



# Serving St. Elizabeth Church & Our Lady of Lourdes Church



## CATHOLIC PARISH CENTER

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**Reverend Father James A. Flach, Pastor**

### PASTORAL STAFF

Office Manager: Halena Estep

Director of Religious Education: Courtney Ferris

Custodial Care: Jerry Pittman, St. Elizabeth

Custodial Care: Lori & Adam Davis,

Our Lady of Lourdes

Music Director: Chris Jansen, St. Elizabeth

### OFFICE HOURS

Monday~Thursday from 8:00 am~5:00 pm

Closed for lunch: 12:00 pm - 1:00 pm

### MASS SCHEDULE

Daily Mass at St. Elizabeth:

Monday, Wednesday, Thursday & Friday~7:30 am

Tuesday~12:00 pm

Saturday Vigil at St. Elizabeth 4:30 pm

Sunday Mass at Our Lady of Lourdes 9:00 am

Sunday Mass at St. Elizabeth 7:30 and 10:30 am

### ANOINTING OF THE SICK

Parishioners who are seriously or critically ill or having surgery, please contact Father Flach.

### BAPTISMS

Please contact Fr. Flach for registration and information.

### R.C.I.A.

The Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults is an ongoing formation process for adults who are interested in becoming a Catholic and would like to receive the sacraments of Baptism, Confirmation and/or First Eucharist. Call the Parish Center for additional information.

### SACRAMENT OF MARRIAGE

If you are considering marriage, please contact Father Flach no later than 6 months prior to the proposed wedding date and the diocesan and parish guidelines will be explained.

### SACRAMENT OF PENANCE

Saturdays at St. Elizabeth 3:00 pm to 4:00 pm or by appointment

## Sunday, August 27, 2017 21st Sunday in Ordinary Time



Story in Matthew 16:13-16

**“Simon Peter answered  
and said, You are the  
Christ, the Son of  
The Living God.”  
Matthew 16:16**

## Mass Intentions

Aug.26	4:30 pm	Sonny Mann & Kevin Murray by Monica Mann
Aug.27	7:30 am	For all parishioners by Fr. Flach
	9:00 am	Special Intentions
	10:30 am	Charles Adams by Keith & Patti Buercklin
Aug.28	7:30 am	Favorable Weather
Aug.29	12:00 pm	Ida Mary Adams by Keith & Patti Buercklin
Aug.30	7:30 am	Special Intentions
Aug.31	7:30 am	Ralph Wagner by Carol Wong
Sept.1	7:30 am	Arlene Schutte by Schutte Family
First Friday Mass OLOL	5:30 pm	Faye & Glenwood Ferguson by Dan Schalasky
Sept.2	4:30 pm	Arlene Schutte by Schutte Family
Sept.3	7:30 am	The Mette Family by Jane Howard
	9:00 am	For all parishioners by Fr. Flach
	10:30 am	Special Intentions



## Ministry Schedule

Saturday, September 2, 2017 ~ Sunday, September 3, 2017

<u>Sat. Sept. 2, 2017 4:30 pm</u>	St. Elizabeth
LECTOR:	Patti Buercklin
USHERS:	Mark & Cindy Grimm
COMMUNION MIN:	Mike Dorn, Susan Goodwine
SERVERS:	Abby Mullins, Lily Ann Mullins
GIFTS:	Randy Mullins Family
<u>Sun. Sept. 3, 2017 7:30 am</u>	St. Elizabeth
LECTOR:	Shari Eckert
USHERS:	Clarence Schutte, Randy Schutte
COMMUNION MIN:	Chad Arkenberg, Anne Holscher
SERVERS:	Hayden Bonnell, Greyson Holscher
GIFTS:	Ross Holscher Family
<u>Sun. Sept. 3, 2017 9:00 am</u>	Our Lady of Lourdes
LECTOR:	Jim Ping
USHERS:	Rich & Anita Kocher
COMMUNION MIN:	Mary Patchett, Wilmer Wilson
SERVERS:	Cameron Davis
GIFTS:	Bob & Kourtney Coffman Family
<u>Sun. Sept. 3, 2017 10:30 am</u>	St. Elizabeth
LECTOR:	Ian Quick
USHERS:	Ethan Bowden, Jaime Escobedo
COMMUNION MIN:	Mark Ghering, Teresa Gower
SERVERS:	Breanna Briggs, Halle Gower
GIFTS:	Eric Schmidt Family
Collection Counters:	August, 2017: Don Brown, Jim & Maureen Hill

**Please remember to attend weekly Mass**

## PSR Upcoming Meetings



PSR CLASS  
WED. AUG. 30, 2017 6:30 PM—7:30 PM

### Scriptural Reflections for the 21st Sunday in Ordinary Time

Peter can declare with certainty that Jesus is the Messiah, the Son of the Living God, because of the way that his own life had changed since the first day that he met Jesus. The evidence for Peter's bold claim—his creed—is the fact that association with this man had brought about a transformation of everything in his life especially those things most resistant to-change—the ordinary circumstances of life Only God, with his "unsearchable" ways could effect such a newness. The fact that Christ wants to use Peter as an instrument by which the Lord will open heaven to the world is surprising but not shocking. Just as Peter has come to recognize God through the humanity of the man Jesus, God's method of Self-communication will continue through the humanity of the Apostle Peter.

### Daily Mass Readings Aug. 28 ~ Sept. 1, 2017

Mon. Aug. 28 Reading 1~ 1 Thes. 1:1-5, 8B-10  
Gospel Mt. 23:13-22



Tues. Aug. 29 Reading 1~ 1 Thes. 2:1-8  
Gospel Mk. 6-17-29

Wed. Aug. 30 Reading 1~ 1 Thes. 2:9-13  
Gospel Mt. 23:27-32

Thur. Aug. 31 Reading 1~ 1 Thes. 3:7-13  
Gospel Mt. 24:42-51

Fri. Sept. 1 Reading 1~ 1 Thes. 4:1-8  
Gospel Mt. 25:1-13



## Prayer Requests

Please remember the following in your prayers: Sherry Boswell, Lori Brown, Scott Chapman, Ron Dhom, Sharon Drake, Jamie Hartrich, Leona Kocher, Charlie Stegall, Katie Stovall, Rich Welp, Janis Wickland, Brian Wilson, Vickie Wilson, the men & women in armed forces.

### First Friday of the Month Mass OLOL



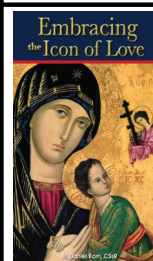
The First Friday of the Month Mass will be at Our Lady Of Lourdes on Friday, September 1, 2017 at 5:30 pm. Mass is for: Faye & Glenwood Ferguson by Dan Schalasky



## Parish Office Closed

The Parish Office will be closed on Monday, September 4, 2017 for the Labor Day Holiday. We will re-open on Tuesday, September 5, 2017.

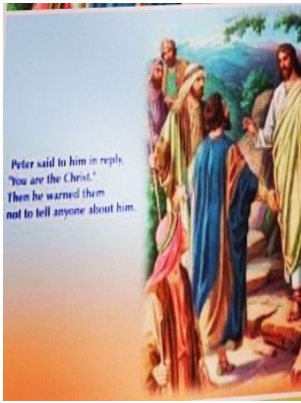
## Embracing the Icon of Love



If you are participating in the SPIRITUAL RETREAT entitled EMBRACING THE ICON OF LOVE, please note the date of our first session is MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 11 FROM 6:00 PM TO 7:00 PM. On this date, Father Flach will distribute the resource and explain the process. If there are any questions, please contact Father Flach. Thank you & God bless you.



## SCRIPTURAL REFLECTIONS for the GOSPEL OF ST. MATTHEW 16:13~20



Jesus went into the region of Caesarea Philippi and he asked his disciples, "Who do people say that the Son of Man is?" (16:13). Bishop Robert Barron notes that the Lord asks not "What do the people think about my teaching?" but rather this question about his identity. Cardinal - Joseph Ratzinger: "Jesus' proclamation was never mere preaching, mere words; it was 'sacramental,' in the sense that his words were and are inseparable from his 'I'—from his 'flesh.'"

Verbum Domini 92: "The novelty of the Christian message does not consist in an idea but in a face God has revealed himself! They replied, "Some say John the Baptist, others Elijah, still others Jeremiah or one of the prophets" (16:14), Saint John Chrysostom: "After the disciples replied by recounting the opinion of the common people, Jesus then by a second question invites them to higher thought concerning him." He said to them, "But who do you say that I am?" Simon Peter said in reply, "You are the Christ the Son of the Living God." (16:15-16). Saint Thomas Aquinas "In Peter' response perfect faith is touched upon, for faith 'in the humanity of Jesus is touched upon. Anointing belongs to Jesus according to his humanity. So Peter says this that they might regard the humanity of Christ in a way different from the crowds." Saint Hilary of Poitiers: "The reason for maintaining this confession is that we may remember that Jesus is both the Son of God and the Son of Man. The one without the other offers no hope for our salvation." Saint John Paul II: "Only the faith proclaimed by Peter, and with him by the Church in every age, truly goes to the heart, and touches the depth of- the mystery." Jesus said to him in reply, "Blessed are you, Simon son of Jonah. For flesh and blood has not revealed this to you, but my heavenly Father" (16:17). Aquinas: "Although others confessed Jesus to be an adoptive son, Peter confessed him to be the natural Son. Therefore this one is blessed before the others—because he first confessed the divinity." Father Cornelius a Lapide, SJ. : "Blessed and happy are you, O Peter, on account of this new faith concerning me. For this is a mighty gift and benefit, not of flesh and blood, that is, not of nature, but by the grace of God inspiring and revealing to you this very thing. For this faith is the beginning and the foundation of all grace and glory, and, therefore, it shall lead you, and many through example

### Redesigning & Landscaping

At the Finance Council Meeting held at OLOL's Parish on August 22, it was decided to redesign the landscaping in front of the Church on either side of the glass doors & the Grotto for OLOL's. There are other projects throughout the Church that should also be completed in the future. The exterior landscaping is what we see first upon entering the Church so it can be improved as well as the Grotto be made more appealing. To balance some of the cost of the landscaping so that financial resources are available, perhaps you would be interested in making a donation to assist with the cost of the landscaping. The amount needed for this project is \$2,700.00. If you would like to make a donation, simply place it into an envelope and place LANDSCAPING PROJECT on the front and either give it to Fr. Flach or place in the collection basket. Thank you for your generous consideration & may God bless you.

and preaching, to eternal blessedness." Father John Tauler, op.: 'The Holy Spirit leads those who prepare their souls for him, who long to be filled with him, who would entertain him as their divine guest, who would yield themselves freely and loyally to his guidance. How glad we should be to extend him this welcome.' "And so I say to you, you are Peter, and upon this rock I will build my church, and the gates of the netherworld shall not prevail against it" (16:18). Saint Leo the Great: "Jesus says, 'Even as my Father has made known to you my excellency, so do I also make known to you your excellency, that you are Peter, that is, inasmuch as I am the inviolable Rock, so likewise you are a rock, because you are strengthened by my strength, and the things that are mine by my own power are yours by participation with me. On this strength I will raise up an " eternal temple, and the loftiness of my Church, piercing into heaven, will rise up on the firmness of this faith. Hence, who would dare beat against this impregnable solidarity, except either antichrist or the devil?" Origen: "In heavenly things every spiritual sin is a gate of hell, to which are opposed the gates of righteousness." "I will give you the keys to the kingdom of heaven. Whatever you bind on earth shall be bound in heaven; and whatever you loose on earth shall be loosed in heaven" (16:19). Aquinas: "Christ communicated this so that sins might be removed through a ministry which -is completed by the strength of Christ' blood." Chrysostom: "The reason God's plan permitted Peter to sin was because he was to be entrusted with the whole people of God, and sinlessness added to his severity might have made him unforgiving toward his brothers and sisters. He fell into sin so that, remembering his own fault and the Lord's forgiveness, he also might forgive others out of love for them. Peter, the teacher of the world, was permitted to sin so that, having been forgiven himself; he would be merciful to others." Then he strictly ordered his disciples to tell no one that he was the Christ (16:20). Chrysostom: "Jesus says in effect, 'Preach me when I shall have suffered those things, since it is not expedient that Christ should be publicly proclaimed, and his majesty made commonly known among people, when they are shortly to behold him scourged and crucified. For that which once was rooted but afterward has been torn up, if it is again planted, is with difficulty retained among the multitude; but that which, once rooted, has continued ever after unremoved, is easily brought on to a further growth.'"

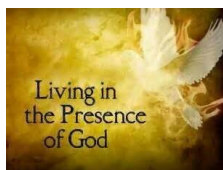
### Prayer to Our Mother of Perpetual Help

O Mother of Perpetual Help,- grant that I may ever invoke thy most powerful name,- which is the safeguard of the living and the salvation of the dying. O Purest Mary, O Sweetest "Mary; let thy name-henceforth be -ever on my- Lips; Delay not, O Blessed Lady to help me whenever I call on Thee, for, in-all my needs; in all my-temptations shall never cease to call on Thee, ever repeating Thy sacred name, Mary, Mary. O what consolation, what sweetness, what confidence, what emotion fill my soul when I pronounce Thy sacred name, or even only think of Thee. I thank God for having given Thee, for my good, so sweet, so powerful, so lovely a name. But I will not be content with merely pronouncing Thy name: let my love for Thee prompt me ever to Hail Thee, Mother of Perpetual Help. Recite Nine hail Mary's.



Our Mother of Perpetual Help,  
pray for us!

## The Power & Presence of God's Love



In the famous conversation at Caesarea Philippi, described in the 16th chapter of Matthew's Gospel, Jesus speaks to Simon the son of Jonah: And so I say to you, you are Peter, & upon this rock I will build-my church. And then he adds, & the gates of the

netherworld shall not prevail against it. I don't know about you, but I managed more or less to misunderstand this image for about forty years. I always -took it to imply that the powers of hell would come after the Church & that the Church would always be able to withstand the attack. But in point of fact, the figure of speech employed by Jesus is meant to suggest something in the opposite direction. In the ancient world (& really up until practically modern times), an invading army would attack a walled city at its most vulnerable point, namely, the gates.

Therefore, to state that the gates of the underworld will not prevail against the Church is to imply that the community of Jesus Christ is the aggressor. Jesus is not saying that we will, always prevail against their attack; he is saying that they will never prevail against our attack. Mind you, we never fight with the weapons of the world, but by God, we fight—and we will win. We aren't tremblingly waiting for our enemies to come after us; we're going after them! Love will conquer hate; compassion will conquer cruelty; non-violence will conquer violence. So go forth, disciples of Jesus.

### August 27, 2017 21st Sun. in Ordinary Time

Immediately before this week's Gospel passage, Jesus warns his disciples against the "leaven of the Pharisees and the Sadducees" (Mt 16: 6, 11). His intent seems to have been to stress fidelity to him and to his new law of love rather than to the archaizing teachings of Jewish authorities. This provides the context for Jesus' robing question: "Who do you say that I am?" In Matthew, Peter emerges as the hero. "You are the Christ," he says, "the Son of the living God" (16:15-16). That's a pretty high Christological confession. Even Jesus seems impressed. Jesus then gives a new name to "Simon son of Jonah," calling him Peter. As is the case with other God-given name changes in the Bible (such as Jacob to Israel, Saul to Paul), this signals a milestone transition in the life of the newly named person. Jesus explains by playing on Peter's new name: "I say to you, you are Peter ["Petros" in Greek], and upon this rock ["Petra"] I will build my church" (16:18). Jesus' further promise to give Peter "the keys to the kingdom of heaven" and the power of binding and loosing provides the basis for the Church's belief in Peter as the first pope (16:19). This exchange with Jesus does not make Peter perfect — just a few verses later, Jesus will call Peter "Satan" when Peter denies the possibility of Christ's passion and death. Nor will Peter's God-given authority spare him from later following his master to death on a cross. Peter will have to exercise his leadership in the Church with humility, relying on the grace and guidance of his heavenly Father, who led him to recognize Jesus as the Son of the living God. In the declaration announcing his impending resignation, Pope Benedict XI beautifully modeled the servant leadership that the chair of Peter should call forth. He said: "In today's world, subject to so many rapid changes arid shaken by questions of deep relevance for the life of faith, in order to govern the baroque of St. Peter and proclaim the Gospel, both strength of mind and body are necessary, strength which in the last few months, has deteriorated in me. ... I thank you most sincerely for all the love and work with which you have supported me in my ministry, and I ask pardon for all my defects. And now, let us entrust the Holy Church to the care of Our Supreme Pastor, Our Lord Jesus Christ.

## Liturgical Ministry Contacts



St. Elizabeth Parish  
Readers: Father Flach 544-7526  
Servers: Father Flach 544-7526  
Art & Environment:  
Robb Sparks 546-5606  
Our Lady of Lourdes  
Scheduling of Liturgical Ministries  
Anita Kocher 592-3384

## September Church Meetings



The Pastoral Council Meeting will be held at Our Lady Of Lourdes on Tuesday, September 5, 2017 at 6:00 pm.

The Finance Council for St. Elizabeth will be on Tuesday, September 12, 2017 at 6:00 pm.



## Weekly Collection

### St. Elizabeth Church Week Ending Sunday, August 20, 2017

Envelopes \$ 2,692.00  
Loose \$ 365.00  
3 Online @ \$100.00  
Building Fund \$20.00  
Assumption of Mary \$453.00  
Deposit \$3,630.00

### Our Lady Of Lourdes Church Week ending Sunday, August 20, 2017

Envelopes \$580.00  
Loose \$81.00  
Building Fund \$10.00  
Assumption of Mary \$100.00  
Deposit \$771.00

## Give Central Online Donations



St. Elizabeth has an online donations system called Give Central. All monies come directly to St. Elizabeth. You can go to the Church website [www.crawfordcountycatholics.com](http://www.crawfordcountycatholics.com) & click on DONATE to access Give Central. You can give to what donation you choose to. Thank you to those who use the online giving.

## Happy Labor Day



Have a safe and Happy Labor Day Holiday on Monday, September 4, 2017.