

ST. ELIZABETH'S CHURCH

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Elizabethtown, NY 12932
Phone: 873-6760

Trustees: Laurie Pulsifer and James Dawson
ST. PHILIP NERI CHURCH

6603 Main St., Box 189
Westport, NY 12993
Phone: 962-8610

Trustees: Jean Paquette & James Forcier

Pastor: Rev. Peter R. Riani

(Residence: Elizabethtown)

Email: allrises@westelcom.com

Office email: stelizabeth2011@hotmail.com

Website: <http://ccsespn.grainofwheat.net>

Weekend Masses: Saturday: 4:30 p.m. St. Elizabeth's; Sunday: 8:30 a.m. St. Philip Neri; 10:30 a.m. St. Elizabeth's.

Sacrament of Reconciliation: Sat. 3:30 p.m. St. Elizabeth's. Also by request or appointment.

Sacrament of Baptism: By appointment.

Sacrament of Matrimony: Contact the Pastor at least six months in advance of proposed date.

Sick Calls: Anytime, day or night. 873-6760.

Holy Communion will be brought to your home on request.

MARY, THE MOTHER OF GOD – B

Dec. 31, 2011/Jan. 1, 2012

Note: unless otherwise noted, all weekday Masses at 8:15 am are at St. Elizabeth's; those at 8:30 am are at St. Philip Neri.

Sat., Dec. 31: 4:30 pm Hugh and Dolly Gilligan by the Doyle Family.

Sun., Jan. 1: 8:30 am, Una Forcier by Jerry and Jean Forcier. 10:30 am, Loyal Badser by Harry and Cecile Denton.

Mon., Jan. 2: 8:15 am, Catherine G. Sullivan by the Estate.

Tues., Jan. 3: 8:30 am, Michael Wall by Tom and Breda Bramich.

Thurs., Jan. 5: 10:15 am, Horace Nye Home Catherine G. Sullivan by the Estate.

Fri., Jan. 6: 8:15 am, Malvina Russon by the Estate.

Sat., Jan. 7: 4:30 pm. Dorothy Smith by Harry and Cecile Denton.

Sun., Jan. 8: 8:30 am, Deceased of the Walker and Bottiroli Families by John and Elaine Bottiroli. 10:30 am, Deceased of the Wrisley Family by Elizabeth Wrisley.

STEWARDSHIP

Dec. 24/25, 2011

St. Elizabeth – Envelopes: \$ 857.50

Plate: 392.00

Retirement Fund: 1,350.50

St. Philip Neri – Envelopes: \$1,553.00

Plate: 570.00

Retirement Fund: 553.00

God will not be outdone in generosity!

PASTOR'S NOTE

Once more I express my heartfelt thanks for all of your support during the Christmas season. Thanks to the participants in the Giving Tree – so important to many in our area; to those who prepared our churches for Advent and Christmas; to those who contributed to our flowers collection; for your generosity to the Priests' Retirement Fund in the Christmas Collection; to those who sent cards to me personally, often enclosing a gift; and for all the fine chefs who filled my refrigerator and freezer with goodies. Many thanks and a blessed 2012 to all of our parishioners. Father Riani.

ADULT EDUCATION GROUP: NOTE

A conflict with our Penance Service on Dec. 19 prompted us to move the meeting of the Adult Group to Mon., Jan. 16th. Subjects to be discussed are: *Becoming Catholic* and *The Eucharist*. All interested adults are welcome to attend. Call Dan Alexander at 873-6691.

PILGRIMAGE FOR LIFE

College students and young adults are planning a Pilgrimage to Washington DC for

the 39th March For Life from Friday pm, Jan. 20 to Tues., Jan. 24. All-inclusive cost is only \$150 per person. For more info, email Fr. Timothy Canaan, Diocesan Director of Campus Ministry, at frtim@broadstreetcatholics.org or call 563-0730. Join them for prayer, witness and fun.

LAKE CHAMPLAIN BUS FOR LIFE

Here is a chance for any concerned person to attend the 2012 March for Life in Washington, DC. A chartered bus will leave the parking lot of St. Peter's Church in Plattsburgh on Sun. evening Jan. 22 at 7:30 pm for the March the next day. The bus will return in the early morning of Tues., Jan. 24. Cost is \$25 per seat. Contact Betty Buffett 536-6640 or Karen Smith 534-2028. If you cannot attend but wish to make a donation for someone who can, send your check to St. Peter's 114 Cornelia St., Plattsburgh 12091. Notation: "Bus for Life Donation." Thank you.

VOCATION CORNER

"They made known what had been told them about this Child." If you may be one of those called to make the Christ Child known to others as a priest or consecrated religious, talk to Father Riani or contact Fr. Bryan Stitt on Facebook, at www.myvocation.net or at (315) 393-2920 ex 450.

INCOME TAX CREDIT

Catholic Charities sent us the following announcement: *You may be eligible for the Earned Income Tax Credit from the IRS if you are working, yet struggling to pay your bills. Working persons who earned less than \$49,751 may be eligible for a credit of up to \$5,751. Learn more at www.irs.gov/eitc or call 1-800-tax-1040.*

From the Pastor's Desk....

We are in the midst of the "12 Days of Christmas – the time between Christmas and the Epiphany of the Lord which celebrates the visit of the Magi to Bethlehem. This Feast is important because it marks the opening of salvation to the gentile world.

The familiar carol, "*The 12 Days of Christmas*" with the apparently nonsensical words was written as a catechism song for Catholics in England when they could not express their beliefs freely. The "*true love*" refers to God and the "*me*" who receives the presents is every baptized Catholic.

The partridge in a pear tree is Jesus Christ who, like a mother partridge pretends injury to distract predators from her helpless nestlings.

The two turtledoves are the Old and New Testaments of the Bible.

The Three French hens are Faith, Hope, and Charity.

The four calling birds are the four Gospels.

The five golden rings – the Torah (the first five books of the Bible outlining our fall from grace.

Six geese a-laying – the six days of creation.

Seven swans a-swimming – the Seven Gifts of the Holy Spirit.

Eight maids a-milking – the eight Beatitudes from the Sermon on the Mount.

Nine ladies dancing – the Nine Fruits of the Holy Spirit.

Ten lords a-leaping – the Ten Commandments.

Eleven pipers piping – the eleven faithful Disciples.

Twelve drummers drumming – the twelve points of belief in the Apostles Creed.

Amazing, isn't it? The source of this is *The Handbook of Catholic Sacraments* by Ann Ball (Our Sunday Visitor, Huntington, Indiana).