

# St. Elizabeth of Hungary Catholic Church

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

## Fourth Sunday of Lent

### Staff

Very Reverend Samuel Morehead, Pastor

Reverend Richard Castro Huergo, MC  
[frichard@stelizabethdenver.org](mailto:frichard@stelizabethdenver.org)

Reverend Martin Latiff, MC  
[frmartin@stelizabethdenver.org](mailto:frmartin@stelizabethdenver.org)

Lisa McMahon-Griffen, Business Manager  
[lisa@stelizabethdenver.org](mailto:lisa@stelizabethdenver.org)

Trey Turner, Maintenance

March 10, 2024

Dear brothers and sisters,

Please check out the schedule for Holy Week in the back of this bulletin. Like last year, we will not have a noon Mass on Tuesday of Holy Week since everyone is invited to participate in the Chrism Mass at the Cathedral at 11 AM.

Several students are getting ready to receive the Sacraments on Easter. Klara will be baptized at the Cathedral on the Easter Vigil, and three other students will receive conditional Baptism during the Easter Vigil at St. Elizabeth's. Please pray for them all!

### Mass Times

Monday to Friday: 12:15 PM

Sunday: 9:00 AM

Also, on March 15-24, I will be a chaplain to a group of FOCUS students on a mission trip to Costa Rica. Don't worry—I'm not going on vacation, but I'll be working. Allegedly... ;) My Spanish-speaking expertise, or what remains of it after 22 years of little practice, should become handy to our group. We will be helping with the construction of a Chapel and making evangelization visits to the houses of the town of Rio Grande, Province of Puntarenas. I ask you for prayers for missionaries, students, and the people we will encounter. May we be the living face of Jesus for them.

### Confession Times

Monday to Friday: 11:30 AM – 12:00 PM

Finally, we recently got a print of our Lady of Guadalupe directly from her Shrine in Mexico City. There is something extraordinary about this print. It was touched to the original Tilma in the Shrine. This is very rare since the original image is 10 feet in the air, and you can access it only by going through a bank-type vault. I am very excited about it. Yesterday, I took it to a shop to have it framed, and we will hang it in the lounge on the first floor of the friary.

### Eucharistic Adoration

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

May our Lady of Guadalupe continue interceding for us.

### Office Hours

Monday to Friday: 10 AM – 3:00 PM

Yours in Christ,

Fr. Richard, MC

### 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

**W**e all know the ancient and legendary episode: the Israelites, bitten by snakes in the desert, are cured by a kind of magical rite that consisted in looking at a bronze snake made by Moses and placed at the end of a rod.

In fact, it is one of the many gestures of magic called sympathetic or homeopathic so common to primitive and even contemporary peoples, such as the pricking or burning of a doll or a photograph. Here it was a question of threading a representation of a viper writhing on a spear to provoke the innocuousness of this crawling enemy.

In today's Gospel, speaking to Nicodemus, Jesus reinterprets the symbol: now the bronze serpent nailed to the top of the rod is Jesus himself nailed to the wood of the cross. It is not the rattlesnake's poison that is now neutralized, but what this poison produces: sin and death. The fatal toxin of man's death is transformed, through Jesus, into the antidote of life, but of true life, that Life which beyond the human can only be given by God to those who raise their eyes to Him.

Because that Life does not come from what is human in us, that is why man has to raise his eyes beyond himself to God, to accept his gift, to open himself to his saving power, to give himself into his hands. And he offers this life in his Son, in Jesus. God could not find a more eloquent and touching way of expressing his love for us than in the life of his beloved Son given to us: he so loved the world that he gave his only Son, that whoever believes in him should not die but have eternal life.

That is why God condemns no one: you can

either accept His proposal of love, believe in Jesus, and live accordingly, or not believe. If you do not believe in Him, you opt for the life that perishes, without an antidote, that ends in death: you condemn yourself. If you choose Jesus, you choose Life, and true Life.

If you reject Him, you enter into the artificial and flickering light of a world that does not make sense, property and goods are disputed by selfishness, your petulant self acquires enormous importance, you are dragged by false teachers. All because you will have preferred darkness to light, choosing, in the gloom, the false good that now hypnotizes you, refusing to approach the clarity that would uncover its inconsistency, but which would force you to the hard effort of overcoming and perhaps to the renunciation of so many of your opinions and actions that you foolishly identify with your freedom.

For certainly, if you choose Jesus, you finally enter the zone of the light of his truth, and therefore of his hard demands and of his inevitable way of the cross, but at the same time you enter the panoramas of heaven, the diaphanousness of the world, the joy of wide horizons and flaming goals, the joy of enthusiasm for the good and the noble, the contempt for the small, dirty, foolish and mediocre that is in you, and the ambition for true greatness, love and beauty. Greatness, love, and beauty that, in Jesus raised high on the banner of the cross, you will always be able to live, young, adult, or old that you are, because you will carry it within you - not as a make-up to be redone every day - but as a seed of eternity and perennial joy.

# Message of Pope Francis for Lent 2024

**G**od has not grown weary of us. Let us welcome Lent as the great season in which he reminds us: “I am the Lord your God, who brought you out of the land of Egypt, out of the house of slavery” (Ex 20:2). Lent is a season of conversion, a time of freedom. Jesus himself, as we recall each year on the first Sunday of Lent, was driven into the desert by the Spirit in order to be tempted in freedom. For forty days, he will stand before us and with us: the incarnate Son. Unlike Pharaoh, God does not want subjects, but sons and daughters. The desert is the place where our freedom can mature in a personal decision not to fall back into slavery. In Lent, we find new criteria of justice and a community with which we can press forward on a road not yet taken.

This, however, entails a struggle, as the book of Exodus and the temptations of Jesus in the desert make clear to us. The voice of God, who says, “You are my Son, the Beloved” (Mk 1:11), and “You shall have no other gods before me” (Ex 20:3) is opposed by the enemy and his lies. Even more to be feared than Pharaoh are the idols that we set up for ourselves; we can consider them as his voice speaking within us. To be all-powerful, to be looked up to by all, to domineer over others: every human being is aware of how deeply seductive that lie can be. It is a road well-travelled. We can become attached to money, to certain projects, ideas or goals, to our position, to a tradition, even to certain individuals. Instead of making us move forward, they paralyze us. Instead of

encounter, they create conflict. Yet there is also a new humanity, a people of the little ones and of the humble who have not yielded to the allure of the lie. Whereas those who serve idols become like them, mute, blind, deaf and immobile (cf. Ps 114:4), the poor of spirit are open and ready: a silent force of good that heals and sustains the world.

It is time to act, and in Lent, to act also means to pause. To pause in prayer, in order to receive the word of God, to pause like the Samaritan in the presence of a wounded brother or sister. Love of God and love of neighbour are one love.



Not to have other gods is to pause in the presence of God beside the flesh of our neighbour. For this reason, prayer, almsgiving and fasting are not three unrelated acts, but a single movement of openness and self-emptying, in which we cast out the idols that weigh us down, the attachments that imprison us. Then the atrophied and isolated heart will revive. Slow down, then, and pause! The contemplative dimension of life that Lent helps us to rediscover will release new energies. In the presence of God, we become brothers and sisters, more sensitive to one another: in place of threats and enemies, we discover companions and fellow travelers. This is God’s dream, the promised land to which we journey once we have left our slavery behind.

(This is an extract. Full text at: <https://press.vatican.va/content/salastampa/en/bollettino/pubblico/2024/02/01/240201c.html>)

## 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

## Stations of the Cross

Wednesdays and Fridays  
after 12:15 PM Mass  
during Lent

## 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.

**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.



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

## Holy Week Schedule

### Tuesday of Holy Week, March 26

No Mass at St. Elizabeth's  
Chrism Mass at the Cathedral (11:00 AM)

### Holy Thursday, March 28

7:30 PM Mass of the Lord's Supper

### Good Friday, March 29

11:15 AM Stations of the Cross  
12:00 PM Celebration of the Passion of the Lord

### Holy Saturday, March 30

8:30 PM Easter Vigil Mass

### Easter Sunday, March 31

9:00 AM Easter Day Mass  
Easter Egg Hunt following Mass

## Eucharistic Bible Study

### Presence: The Mystery of the Eucharist

[www.formed.org](http://www.formed.org)

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



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