All are welcome!
Bienvenidos!
Chào mừng!

Sunday Mass, 9:00a

Holy Days, 7:00p

Communion Service
Tuesdays, 12:15p

Sacrament of Baptism
Preparation
1st Saturdays
Call Temoc (828) 773-2353

O.C.I.A.
Adults desiring to explore the Catholic faith, contact Sister Janis
(336) 835-4542

Sacrament of Reconciliation
by appointment
Fr. Engelbert
(704) 578-2478
Fr. John
(704) 763-2475 or after Mass

Sacrament of Matrimony
One year to six months prior to the wedding, contact S. Janis
(336) 835-4542

Anointing of the Sick
Fr. Engelbert
(704) 578-2478
Fr. John
(704) 763-2475
S. Janis
(336) 835-4542



St. Stephen Catholic Church

101 Hawthorne Road Elkin NC 28621
Email: Connect@StStephenNC.org
Website: www.StStephenNC.org
(336) 835-3007

November 15, 2026 15 noviembre 2026

33rd Sunday in Ordinary Time
XXXIII Domingo del Tiempo Ordinario

She is clothed with

STRENGTH

and

DIGNITY.

She

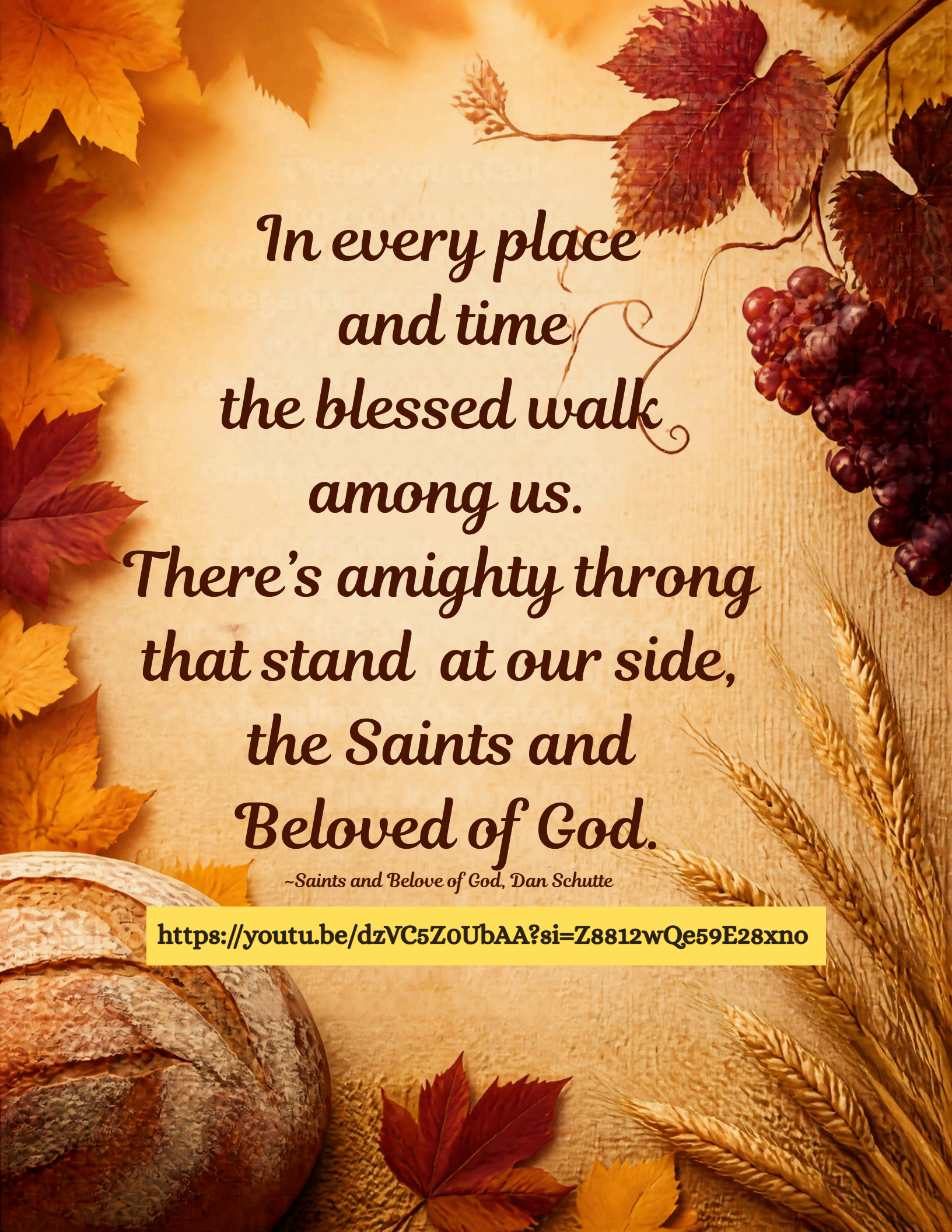
LAUGHS

without fear

of the future.



~ Proverbs 31


In every place
and time
the blessed walk
among us.
There's amighty throng
that stand at our side,
the Saints and
Beloved of God.
~Saints and Belove of God, Dan Schutte
https://youtu.be/dzVC5Z0UbAA?si=Z8812wQe59E28xno

We Remember, We Celebrate, We Believe

Donor	Remembering
Theresa Martin	El-Khouri Family, Isaac Family, Jabaley Family, Thomas Family, Martin Family, Dan Gerber
Peggy Reikowsky	Pat Chatham, James Dana, Lynda Dana, Marjorie Dana

Eternal rest, grant them, O Lord, and let perpetual light shine upon them.
May they rest in peace. Amen+



Celebrating 70 Acts of Kindness in gratitude for 70 years of St. Stephen Church

This is a blessed time in the history of our faith community. Our parish is known for its generous service, hospitality, and life-giving ministry among our dear neighbors.
You are invited to continue that same loving spirit by doing 70 Acts of Kindness between now and the

Feast of St. Stephenbon December 26.

Keep a record of your loving acts
They will offer at Mass on the
Feast of the Holy Family.
Sunday. December 27.



Thank you...

...to our Faith Formation Families who renewed their sponsoring of STEFANO in Peru through *UNBOUND*...

...to our faithful church cleaners & Altar linen ministers...

...you are our valiant women &

y'all are
Saints-in-the-Making!

Pastoral Staff

Music Ministry
Theresa Martin
(336) 816-0214

Pastoral Associate
Sister Janis McQuade, S.S.J.
(336)835-4542

Administrator
Fr. Engelbert Ofon
(704)578-2478

O.C.I.A.
For adults wishing
to explore the Catholic Faith.
Contact S. Janis

Family Faith Formation
Sundays
10:15-11:45a
Lupe Hernandez
Israel Lynch
Jessica Nieland
Beth Orta
Peggy Reikowsky

Ladies Guild
Aileen Cahill
2nd Mondays, 5p

Men's Group
Men's Breakfast Group
Jospeh Spears
3rd Saturday, 8:30a
Cracker barrel
Jonesville

NOVEMBER



01 Feast of All Saint ~ Mass, 9a
Family Faith Formation, 10:15-11:45a
SSJ ZOOM, 7:00-8::30p
02 All Souls Day ~ Mass, 5p
OCIA Inquiry, 7p
03 Mass, 12:15p
04 Choir, 7p
08 32nd Sun OT ~ Mass, 9a
Family Faith Formation, 10:15-11:45a
Honor our Veterans
09. OCIA Inquiry, 6:30p
10 Ministerial Assoication, 12N
Mass, 12:15p
11 Choir, 7p
15 33rd Sun OT
Family Faith Formation, 10:15-11:45a
16 Give Blood ~ Elkin Rescue Sqd, 1:30-6:00p
17 Mass, 12:15p
18 Choir, 7p
OCIA Mystagogia, 7p
19 Wise Ones ~ Chinese Buffet, N. Bridge St. 1p
Hosts: Ayda & Sheldon
21 Men's Breakfast, Cracker Barrel, 8:30a
Christmas Shoe Box Packing Party, 10a-2p
22 Feast: Jesus Christ, King of the Universe
Family Faith Formation, 10:15-11:45a
23 OCIA Catechumenate, 7p
24 Mass, 12:15p
25 Choir, 7p
26 Happy Thanksgiving!
29 1st Sun Advent ~ Mass 9a
Family Faith Formation, 10:15-11:45a
30 OCIA Catechumenate, 7p

The Valiant Woman

Today we turn our hearts to one of the most famous passages in all of Sacred Scripture: the poem of the Valiant Woman found in Proverbs.

For generations, this passage has been read at weddings, funerals, and Mother's Day services. Too often, however, it is treated as an exhausting, impossible checklist for women. We look at this woman who rises before dawn, buys fields, plants vineyards, spins thread, clothes her family in scarlet, and runs a business. This is not a job description, it is her inspiring life.

In Hebrew, the phrase "virtuous woman" or "excellent wife" is not a passive, domestic word. It means strength, power, and valor. This is the exact same word used to describe David and Gideon. This text is not a checklist of chores; it is a hymn celebrating a champion who is the fierce, resilient grace of godly women.

The Valiant Woman strength is her industriousness, wisdom, and compassion. She directs the strength of her arms not for her own vanity, but to lift up others. "She opens her hand to the poor, and reaches out her hands to the needy." Her strength is outward-facing; it transforms her household and makes her community a more just and merciful place.

"Charm is deceitful, and beauty is vain, but a woman who fears the Lord is to be praised." The secret to her valor is not her physical stamina or her economic success. It is her relationship with God. Her labor is an extension of her worship.

Since she is rooted in the "fear of the Lord"— biblical shorthand for deep reverence, trust, and awe —"Strength and dignity are her clothing, and she laughs at the time to come." She laughs at the future because she knows exactly who holds the future.
Proverbs in not just for women. It is a challenge to the entire community. We are called to see, honor, and vocalize our gratitude for the valiant women in our lives—the mothers, grandmothers, sisters, mentors, and friends who quietly and fiercely hold the world together through their faith and labor.

Let us look at the Woman of Valor not as an impossible standard of perfection, but as a beautiful icon of divine wisdom in action.

In the One, we are one...in CommUNITY



¡La mujer virtuosa

¿Hoy dirigimos nuestra atención a uno de los pasajes más célebres de toda la Sagrada Escritura: el poema de la «mujer valiente» que se encuentra en el libro de Proverbios.

Durante generaciones, este pasaje se ha leído en bodas, funerales y celebraciones del Día de la Madre. Sin embargo, con demasiada frecuencia se interpreta como una lista de tareas agotadora e imposible de cumplir para las mujeres. Observamos a esta mujer que se levanta antes del amanecer, adquiere campos, planta viñedos, hila, viste a su familia con ropas de escarlata y dirige un negocio. No se trata de una descripción de un puesto de trabajo, sino de su inspiradora vida.

En hebreo, la expresión traducida como «mujer virtuosa» o «esposa excelente» no denota algo pasivo o meramente doméstico; implica fuerza, poder y valentía. Es, de hecho, el mismo término que se utiliza para describir a figuras como David y Gedeón. Este texto no es una lista de quehaceres, sino un himno que celebra a una campeona: la encarnación de una gracia tenaz y resiliente, propia de las mujeres que viven conforme a Dios.

La fortaleza de la mujer virtuosa reside en su laboriosidad, su sabiduría y su compasión. Ella no emplea la fuerza de sus brazos para alimentar su propia vanidad, sino para elevar a los demás: «Tiende la mano al pobre y extiende sus brazos al necesitado». Su fortaleza se proyecta hacia el exterior; transforma su hogar y convierte a su comunidad en un lugar más justo y misericordioso.

«Engañoso es el encanto y fugaz la belleza; la mujer que teme al Señor es digna de alabanza». El secreto de su valor no reside en su resistencia física ni en su éxito económico, sino en su relación con Dios. Su trabajo es una prolongación de su adoración.

Al estar arraigada en el «temor del Señor» —expresión bíblica que denota una profunda reverencia, confianza y asombro—, «se reviste de fuerza y dignidad, y mira sin temor al porvenir». Mira al futuro con una sonrisa porque sabe exactamente quién tiene el futuro en sus manos.

El libro de Proverbios no está dirigido únicamente a las mujeres; plantea un desafío a toda la comunidad. Estamos llamados a reconocer, honrar y expresar nuestra gratitud hacia las mujeres virtuosas que forman parte de nuestras vidas: madres, abuelas, hermanas, mentoras y amigas que, con fe y trabajo, sostienen el mundo de manera silenciosa pero firme.

Contemplemos a la mujer virtuosa no como un estándar de perfección inalcanzable, sino como un hermoso icono de la sabiduría divina en acción.

En el Único, somos uno... en COMUNIDAD



CHRISTMAS SHOE BOX PACKING PARTY
SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 21
10:00a ~ 2:00p
Family Life Center
Collect Service Hours
or
Designate this as one of your
70 Acts of Kindness for 70 Years.

EVENTO DE EMPAQUETADO DE CAJAS DE ZAPATOS PARA NAVIDAD
SÁBADO, 21 DE NOVIEMBRE
10:00 a. m. – 2:00 p. m.
Centro de Vida Familiar (Family Life Center)
Acumula horas de servicio
o
incluye esta actividad como uno de tus 70 actos de bondad por los 70 años.

Thank you for your generous contributions to our Operation Christmas Child Shoebox project. Many very nice items have been donated.
We still need items like: T-shirts, socks, hats, gloves, brushes, and combs.
Also, it costs $10.00 for Samaritan's Purse to ship a shoebox,
so if you would be willing to donate money for shipping,
that will also be very much appreciated.
You can make out checks to the St. Stephen Ladies' Guild.
On the MEMO line: *Shoebox Ministry.*

We invite ALL parishioners to join
our Faith Formation Families,
Men's Group, and Ladies Guild
to pack the boxes.

The Men's group and Ladies' Guild
can assist in supervising
the packing stations
and inspecting the completed boxes.



Birthdays



02 Jackie Wagoner
03 Eric Barrientos
04 Arelis Hadfield
Donna Stvartak
05 Shalya Ange
Ed Kageorge
06 Phil Martin
09 Debbie Parrish
14 Veronica Trinidad
15 Jane Norman
18 Ania Trejo
20 Reyna Hernandez
21 Newell Hauser
22 America Lopez
23 Katelyn Jarrard
25 Victor Bustos, Jr.
Stephen Faust
26 Victor Bustos, Sr.
27 Alejandro Carmona



Anniversaries

04 Roseamelia & Michael Kelly
06 Rosa & Gerardo Parral
13 Ayda Lopez & Sheldon Chanes
16 Ramona & Jim Doyle
17 Epi & Julian Cortez

y'all are Saints-in-the-Making!



ST.S BULLETIN BOARD

2026 TRI-C MINISTRIES ALMSGIVING

JUL Peas	AUG Flour	SEPT Shampoo
OCT Sm. Dish Liquid	NOV Bar Soap	DEC Dry Beans

PRAY

END TO ALL WAR AND GUN VIOLENCE, ESPECIALLY IN SCHOOLS

THANK YOU

GREETS

and

USHERS

NOVEMBER MASS

TUESDAYS

12:15p

Fr. Berto

RECYCLE

TYVM for RECYCLING YOUR INK CARTRIDGES AT CHURCH.
GOOD for EARTH & HELPS the CHURCH.

UPCOMING FUNDRAISER

SMASH BURGERS

Watch your bulletin for more information.

70 FOR 70

70 Acts for 70 Years
Decide each day how you will show kindness or gratitude in meaningful ways.

Use Your Talents!



God has given each of us talents, or things that we're good at. In today's parable, Jesus tells about a master who gave three of his servants large amounts of money, which were also called talents. Two of the men used the talents and earned more, but one just hid his talent and didn't use it at all. When the master returned he rewarded the men who had used theirs, but punished the man who hadn't.



Some people have many talents and can do lots of good things. Other people can only do a few things well. But no matter what you can do, God wants you to do your best.

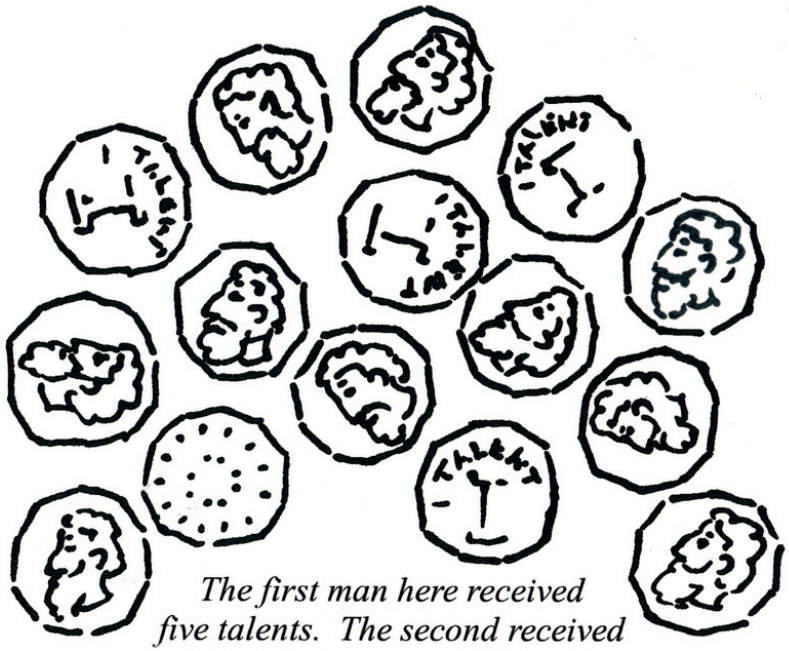
What are some things you're good at? What are some things you are not very good at? Rather than think about the things we can't do, we should be happy to do the things we can, and do them for God! Some people are good at drawing or writing. They can make people happy and teach people about God by drawing pictures or writing stories or letters. Some people are good at talking to people and making friends. They can show God's love and make people happy. Some people have a talent of being patient with others, and show Jesus' love that way. What are your talents? How can you use them to bring people closer to God?



Answers to front page: The first man had ten, the second had four and the third man one.
Answer to picture puzzle: Top, left to right: 6, 2.
Middle: 4, 1. Bottom: 3, 5.

The Kids' Bulletin

33rd Sunday in Ordinary Time
November 15th, 2026



The first man here received five talents. The second received two and the third man one. When the master returned, how many did each man have? Colour them this way to find out:



Colour the coins with faces gold.



Colour the coins with letters silver.



Colour the coin with dots bronze.

Saint Elizabeth of Hungary
November 17

ELIZABETH WAS THE DAUGHTER OF THE KING AND QUEEN OF HUNGARY IN THE EARLY 1200'S. SHE GREW UP LOVING GOD AND DOING LITTLE PENANCES.

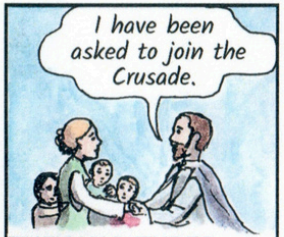


HER PARENTS ARRANGED FOR HER TO MARRY THE DUKE OF THURINGIA IN GERMANY. HE WAS A GOOD HUSBAND.



THEY BOTH LOVED GOD AND WERE GENEROUS TO THE POOR AND SICK.





THEY HAD THREE CHILDREN, BUT HER HUSBAND HAD TO LEAVE ON A CRUSADE.

HE DIED ON THE WAY FROM DISEASE. POOR ELIZABETH WAS A WIDOW AT THE AGE OF 21.



SHE STARTED HOSPITALS, BUT HER HUSBAND'S RELATIVES WERE CRUEL TO HER AND REFUSED TO GIVE HER ENOUGH MONEY.





SO ELIZABETH JOINED THE FRANCISCAN ORDER AND SPENT THE REST OF HER SHORT LIFE IN PRAYER AND CARE FOR THE POOR. SHE DIED AT THE AGE OF 24.

SAINT ELIZABETH DID NOT LET BEING RICH AND IMPORTANT IN THE WORLD GET IN THE WAY OF LOVING GOD AND OTHERS. SHE USED HER MONEY AND TIME TO CARE FOR THE POOR AND SICK, AND WHEN SHE HAD NO MONEY SHE STILL CARED FOR THEM. CAN YOU PRAY FOR THE POOR AND SICK PEOPLE TODAY?

Using the Master's Talents
- sort out the pictures -

How well do you know the parable from today's Gospel?
Put the numbers 1 to 6 in the boxes
in the correct order of the story.

