

# St. Elizabeth of Hungary Catholic Church

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

## Seventh 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

### 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>

February 19, 2023

Dear brothers and sisters,

Last Sunday morning, we enjoyed a significant number of parishioners joining us for coffee and doughnuts. It was an excellent opportunity to get to know new people and say hello to old friends. We hope to continue this activity on the second Sunday of every month.

In the afternoon, we had a Superbowl party for college students and young adults. We started with Holy Mass at 3:00 PM. Afterward, the party started promptly at 4:00 PM. The FOCUS missionaries had prepared delicious finger food. I also prepared Argentine caramel flan. Apparently, it got good ratings. I've heard I'm supposed to prepare flan for the next Sunday's coffee and doughnuts.

The party was attended by more than 30 college students and young adults. It was an excellent opportunity for deeper fellowship, great conversations, and tasty food!

As you know, we have restarted the bible studies. We now have a good problem. There are more than 13 girls interested or attending Tuesday's bible study, so we need to open more! This is on top of the already four bible studies we have for the boys.

Talking about bible studies, we will have a ten-week long bible study available to all our parishioners after Mass starting next Sunday. The study is entitled "Jesus: The Way, the Truth, and the Life." It is filmed in the Holy Land and it is put on by Ascension Press. There is no need to get the books, but you may do so if you like. Each week we will watch a video and have a discussion afterward.

May our Lady of Guadalupe guide us through the Lenten Season we start on Wednesday.

Yours in Christ,

Fr. Richard, MC

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

**E**volutionary psychologists believe we are hardwired for revenge. Fear of retaliation helped our earliest ancestors to keep the peace and correct injustices. Acts of revenge helped deter a second harmful act and acted as an insurance policy, a warning that mistreatment would not be tolerated. As St. Augustine explains, this desire for revenge, which is natural in us, often tends to go beyond strict justice. For example, someone might want to kill in a moment of rage someone else who stole only a small amount of money from them.

Because of the desire for exaggerated vengeance, God gave through Moses in the Old Testament the “lex talionis,” the law of retaliation, which Jesus quotes today “An eye for an eye and a tooth for a tooth.” The lex talionis is definitely an upgrade over an unlimited amount of revenge’s cruel fury. By it, you cannot retaliate more than the same measure of the offense received. This law helps check the rage of disproportionate vengeance.

I practice the lex talionis every week on game night. Fr. Sam, Fr. John James, and I meet weekly to play Settlers of Catan. This game is definitely a lot of fun! As I’m saying, it is a lot of fun, except when you get the robber in one of your tiles. I often warn the priests and everyone else that if the robber is placed in one of my tiles, they will “anger the gods...” This means I will exact the “an eye for an eye” on them the next time. I guess I have not yet upgraded to the New Testament in my playing of Settlers of Catan.

The lex talionis is not sinful, but Jesus calls us to a higher standard saying, “But I say to you, offer no resistance to one who is evil. When someone strikes you on your right cheek, turn the other one as well.”

St. Augustine paraphrases this passage saying, “I might state it yet thus; It was said to them of old time, you shall not take unequal retaliation; but I say unto you, you shall not retaliate; this is a completion of the law if in these words something is added to the law which was wanting to it; yea, rather that which the law sought to do, namely, to put an end to unequal revenge, is more safely secured when there is no revenge at all.”

Does this mean that nobody should ever be punished? Again, St. Augustine comes to our aid. He explains that we must distinguish between punishment for correction’s sake and punishment from angry hate. The Lord does forbid the latter but allows for the former since fraternal correction is part of the virtue of charity and, therefore, an act of love when done without hate.

A great example of the practice of this Gospel passage is St. John Paul II. In 1981 he was shot by Mehmet Ali Agca. After the incident, the Pope said, “pray for my brother (Agca), whom I have sincerely forgiven.” Agca was sentenced to life imprisonment by the Italian government. The Pope visited Agca, conversed with him, and later on was visited by his mother. In June 2000, he was pardoned by Italian president Carlo Azeglio Ciampi at the Pope’s request. This led to his conversion to the Catholic Church in 2007.

John Paul allowed imprisonment because it was out of his hands, but also because it was building restorative justice, but after a while, he interceded for Agca. The Old Testament would have been fulfilled by simply accepting the just sentence the Italian government imposed. But this was not enough for our Saint. He decided to go beyond and imitate Christ more fully. Let us go and do likewise.

# SEEK 2023 Experience

By Celia Moneboulou Mbazoa

Hello, I am Celia. I come from Cameroun. I came to the US about 3 years ago. Being away from family and friends has been tough. Especially on the spiritual part, I had somehow lost part of my spiritual self, and the most I could do was to hold on to what once was. As we all know, it is hard for oneself to dwell in the past without moving forward.

That is where I realized SEEK helped me move forward in the reality of time where I was stuck. I will say God really worked out everything for me. I started going to bible study at the church with wonderful people. Those bible studies quickly became the highlight of my week and what I looked forward to every week. It brought me water in a deserted land.

One day, the amazing missionary leading us brought up SEEK. I was deeply intrigued but was scared finances might be a barrier for me. We were told we could fund-raise, and yet I knew no one to even send letters to. Thanks to the wonderful missionary I had leading bible study, we were able to figure out the financial issue, and as such my calling from God continued.

I was very much anxious to spend time with strangers at SEEK, and even more anxious about being and feeling alone. All I could think of at the moment is all that could go wrong, and never did I stop to ask God what did he have in mind

for me? As God made his way work, I shared the room with amazing girls and got so close I could finally be proud to say not only had I found sisters in Christ, but I had found people I was happy to call my friends. We spent a lot of time at SEEK together, went to adoration, giggled, laughed, and cried together, for we had just met, but it sure felt like we had known each other forever. My experience at SEEK with the people, missionaries, and priest was so wonderful I sure

lack words or space to even tell the world how the Lord decided to change my life through SEEK and his people. Not to say that seeking was all jolly, far from that, I was longing for something I did not know, I was lost, broken, and alone. I went to prayer group, and God reminded me of his love for me and how well he knows and understands me. Through amazing talks, adoration, people, encounters, confessions, and prayers, the Lord found me when I was lost. One of the things I will always carry with me

that I got from SEEK is “The Lord shall turn your wounds into blessings and make you worthy to carry out his will” as well as the people whom I encountered and got to know better. As the Lord guides me to the path of service he decides for me, may he be your guide and protector, and always remember he cares for you and loves you dearly, for you are the apple of his eyes (Deuteronomy 32; 10-11).



Auraria at SEEK

## Campus Outreach

### Sports

Mondays: 1:00 PM - 4:00 PM

### Free Lunch & Talk

Thursdays 1:00 PM - 3:00 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

**Ash Wednesday Masses** - February 22nd, 12:15 PM and 5:00 PM. A light meal will be served after each Mass.

**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 Open** - 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.

## 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.



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



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