An Opportunity to Join the 100th Anniversary Celebration!

As Saint Elizabeth Catholic Church celebrates 100 years of service and inspiration in the Richmond community, we are grateful for the support of community friends and sponsors.

We thrive as a beacon of hope and faith in the City of Richmond, and would greatly appreciate your support as a sponsor in our 100th Anniversary Commemorative Book.

St. Elizabeth 100th Anniversary Commemorative Book ad placement is available at the following levels:

Full page	**$ 1,000**
Half page	**$ 500**
Quarter page	**$ 250**
Two-line donor sponsorship message	**$ 100**
Single-line donor name listing	**$ 25**

Due date for submission of ad artwork is September 15, 2022

For more information, please call the parish office at 804-329-4599 or e-mail Eva at evabalkarli@stelizcc.org



unity umoja

St. Elizabeth Catholic Church • Centennial Celebration 1923–2023

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

Saint Elizabeth Catholic Church in Richmond is celebrating 100 years as a parish. We have been blessed to be a beacon of hope on the corner of 2nd Avenue and Victor Street during good times and bad, war and peace, and in a time of great change for our Nation and our Church. Throughout all that has happened, St. Elizabeth has also changed with the times. I believe this witness of change is important as we celebrate our Catholic sacraments and traditions. We are also pleased to embrace an ecumenical mission to be good neighbors. We invite you to join us in this celebration and consider investing in a 100th anniversary program ad to support these efforts into the future!

Sincerely Yours in Blessings,

Fr. Jim Arsenault
Pastor of St. Elizabeth

Saint Elizabeth Catholic Church Mission Statement

We, the members of St. Elizabeth Catholic Church in Highland Park in the City of Richmond, embrace our ethnic and cultural diversity and are called to grow in our relationship with God and one another through formation at all levels. With our Christian goal of Social Justice, will continue to work toward unity and diversity in support of all our ministries, to evangelize and to be good stewards of our resources.

A Church with a Rich History and Legacy

The Parish of St. Elizabeth of Hungary was established in Richmond on July 3, 1923. In early 1925, the cornerstone of the Church was laid and the first Mass was celebrated on Christmas Day that year by the first pastor of St. Elizabeth Catholic Church, Rev. Louis A. Rowen.

In 1930 the St. Elizabeth parish school was established under the direction of the Daughters of Charity of St. Vincent de Paul but closed during the depression and reopened in 1948 under the leadership of the Sisters of Mercy of Merion, Pennsylvania. The parish school was closed in 1982 and consolidated with the former St. Paul's School to become today's All Saints Catholic School.

The present rectory was purchased in 1949. Over the years this rectory has been the home to many priests and now serves as our parish office.

In 1978 the Church was renovated under the pastorship of Fr. Michael Schmied in accord with the liturgical guidelines of Vatican ll.

The Gospel Choir was formed in 1981 to enhance our parish worship celebrations.

St. Elizabeth was blessed to have the pastoral leadership of Sister Cora Marie Billings RSM from 1990 to 2004. Sister Cora Marie was the first African- American women to serve as Pastoral Coordinator in the United States Catholic Church.

Our Parish has a rich history of joys and struggles. We embrace Matthew 19: 26: "For man it is impossible; but for God all things are possible."

The present pastor is Fr. James M. Arsenault, a native of Detroit, Michigan.



At right, Fr. Jim Arsenault is encircled by parents and their recently baptized children.

Ministry Outreach to the Community

St. Elizabeth's current ministries honor our call to be of service and provide a beacon of hope in Richmond. In addition to maintaining an active sacramental parish life of Masses and celebrating sacraments, we reach out to the community in the following areas:

The **Justice Ministry** provides parishioners with education and opportunities for advocacy and action on local, state, and national justice issues.

Richmonders Involved to Strengthen our Communities (RISC) is an organization of dozens of local congregations that researches and acts on local and regional justice issues.

St. Elizabeth is a partner of the **Virginia Interfaith Center for Public Policy,** an interfaith group of congregations and individuals that educates and advocates for social justice issues in Virginia.

Virginia Catholics for Racial Justice educates and advocates for justice for African-Americans and other racial minorities, especially within the Catholic Church.

Social Ministry cares for our brothers and sisters by providing for their basic needs such as food, utility bills, and rent. In all our charitable work our goal is to help people achieve self-sufficiency.

The **UMOJA Family Ministry** compassionately supports our brothers and sisters who are newcomers from various refugee camps in Eastern African Countries. They are welcomed, protected, accompanied, and integrated.

St. Elizabeth participates in St. Bridget's **Saint Vincent de Paul Conference**, a Catholic organization that supports and advocates for individuals and families to meet basic needs and help them achieve stability and self-sufficiency.