

**ST. ELIZABETH  
CATHOLIC CHURCH**  
Diocese of Knoxville

May 17, 2020

**Parish Life**

**Sunday Mass Starts May 30-31** —

St. Elizabeth Church will resume public celebrations of the Sunday liturgy beginning May 30-31 (Pentecost). Because of social distancing, the church is able to accommodate only 46 parishioners at one time, on a first come/first serve basis. Mass will be as follows:

- One Mass on Saturdays, beginning at 5 p.m.
- 8:30 a.m. Mass on Sundays for those with last names beginning with A-L.
- 9:30 a.m. Mass on Sundays for those with last names beginning with M-Z.
- Daily Mass will NOT be celebrated at this time.

Bishop Richard Stika continues to extend dispensation to Catholics living in the diocese from their obligation to attend Sunday Mass until further notice.

**Church Open Certain Hours** — St. Elizabeth Church is open between noon and 5:30 p.m. Tuesdays through Sundays. (It is closed on Mondays.) Please continue social distancing when you visit the church.

**To View Mass** — For a recorded Mass, go to dioknox.org and click on the cathedral tab. Sunday Mass can also be viewed on TV on channel EWTN (for those who subscribe to it) at 8 a.m., noon and 7 p.m. Sunday.



**PHILIP IN SAMARIA**

Last week we saw that the apostles had ordained seven men to administer the soup kitchen in Jerusalem. The men — later known as deacons — quickly expanded their role to missionary work. One of these travels was to Samaria, part of what is now the West Bank. There had been a bitter antagonism between the Jews and Samaritans, but Jesus had broken the ice. One of the deacons, Philip, capitalizes on this and begins making converts. Philip baptizes several people. When the apostles hear the news, they dismiss Peter and John to evaluate the situation. They complete the initiation of the converts by laying hands on them to administer Confirmation. We might see this as a foreshadowing of the differing roles of deacons and bishops. The former baptize, but only the latter can confirm.

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**Weekly readings**

**Sixth Sunday  
of Easter**

Acts 8:5-8, 14-17  
Psalm 66:1-7, 16, 20  
1 Peter 3:15-18  
John 14:15-21

**Monday**

Acts 16:11-15  
John 15:26—16:4a

**Tuesday**

Acts 16:22-34  
John 16:5-11

**Wednesday**

Acts 17:15,22—18:1  
John 16:12-15

**Thursday**

Acts 18:1-8  
John 16:16-20

**Friday**

Acts 18:9-18  
John 16:20-23

**Saturday**

Zephaniah 3:14-18a  
Luke 1:39-56

**Ascension  
of Our Lord**

Acts 1:1-11  
Psalm 47:2-3, 6-9  
Ephesians 1:17-23  
Matthew 28:16-20



**Sixth Sunday of Easter**

**Reading 1**

(Acts 8:5-8, 14-17)

Philip went down to the city of Samaria and proclaimed the Christ to them. With one accord, the crowds paid attention to what was said by Philip when they heard it and saw the signs he was doing. For unclean



souls, crying out in a loud voice, came out of many possessed people, and many paralyzed or crippled people were cured. There was great joy in that city. Now when the apostles in Jerusalem heard that Samaria had accepted

the word of God, they sent them Peter and John, who went down and prayed for them, that they might receive the Holy Spirit, for it had not yet fallen upon any of them; they had only been baptized in the name of the Lord Jesus. Then they laid hands on them and they received the Holy Spirit.

*Let all the earth  
cry out to God with joy!*

**Responsorial Psalm**

(Psalm 66:1-7, 16, 20)

Let all the earth cry out to God with joy. Shout joyfully to God, all the earth, sing praise to the glory of his name; proclaim his glorious praise. Say to God, "How tremendous are your deeds!" "Let all on earth worship and sing praise to you, sing praise to your name!" Come and see the works of God, his tremendous deeds among the children of Adam. He has changed the sea into dry land; through the river they passed on foot; therefore let us rejoice in him. He rules by his might forever. Hear now, all you who fear God, while I declare what he has done for me. Blessed be God who refused me not my prayer or his kindness!

**Reading 2**

(1 Peter 3:15-18)

Beloved: Sanctify Christ as Lord in your hearts. Always be ready to give an explanation to anyone who asks you for a reason for your hope, but do it

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with gentleness and reverence, keeping your conscience clear, so that, when you are maligned,

*It is better to suffer  
for doing good  
than for doing evil.*

those who defame your good conduct in Christ may themselves be put to shame. For it is better to suffer for doing good, if that be the will of God, than for doing evil. For Christ also suffered for sins once, the righteous for the sake of the unrighteous, that he might lead you to God. Put to death in the flesh, he was brought to life in the Spirit.

**Gospel**

(John 14:15-21)

Jesus said to his disciples: "If you love me, you will keep my commandments. And I will ask the Father, and he will give you another Advocate to be with you always, the Spirit of truth, whom the world cannot accept, because it neither sees nor knows him. But you know him, because he remains with you, and will be in you. I will not leave you orphans; I will come to you. In a little while the world will no longer see me, but you will see me, because I live and you will live. On that day you will realize that I am in my Father and you are in me and I am in you. Whoever has my commandments and observes them is the one who loves me. And whoever loves me will be loved by my Father, and I will love him and reveal myself to him."



**Saintly Wisdom**

"If God seems slow in responding,  
it is because he is preparing a better gift.  
He will not deny us.  
God withholds what you are not ready for.  
He wants you to have  
a lively desire for his greatest gifts.  
All of which is to say,  
pray always and do not lose heart."  
— St. Augustine —