



# ST. ELIZABETH of the Trinity

6040 West Ardmore Avenue  
Chicago, IL 60646

(773) 763-7080

K.Collins@StElizabethTrinitySchool.Org

## The Cornerstone

*“My God, Trinity whom I adore...”*



“Believe that He loves you.  
He wants to help you Himself  
in the struggles which you must  
undergo. Believe in His Love,  
His exceeding Love.”

~St Elizabeth of the Trinity

### ***Father Mike Answers Your Questions!***

*What is going on with our new Parish? Our new Pastor, Father Mike Grisolano, and Kathy Collins, Operations Director, with the help of the Unification Committee, have been working nonstop getting everything ready. As members of our new parish, you are the cornerstone upon which we will build a vibrant new community of worshippers and ministers of the Lord’s work. Here are a few question and answers to help you understand more about what is happening.*

**Q. It is difficult to accept that my parish is closing. How will the legacies and identities of the three founding Parishes be incorporated at St Elizabeth of the Trinity?**

A. It is important to note that all three parishes are closing. While the former St. Tarcissus site is where the new Parish will be located, St. Tarcissus Parish has also closed. The most important thing to remember is that we are one in Christ as Catholics. The people are the Church more than the buildings. That being said, we will include images/statues of all three founding patrons and other memorable or historical items from each parish. Fr. Dan and Fr. Greg may still visit and be available for weddings and funerals as needed and we expect the deacons from all three parishes to help in the transition. The buildings may change but we can include the best of all three parishes so that by God’s grace,

St. Elizabeth of the Trinity Parish will be strong in the Lord.

**Q. When will my current church close? What will happen to it? Will the new parish continue to use any of the facilities at the other locations?**

A. The last regularly scheduled Masses for both St. Cornelius and St. Thecla are on the weekend of August 15th and 16th. The plan is to lease and/or sell the properties and gradually move all ministries and groups to the St. Elizabeth of the Trinity central campus. It is not impossible though that some restricted use of these other campuses could continue until the lease/sale. We will update you as soon as we know more.

**Q. Will I be able to volunteer the way I did at my current parish?**

A. Yes, we need and welcome all volunteers and want St. Elizabeth of the Trinity to be a vibrant parish with all involved. May we all be open to making new friends and working together to

(continued...)

make our parish successful. More information to follow!

**Q. I am currently a liturgical minister at my parish. How will this ministry be blended at the new parish?**

A. We will be blending all liturgical ministers at St. Elizabeth of the Trinity Parish. There will be a Unification sub-committee in charge of liturgical ministers that will be guided by Jim Madura, Pastoral Minister. We welcome all parishioners to discern where the Lord is calling them to give back their gifts. Please contact the Parish if you would like to become a liturgical minister.

**Q. I haven't heard anything about what the Religious Education program will look like.**

A. The new Director of Children's Faith Formation, Kathleen O'Driscoll, will be sending out information about the religious education program soon. The goal is to have RE families attend the 9:00 a.m. family Mass on Sundays, followed by a more "traditional" classroom instructional setting shortly after mass. However, depending on the Covid 19 restrictions some amount of remote learning may happen this year. The Archdiocese will offer guidelines as needed.

**Q. I have physical mobility challenges and am concerned about the accessibility. What parking options will exist and what stairs need to be traversed to get into the church and other buildings?**

A. Directly behind the Church, off of Moody Ave., you will find handicap parking along with other spaces for your use. From there, you will find a handicap accessible ramp that leads into the Church. The convent across the street, on Ardmore Ave., will be converted into a parking lot, which will have two more handicap spaces with curb cut outs, for ease of access. The school, gym, and rectory have anywhere from two to eight steps to enter, but we are considering plans to have ramp access to the first floor of the school which has the much-used Auditorium and main school office.

**Q. I really like the new logo for St. Elizabeth of the Trinity. Can you tell me more about the design?**



A. Thanks to creativity and hard work of Colleen Stieve we have our parish logo! I had a small part to play with some of the symbols used and would like to describe their meaning. The goal was to have something dignified that would represent the parish and school well into the future. There was a rationale that went into each color and symbol.

The fluer-de-lis was chosen as a spacer on the sides of the crest for two reasons. Firstly, St. Elizabeth of the Trinity was born and raised in Dijon, France and the fluer-de-lis is emblematic of France, it historically being a Catholic country. Secondly, the fluer-de-lis is usually portrayed with three Lilly flowers bound together which is also used itself as a symbol for the Holy Trinity. So, this symbol seemed a natural fit for our new logo.

The shield was chosen to be in the background for two reasons. Firstly, St. Paul tells us, "Take up the shield of faith, with which you can extinguish all the flaming arrows of the evil one" (Eph. 6:16). Faith is the theological virtue by which we believe everything that the Lord has revealed to us. Also, St. Elizabeth was nicknamed "little captain" as a child because of her strong will and personality, so the military imagery of the shield has a slight personal connection with our patroness as well.

The cross is in the middle of the shield of faith because we are meant to have faith in Jesus Christ. At the heart of the cross is the main Trinitarian image, the "Trinity Knot". This symbol was chosen not so much for its Celtic origins but because it is so widely understood by its design and name as being a symbol for the Holy Trinity. The trinity symbol laid over the cross reminds us that we wouldn't know about the central mystery of faith - - that there is one God in three Persons: Father, Son and Holy Spirit - - if Jesus Christ, the Son of God, hadn't come in the flesh and revealed it. Notice too that the only gold color used in the logo is reserved for the trinitarian images of the fluer-de-lis and especially the Trinity Knot in the center.

Why was the color purple chosen? I went through the school and asked students what color they would want for uniforms and jerseys and why. The majority of the children voted for purple and some explained a touching reason. They said that the former school colors of St. Cornelius (red) and St. Thecla (blue) make purple. And a child shall lead them! The kids are showing us how to be open hearted in this parish and school merger. Purple is also a liturgical color and one that is fairly unique for parishes and schools. Purple and gold are both traditionally connected with royalty and so are fitting for the Lord.

Hopefully, you like the new parish and school logo. As you can see, some thought went into its design. We tried to get as much feedback from people on it but due to time constraints with uniforms we couldn't do more extensive polling. The circle design of the logo allows for it to fit nicely on uniforms and the gym floor too.

My God bless us in this unification process.

Your brother in Christ,  
Fr. Mike



**ST. ELIZABETH**  
of the Trinity