

Our Heartfelt Thanks . . .

St. Elizabeth's Society of St. James Church

The St. Elizabeth Society of St. James Church meets on the first Wednesday of each month. For those in our parish community not familiar with their history, we hope that this brief abstract helps you become acquainted with us.

St. Elizabeth's Society has been serving the St. James community for about as long as the parish has been in Decatur – 125 years. It is a multifaceted organization, which is religious, charitable, family orientated and a social society for the ladies of the parish.

In earlier years, the women of St. James joined St. Elizabeth's after they were married. It was a generational legacy for many of the women in our parish.

During these years, St. Elizabeth has participated in all activities of St. James Church and School and is represented on the Parish Council. They have also been involved with the Diocese of Springfield in Illinois, in state and national organization missions that reflect and effect our religious organization and beliefs that promote our Catholic faith. It was at one time a branch with the National Council of Catholic Women.

As a body, St. Elizabeth promotes the Catholic community of St. James serving actively in all our parish ministries. They help collect and dispense food and toys on holidays for indigent families in the community and always supported needy missions with warm clothing and school supplies. They work with the Pro-Life Movement, Catholic Charities and keep in contact with our elected representatives – local, state and national – so that our voice is heard in matters of morality and with equal representation as taxpayers who send our children to and support the parochial school systems. Members also served as volunteers for school functions and keep in touch with other parishes of the Deanery.

St. Elizabeth's celebrates the Eucharist as a group monthly. It has always been St. Elizabeth's who have purchased the wine and hosts used at the Masses in our parish. They have monthly meetings, which are both business and social (potlucks), and at which time parish updates are given and the sick and infirm are remembered. In years gone by, women would always look forward to May for the Mother-Daughter breakfasts.

The St. Elizabeth organization tries to provide spiritual enrichment service and fellowship to the woman of our parish. We welcome and encourage all women to become a part of our organization. We need your support and prayers.

St. Elizabeth Prayer

Hear our prayer, Oh God, our Savior, and let us learn the spirit of real devotion from Blessed Elizabeth. And grant us grace through the prayers of this glorious saint so that we like her, may scorn the wealth of the world and see heaven as our joy and consolation through our Lord Jesus Christ. Amen.

