians start their treatise on moral theology by talking about happiness and the practice of virtue. The Beatitudes are the highest expression of the life of virtue - practicing those virtues to a heroic degree.

I lived in Detroit, MI, for seven years. Besides visiting car museums, one of the highlights of the Motor City is the Shrine of Blessed Solanus Casey. Of course, the main attraction is his tomb. However, it is fascinating to see life-size bronze figures of eight contemporary people, four women and four men, who represent the Beatitudes. These individuals have shown through their life and ministry how to live Christianity in action. We have people such as St. Mother Theresa, Dorothy Day, and Takashi Nagai.

The Beatitudes highlight the fact that holiness is very varied. Yes, holiness is the perfection of Charity; it is becoming like Jesus. However, there are as many ways of becoming a saint as the diversity of Beatitudes. Each Beatitude is a different path to attain the perfection of love.

For instance, let's take the Servant of God Takashi Nagai. This Japanese scientist and professor of radiology at the University of Nagasaki faced his greatest challenges after the atomic bomb turned his city into a nuclear wasteland. While bedridden and slowly dying from the consequences of being overexposed to radiation, he prayed, offered his suffering, and wrote extensively as a witness for peace to his own people and the world.

Differently, the Servant of God Dorothy Day sanctified herself by starting the Catholic Worker Movement. The Gospel inspired her social activism and her passion for justice and the cause of the oppressed.

Takashi Nagai and Dorothy Day were very different people with different callings. Nevertheless, they both got to the heights of holiness. One by suffering and advocating for peace, the other by working for justice.

Let's reflect on the Beatitudes. Which one of them am I called to practice heroically?

# SEEK 2023 Experience

By Dillon Craig

The 2023 SEEK Conference was amazing. 17,000 people attended Mass, adoration, confession, and conversated about God. There were thousands of people in religious orders to speak with, podcasts, beautiful catholic artwork, and plenty of catholic shopping to get done. A few highlights of the trip included the celebration of Mass, the daily men's talks, daily adoration, and new friends.

There was something really amazing about the daily masses at SEEK. With a longer communion (seeing as there were 17,000 people), there was much more time to sing our praises to God and to reflect on the peace which Christ was offering to us in the Eucharist. This time was spent kneeling on concrete because there were no pews. After a few minutes, there would be great discomfort, but when looking around, you would see thousands of other Christians offering it as a sacrifice to God. The energy was incredible. Each homily was given by a Bishop and was very well put together. These homilies were usually the highlight of my day. They inspired me and gave me something to reflect on throughout adoration and in conversation with peers.

Every morning, we would attend Mass early. Shortly after, there were men's and women's specific talks. These were powerful and greatly inspiring. The speakers included Monsignor Shae, Matt Fradd, and Fr. Agustino Torrez. Their talks were focused on overcoming the lies of the devil, the role of strong men in society, and inspiring hope and strength within the audience. These talks were full of shouting but also had their moments of somber silence. In addition to

contemplating the homilies at Mass, these talks called my attention for many days after.

Daily adoration was incredibly powerful. I spent a few hours each day, contemplating scripture, praying rosaries, and simply meditating in the presence of Christ. This time in adoration was very new to me. I had been to adoration a few times, but they were generally short and never consistent. I had also never been to adoration with hundreds, or even thousands of people at once. Placing myself in front of the Blessed Sacrament for a few hours, 5 days in a row was enlightening. I found a great peace, love, and holiness there.



Dillon Craig at SEEK 2023

I came out of SEEK with strengthened friendships, new friendships, and a renewed desire to share my love of God with others. Along the trip, we would occasionally sit down with each other and ask deeply theological questions. Through sharing our experiences, we could now see new perspectives and find new hope in our walks to heaven. On our bus ride home, we shared our highlights

with each other and spoke about where Jesus was in our lives. The answers were beautiful. It is a very comforting feeling to hear honest answers about where people are in their walk with Christ.

Overall, SEEK was amazing. It is very hard to summarize such a great trip (although it was only 5 days). I found myself falling in love with saints I had never met, renewed my joy for the Mass, and gained an appreciation for adoration. I am hopeful that I will retain at least some of the wisdom that was poured out by these amazing speakers, and I am very thankful to have new friends to walk with me towards God.

## Campus Outreach

### Sports & Freezie Pops

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

### Free Lunch

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

### Eucharistic Adoration

Tuesdays and Thursdays 11:00 AM - 12:00 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 February. Contact Liz for alternate plans.

## Announcements

**Liturgical Ministries** - Volunteer opportunities for greeters, lectors, altar servers and Eucharistic ministers. Sign up here: <https://www.stelizabethdenver.org/ministries>. 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.

**Safety Associate weekend paid position opens** - Maintains safe and sanitary conditions on our Sandwich Line.  
9am - 12pm Saturday and 10am - 12pm Sunday  
Contact [hr@stelizabethdenver.org](mailto:hr@stelizabethdenver.org) if interested.



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

## Bible Study

### “Jesus: The Way, the Truth, and the Life”

This study looks at Jesus—who he is, what he is really like, what he taught, and what he did for our salvation.

**Every Sunday after Mass**  
starting the First Sunday of Lent

This is a 10-week Bible Study. It will start the first Sunday of Lent. We will take a break for Easter Sunday.

We hope this activity can be a means to deepen our faith while also getting to know each other better and be an opportunity for fellowship.



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