

St. Elizabeth of Hungary Church

220 E Blancke St., Linden, NJ 07036

ADVENT

*December
13th & 20th,
2020*

“The desire for
God is written in
the human heart”

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GOSPEL MEDITATIONS

December 13, 2020

Did you ever stop and realize that there is no earthly gain that can ever really satisfy us? Think of winning the Lotto. On this side of the winning ticket, it's all about the money, the new car, house, vacations, bank accounts, and infinite pleasures. The possibility of acquiring all of these earthly securities brings us back again and again to the purchase of a ticket. Then, one day we win!

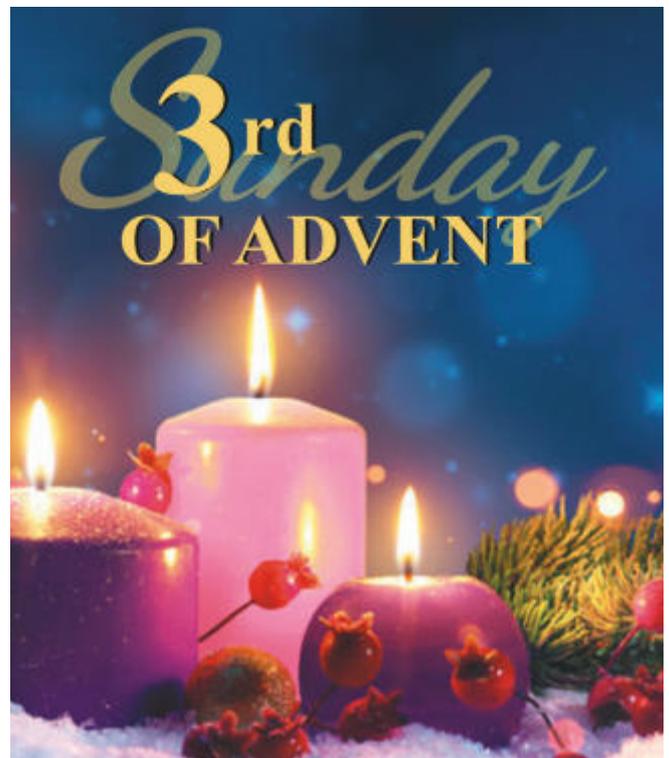
Our dreams are fulfilled, and happiness is on the horizon. Then one day, we wake up and realize that nothing has really changed, and I am not as satisfied as I thought I was or would be. I find myself living in my incompleteness and with my profound sorrow and grief. I did not find joy.

Glimpses of joy are possible but not by material means. They are brought to us through incredible experiences of connection that bring us face to face with real and authentic faith, hope, and love. And, they are glimpses and do not last. The moment we find ourselves looking back at them, they are gone, and we find ourselves remembering the moment in memory.

To carry joy within us is to realize that it is not something I create, manufacture or even acquire. It is not able to be purchased. It is a gift. My need for joy mirrors my need for eternity, for a Creator who has a claim on the very essence of who I am and desires a home within me. As C. S. Lewis discovered, joy is a surprise that speaks to my very soul and is given as gift by the God who loves me.

The beauty of Advent is found in discovering the beauty of the gift of joy. God has visited his people for no other reason than to show them where and how to find joy!

All of our human and earthly joy experiences are always only glimpses. They never satisfy us, sustain us or fulfill us. It is only God who is the joy of my soul.



Real, Divine experiences of joy catch us off guard, make us stop and become aware, bring a feeling of awe and rightness and have an eternal Otherness about them. Nothing created by humans can ever come close to this.

We probably will not fully realize the truth of all of this until we actually meet God face to face in heaven one day. Then, in that sacred moment when our hearts leap for joy we will understand what we have been tirelessly searching for all along. Intense gratitude will most surely follow.

Then one day, we wake up and realize that nothing has really changed, and I am not as satisfied as I thought I was or would be.

GOSPEL MEDITATIONS

December 20, 2020

In Blaise Pascal's work, *Pensees*, he says: "What else does this craving, and this helplessness, proclaim but that there was once in man a true happiness, of which all that now remains is the empty print and trace?"

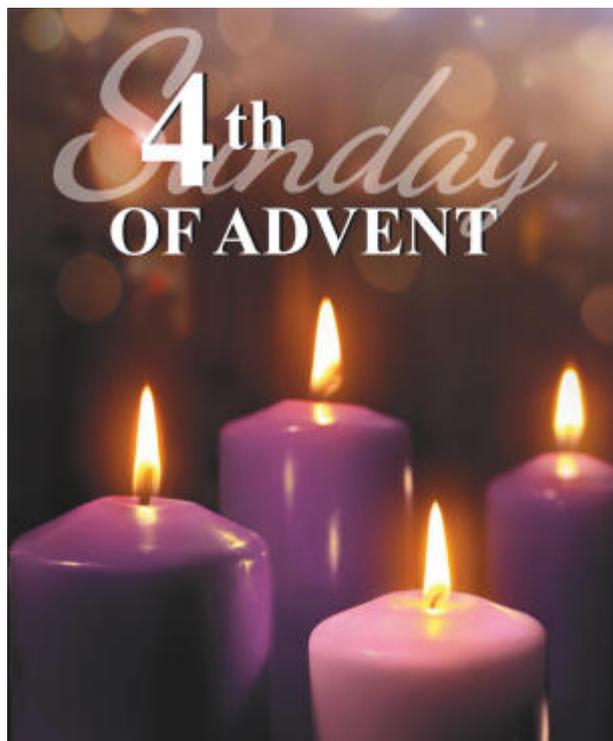
This he tries in vain to fill with everything around him, seeking in things that are not there the help he cannot find in those that are, though none can help, since this infinite abyss can be filled only with an infinite and immutable object; in other words by God himself."

We have a difficult time accepting that fulfillment and happiness are not achieved by our own merits but through a relationship with God. We are hardwired for this relationship and it is in our DNA. The simple fact is that we come from God and are designed to return to God.

If our beginning and our end define who we are, why would we not want to seek the One who can truly satisfy? The world does not realize that it is waiting. It is waiting for the birth of God in time, within one's soul and in eternity. We get so confused by seeking other momentary satisfactions that we misinterpret the hunger within. We crave God.

The union of God and humanity, revealed in Jesus Christ, is precisely what sets us on a straight path, orders our relationships, establishes proper focus and goals and tells us whose kingdom we really are meant to serve. We are so lost. God is with us. The prophet Nathan told this to King David, the angel said this to Mary and the birth of Christ brings this Good News to us.

We do not need to be busily looking for more things but must learn to find contentment and blessing in the One Presence. This is the beautiful simple message of Advent!



If you are feeling unsettled, anxious, angry, disgruntled, disconnected, unhappy, worried, fearful, off-center, becoming overly self-indulgent, unable to spend time alone and without distraction, then there's a good chance you are lost. Now is the time to allow God to find you!

Ponder the holy simplicity of Mary's call to be the Mother of God. "Behold, I am the handmaid of the Lord. May it be done to me according to your word." When we are helpless and at home with our emptiness, God will fill us. Our Savior has come.

If our beginning and our end define who we are, why would we not want to seek the One who can truly satisfy?

Mass Intentions

Third Week of Advent | Dec. 13 - Dec. 19, 2020

- **Saturday - December 12th**
4:00 PM George & Myra Howie
- **Sunday - December 13th**
8:00 am Domenica Galizia
10:00 am Ksenia Palahnuk
12:00 pm Maryann Noon
- **Monday - December 14th**
8:00 am People of the Parish
12:05 pm Intercession of Infant Jesus of Prague
- **Tuesday - December 15th**
8:00 am 2020 Project – Babies in the Womb
12:05 pm Alejandra “Dandy” Tesoro
8:00 pm Simbang-Gabi (Filipino Mass)
- **Wednesday - December 16th**
8:00 am Harry & Anne Venezia
12:05 pm Carmine Borsellino
- **Thursday - December 17th**
8:00 am Gloria & Abelardo Cayanan
12:05 pm Alejandra “Dandy” Tesoro
- **Friday - December 18th**
8:00 am Virginia Vergara
12:05 pm William Wilson
- **Saturday - December 19th**
12:05 pm Sr. Evelyn Francis, OP +

Fourth Week of Advent | Dec. 13 - Dec. 19, 2020

- **Saturday - December 19th**
4:00 pm Special Intentions for Diane & Ann Marie
- **Sunday - December 20th**
8:00 am Edwin Gichuki – 6th Anniversary
10:00 am Special Intention for Sonia
12:00 pm Cesar Serrato & Alexis Serrato
- **Monday - December 21st**
8:00 am People of the Parish
12:05 pm Catalino Fernandez
- **Tuesday - December 22nd**
8:00 am Alejandra “Dandy” Tesoro
12:05 pm Armand Colucci
- **Wednesday - December 23rd**
8:00 am Alejandra “Dandy” Tesoro
12:05 pm Dolores Kmetz - Birthday

- **Thursday - December 24th**
8:00 am Alejandro Ancheta
12:05 pm Celeste Sanchez
- **Thursday - December 24th (Christmas Eve)**
2:00 pm, 4:00 pm, 6:00 pm,
& 10:00PM (Midnight Observed)
- **Friday - December 25th (Christmas Day)**
10:00 am & 12:00 pm Noon
- **Saturday - December 26th**
12:05 pm Reynaldo J. Diego

Holy Family Sunday | Dec. 26 - Dec. 27, 2020

- **Saturday - December 26th**
4:00 pm Mary DeRose
- **Saturday - December 27th**
8:00 am Elizabeth Goodhue Bassford
10:00 am Vincent Badalis
12:00 pm Rosanna Pezzella



Week of December 13, 2020

Altar Candles
Rev. Msgr. Joseph Petrillo

Week of December 20, 2020

Altar Candles
Mary & Frank Klett

Sanctuary Lamp
Dolores Kmetz

Altar Bread
Sr. Evelyn Francis, OP

Altar Wine
Arthur Handschum

Financial News

Offertory Collections — November 22nd
Deposit/Donations - \$ 4,063.00

Offertory Collections — November 29th
Deposit/Donations - \$ 3,666.00

Weekly Amount Needed to Stay on Budget \$ 3,800.00

Restricted Donations

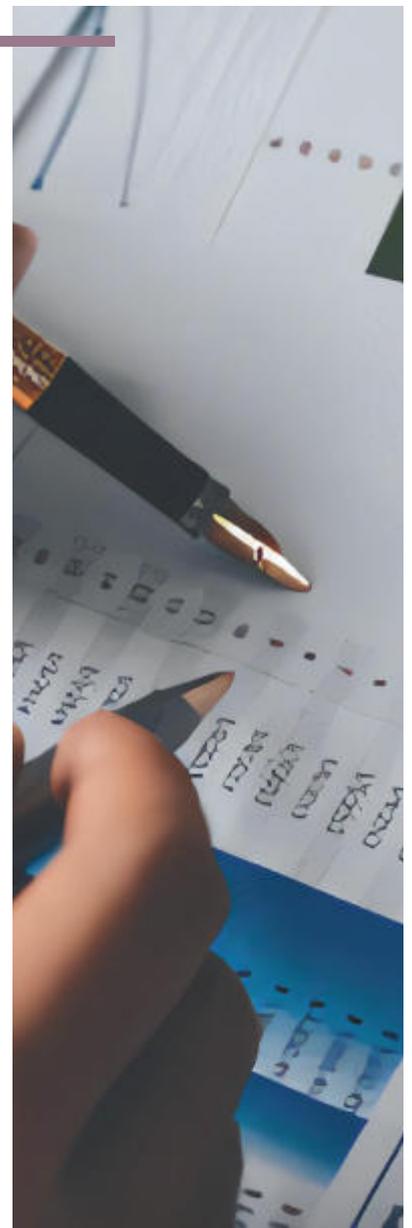
Christmas Flowers	\$ 812.00
Offset Winter Heating Bill	\$ 596.00
Offset Diocesan Tax/Assessment	\$ 25.00

As the days get colder, so too comes issues with the boilers. Last week the boiler in the Rectory started to leak. A.J Celiano, the parish HVAC contractor, came and determined that a section of the boiler had corroded pipes. A temporary solution was recommended, considering the age of the boiler, and \$800 later we are praying it gets through the winter.

This week one of the boilers in the school started to leak in two places. When the 2 boilers were replaced a few years ago in the school, the original piping connected to the boilers was not replaced. Now those pipes are corroded and in need of replacement. The cost to replace the one threaded long pipe was \$3,900 and we are still waiting for an estimate to fix the second pipe. The Finance Council will review this issue at its next meeting and determine a preventative strategy.

Emergency calls are much more expensive than regular maintenance. This is why the Finance Council chose to replace all the original sheet metal associated with the school gymnasium's new air conditioning unit this summer so that a few years from now we are not paying double to repair it in pieces.

The parish office Toshiba phone system became difficult to operate and maintain because Toshiba closed its phone division and there was no support for the failing program. On December 1st, the parish office got a new phone system with all new technology for \$5,600. You can find the new extensions for the staff on the staff page or by following the prompt on the new system.



Help Us Communicate Better and Cheaper with You, Our Parishioner

With our updated parish database, we would like to collect cell phone numbers and emails from all parishioners so that we can better communicate important information in a timely manner. As First-Class mail continues to go up in price, every mailing we can save, helps our parish budget. It is quicker and more efficient to be able to email parish bulletins and Holyday and Holiday Mass schedules as well as text inclement weather or pandemic closures. Please take the time to fill out the “re-registration form” found in the back of Church or from the parish office.



Parish Giving Tree & Holiday Coat Drive

December 13th is the deadline for bringing in winter coats, hats, scarfs and gloves for the Coat Drive and for returning the tag and gift from the Giving Tree. We thank all those who have participated this year!



2020 Christmas Mass Schedule



Christmas Eve (December 24th)

Vigil Masses

2:00pm (Facebook Live-stream)

4:00 pm

6:00 pm

10:00pm (Facebook Livestream)

(Midnight Observed)

Christmas Day (December 25th)

10:00 am (Facebook Livestream)

12:00 nn

New Year's Day, January 1st

Mary, Mother of God Masses

8:00am (Facebook Live-stream)

12:00 nn

7:00 pm

We thank you for your continued generosity! If you cannot join us in person for Christmas, your Christmas donation may be made by dropping off or mailing in your envelope to the Office or by giving a Christmas Gift via our online giving process;

<https://sainteonline.weshare.org>

Current Mass Schedule

Saturdays: 4PM = Anticipatory Mass for Sunday

Sundays: 8AM = Sunday Mass
10AM = Sunday Mass
12noon = Sunday Mass

Also live streamed for those at home on our Facebook:
"St. Elizabeth of Hungary Church - Linden NJ"

Scan for livestreams:



Parish Contact Information

Rectory Address

179 Hussa Street

Rectory Office Hours

Monday to Friday (9AM-1PM)

Phone (General Queries)

908-486-2514

908-403-1513 (Emergency)

Religious Education

908-486-2514

(Coordinated by Tanya Grissett)

(x215)

Parish Email

SEHPLinden@gmail.com

Parish Website

<http://www.sainteonline.org/>

STAFF

Pastor

Rev. Edgardo P. Jocson (Fr. Ed)

(x202)

Deacon

John Bejgrowicz

Receptionist

Ann Marie Bednar

(x201)

Volunteer Administrative Assistant

Donna "Doll" Vilchinsky

(x203)

Maintenance Director

Pablo Hernandez

(x216)

Rectory Assistant

Lidia Marin

Bookkeeper

Lizeth Amaya

(x205)

Parish Consultant

Dennis Corcoran

(x204)

Leader of Song/Cantor

James Kinzel

Custodian

Nelson Tinanna

N.J. LIC.
NO. 3220

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