

St. Elizabeth of Hungary Catholic Church

A Mission Church of the Cathedral Basilica of the Immaculate Conception

The Epiphany of the Lord

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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

Eucharistic Adoration

Monday to Friday: 11:00 AM - 12:00 PM

Office Hours

Monday to Friday: 10 AM – 3:00 PM

Spiritual Direction for College Students



January 7, 2024

Dear brothers and sisters,

We have just come back from SEEK 2024 in St. Louis, MO. The conference gathered over 20,000 people from around the country and the world, most of whom were college students.

Our contingent of around 40 people included 27 students, two priests, a brother, and St. Elizabeth's FOCUS missionaries and pre-seminarians.

It was a grace-filled experience for all of us. From daily Mass to Adoration, Confession, and an endless stream of excellent talks, God kept pouring his abundant grace upon us. You could say we were soaking in his love during the five days of the conference.

A great highlight for me was the homily of Archbishop Aquila on day 2. Among other things, he pointed out that when each one of us was conceived on our mother's wombs, before our parents were even aware of the pregnancy, God the Father delighted in us and loved us from the first moment of our conception. In other words, God the Father has loved us FIRST. His love is unconditional and freely given. Therefore, we must return to this truth if we ever feel unlovable or rejected.

In another talk, Fr. Gregory Pine expanded on the same concept. He said that we build our identity upon our relationships. We say that we are a child of our mothers and fathers, the brothers or sisters of our siblings, a citizen of a particular city, an alumnus of a specific school, and so forth. But the most profound relationship we have is with God the Father. We are sons and daughters of God. Fr. Pine said that the fact that God willed us into existence and created us out of love is the metaphysical bedrock upon which we can build our identity.

May our Lady of Guadalupe reveal the love of God the Father for us.

Yours in Christ,

Fr. Richard, MC

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Gospel Reflection Corner

By Fr. Richard Castro Huergo, MC

In today's gospel, we learned from the three Magi: "We saw his star at its rising and have come to do him homage."

Our three friends got their calling far away in the East. It was a long journey from the first calling to its fulfillment.

I first thought seriously about the priesthood in my sophomore year of high school. But it took a while until I made a decision during my senior year in 1993. That is when I saw the rising of the star. Yes, I'm old :)

I had taken some months to discern seriously. At the end of this time, I was one day reading a brochure on missions at my kitchen table. It was a short text about Christ redeeming us with his blood and the sacraments as rivers of grace that come to people down from Calvary. At that moment, a thought crossed my mind: "I can become a priest and be a channel of Jesus' love for people." Immediately, I felt a profound consolation. It was as if all difficulties and blocks were removed from my mind. I knelt before an image of the Blessed Mother and the Child in my room and told them that if Jesus really, really, really wanted me to do this, I would.

A few days later, I made my final decision to join Miles Christi and become a priest. Upon graduating high school, I entered the seminary. It took me almost 13 years of formation until I was ordained in December of 2006.

From seeing the start to arriving at the destination, it is a long way in any vocation. We've just talked about the priesthood, but this applies to married life or any career.

For any vocation, then, the Magi teach us some lessons that can be useful in our journey.

The first lesson is to follow God's will without

delay. The Magi were experts in a wide variety of sciences, including astronomy. That is why they are also called Wise men. When they saw the start, they connected it with the prophecies of the Jewish messiah that they had learned through commerce with Israel.

Their statement to Herod is very straightforward. We saw the star, and we have come. This simplicity denotes great docility to God's will and incredible generosity. What would happen in our lives if every time we saw the star, we followed right away? We would become saints.

The second lesson is perseverance. We know the star disappeared at a certain point, and the Magi went to Jerusalem and found nothing. To these difficulties, we need to add a long trip of two thousand miles, which would take at least five months over ancient roads.

They overcame every difficulty with God's grace, even the loss of the star. How many times we are challenged in our journey by difficulties, and we want to give up? Let us persevere, aided by God's grace.

The last lesson is that the Magi kept the goal in sight at all times. The goal was all along to worship Jesus, praise, adore, and serve him, and bring their gifts to him. That is what gave them strength along the way.

As we walk in our vocations, let us keep our sights on Jesus Christ and our friendship with him. We are only pilgrims on this earth. If we keep our eyes fixed on Jesus, we will always have enough strength to overcome any obstacle.

May the Magi intercede today for us so that we might be courageous in following God's will right away, persevere over any difficulty, and keep our eyes always on Jesus.

SEEK 2024



Campus Outreach

Campus outreach
activities
will resume
on January 15th

Christmas Break

December 11 – January 15

No Adoration during Christmas Break

Confessions

Monday to Friday: 11:30 AM – 12:00 PM

Masses

Monday to Friday: 12:15 PM

Sunday: 9:00 AM



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



Weekend Silent Retreat

Inspired by the Spiritual Exercises of St. Ignatius of Loyola

University Students

from all campuses in Colorado

*Preached by Fr. Martin Latiff, MC,
and Fr. Richard Castro Huergo, MC.*

February 2-4, 2024

Colorado Springs, CO



Retreat Fee: \$50 | Sponsored by St. Elizabeth's Catholic Student Center

For more information & to register: 303-800-8337
colorado@spiritualexercises.net | MilesChristi.org/spiritual-exercises

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 and we will include the intention in the Prayers of the Faithful for the upcoming Sunday.

Sandwich Line - We need volunteers every day of the week, 9am - 12pm. We are in great need of men's shoes and boots - new or used.



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