

# St. Elizabeth of Hungary Catholic Church

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

## Second Sunday of Lent

### 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>

March 5, 2023

Dear brothers and sisters,

Last week, we started to make some improvements in the friary. The first step for the upgrades is paint. We are painting all the corridors and some of the rooms. So far, it looks very fresh and clean. In a second phase, we will also get some new carpeting. Please, come and check it out!

Also, we have been accepted for a Nonprofit Energy Efficiency Program Grant. We got a free energy assessment last week. In the future, we could get some assistance to make energy efficiency improvements in areas such as the boiler and low energy lamps, among others.

Last Sunday, we started our Bible Study, which is open to people of all ages. As you know, the study will take about ten weeks. There is still time for you to join us!

On Tuesday, three of our girls, Hannah, Ines, and Celia made an African soup. It was an immediate hit! The missionaries had it at lunch and the girls at dinner for their Bible Study. We had about seven girls who attended!

We have also started a second Bible Study for girls. So, we currently have a total of six studies for college students, four for boys and two for girls.

Since their cooking was a success, we also asked them to cook for Thursday's lunch. It was another hit! If they are not careful, the missionaries will ask them to take over the kitchen!

Last but not least, this week, we had a traditional game of Settlers of Catan at the Cathedral with the priests. We had a great time, and finally, I won. I'm the current reigning champion or lord of Catan!

May our Lady of Guadalupe be the star illuminating our Lenten path toward the resurrection.

Yours in Christ,

Fr. Richard, MC

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# Gospel Reflection Corner

By Fr. Richard Castro Huergo, MC

This Sunday's preface prays: "For after he had told the disciples of his coming death, on the holy mountain he manifested to them his glory, to show, even by the testimony of the law and the prophets, that the Passion leads to the glory of the Resurrection."

In chapter 16 of St. Matthew, Jesus announces the Passion for the first time to the Apostles: "From that time on, Jesus began to show his disciples that he must go to Jerusalem and suffer greatly from the elders, the chief priests, and the scribes, and be killed and on the third day be raised" (Mt. 16:21). In today's gospel the evangelist shows us the glory of Jesus with the testimony of Moses and Elijah.

There is a deep connection between the Passion and the Resurrection. This connection is very well expressed by the traditional phrase "per crucem ad lucem," through the cross towards the light. In a word, it is necessary to pass through the cross to get to the Resurrection.

Two things come immediately to my mind. One is that the purpose of Lent is not penance itself but Easter. The cross is generally a means to a renewal of the spirit, to union with God, but not an end in itself. There is absolutely no meaning at all in the cross if it is not because of the Resurrection.

The second thing is that the cross is a necessary means to get to the Resurrection. If there was a better path to the Resurrection, Jesus would have told us so. Instead, he tells us we must take up our cross daily and follow him.

Let's look at these concepts in the lives of two famous saints. For instance, Saint Therese of Lisieux, also known as the Little Flower, embraced the cross as a means of growing in holiness. She saw every small act of sacrifice and suffering as an opportunity to offer it up to God and unite it

with the sufferings of Christ on the cross. She once said, "My God, I choose everything; I will not be a Saint by halves; I am not afraid of suffering for Thee, I only fear one thing, and that is to do my own will."

Besides offering up her daily struggles, she was also visited by a grave sickness, tuberculosis. For over a year, her body gradually broke down. But even worse than the physical illness was the desolation she experienced. During most of this time, her faith was attacked. St. Therese wrote, "While I do not have the joy of faith, I am trying to carry out its works at least. I believe that I have made more acts of faith in this past year than all through my whole life." Her absolute trust in God in times of small or big crosses made her one of the most beloved saints of modern times.

Saint Padre Pio, who bore the stigmata (wounds of Christ) for most of his life, lived a life of intense suffering and physical pain. He embraced the cross as a means of participating in the sufferings of Christ and offered his pain as a sacrifice for the salvation of souls. He once said, "Fear nothing. On the contrary, consider yourself very fortunate to have been made worthy to participate in the sufferings of the Man-God." His deep spiritual life and profound devotion to the cross inspired countless people to turn to God in times of trial and adversity.

He also said, "The more bitterness you experience, the more love you will receive." Here he emphasizes the connection between the cross and union with God. The link is so tight that suffering and glory are directly proportional.

We've just looked briefly at two great saints, but indeed every single saint has lived in one way or another the meaning of the phrase "per crucem ad lucem." Let's put our eyes on the Resurrection and embrace valiantly the cross this Lenten season.

# SEEK 2023 Experience

By Dominic Black Polanco

**M**y name is Dominic Black Polanco, I'm 22 years old and am a Colorado native. I was raised in a somewhat Catholic family, and I was baptized around ten years old; however, I strayed from the Catholic faith shortly after this. I lived for many years without God in my heart and without hope. This changed when I stumbled upon a Focus flyer on campus during the fall semester of 2022. I scanned the QR code on the flyer and was contacted by a few Focus missionaries pretty quickly.

After being contacted by the missionaries, I joined a Focus bible study, and I let God back into my life. I started to attend weekly Mass, and I immediately saw positive changes in my life, from my relationship with God to all other relationships that I took part in. After a few weeks of bible study, I was given the opportunity by the Focus missionaries to attend SEEK 23 in St. Louis Missouri. Thankfully due to the diligent fundraising by missionaries and the generosity, I was able to attend SEEK with my girlfriend for free. As I stated previously, I had moved away from the Catholic faith at a relatively young age, in turn I had never had an experience like SEEK.

Initially, the SEEK experience was a bit jarring, from the late night bus ride to the chaotic hotel situation; however, when the conference

started all of my quarrels about the experience were eased. I had never in my life been surrounded by that many individuals, all with one common goal, belief, and devotion. Being able to interact with these individuals without any apprehension about their core beliefs was incredible. The seminars during the conference were also phenomenal. My favorite by far were the male oriented ones, which focused on topics such as how to live life in the 21st century unashamed

to be a Catholic. Other talks on heated topics such as abortion and same sex attraction were interesting and a welcome change from the taboo that exists around them in society. SEEK also gave me the opportunity to experience new things; for example, when I arrived I had never participated in adoration nor knew of its existence. I was also afforded the opportunity to explore some of the St. Louis area, such as the

Cathedral Basilica of St. Louis, which was stunning, as well as the St. Louis Arch.

Overall, my SEEK23 experience was fantastic and brought me closer to God. Since then I've continued to expand my faith, as well as attempting to expand others' faith by bringing some of my friends to Mass. I hope that I'm able to attend next year and implore any who has the chance to participate to go!



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)

## Announcements

**St. Patrick's Day Festival** - Saturday, March 11th, 11am - 4pm.  
Knights of Columbus. 1555 Grant Street, Denver CO. More info:  
<https://www.kofc539denver.org/saint-patricks-day-2023>

**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/>



## St. Patrick's Day Festival

Council 539

Saturday, March 11<sup>th</sup> 11am - 4pm

### Entertainment:

Celtic step dancers and live bagpipes



### Food:



Corned beef, cabbage, and potato meal  
Hot Dog meal available for Children



### Pricing:

- Food served from 11-2
  - ❖ Adult plate - \$25
  - ❖ Child plate - \$10
  - ❖ Admission only - \$10
  - ❖ Children 3 and under free
- \*All profits will be used to support St. Elizabeth's charitable programs such as providing winter coats for kids, supporting seminarians, advocating for life, etc. .

1555 Grant Street Denver, CO 80203  
Parking Available (\$5)

## 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/>