



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 9, 2017 PALM SUNDAY OF THE PASSION OF THE LORD



“Hosanna^[b] to the Son of David!” “Blessed is He who comes in the name of the Lord!”^[c]

Matthew 21:9



Mass Intentions

Holy Wk.	Apr. 8	4:30 pm	Sonny Mann & Kevin Murray by Monica Mann
Palm Sun.	Apr. 9	7:30 am 9:00 am 10:30 am	Arlene Schutte by Schutte Family Special Intentions For all parishioners by Fr. Flach
Mon.	Apr. 10	7:30 am	Madonna Kirts by Larry Kirts
Tues.	Apr. 11	12:00 pm	Pat Goda by Bohman Family
Wed.	Apr. 12	7:30 am 6:30 pm	William Loy by Anne Loy Special Intentions
Holy Thurs.	Apr. 13	7:30 am 5:00 pm 6:00 pm	Harold Wagner by Carol Wong Special Intentions Larry & Jan Mitchell by Carol Wong
Good Fri.	Apr. 14	NO MASS	
Holy Sat.	Apr. 15	6:30 pm	GOOD FRIDAY
EASTER SUN.	Apr. 16	7:30 am 9:00 am 10:30 am	Sonny Mann/Kevin Murray by M.Mann Favorable Weather Special Intentions Mette Family by Jane Howard



PSR & Youth Events

PSR~April 12, 2017 6:30 pm ~7:30 pm.

Palm Sun. Apr.9~Easter Sun. Apr.16, 2017

MONDAY OF HOLY WEEK~APRIL 10, 2017

SACRED EUCHARIST 7:30 AM

TUESDAY OF HOLY WEEK~APRIL 11, 2017

SACRED EUCHARIST 12:00 PM

WEDNESDAY OF HOLY WEEK - APRIL 12, 2017

SACRED EUCHARIST -7:30 AM

EXPOSITION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT 8:00 A.M.

STATIONS OF THE CROSS 11:15 A.M.

STATIONS OF THE CROSS 6:00 P.M.

SACRED EUCHARIST 6:30 PM

P. S.R. CHILDREN'S STATIONS OF THE CROSS 7:00 PM

HOLY THURSDAY - APRIL 13, 2017

SACRED EUCHARIST 7:30 AM

SACRED EUCHARIST 5:00 PM OUR LADY OF LOURDES

SACRED EUCHARIST OF THE LAST SUPPER

6:00 PM ST. Elizabeth

GOOD FRIDAY - APRIL 14, 2017

STATIONS OF THE CROSS 6:00 PM ST. ELIZABETH

SOLEMN LITURGY OF GOOD FRIDAY

READING OF THE SACRED PASSION

DISTRIBUTION OF HOLY COMMUNION

6:30 PM ST. ELIZABETH

HOLY SATURDAY - APRIL 15, 2017

SOLEMN CELEBRATION OF

THE EASTER VIGIL 6:30 PM ST. ELIZABETH

EASTER SUNDAY ~ APRIL 15, 2017

SOLEMN CELEBRATION OF THE FEAST OF THE

RESURRECTION OF OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST

7:30 AM & 10:30 AM ST. ELIZABETH 9:00 AM OLOL



Ministry Schedule

Sat. Apr. 15 ~ Sun. Apr. 16, 2017

Sat. April 15, 2017 4:30 pm St. Elizabeth

LECTOR: Terry Roche

USHERS: Jack & Marilyn Stanley

COMMUNION MIN: Kitty Platt, Karen Sanders

SERVERS: Braden Hatfield, Ella Jenkins

GIFTS: Jack Stanley Family

Sun. April 16, 2017 7:30 am St. Elizabeth

LECTOR: Shari Eckert

USHERS: Kurt & Anne Holscher

COMMUNION MIN: Mike & Jona Uptmor

SERVERS: Jacob Eckert

GIFTS: Mike Uptmor Family

Sun. April 16, 2017 9:00 am Our Lady of Lourdes

LECTOR: Anita Kocher

USHERS: Ron & Ethel Dhom

COMMUNION MIN: Jim Ping, Wilmer Wilson

SERVERS: Kayla Matson

GIFTS: Dhom Family

Sun. April 16, 2017 10:30 am St. Elizabeth

LECTOR: Sam Quick

USHERS:

COMMUNION MIN: Teresa Gower, Roselene Quick

SERVERS: Korbin Rawlings, Joe Quick

GIFTS: Scott Rawlings Family

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

Prayer Requests

Please remember the following in your prayers: Lori Brown, Scott Chapman, Maxine Cook, Renee Craig, Geri Ezell, 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.



First Reconciliation

Front Row: Isla Wirey, Case Beisner, Evan Fiscus, Emma David. **Middle Row:** Braylon Murray, Ben Patchett, Keely Burton, Jack Grimm, Ian Schmidt. **Back Row:** Patty Buntten, RayLynn Rodegers, Sicily Rawlings, Hayden Bonnell, Fr. Flach & Josh Quick.

Finance Council Meeting

Finance Council Meeting-St. Elizabeth at 6:00 pm April 11,

Fr. Flach Scriptural Reflections for The Palm Sunday of The Lord's Passion

Czeslaw Milosz was a Polish writer and poet. A Catholic, he lived in Warsaw during the Second World War, then served in the Polish government before defecting and eventually coming to the United States. He was a friend of Pope John Paul II, and the Pope was fascinated with Milosz's effort to try and write religious poetry in a post-religious world. Milosz addressed a poem to the Holy Spirit, speaking of his need for a sign to help him believe. In his poem, "Veni Creator," Milosz asked "that the statue in the church lift its hand, only once, just for me." Then, acknowledging that the Holy Spirit does not do such things but works instead through human signs, the poet asked the Spirit to "call one person, anywhere on earth...and allow me, when I look at that person, to marvel at you." Holy Week is here, and once again we read the Passion. Once again we act out the supreme irony of our faith: on one day we praise God and, Holy Week is here, and once again we read the Passion. Once again we act out the supreme irony of our faith: on one day we praise God and, on the next, we turn our backs upon Him. Even the palms we hold today are a symbol of the ebb and flow of our practice of our faith. Older Catholics can give a long instruction on how to care for sacred objects and what to do with them when they need to be disposed of. Today, however, many younger Catholics do not have the same appreciation for an object that has been blessed. Our palms are blessed for the sacred purpose of praising God. Many Catholics take their palms home and place them behind their crucifixes or behind a picture of Jesus. But like our faith, even though the palms have been blessed, most palms will be treated rather carelessly. After Masses blessed palms will litter the floor of the church and even be gathered up from the parking lot. Later, when we pull into the car wash, some of us will discover that we have left a blessed palm in the car. It will be thrown out with the trash from the back seat. This is how many of us live our faith. We ourselves are blessed, but then we dispose of our lives very carelessly. We have been given faith in a God who gave His life for us, and while we might have some gratitude, like the palms that seem to serve no other purpose after our Palm Sunday procession, we forget our faith after like the people in the Gospel we first say, Mass. Hosanna!" but then quickly find ourselves shouting, "Crucify Him!" Would not faith be easier if the

Holy Spirit did move the arm of a statue when we asked for proof that our prayer is being heard? We might think so, but recall the seven signs worked by Jesus in John's Gospel: turning water into wine, healing the son of a royal official, healing a man born lame, feeding 5,000, walking on water, and raising Lazarus to life. These all made a major impression, but here we are today playing the part of the witnesses of these signs by shouting, "Crucify Him!". Certainly raising dead Lazarus to life made an impression. The Gospel says that "many of the Jews who had seen what he had done began to believe in him." But for how long? Others who witnessed the same event began to plot not only how to kill Jesus, but how to kill Lazarus as well. We want inspiration. We need motivation. We need that one person at whom we can look and just by the look find everything we need. We have that one person in the face of Jesus Christ, but we have to look at him. Unfortunately we usually prefer not to look. We want Jesus to be part of our life, but we do not want Him to interfere with our life. As an example of this we can look at Pope Francis We love his words and his actions, but we become the most uncomfortable when we are asked to do the things he does. Most of us admire it when someone else goes to the prison, when someone else walks through the ghetto, when someone else feeds the homeless at the soup kitchen, when someone else actively advocates for the poor and homeless. We admire it when someone else does it; but it's uncomfortable to look the example in the face and remember that we are called to "do this in memory of me." Isaiah writes of the challenge of staying faithful to the teacher we know is holy. After He healed Lazarus, people wanted to kill Jesus. After Pope Francis criticized the excesses of global capitalism, he was called a Marxist. Today we look into the face of the One who never turned His back on God and Who, in being so faithful to His Father, gave us the perfect sign of faith.

THE SEVEN LAST WORDS OF CHRIST

Father, forgive them, for they do not know what they are doing. - Luke 23:34 Lord Jesus, as the offspring of the divine Father of all, you could hardly leave this world at enmity with others, even your executioners. Yet, perhaps there is another call implicit in your words, the commission to teach persecutors what they are doing when they malign, torment, or destroy a child of God. As we raise the consciousness of others to see your face in every person, we practice the anticipatory forgiveness that forestalls evil. Woman, here is your son, Here is your mother. - John 19:26-27. Lord Jesus, we are strangely enamored of the loner-hero who faces the world single-handedly before retreating to isolation. We glimpse such valiant loneliness as trusted disciples deny, betray, and flee you. Yet, in the meager company of the cross, you reject the loner mythology in favor of community. As you bid us care for each other, we know at once and forever that the Church is not a band of heroic loners, but an empathetic communion of saints. I am thirsty. - John 19:28. Lord Jesus, how strange it seems to acknowledge your thirst, for divine love so often blooms in the desert sands of the Exodus, the Baptizer, and the cross. You are like the precious desert flower that flourishes in the arid wastelands of the world. Still, even a cactus flower requires refreshment, so let us offer living water generously to all those who follow you in replicating the divine miracle of desert blooming. Truly, I tell you, today you will be with me in paradise. Luke 23:43. Lord Jesus, the inclusiveness of your words feel incomprehensible, for we relentlessly divide the world into saints and sinners, winners and losers. We are enthralled by

competitions that rank and eliminate, so we can conceive of a good thief or a victorious failure. We send our champions off to magic kingdoms and halls of fame but losers have little place in our halls or hearts. Teach us to scandalize by welcoming defeated sinners into your kingdom. MY God, MY God, Why have You forsaken me? - Mat. 15:34. Lord Jesus, there is profound and holy communion to found in your haunted prayer of abandonment. So of your words and actions create unintended distance, we feel incapable of matching the grace of your divine forgiveness, kindness, or healing. In this moment, however, your mortal confession resonates with our wound lives to create a solidarity of fragility. May this moment stark humanity raise us to the level of Christ like witness. It is finished. - John 19:30. Lord Jesus, these final words were no doubt accompanied by an expulsion of breath. As your work comes to an end, however, our work is just beginning. So we inhale your dying breath from the tree of the cross like human and oak trees exchange breath in a blessed symbolism bond of resuscitation. May we too form such a life-giving connection with you as we take on the mission of becoming your body in the world. Father, into Your hands. I commend my spirit. - Luke 23:4. Lord Jesus, you let go of life like a radiant autumn leaf finally surrendering its grip & drifting gracefully to the earth. We who desperately cling to life's branches should watch & emulate this ritual, for you know the secret that we have yet to learn. Mother earth embraces & swallows us only to prepare our seeds for regeneration. At your autumnal falling bears much fruit, so may we be reborn in your glorious Easter Spring.

Spiritual Reading for Palm Sunday

"Only when someone values love more highly than life, that is, only where someone is ready to put life second to love, for the sake of love, can love be stronger and more than death. If it is to be more than death, it must first be more than mere life. Jesus' total love for men, which leads Him to the cross, is perfected in total stepping-over to the Father and therein becomes stronger than death, because in this it is at the same time total 'being held' by him." (Pope Benedict XI) Now our Lord, who was humble and came to destroy pride, chose not to use the proud horse to carry him. He chose the most simple and the most humble of all animals, the ass, because he so loved lowliness and humility that only a humble mount could serve him. God dwells and abides only in the simple and humble of heart (Is 57:15). Wishing to show his esteem for this virtue, he chose lowliness and abjection for the day of his triumph. He emptied and humbled himself. He would not have been humiliated and despised by others except he willed it. He himself emptied himself, choosing abjection. ... He emptied and abased himself; he humbled himself; he came mounted upon an ass and a colt. He bent his bow and darted his arrows of love into the hearts of the people of Israel. All were moved at his coming and sang: Hosanna, blessed be the Son of David, blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord; glory be to the Most High. His gentleness and humility captivated all their hearts. Had he come on any other conveyance he would have frightened them. This is the first quality that made the ass appropriate for our Lord's use on this occasion: its humility. The second quality is its patience. Not only is the ass humbler it is exceedingly patient, allowing itself to be beaten and maltreated without ever forgetting its origin. It neither complains, nor bites, nor kicks. It endures all with great patience. Our Lord so loved patience that he wished to become its mirror and pattern. He endured scourging and ill treatment with invincible patience; he supported so many blasphemies, so many calumnies, without saying a word. Now humility and patience have such an affinity with one another that one can hardly exist without the other. He who desires to be humble must be patient enough to endure the contempt, the censurer the reprehensions that the humble suffer. Likewise, he who desires to be patient must be humbler because one cannot long support the labors and adversities of this life without the humility which makes us gentle and patient. Finding these two qualities in this animal, our Lord chose it rather than any other for his entry into Jerusalem. The third reason is that this animal is obedient, permitting us to burden it as much as we want without offering any resistance. It carries the load with remarkable submission and suppleness. So much did our divine Master love obedience and suppleness that he himself chose to give us an example of it. So he bore the heavy burden of our iniquities and suffered for them all that we had merited. Oh, how blessed are they who are supple and submissive, who allow themselves to be commanded as others wish, subjecting themselves to all kinds of obediences without reply or excuse, supporting with good health the burden imposed on them! Only when clothed with these qualities of humility, patience, and submission can we be worthy to carry our Lord. Then the Savior will mount upon our hearts &, as a divine riding master, conduct us under his obedience.

FINAL THANK YOU FISH FRY NEWS

Many heartfelt and sincere THANKS to all of those parishioners who helped in any way for the SUCCESS of our three fish fries. Your hard work and sincere effort to cooperate and pitch in wherever you are needed is truly appreciated. We simply could not have achieved the success we did this year without EACH OF YOU helping as much as you did. For all of you, a GREAT BIG THANK YOU! Our counts for each Fish Fry are the following: MARCH 17- 905 DINNERS SERVED, MARCH 24-850 DINNERS SERVED & 705 DINNERS SERVED ON MARCH 31. These are the HIGHEST NUMBERS served at our Fish Fries. CONGRATULATIONS! When all of the expenses are accounted for, I will publish our profit. THANK YOU and GOD



Weekly Collection

St. Elizabeth Church

Week Ending Sunday, April 2, 2017

Envelopes: \$3,092.00 Loose: \$ 369.00

Caritas \$ 30.00 Church in Central & Eastern Europe \$ 20.00

Give Central 2 @\$180.00 Building Fund \$497.00

Easter Flowers \$60.00 Seminarians \$ 100.00

Deposit \$ 4,348.00

Our Lady Of Lourdes Church

Week ending Sunday, March 26, 2017

Envelopes \$525.00 Loose \$ 49.00 Edith Smith Food Pantry \$47.00

Catholic Relief \$155.00 Operation Rice Bowl \$ 50.00

Easter Flowers \$15.00 Deposit \$841.00

HOLY WEEK SERVICES

The most Holy and SACRED SEASON OF LENT is about to conclude with the arrival of HOLY WEEK, the blessed time when we prayerfully reflect upon the suffering and death of our LORD JESUS CHRIST. Seeking the conversion of our hearts during this past penitential seasons of LENT, we have been able to participate in spiritual acts as fasting, prayer, almsgiving, sacrifices. We will begin the solemn celebration of HOLY WEEK with the BLESSING and DISTRIBUTION OF PALMS on PALM SUNDAY or PASSION SUNDAY on APRIL 9, 2017 as we read and reflect upon the SACRED PASSION, the SUFFERING and DEATH of God's son, our LORD JESUS CHRIST. Within the completion of HOLY WEEK, we will gather to remember and reflect upon the LAST SUPPER for on HOLY THURSDAY, APRIL 13, 2017 we will be privileged to partake and participate in the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass. Following our commemoration of the LAST SUPPER, we find ourselves at the FOOT OF THE CROSS OF JESUS on the HOLY DAY OF GOOD FRIDAY, APRIL 14, 2017. Preparing our hearts with fasting, discipline, penance and prayer, we desire to recall the SACRED PASSION OF OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST by praying together the STATIONS OF THE CROSS at 6:00 P.M. followed by the SOLEMN LITURGY OF GOOD FRIDAY with the distribution of HOLY COMMUNION. As we conclude the HOLIEST WEEK OF THE CHURCH YEAR, we begin the SACRED SEASON OF EASTER on HOLY SATURDAY, APR. 15, 2017 with the celebration of the EASTER VIGIL at 6:30 P.M. EASTER SUNDAY MASSES will be celebrated on SUN. APR. 16, 2017 at 7:30 & 10:30 AM at St. Elizabeth & Our Lady Of Lourdes at 9:00 am.

Please remember to attend weekly Mass