

**ST. ELIZABETH'S CHURCH**

8434 NYS RTE 9N, P.O. BOX 368

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](mailto:allrises@westelcom.com)

Office email: [stelizabeth2011@hotmail.com](mailto:stelizabeth2011@hotmail.com)

Website: <http://ccespn.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.

**FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT – B  
Dec. 17/18, 2011**

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

**Sat., Dec. 17:** 4:30 pm. Kevin Doyle by the Family.

**Sun., Dec. 18:** 8:30 am. John Michael Fleury by Sam and Gay Gutierrez. 10:30 am. Malvina Russon by the Estate.

**Mon., Dec. 19:** 8:15 am Catherine G. Sullivan by the Estate.

**Tues., Dec. 20:** 8:30 am Agnes and Frank Tanneberger by Bruce and Nona Hoskins.

**Thurs., Dec. 22:** 10:15 am Horace Nye Home. Catherine G. Sullivan by the Estate.

**Fri., Dec. 23:** 8:15 am Malvina Russon by the Estate.

**Sat., Dec. 24: 4:30 PM ANTICIPATED  
CHRISTMAS MASS For the Parish.**

**Sun., Dec. 25: CHRISTMAS DAY 8:30 am  
For the parish. 10:30 a.m. For the Parish.**

**STEWARDSHIP**

**Dec. 10/11, 2011**

**St. Elizabeth – Envelopes: \$992.50**

**Plate: 128.00**

**St. Philip Neri – Envelopes: \$430.00**

**Plate: 124.00**

*God will not be outdone in generosity!*

**RELIGIOUS SEND THANKS**

The Religious Priests, Brothers, and Sisters ask God to bless the faithful who made contributions in order to help us in our retirement. We offer our heartfelt thanks and prayers for your donation to the Retirement Fund for Religious.

**ADULT EDUCATION GROUP: NOTE**

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

**VOCATION CORNER**

“Be it done unto me according to your word.” Docile obedience to the Lord’s will is the fruit of humble prayer. If God is inviting you to a deeper consecration as a priest, deacon, brother or sister, talk to Father Riani or contact Fr. Bryan Stitt on Facebook, at [www.myvocation.net](http://www.myvocation.net) or at (315) 393-2920 ex 450.

**PILGRIMAGE FOR LIFE**

College students and young adults are planning a Pilgrimage to Washington DC for the 39<sup>th</sup> 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](mailto: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.

**THE GIVING TREE IS DONE!**

Thanks to all who shared the gift giving to the needy through the Giving Tree. The numerous gifts were distributed to three agencies in the area: Families First, Head Start and Essex County Social Services. You have given witness to the true meaning of Christmas.

**AREA PENANCE SERVICES**

Here are opportunities for you to prepare for Christmas with the Sacrament of Penance. Several priests will be available for confessions at each service.

**Sunday, Dec. 18:** 2 pm St. Mary’s, Ticonderoga. 7 pm St. Patrick’s, Port Henry.

**Monday, Dec. 19:** 7 pm St. Elizabeth’s, Elizabethtown.

**INCOME TAX CREDIT**

Catholic Charities send 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](http://www.irs.gov/eitc) or call 1-800-tax-1040.*

**From the Pastor’s Desk....**

As you are no doubt aware, Christmas falls on a Sunday this year. This has some advantages. For one, it means that we have a full four weeks of Advent. However, one disadvantage is that there are two collections at the Christmas Masses: the usual one for the weekend and the special Christmas Collection.

Last May, at the annual Convocation for the Bishop and his priests in Lake Placid, Bishop LaValley announced that this year the Christmas Collection will be for the support of our Priests’ Retirement Fund which is facing some difficult problems.

In this regard, we received the following announcement from the Diocesan Fiscal Office.

*The Diocese of Ogdensburg’s Retirement Plan for Priests has long been supported in part by parish contribution of 60% of its annual Christmas Collection to the Plan. Recent actuarial projections indicate this level of support will fall short of keeping the Plan fully funded in the future, primarily due to the impact on the Plan of negative investment performance in 2008-09. Beginning this year, parishes will contribute 100% of their Christmas Collection to the diocese for support of the Plan. Parishes will no longer contribute \$500 per priest as in the past. Currently 32 retired priests, and 13 active priests age 70 and older, are expected to receive pension benefits of \$735,000 in 2011-12. Your generous contribution not only supports current retirees but will also help provide for the retirement needs of priests who will retire in the future. Say thank you to your pastor and all priests of the diocese through a generous contribution to our Christmas Collection.*