

Blessed Trinity Catholic Community  
**MEMORIAL MASS + Sister Elizabeth Olsen, BVM**  
**October 23, 2026**

Isaiah 25:6a, 7-9; 1 John 3:1-2; John 14:1-6  
Gathering hymn : SAINTS AND BELOVED OF GOD, Dan Schutte © 2016

**Homily + Fr. Ed Hislop**

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*Sister Liz proclaiming the Word of the Lord  
at Blessed Trinity*

and who God has provided us.

Liz would have never described herself as “blessed,” the blessed rarely do. But Liz, in her life and spirit, her faith and sense of freedom, her excitement to believe and to serve, continues to bless us all. A “blessed one” has walked among us.

Sister Elizabeth Olsen knew and felt, like the great prophet Isaiah, what it meant to “provide for all peoples” and how to “*wipe away the tears from all faces.*” Liz walked through the many mansions of life, embracing in each one the diversity of the human family, caring deeply for all whose lives she touched and whose life, inspired, challenged, and renewed her spirit. She believed that God’s love or presence could never be limited and that every person reflected that truth and deserved compassionate care and presence.

It was perhaps her Butte spirit, that city of many diverse “mansions,” that inspired her care of people, her joy in community and her sense of belonging. It was there and in her home and vibrant parish that she learned to believe, to love, grow and serve with an abiding spirit of genuine, compassionate love. She knew of the “troubles,” broken spirits, and lost vision, but Liz would not

*“On this mountain the Lord will provide for all peoples,”* because, as we sang, *“In every time and place the blessed walk among us!”* So, here we are filled with the memory of what

“let her heart be troubled,” because she knew of the many places and ways that God could be found. Liz knew and felt deep in her heart that all were “*children of God,*” and that what any person could become was not yet revealed.

In that spirit and with that vision she lived and served as a Sister of Charity of the Blessed Virgin Mary.

Like so many sisters who have served so diligently through most of the history of our Diocese, and this city, she carried with an unrelenting vigor, the vision and spirit of the Second Vatican Council. She lived sharing that vision and promise, in so many places, as a true minister of the Gospel and faithful servant of Christ in the Church.

Liz loved her “sisters,” her “nuns,” as she called them. She was diligently faithful to the Sisters of Charity of the Blessed Virgin Mary. To parishes, (especially this parish) schools (particularly St. Anthony’s), and hospitals (notably Saint Patrick’s), she brought an undaunting spirit and helped reveal the abiding presence, deliberate love, and abundant compassion of Christ, whom she followed to “*find the way.*”

But Sister Liz also found and served God in many other places in varied and diverse ways. For Liz, God was present and found in every place and circumstance, whether “religious” or not. Deeply committed to her faith, to the Church and her community of sisters, Liz did not limit her experience of God, to those places or people, but found and saw the Creator of all on every mountain top, valley, life and circumstance. She found Christ in the many mansions of life and living, among the many persons she encountered,

served, cared for, and loved. Liz was and is a free spirit, deeply rooted in faith, which she knew and felt must always be renewed and “set on fire,” again and again.

We have all been touched by that fire in her spirit, by the sparkle in her eye, the joy in her heart and the kindness in her glance. In her we have seen God “to whom we look to save us.”

*“In every place and time the blessed walk among us. We give thanks for our sister Elizabeth, who has taught us to know your way; we are proud to keep her name, O God, in memory all our days.”*

***“Do not let your hearts be troubled!”***

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