

**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://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.

**NATIVITY OF THE LORD – B**

**Dec. 24/25, 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. 24: 4:30 PM, ANTICIPATED CHRISTMAS MASS For the Parish.**

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

**Mon., Dec. 26:** 8:15 am, Malvina Russon by the Estate.

**Tues., Dec. 27:** 8:30 am, Leo Larose by Muriel Larose.

**Thurs., Dec. 29:** 10:15 am, Horace Nye Home. Catherine G. Sullivan by the Estate.

**Fri., Dec. 30:** 8:15 am, Malvina Russon by the Estate.

**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.

**STEWARDSHIP**

**Dec. 17/18, 2011**

**St. Elizabeth – Envelopes: \$917.50**

**Plate: 339.00**

**St. Philip Neri – Envelopes: \$567.00**

**Plate: 22.00**

***God will not be outdone in generosity!***

**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.

**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 life to the true meaning of Christmas.

**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....**

The Bishop extends his prayerful Christmas greeting to his flock:

*Dear Friends:*

*The hopes and fears of all the years are met in Thee tonight. These lyrics from the Christmas hymn, "O Little Town of Bethlehem," capture well the paradox of our times. Technological advances in the fields of medicine and communication open up whole vistas of hope-filled possibilities. Yet, the fears about what tomorrow holds are real and unnerving. The economic distress that our families continue to endure, the unending violence suffered by the innocent, and the moral decline unraveling the very fabric of our families are sobering realities that make it difficult to be hopeful about what tomorrow may bring.*

*In the midst of our fragile human condition, the Word became flesh. God has sent His last Word, His most profound Word,*

*His most beautiful Word into the world. And that Word means: I love you. God has come and illuminated the cruel night of our fears with the light of His undying love.*

*So, light the candles! They have more right to be here than darkness. Christ brought a Kingdom which is not of this world, yet a Kingdom which is capable of changing this world, for it has the power to change hearts, to enlighten minds and to strengthen wills. By taking on our flesh, with all its weaknesses, and transfiguring it by the power of His Spirit, Christian hope is not a mere pipedream, but a Promise enfolded in the Child lying in a manger.*

*Therefore, let us, as the psalmist bids us, "sing to the Lord a new song; sing to the Lord all the earth." (Ps. 96:1) It is the festival of God's infinite love and mercy, the festival of tomorrow's possibilities, the festival of our salvation.*

*May the Lord give you and your family the hope and joy, which the shepherds experienced when the light of God's glory shone around them on that first Christmas night. And may you hear His gentle words echoing in your heart: "Anyone who follows me, will never walk in darkness, but will always have the light of life." (Jn. 8:12) After all, "In him was life, and the life was the light of men. The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it." (Jn. 1:4-5)*

*May the Christ Child come to you and your loved ones this Christmas with the Gift of Love, the Blessing of Hope, and the Promise of Peace. A blessed Christmas and joy-filled New Year!*

*Most Rev. Terry R. LaValley.*

*Bishop of Ogdensburg*

---and Father Riani.