



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



## CATHOLIC PARISH CENTER

207 E. Walnut, Robinson, IL 62454

Phone Number: (618) 544-7526

Fax Number: (618) 544-9327

E-mail: [crawford\\_catholics@rocketmail.com](mailto:crawford_catholics@rocketmail.com)

Web Site: [www.crawfordcountycatholics.com](http://www.crawfordcountycatholics.com)

Join us on Facebook! Search for "Crawford County Catholics"

### Father James Flach

#### 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, February 19, 2017 7th Sunday in Ordinary Time



**Chole Olivia &  
Zoe Fe Ortega  
received the  
oils & waters of  
BAPTISM on  
Sat. Feb. 4, 2017.**



## Mass Intentions

Feb. 18	4:30 pm	Bobby & Phil Koontz by Maxine Koontz
Feb. 19	7:30 am	Gene & Betty Uptmor by Mike & Jona Uptmor
	9:00 am	For all parishioners by Fr. Flach
Feb. 20	10:30 am	Special Intentions
	7:30 am	Madonna Kirts by Karen Sanders
Feb. 21	12:05 pm	Howard Rio by Terry & Lynne Roche
Feb. 22	7:30 am	Mette Family by Jane Howard
Feb. 23	7:30 am	Harry Wong by Anonymous
Feb. 24	7:30 am	Bill Meirink by Clarence Schutte
Feb. 25	4:30 pm	Arlene Schutte by Mike & Jona Uptmor
Feb. 26	7:30 am	Special Intentions
	9:00 am	For all parishioners by Fr. Flach
	10:30 am	Donald Roche by Terry & Lynne Roche
	9:00 am	Dona
	10:30 am	



## Ministry Schedule

*Sat. Feb. 25~ Sun. Feb. 26, 2017*

<u>Sat. Feb. 25, 2017 4:30 pm</u>	St. Elizabeth
LECTOR:	Karen Sanders
USHERS:	Jack & Marylin Stanley
COMMUNION MIN:	Jack & Marylin Stanley
SERVERS:	Keagen Tuel, Anthony Tran
GIFTS:	Khai Tran Family
<u>Sun. Feb. 26, 2017 7:30 am</u>	St. Elizabeth
LECTOR:	David Holscher
USHERS:	Mike & Jona Uptmor
COMMUNION MIN:	Joe Hepner, Linda Reis
SERVERS:	Matthew Jenkins
GIFTS:	Steve Jenkins Family
<u>Sun. Feb. 26, 2017 9:00 am</u>	Our Lady of Lourdes
LECTOR:	Lori Davis
USHERS:	Keith Matson, Ethan Matson
COMMUNION MIN:	Keith & Rita Wirey
SERVERS:	J. Hermann
GIFTS:	Adam Davis Family
<u>Sun. Feb. 26, 2017 10:30 am</u>	St. Elizabeth
LECTOR:	Courtney Ferris
USHERS:	Ron & Janet Mitchell
COMMUNION MIN:	Mark Ghering, Missy York
SERVERS:	Korbin Rawlings, Cody York
GIFTS:	Scott Rawlings Family

Collection Counters: February, 2017: Joshua & Roselene Quick, Janet Mitchell



## PSR & Youth Events

02-22-2017~PSR 6:30~7:30 pm 02-26-2017 Senior High Youth  
From 7:00-9:00 pm 03-04-2017 Legopalooza 9:00 am-12:00 pm

## Prayer Requests



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

## Symbols of the Season



**Ashes:** Made from palm leaves of the previous year, ashes can remind us both of the baptismal & penitential character of Lent. They not only represent our own mortality & utter dependence on God but also symbolize our efforts of dying to sin (& rising to new life in Christ). **Fish:** As a Lenten symbol, fish stands for the obligation to fast on Ash Wednesday & Good Friday & abstain from meat on other Fridays of the season. **Pretzels:** Made from simple dough which has no dairy fat, they remind us of fasting. Shaped like two arms crossed, they remind us of prayer. **Violet (Deep Purple):** Violet is the liturgical color of the season & symbolizes its repentant character, as well as Christ as the King of the World. (Deep purple was a color reserved for royalty in Jesus' time).

## LENTEN PRAYER FOR SPIRITUAL



God, Heavenly Father, look upon me & hear my prayer during this Holy Season of Lent. By the good works you inspire, help me to discipline my body & to be renewed in spirit. Without You, I can do nothing. By Your Spirit, help me to know what is right & to be eager in doing Your Will. Teach me to find new life through penance. Keep me from sin, & help me live by Your commandment of Love. God of Love, bring me back to You. Send Your Spirit to make me strong in faith & active in good works. May my acts of penance bring me Your forgiveness, open my heart to Your Love, & prepare me for the coming Feast of the Resurrection of Jesus. Lord, during this Lenten Season, nourish me with Your Word of Life & make me one with You in love & prayer. Fill my heart with Your Love & keep me faithful to the Gospel of Christ. Give me the grace to rise above my human weakness. Give me new life by Your Sacraments, especially the Mass, Father, our source of Life, I reach out with joy to grasp Your Hand; let me walk more readily in Your Ways. Guide me in Your gentle mercy, for left to myself, I cannot do Your Will. Father of Love, source of all blessings, help me to pass from my old life of sin to the new life of grace. Prepare me for the glory of Your Kingdom. I ask this through our Lord Jesus Christ, Your Son, Who lives & reigns with You & the Holy Spirit, One God, forever. Amen.

**Please remember to attend weekly Mass**

## Fr. Flach Scriptural Reflections for The Seventh Sunday in Ordinary Time

In the lectionary commentary Feasting on the Word, New Testament professor Greg Carey tells of getting a message from his 10-year old daughter who had been chosen to be a lector at a service. She said to her father, "I have that passage where Jesus says, 'Turn the other cheek.' You know that passage, right? Do the other Gospels have that same passage? Is it different in the other Gospels? Could you let me know, because...no offense, Dad, but I think Jesus is wrong." We might think so, too, or at least we might wish that Jesus is wrong or that He meant something less literal. Unfortunately, for those who wish Jesus did not mean exactly what He said, Matthew's Gospel repeatedly emphasizes that Jesus did mean exactly what He said. To be a disciple means to do what Jesus said.

We have heard it said, "An eye for an eye & a tooth for a tooth." This is said both in Exodus 21 & Leviticus 24. It is meant to create boundaries for justice. The punishment can match but must not exceed the crime. We too often hear the Old Testament passages quoted when someone is trying to justify a punishment, most particular trying to justify the death penalty. Such a person must really hate the New Testament version when we hear Jesus saying, "But what I say to you, offer no resistance to one who is evil. When someone strikes you on your right cheek, turn the other one as well." Jesus also quoted Leviticus 19: "Take no revenge & cherish no grudge against your own people. You shall love your neighbor as yourself." The Jewish people were to treat their own by a very high standard, & "neighbor" meant only fellow Jews. When it came to non-Jews, the standard was different. We know from the Parable of the Good Samaritan that Jesus redefined neighbor to mean all fellow human beings. It had to have grated to hear Jesus quote Leviticus & centuries of belief when He followed that quote with the word "but": "But what I say to you, love your enemies & pray for those who persecute you." Worse, Jesus added that this is what we must do "that you may be children of Your Heavenly Father."

All three of our readings lead us to ponder the same thing: holiness. To be holy is to strive to be like God. God loves all of His Children; so must we. God forgives so must we. God expresses mercy, so must we. God takes our abuse, so we must take the

abuse that comes with being people of faith. This is incredibly hard, but with God's grace it is possible. Lent begins in two-& a half weeks. Today's readings give us plenty to think about as we ponder what we might concentrate on during Lent. Lent will call us to set aside our sinfulness. It will call us to practice the sacrificial love of Jesus. It will call us to the Sacrament of Reconciliation. If we really look at God, incarnate in Our Lord Jesus Christ, we will see love & truth. We are called to holiness. Typically, when we think of being holy, we think in terms of being good, doing good things, & avoiding sin. This is not exactly holiness. All good people do good & avoid evil. Being holy means conforming our lives to God Who is Holy. Being holy is about a relationship, not about goodness. Holiness is found in honoring the purpose of Jesus' life, preaching, death & resurrection. All of this was done to reunite us with The Father, to bring us into communion with The Father Who loves us more than we can even imagine. Our world is "all about me." Jesus offers us a world that is all about God, but it is about God in a way that includes us. Jesus wants us to be in communion with the Father. There is a reason we call the Eucharist "Holy Communion". Receiving the Body of Christ brings us into communion with God & thus, in God, we enter into communion with each other. It is this relationship—this communion—that makes us holy. What Jesus asks of us may not seem reasonable. We are entitled to demand revenge, aren't we? We are allowed to hold grudges, aren't we? We are allowed to separate our world into "us" & them," aren't we? By the way we live, it would seem that the answer to these questions is "yes." Jesus' answer is "no."

**As we prepare for Lent, we should ponder how we can achieve holy communion-holiness.**

### Baptismal Congratulations

Our Parish Family of St. Elizabeth is happy to welcome JEFFERY SCOTT CHAPMAN into the Catholic Church & the Christian Community through the oils & waters of the Sacrament of Baptism. As you begin your Baptismal Journey into eternal love & eternal life with GOD, we promise that we will be by your side to lead & guide you with our constant prayers, good example, & God's Love. Scott Chapman received the oils & waters of BAPTISM on Sat. Feb. 11th.

### Happy Mardi Gras 2017



HAPPY MARDI GRAS ~ Join us for the 16th Annual

Crawford County Catholics Mardi Gras  
Sat. Feb. 25, 2017 at 6pm-12:00 am

Quail Creek Country Club Party tickets are \$25.00 & includes dinner. Dinner Menu: Barbeque Chicken Sliders, Shrimp Po Boys, Jambalaya, Peel & Eat Shrimp, Cornbread, Black Eyed Peas, Fruit, King Cake. Tea/Water/Coffee. Big Divvy & Raffle drawings will be announced at 9:00 pm. Big Divvy tickets are \$25.00. Big Divvy winners need not be present at Mardi Gras to claim their prize.

### Our Lady Of Lourdes Finance Council Meeting



There will be a Finance Council Meeting at Our Lady Of Lourdes Parish Hall on Tues. Feb. 21 at 6:00 pm.

### Daily Mass Readings 02/20/17~02/24/17

Mon. Feb. 20, 2017 Reading 1~ Sir. 1:1-10  
Gospel~Mk. 9:14-29 Tues. Feb. 21, 2017 Reading 1~ Sir. 2:1-11 Gospel~Mk. 9:30-37  
Wed. Feb. 22, 2017 Reading 1~ 1 Pet. 5:1-4  
Gospel~ Mt. 16:13-19 Thurs. Feb. 23, 2017  
Reading 1~Sir. 5:1-8 Gospel~Mk. 9:41-50  
Fri. Feb. 24, 2017 Reading 1~Sir. 6:5-17  
Gospel~Mk. 10:1-12



### Mardi Gras Big Divvy 2nd Early Bird Drawing

Congratulations to Jennifer Newman whose winning ticket was drawn out on Sun. Feb. 12th for a \$100.00 prize. All of our Early Bird Drawings are now finished. The final drawing will take place on Sat. Feb. 25th at the Mardi Gras Dinner & Dance at 9:00 pm. Good Luck to all those who purchased tickets & many thanks to all those who sold tickets. We could not have done it without all of you. See you at the Mardi Gras Dinner & Dance.

## Lenten Spiritual Reading: The Fasting Track

16 Great Reasons to Fast. In 1756, a frightened & somber King of England called for a day of solemn prayer & fasting. Behind his call was the immediate threat of an invasion & war by the French. On Feb. 6, 1756, John Wesley recorded in his journal the positive effect a day of fasting & prayer had upon the nation: "The fast day was a glorious day, such as London has scarcely seen...Every church in the city was more than full, & a solemn seriousness sat on every face. Surely God heareth prayer, & there will yet be a lengthening of our tranquility." In a footnote he added: "Humility was turned into national rejoicing for the threatened invasion by the French was averted. "If I perish, I perish". In spite of the fact that the Bible refers to fasting nearly 100 times, it remains a discipline which is absent from the lives of Christians. Yet, fasting is connected to people whose lives were filled with spiritual power & moral authority. Great religious leaders such as Moses, Elijah, Daniel, Jesus, Origen, Martin Luther, Ignatius Loyola, Jonathon Edwards & Charles Finney were known to fast, often for prolonged periods of time. Although most Christians may not feel the need to do a lengthy fast, there are benefits to be gained from even a short period of self-denial. Here are 16 reminders priests can offer parishioners why fasting is a good discipline to engage in periodically.

**1. Fasting expands compassion.** It's easy to talk about the problem of world hunger but the physical impact & emotional awareness is heightened when we do without food. "My sensitivity to the plight of the poor increased," says one woman who fasted. "Eating only one meal a day made me tired & resentful & mine was a voluntary fast. What was it like for those who were lucky to get one meal a day? I couldn't be indifferent to their suffering once I'd shared it."

**2. Fasting is a way of preparing to meet a major challenge.** People in the Bible who faced great trials & troubles often dealt with them through prayer & fasting. Whenever special courage, insight, & strength was needed, they turned to prayer combined with fasting. For example, before Queen Esther approached the king asking him to spare the Jews from destruction, she asked her people to spend three days in prayer & fasting. A Positive Response to Materialism. She felt that such a difficult enterprise needed prayers fortified by fasting if her effort was to be successful. "When this is done, I will go to the King, even though it is against the law. And, if I perish, I perish," she said. (Est. 4:16). Consequently, Esther approached the king with confidence & boldness, persuading him to reverse an edit which called for the annihilation of the Jews. A modern application would be to spend time in prayer & fasting whenever a personal or professional crisis looms. To be continued.....

## 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 January 31, 2017, the St. Elizabeth parish goal is \$26,747.00 with the amount of \$17,515.00 being pledged & the amount of \$15,690.00 being secured. As of January 31, 2017, Our Lady of Lourdes Parish goal is \$6,556.00 with the amount of \$2,290.00 being pledged & the amount of \$1,910.00 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 and faithful generosity.

## Liturgical Ministry Contacts

St. Elizabeth Parish  
Readers: Eileen Hartrich 544-8251  
Servers: Father Flach 544-7526  
Art & Environment: Robb Sparks 546-5606  
Ushers: Ron Mitchell  
Our Lady of Lourdes  
Eucharistic Ministers and Ushers: Keith Wirey 592-4179  
Music & Liturgy: Dorla Shook 592-3893



## Weekly Collection

### St. Elizabeth Church

Week Ending Sunday, February 12, 2017  
Envelopes: \$2,447.00 Loose: \$243.00 Caritas \$20.00  
Give Central 2 @\$80.00 Catholic Times \$30.00  
Easter Flowers \$20.00 Building Fund \$30.00  
Deposit \$ 2,870.00

### Our Lady Of Lourdes Church

Envelopes week ending Sunday, February 12, 2017  
Envelopes \$735.00 Loose \$79.00  
Caritas \$15.00 Deposit \$829.00



The Church has an online service called, Give Central. You are able to go there to make donations, if you would like to. If you would like to donate, you can click on DONATE on the church website. You can donate to what donation you like. All monies go directly to St. Elizabeth Catholic Church. Thank you to all who use this service. God bless you.



## Our Sympathies

Our sympathies to Lance & Linda Sikorski at the passing of Lance's mother-Jean. She passed away on Wed. Feb. 15, 2017. May she rest in peace. Please keep this family in your prayers.



## SPECIAL THANKS

Sincere & heartfelt THANKS to all those parishioners who helped in any way for the CHILI COOK-OFF held this past Sun. Feb.12th. Special THANKS to OLOL's Parish for hosting the Chili Cook-Off & for all their sincere efforts in preparing for this event. Thanks for all who made chili. Everything was well done & please know that all of your efforts are truly appreciated. HATS OFF to Jim Ping for winning 1st place. Thank you & God bless you.



## Lenten Mass

Ash Wednesday-March 1, 2017

7:30 am Sacred Eucharist &  
Distribution of Blessed Ashes &

8:00 am Exposition ~ 11:15 am Stations of the  
Cross

at St. Elizabeth

5:00 pm Sacred Eucharist & Distribution of Blessed Ashes  
at

Our Lady of Lourdes Parish & 6:30 pm Sacred Eucharist &  
Distribution of Blessed Ashes at St. Elizabeth. The Lenten  
Schedule of Events is being published in this Sunday's bulletin.