

# St. Elizabeth of Hungary Catholic Church

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

## First Sunday of Lent

### Staff

Very Reverend Samuel Morehead, Pastor

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February 26, 2023

Dear brothers and sisters,

We have already started Lent, and I'm pumped! This season is so powerful. It challenges us to get closer to Christ through prayer, fasting, and almsgiving.

We began this season with an outstanding showing for Ash Wednesday. We had about 90 people at the 12:15 PM Mass and 55 at the 5:00 PM. I was so glad to see so many new faces!

This success was in great part thanks to the FOCUS missionaries. On Mardi Gras they walked through campus giving out candy. With the candy they also gave out close to a thousand flyers inviting people to Ash Wednesday, among other activities. Guys, I'm grateful!

I'm also grateful to Dee, who, together with some of the missionaries, cooked a delicious soup. About half of the people stopped by after the Mass to share a light meal. It had to be light because of Ash Wednesday's fasting!

As I said that day in the homily, it is very good to have some lenten resolutions. We want to pray more often, be generous with our sacrifices and serve those around us. But, however good these resolutions are, they are not the heart of Lent. What is the heart of Lent? It is walking with Jesus, through the desert towards the Cross and on to the resurrection. If we walk with Jesus, we can do anything because he strengthens us; we count on his power to do what he has inspired us to. But also, we don't walk alone; he is with us, and, at times, he even carries us. Let's trust him in this journey.

May our Lady of Guadalupe protect us during this lenten season.

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

### 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

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

**M**y favorite Father of the Church is St. John Chrysostom. He lived in the fourth century and was well-known for his outstanding homilies. In fact, the name Chrysostom means “golden mouth.”

Reflecting on Christ’s temptations in the desert, Chrysostom says that Christ, after his baptism, endures being tempted so that we will not be troubled if we are greatly tempted after baptism. Instead, we will fight courageously. “For therefore you took up arms, not to be idle, but to fight.”

Then, he tells us about the reasons why God allows us to be tempted. “First to teach you that you have become much stronger; next, that you may continue to be humble and not be exalted even by the greatness of your gifts, the temptations having power to humble you; moreover, in order that that wicked demon, who is for a while doubtful about your desertion of him, by the touchstone of temptations may be well assured that you have utterly forsaken and fallen from him; fourthly, that you may in this way be made stronger, and better tempered than any steel; fifthly, that you may obtain a clear demonstration of the treasures entrusted to you. For the devil would not have assailed you, unless he had seen you brought to greater honor.”

We have, then, five reasons. Let’s look at them in particular and mention some examples.

First, God allows temptation to let us know that the power of his grace is very strong in us, and He doesn’t allow us to be tempted above our strength. St. Paul says, “God is faithful and will not let you be tried beyond your strength; but with the trial, he will also provide a way out, so that you may be able to bear it” (1 Cor 10:13).

Second, to keep us humble. We find an example of this in St. Paul. He tells us that he had

a big temptation and asked the Lord to take it away, and he heard the Lord tell him, “my grace is enough for you.” And he tells us why he was tempted, “that I might not become too elated.” In other words, the Lord allowed the temptation to keep St. Paul humble. He had to get some humble pie.

Third, to humiliate the devil so that he knows he has lost the battle in us. An example of this was St. John Vianney. During the exorcism of a possessed woman, the devil howled, “If there were three like you on earth, my kingdom would be destroyed. You have taken more than 80,000 souls from me.”

Fourth, to increase in virtue. The only way of getting stronger in virtue is by practicing it, by repetition of acts of virtue. Think of someone who wants to get bigger muscles. What does he do? He frequently goes to the gym. What else? He lifts weights that are challenging. The same happens in our spiritual life; frequent and challenging temptations help us grow more virtuous.

Fifth, to give us a sign of the treasures of heaven. The devil would not be so worried unless he knew the great rewards that await us in the life to come. The proximity of this reward often makes the temptations at the hour of death very strong.

Similarly, St. Ignatius of Loyola used to say that when difficulties multiply in some apostolate, the hope of a great profit is imminent. St. John Vianney often experienced that the day after being violently attacked by the devil, some notorious sinner would come to his confessional.

Let’s fight the good fight of faith this Lenten season, trusting in the Lord’s grace, staying humble, growing in virtue, and expecting the reward of heaven.

# SEEK 2023 Experience

By Madison Lawrence

**H**i, my name is Madison. I was born and raised in Florida but moved to Denver a few years ago. Last year while on campus, I was walking to my car and I saw a group of students playing sports in the quad. I scanned the QR code they had displayed and in a few days, I connected with one of the FOCUS missionaries. Little did I know that she would change my life.

I was raised Catholic as a child, but around age 12 my family stopped going to church. Through the FOCUS group on campus, I was able to come back into my faith. One of the missionaries was able to get a spot for me in RCIA classes and I will be confirmed in May.

I was given the opportunity to go to SEEK with other students from the Auraria campus. I was very nervous to attend because I didn't know anyone who was going. Moving away from friends and family and making friends can be difficult. Throughout this trip, I was blessed to meet several missionaries and students from the Auraria campus that would later become my friends. The girls I roomed with during the conference were so kind and welcoming. We shared stories and laughs and became friends. I am so blessed to have met them. SEEK gave me the opportunity to not only make friends but to grow in my faith. The days were packed with wisdom and guidance. The daily women's talks gave beautiful guidance on how to be a holy woman in today's world. The impact sessions tackled hot topics like abortion and same-sex attraction. The way that these speakers so beautifully represented the faith

and passed on their wisdom and guidance was truly impactful. The speakers were very open and shared their own struggles and experiences to allow us to learn from them. There wasn't a single talk I attended that didn't leave an impact on me. I gained so much knowledge about the Church and Catholicism from SEEK.

I got to experience and learn about so many cool new things at SEEK. The diversity of the attendees was insane. There were people from all over the world, many different orders of priests and nuns, and catholic companies involved in

all parts of life. I talked to the MetaCatholic people for over an hour. They are working on Catholic-based VR. I even saw a nun trying out the VR experience they created. It was truly amazing to see all these people from different backgrounds gathering to worship Jesus.

By far my favorite experience at SEEK was adoration. It was my first time attending adoration, and I didn't know what to expect. Seeing thousands of people on their knees worshipping Jesus was awe-in-

spiring. Jesus entered my heart that night in such a profound way. The realization that Jesus made Himself present in that little Eucharist for all of us to be there with Him was remarkable. I left adoration that night with an even deeper appreciation for the Eucharist.

SEEK helped deepen my love and understanding of Jesus. I truly gained so much knowledge and experience from all the wonderful people I met there. I am so blessed to have had this opportunity.



Dominic and Madison 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

**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.



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/>