

# ST. ELIZABETH CATHOLIC CHURCH

Diocese of Knoxville

Mass intentions  
for Dec. 17, 2023

## Third Sunday of Advent

**Saturday, 5 p.m. —**  
† Mary Seitzinger  
By: Stapleton family

**Sunday, 9 a.m. —**  
People of the parish

**Monday —** No Mass

**Tuesday —** No Mass

**Wednesday, noon —**  
† deceased of Bartus family  
By: George & Thea Bratton

## Fourth Sunday of Advent

**Saturday, 5 p.m. —**  
People of the parish

**Sunday, 9 a.m. —**  
† Bonnie Gouge  
By: Deacon Rich's class

## Thanks for your support and generosity

### In-person Offertory Dec. 10, 2023

Regular, \$2,569	Catholic Charities, \$35
Development, \$155	Retired religious, \$505
Angel tree, \$250	Backpack Buddies, \$40
Area needy, \$20	Christmas flowers, \$45
Immaculate Conception, \$653	



## UNTIE HIS SANDALS

John the Baptist makes both an act of humility and an act of hope for a coming superior. Sandals were the most common and least valuable of possessions. They were thongs made of animal skin or plant fiber. They consisted in a flat sole tied to the foot with straps. It was the duty of a slave to tie these straps for a superior. John pictures the “one who is to come” as so great that the Baptist is unfit even to be his slave.

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## Weekly readings

**Third Sunday of Advent**  
Isaiah 61:1-2a, 10-11  
(Ps) Luke 1:46-50, 53-54  
1 Thessalonians 5:16-24  
John 1:6-8, 19-28

**Monday**  
Jeremiah 23:5-8  
Matthew 1:18-25

**Tuesday**  
Judges 13:2-7, 24-25a  
Luke 1:5-25

**Wednesday**  
Isaiah 7:10-14  
Luke 1:26-38

**Thursday**  
Song of Songs 2:8-14  
Luke 1:39-45

**Friday**  
1 Samuel 1:24-28  
Luke 1:46-56

**Saturday**  
Malachi 3:1-4, 23-24  
Luke 1:57-66

**4th Sunday of Advent**  
2 Samuel 7:1-5, 8b-12, 14a, 16  
Psalm 89:2-5, 27, 29  
Romans 16:25-27  
Luke 1:26-38

## Pray for the Sick of Our Parish:

Manny Bandarra  
Mary Carr  
Jim Cathelyn  
Cathy Champon  
Sheila Clark  
Joel Dean

Lynda Gamache  
José Gonzales  
Chuck Muraski  
Jimmy Townsend  
Margaret Vines  
Ed & Linda Yarwood

## Lay ministers for Dec. 23/24

### Altar servers

Sat. —  
Sun. — Carl Johnson, Joshua Gouge

### Commentators

Sat. — Steve Hummel  
Sun. — Tom Manning

### Readers

Sat. — Steve Hummel  
Sun. — Irene Whitehead, Cathy Champon

### Ushers

Sat. — J.J. Regan, George Bratton  
Sun. — Richard Barker, Jimmy Townsend

### Gift Bearers

Sat. — Ushers  
Sun. — Boyer family

## Parish Life

**No Monday or Tuesday Mass** — No Mass is scheduled for Monday or Tuesday this week.

**Bereavement** — Benigno Rangel, brother-in-law of Fr. Jesús, died unexpectedly Dec. 12 in Mexico. Please keep his family in your prayers.

## Advent/Christmas

**Sunday/Christmas Mass Obligations** — Just a reminder about Mass obligations for the Fourth Sunday of Advent (Dec. 24) and Christmas:

- Fourth Sunday of Advent obligation** is fulfilled with Mass at 5 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 23, or 9 a.m. Sunday, Dec. 24.
- Christmas obligation** is fulfilled with Mass at 6 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 24 (no incense) or 9 a.m. Monday, Dec. 25 (with incense).

**Christmas Eve Children's Play Practice** — Children who plan to be in the Christmas play before the 6 p.m. Mass on Christmas Eve are to meet after the Sunday Mass this weekend for a short practice.

**Music for Christmas Season** — Choral practice for music for the Christmas season is at 10 a.m. Saturday.

**Christmas Flowers** — This weekend is the deadline to turn in flower envelopes for those people who would like to remember a loved one. Please be sure to note if the names are a memorial or an “in honor of” request. Thank you.

## Social Action

**Advent Food Drive** — The Knights of Columbus continue their Advent food drive through next weekend. They are collecting nonperishable food (no glass, please) to be given to ARM (Assistance and Resources Ministry).

**Baby Winter-Clothing Drive** — The Knights of Columbus are collecting new and gently used winter clothing in sizes newborn to 12 months for Catholic Charities of East Tennessee through next weekend.



**Angel Tree Thank You** — Thank you to all who donated gifts or money to the Angel Tree program. These gifts helped children who would not be getting many, if any, gifts for Christmas.



This year the cash donations helped purchase coats, shoes, underwear, socks, mittens and toboggans for any child lacking those things. The Knights of Columbus also helped a family in need this Christmas with gifts, food and everyday items. Thanks to the generosity of parishioners and coworkers at Harold McCormick School, 94 angels were sponsored. The cash donations and purchased gifts from parishioners covered more than half of them. Thank you!

## Tax Reminders

**Charity Donation Deadline for 2023** — Donations to St. Elizabeth Church must be received no later than Sunday, Dec. 31, if you wish to deduct them on your 2023 tax return.

**Charity Donation Letter** — If you would like a letter summarizing your donations to St. Elizabeth for 2023 (as support for your tax return), please drop a note in the weekend collection with your name and the words “tax letter” on it.