



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

Parish Outreach Volunteer: Eileen Cooper

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—Parish Office closed from 8:00 am~12:00 noon

Monday open from 1:00 pm~4:00 pm

Tuesday~Friday from 8:00 am~4:00 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~12:05 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 the Parish Center for registration and reservation.

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, April 16, 2017 EASTER SUNDAY OF THE RESURRECTION OF THE LORD



But the angel answered & said to the women, "Do not be afraid, for I know that you seek Jesus who was crucified. "He is not here; for He is risen, as He said. Mat. 28:5-6



Mass Intentions

Apr. 15	6:30 pm	<u>Holy Saturday Service</u> Sonny Mann & Kevin Murray by Monica Mann <u>Easter Sunday Services</u>
Apr. 16	7:30 am	Favorable Weather
	9:00 am	Special Intentions
Apr. 17	10:30 am	Mette Family by Jane Howard
	7:30 am	Jane Brown by George Brown
Apr. 18	12:00 pm	Sheila (Terry) Eddy by Ione Lopiccolo
	7:30 am	Special Intentions
Apr. 19	7:30 am	Family of Ione Lopiccolo
	7:30 am	Arlene Schutte by CCW Gerald Wilcoxon, SR. & Maxine Cook by Ginger Osborne
Apr. 20	4:30 pm	Arlene Schutte by Schutte Family
	7:30 am	Donald Roche by Mike & Jona
Apr. 21	9:00 am	Uptmor
	10:30 am	Special Intentions For all parishioners by Fr. Flach



PSR & Youth Events

PSR~April 19 & April 26, 2017 6:30 pm ~7:30 pm.
 OLOL First Holy Communion Practice 6:00 pm April 28, 2017
 OLOL First Holy Communion 9:00 am April 30, 2017
 PSR~May 3, 2017 6:30 pm~7:30 pm
 St. Elizabeth First Holy Communion Practice 6:30 pm 05-05-17
 St. Elizabeth First Holy Communion May 7, 2017 10:30 am
 PSR~Closing Mass May 10, 2017

SPIRITUAL READING FOR THE SOLEMN FEAST OF THE RESURRECTION OF OUR LORD JESUS

"Faith in the Resurrection of Jesus says that there is a future for every human being; the cry for unending life which is a part of the person is indeed answered. Through Jesus we do know 'the room where exiled love lays down its victory.' He himself is this place, and he calls us to be with him and in dependence on him. He calls us to keep this place open within the world so that he, the exiled love, may reappear over and over in the world.... God exists: that is the real message of Easter. Anyone who even begins to grasp what this means also knows what it means to be redeemed." (Pope Benedict VI) THE HOPE OF EASTER.

We, like Peter and the women, cannot discover life by being sad, bereft of hope. Let us not stay imprisoned within ourselves, but let us break open our sealed tombs to the Lord—each of us knows what they are— so that he may enter and grant us life. Let us give him the stones of our rancor and the boulders of our past, those heavy burdens of our weaknesses and falls. Christ wants to come and take us by the hand to bring us out of our anguish. This is the first stone to be moved aside this night: the lack of hope which imprisons us within ourselves. May the Lord free us from this trap, from being Christians without hope, who live as if the Lord were not risen, as if our problems were the center of our lives. We see and will continue to see problems both within and without. They will always be there. But today it is important to shed the light of the Risen Lord upon our problems, and, in a certain sense, to "evangelize" them. To evangelize our problems. Let us not allow darkness and fear to distract us and control us; we must cry out to them: the Lord is not here, but has risen! (Lk 24:6). He is our greatest joy; he is always at our side and will never let us down. This is the foundation of our hope, which is not mere optimism, nor a psychological attitude or desire to be courageous. Christian hope is a gift that God gives us if we come out of ourselves and open our hearts to him.... Today is the celebration of our hope, the celebration of this truth: nothing and no one will ever be able to separate us from his love (cf. Rom 8:39). The Lord is alive and wants to be sought among the living. After having found him, each person is sent out by him to announce the Easter message, to awaken and resurrect hope in hearts burdened by sadness, in those who struggle to find meaning in life. This is so necessary today. Remember the words of Jesus, remember all that he has done in our lives. Let us not forget his words and his works, otherwise we will lose hope and become "hopeless" Christians. Let us instead remember the Lord, his goodness, and his life-giving words which have touched us. Let us remember them and make them ours, to be sentinels of the morning who know how to help others see the signs of the Risen Lord.



Ministry Schedule

Sat. Apr. 22~ Sun. Apr. 23, 2017

Sat. April 22, 2017 4:30 pm St. Elizabeth
 LECTOR: Geri Ezell
 USHERS: Terry & Lynne Roche
 COMMUNION MIN: Mike Dorn, Celeste White
 SERVERS: Keagen Tuel, Anthony Tran
 GIFTS: Justin Tuel Family

Sun. April 23, 2017 7:30 am St. Elizabeth
 LECTOR: David Holscher
 USHERS: Mike & Jona Uptmor
 COMMUNION MIN: Jim & Shari Eckert
 SERVERS: Matthew Jenkins
 GIFTS: Christopher Bonnell Family

Sun. April 23, 2017 9:00 am Our Lady of Lourdes
 LECTOR: Jim Ping
 USHERS: Don & Sharon Fitzmaurice
 COMMUNION MIN: Bob & Kourtney Coffman
 SERVERS: Cameron Davis
 GIFTS: Fitzmaurice Family

Sun. April 23, 2017 10:30 am St. Elizabeth
 LECTOR: Roselene Quick
 USHERS: Ken Deters, Chris Weber
 COMMUNION MIN: Jane Bohman, Carol Wong
 SERVERS: Korbin Rawlings, Cody York
 GIFTS: Joel York Family

Collection Counters: April 2017: Joshua & Roselene Quick, Chris Tylka



"He saw and believed" (Jn 20:8). With these simple words, the author of St. John's Gospel announced that the disciple whom Jesus loved had come to Easter faith. Having just outrun Peter in his zeal to investigate Mary Magdalene's report of the empty tomb, this special disciple's deep love for Christ led him to become the very first of countless disciples to believe that Jesus had been raised to life. If Jesus' death on the cross was his ultimate moment of glorification in St. John's Gospel, then the Resurrection is the event that fulfills and explains it. The light of Jesus' resurrection shines the glow of victory on the wood of the cross. The Resurrection is the Cross' outcome; it is the moment when death gives way to everlasting life, sin gives way to eternal glory, and despair gives way to unbounded hope. If the Cross was God's supreme manifestation of love for his people, the Resurrection is the supreme manifestation of that love's power and possibility. This Gospel text gives us a brief glimpse of the potential of allowing our own love for Jesus to guide us to an ever-deeper faith in him. In fact, this Easter-morning Gospel provides us with three different possibilities of how to understand Christ's resurrection. Mary Magdalene, the first to arrive at the empty tomb, runs away in fear and sorrow; she initially discounts the possibility of Jesus' resurrection and instead worries that Jesus' body has been stolen. St. Peter, the spokesman for the apostles and leader of the early Church, also comes to the empty tomb; he has not yet seen the risen Christ or received the guidance of the Holy Spirit, and so he, too, is unable to understand what has occurred. The Beloved Disciple also arrives at the empty tomb. His love for Jesus opens his eyes to the possibility of Christ's resurrection. He looks in and sees that the physical body of Jesus is no longer present and immediately concludes that Jesus had been raised from

the dead. This special disciple had been present with Jesus at many of the most extraordinary and difficult moments of his ministry. Because of his intense love for Jesus, he did not need proof of his resurrection — he freely chose to believe. Our own belief in Jesus' resurrection must not, however, be relegated to simple awareness of this past event. The historical resurrection of Jesus we celebrate this Easter Sunday is also a challenge to a living and lived-out faith in the ongoing presence of the risen Christ. Both second-reading selections from St. Paul offer concrete advice on how Christians ought to live in light of their faith in Christ's resurrection, The Letter to the Colossians exhorts believers to "seek what is above, where Christ is seated at the right hand of God" (3:1). Realizing the superiority of heavenly things over earthly matters, our Easter faith must lead us daily to choose the ways of God over the allures of earth, St. Paul advises us to "celebrate the feast, not with the old yeast, the yeast of malice and wickedness, but with the unleavened bread of sincerity and truth" (1 Cor.5:8). In this, the importance of our Lenten observance comes to the fore. Lent was our privileged opportunity to remake ourselves into the image of Christ, a chance to set aside whatever is unworthy of our faith and to begin to live as those who are convinced of Jesus' abiding presence. That is the call of our Easter celebrations — to become so caught up in our love for and faith in Jesus that we make him ever more visible in our world today.

Easter Novena Prayer



We praise you, Jesus, Risen Lord, for by your suffering and death you have brought salvation to a broken world. Praise be your Name, Jesus, for you willingly sacrificed everything to bring us new Life. We need your Redemptive Power and your grace, Lord, we need it more than ever. We implore you in this Easter Season, let salvation reach the farthest corners of the earth. Let people turn from consumerism, to take up the fight against hunger and poverty. Let people give up greed and pride to end violence and wars. Let them give up prejudices and root out apartheid, injustice and persecution. Give people the power to give up drugs. Give them hope and courage and jobs, that they can turn from lives of crime and destruction. Show us how to remove the threat of nuclear wars and bring world peace. Comfort your suffering and sorrowful people everywhere, Lord. Protect us all from harm, (mention your special intention for this novena). Today we pray for a true change of heart, Lord. Restore us to the love of your Father that redemption may be complete, that the world may be made whole and that men and women everywhere will know the joy of Easter, the joy of new life in You.

A PRAYER FOR EASTER

Alleluia, alleluia! Hearts to heaven and voices raise sing to God a hymn of gladness, sing to God a hymn of praise. He, who on the cross a victim, for the world's salvation bled. Jesus Christ, the King of glory, now is risen from the dead. Christ is risen, we are risen! Shed upon us heavenly grace, rain and dew and gleams of glory from the brightness of thy face; that we, with our hearts in heaven, here on earth may fruitful be, and by angel hands be gathered, and be ever, Lord, with thee. Alleluia, Alleluia! Sincere Easter Blessings and Greetings. As the season of spring dawns, we find ourselves celebrating the most important feast in the lives of all Christians. The Feast of the Resurrection of our Lord Jesus Christ. This is the time for us to rejoice in the meaning of the resurrection knowledge that Jesus has risen and has promised that we will also share in His Glorious Resurrection. The Feast of Easter is a time of rebirth and renewal, a special time to celebrate. The celebration of Easter brings the Gift of Eternal Life to mind the season of hope and trust in God's promises. Witnessing the deep faith of the parishioners of St. Elizabeth Parish and Our Lady of Lourdes Parish has been a great source. May this hope and joy for the future of our parishes special feast of EASTER bless our hearts with the joy of believing how much our faithful Father loves each and every one of us personally, Amen.



Prayer Requests

Please remember the following in your prayers: Lori Brown, Scott Chapman, Maxine Cook, Renee Craig, Susan Hills, Leona Kocher, Logan Inboden, Jay Ping, Dorla Shook, Charlie Stegall, Katie Stovall, Jeannie Veach, Vickie Wilson, & and all the men & women in the armed forces.

Finance Council Meeting



Finance Council Meeting-The Finance Council Meeting will be at OLOL at 6:00 pm on Tues. April 18, 2017.

An Easter Prayer



Heavenly Father and God of mercy, we no longer look for Jesus among the dead, for He is alive and has become the Lord of life. From the waters of death you raise us with Him and renew your gift of life within us, increase in our minds and hearts the risen life we share with Christ and help us to grow as your people toward the fullness of eternal life with you. We ask this through Christ our Lord.

AN EASTER MESSAGE: I often ask myself if I would give to another the same mercy that our Savior, Jesus of Nazareth, had given the multitudes who mocked and condemned Him during His Passion and on Calvary so long ago. The Triduum (meaning "three begins with the Mass of the Lord's Supper on Holy Thursday, followed by the Celebration of the Lord's Passion on Good Friday, and concludes with the Easter Vigil Mass on Holy Saturday. The season of Lent, the "Spring" of the Spirit, is the perfect time to renew our lives in Christ as well as we look forward to the Paschal Feast. Our faith teaches us that by His death, Jesus freed us from sin, and by His Resurrection, He opened for us the way to Eternal Life. As members of the Church, we believe that "through Baptism we are freed from sin and reborn as sons of God; we become members of Christ, are incorporated into the Church and made shares in her mission," (Catechism of the Catholic Church 1213). Christ "makes amends super-abundantly for the disobedience of Adam" (CC 411) and as the unblemished Lamb, sacrificed for sin, gained for us Redemption. As we are forgiven, so must we forgive, "Where sin increased, grace abounded all the more" (Rom 5:20). Many people need the reassurance of God's undying love for them now. Together, united in the Church, we can bring Christ's message to those who may not yet have heard what goodness the Gospel message can bring to our lives. It's not always easy to be in solidarity since the world today, like that of Jesus' time, is filled with pride, anger, envy, jealousy, greed, gluttony, lust, sloth - which is spiritual laziness - unforgiveness, anxiety, and fear. The serpent is still out there, tempting us to sin. In spite of all this, we must strive to build upon our strengths as we recognize our weakness, believing that, as followers of Christ, we are saved by the power of Divine Mercy. During this sacred Easter time, please don't pass up the chance to tell the special people in your life that you love them, forgive them, or want to support them with prayers. It is now our inheritance to be apostles for Christ! May our Merciful Lord bestow upon you and yours countless Easter Blessings!

CHRIST IS RISEN

Easter Blessings



Fish Fry Congratulations

CONGRATULATIONS ON A JOB WELL DONE: Sincere CONGRATULATIONS and a SPECIAL THANK YOU to all those who helped on the recent successful FISH FRIES. All of your hard work spending hours in preparing and serving and cleaning up certainly paid off because we were able to achieve a profit of \$14,325.00.

This is the most successful we have done in recent years so CONGRATULATIONS and THANK YOU.

Annual Catholic Services Appeal

The programs, services, & ministries supported by the Annual Catholic Services Appeal meet the larger Diocesan needs of Catholics & others in the Diocese of Springfield in Illinois. The theme this year for the ANNUAL CATHOLIC SERVICES APPEAL is "CONTINUING THE MISSION OF CHARITY." The Diocese serves each of us & our financial support is needed to continue God's work in Diocese. As of March 16, 2017, the St. Elizabeth parish goal is \$26,747.00 with the amount of \$17,515.00 being pledged & the amount of \$17,415.00 being secured. As of March 16, 2017, Our Lady of Lourdes Parish goal is \$6,556.00 with the amount of \$2,460.00 being pledged & the amount of \$2,400.00 being secured. Sincere thanks to all those parishioners who have already participated in this important and necessary fundraiser for the Diocese and may God bless you for your devoted & faithful generosity.



Weekly Collection

St. Elizabeth Church

Week Ending Sunday, April 9, 2017

Envelopes: \$2,017.00 Loose: \$ 447.00

Catholic Relief Services \$5.00 Palm Sunday \$940.00

Building Fund \$25.00

Easter Flowers \$30.00 Operation Rice Bowl \$25.00

Deposit \$ 3,489.00

Our Lady Of Lourdes Church

Week ending Sunday, April 2, 2017

Envelopes \$905.00 Loose \$ 73.00 Catholic Relief \$10.00

Operation Rice Bowl \$ 35.00 Building Fund \$90.00

Deposit \$1,113.00

Daily Mass Readings 04/17/17~04/21/17

Mon. Apr. 17, 2017 Reading 1~ Acts 2:14, 22-33

Gospel~Mat. 28:8-15

Tues. Apr. 18, 2017 Reading 1~Acts 2:36-41

Gospel ~ JN. 20:11-18

Wed. Apr. 19, 2017 Reading 1~Acts 3:1-10

Gospel ~ Lk. 24:13-35

Thurs. Apr. 20, 30 2017

Reading 1~Acts 3:11-26

Gospel ~ LK. 24:35-48

Fri. Apr. 21, 2017 Reading 1~ Acts 4:1-12

Gospel ~ JN.21:1-14



Please remember to attend weekly Mass