St. Elizabeth of Hungary Catholic Church

A Mission Church of the Cathedral Basilica of the Immaculate Conception

Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Staff

Very Reverend Samuel Morehead, Pastor

Reverend Richard Castro Huergo, MC frrichard@stelizabethdenver.org

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Lisa McMahon-Griffen, Business Manager <u>lisa@stelizabethdenver.org</u>

Trey Turner, Maintenace

Mass Times

Monday to Friday: 12:15 PM

Sunday: 9:00 AM

Confession Times

Monday to Friday: 11:30 AM - 12:00 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



February 11, 2024

Dear brothers and sisters,

Last weekend, Feb 2-4, Fr. Martin, Bro. Francis and I preached the Spiritual Exercises for College Students in Colorado Springs. This was our first Silent Retreat specifically geared to College Students. We have been preaching silent retreats in Colorado for several years, but not exclusively to young people.

Since we could not find a retreat house for those dates, we rented three Airbnb homes. We were blessed to have several families that cooked for the 23 students during the weekend. We are grateful to them!

On top of that, I was in charge of cheese scrambled eggs, and bacon on Sunday morning. The good news is that nobody died of food poisoning:)

The young men and women who participated in the retreat did really well with the silence. I did not have to use the duct tape I took... hahaha! Speaking seriously, there was a great climate of prayer at all times. Seeing so many young people dedicated to the Lord, to knowing his Will, and to growing in friendship with him was beautiful.

College students from the CU Denver, Metro State, CSU, CU Bolder, and Regis University participated in the experience. At the end of the retreat, we had some time to share graces. They commented on the many ways that the Lord touched their hearts during the weekend. Several youths remarked that they were able to grow in love with the Lord and trust in his mercy.

Please find the full schedule for Ash Wednesday at the back of the bulletin. Masses will be at 12:15 and 5:00 PM.

May our Lady of Guadalupe grant us, through her motherly intercession, a holy and profitable Lenten Season.

Yours in Christ,

Fr. Richard, MC

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Gospel Reflection Corner

By Fr. Richard Castro Huergo, MC

n today's Gospel, we are presented with a powerful narrative of a man afflicted with leprosy, an outcast from society, who approaches Jesus with a humble plea, saying, "If you wish, you can make me clean." As we delve into this passage, let us explore the profound attitudes of humility and trust displayed by this leper, drawing inspiration for our own prayer lives.

Firstly, the leper exhibits an extraordinary sense of humility. "Kneeling down, he begged him," revealing an attitude of profound respect. In our own worship, we can draw parallels to the humility expressed through kneeling, such as during the Consecration in the Mass and genuflecting before the Blessed Sacrament. This man acknowledged the greatness of the One before him, recognizing the need for reverence in the presence of the Divine.

Moreover, this man demonstrated a deep awareness of his infirmity. Realizing he could not cure himself, he humbly admitted his need for help. This acknowledgment of vulnerability and dependence is a crucial aspect of humility, reminding us that true healing often begins with an honest recognition of our limitations.

The leper's humility is further evident in the manner in which he "begged" for healing. Unlike a demand or entitlement, his plea was a humble request, acknowledging that healing is not a right but a freely given gift. This posture of humility demonstrates a surrender of pride, opening the door to the mercy of Jesus.

Secondly, the leper has an attitude of trust. This attitude shines through in his acknowledgment of the authority and power of Jesus. Beyond a demonstration of respect, this acknowledgment signifies a profound faith in the power of Christ and, ultimately, in His Divinity. The leper recognizes Jesus not merely as a healer but as the source of true cleansing and restoration.

Moreover, the leper's trust is evident in the fact that he doesn't approach Jesus with a demand for healing as a right but places himself entirely at the mercy of Jesus. His plea is not presumptuous; instead, it is a beautiful acknowledgment of Jesus' sovereignty over his life. In embracing this attitude of surrender, the leper displays a deep trust in the wisdom and benevolence of Jesus.

Furthermore, the leper's trust is highlighted in his recognition that the decision rests entirely with Jesus – "If you wish." This acknowledgment that healing is subject to the divine will is crucial in our own prayer lives. It reflects an understanding that God, in His infinite wisdom, knows what is best for us, and our trust lies in His sovereign plan, even when it may not align with our immediate desires.

In conclusion, as we reflect on the leper's humility and trust, let us strive to incorporate these attitudes into our own prayer lives.

Let's always start our prayer with an act of humility, a recognition of our smallness, our need for healing, and an awareness of God's greatness. But, at the same time, let us approach the Lord with great trust in his power, surrendering to his Divine Will, putting ourselves in his loving arms, telling him, "Lord, if you wish, you can make me clean."

Finally, if this is a good disposition for prayer, it is also an excellent disposition for the reception of the Sacraments. In my experience, this is a beautiful way of receiving Holy Communion. As we walk today towards the Priest to receive our Lord, let us repeat with the leper, with humility and trust, "if you wish, you can make me clean." Then, the Lord will pour his mercy on us, and we will hear the blessed words, "I do will it. Be made clean."

SEEK24 Testimony Sydney Nguyen

i everyone! I'm Sydney, and I was blessed to have the opportunity to attend my first SEEK this year. I wasn't initially able to go, but by the grace of God changed that, and all of a sudden, I was discovering things about God and myself in my second to least favorite state, Missouri.

Honestly, I went into SEEK absolutely terrified and with no idea of what I wanted out of it. There were a few tears shed throughout the week because of this (not the Holy Spirit filled, moved by God kind), but once I let God hold my hand as I

navigated around the 20,000 people there, I discovered who I am, and the type of person I want to become.

For me, the most powerful moment of SEEK happened during the Praise & Worship event. As I sat on the floor, with tears in my eyes and a smile on my face, I found myself listening to everyone around me proclaiming the beauty of the Lord. In that mo-

ment, I realized that God moves in me through music. For the first time that week, I truly felt the Holy Spirit filling my heart and all the anxiety and pain that plagued me dissolved. I sat peacefully with Him for what felt like hours, finally finding His home in my heart once again. I found myself even more drawn to serving His people using the greatest possible gift He could have given to me, music. Singing for God, whether it be for mass, or adoration, or literally anything else, suddenly gained new meaning for me, and it felt like I was granted another purpose in my life. Singing in

church stopped being something I do just because people ask me to, or so I can become a church celebrity (which is obviously the better reason). Now, I sing to glorify Him and to guide others towards opening their hearts to God (the best reason).

Another big moment for me during SEEK happened during the first women's session. It was mentioned that from birth, everyone depends on the help of others. God himself chose to come to Earth as a helpless little baby, one of the most vulnerable forms possible. Through this, we can

see that needing and depending on others isn't weakness: it's nature, and it's beautiful. I learned that it's okay to rely on other people to lift you from the pits you find yourself stuck in, and even more importantly, it's okay to leave yourself in God's hands. The hardest battles can always be won when you allow God to be your shield. and the best way to live



life is by letting God walk you through it.

Finally, I would like to give a quick shout out to the wonderful people that drove in the "mom van" straight back to Colorado after the conference. Thank you for saving me from the state of Nebraska. I feel like I've gained four new brothers, and that 15-hour journey was, put simply, swoodal.

swoodal (adj) – something that is incredible, amazing, life changing, and good for the soul.

Campus Outreach

Coffee and Hot Chocolate

Tuesdays: 9:00 AM

Free Lunch & Talk

Thursdays: 1:00 PM - 3:00 PM (St. Elizabeth's)

Eucharistic Adoration



Monday to Friday: 11:00 AM -12:00 PM (St. Elizabeth's)

SCAN to Sign-up for Eucharistic Adoration

Ash Wednesday Schedule

11:00 - 12:00 PM Adoration

11:30 - 12:00 PM Confessions

12:15 PM Mass

with distribution of ashes *Soup and bread after Mass*

4:15 - 4:45 PM Confessions

5:00 PM Mass

with distribution of ashes *Soup and bread after Mass*

Stations of the Cross

Wednesdays and Fridays after 12:15 PM Mass during Lent



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

Silent Retreat for Men

Miles Christi Silent Retreat

FOR MEN

Feb 23-25

Franciscan Retreat Center 740 Deer Hill Grove Colorado Springs, CO 80919

More information:

mileschristi.org/event/colorado-springs-co-4/

Eucharistic Bible Study

Presence: The Mystery of the Eucharist

www.formed.org

Bible Study Sundays After Mass February 18 and 25 March 3, 17, and 24

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/stelizabethdenyer/