



Serving St. Elizabeth Church & Our Lady of Lourdes Church



CATHOLIC PARISH CENTER

207 E. Walnut, Robinson, IL 62454

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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,
March 12th, 2017
2nd Sunday of Lent



SECOND
SUNDAY
OF LENT

While He was still speaking, a bright cloud covered them, and a voice from the cloud said,
“This is My Son, Whom I love; with Him I am well pleased. Listen to him!” Matthew 17:5



Mass Intentions

Mar. 11	4:30 pm	Paul Wagner by Carol Wong
Mar. 12	7:30 am	Arlene Schutte by Terry & Lynne Roche
	9:00 am	Special Intentions
	10:30 am	For all parishioners by Fr. Flach
Mar. 13	7:30 am	Edith Smith by Chas. & Judy Eckert
Mar. 14	12:05 pm	Judy Stone by Chas. & Judy Eckert
Mar. 15	7:30 am	Arlene Schutte by Chas. & Judy Eckert
	6:30 pm	& Special Intentions
Mar. 16	7:30 am	John & Gladys Rooney by Anne Loy
		Madonna Kirts by Chas. & Judy Eckert
Mar. 17	7:30 am	Chas. & Judy Eckert
Mar. 18	4:30 pm	Lisa Graham Miller by Mike & Jona Uptmor
Mar. 19	7:30 am	Mike & Jona Uptmor
	9:00 am	The Mette Family by Jane Howard
	10:30 am	Don Roche by Steve & Geri Ezell
		For all parishioners by Fr. Flach
		Special Intentions



PSR & Youth Events

High School Youth Sun. Mar. 12, 2017 at 7:00 pm
 Jr High Youth Sun. Mar. 12, 2017 from 5:00 pm ~ 6:30 pm
 PSR on Wed. Mar. 15, 2017 6:30~7:30 pm
 High School Youth Sun. Mar. 19, 2017 at 7:00 pm



LENTEN EVENTS

Monday, March 13, 2017 at 6:00 pm~ 7:00 pm Bible Study
 Wednesday, March 15, 2017
 7:30 am ~ Sacred Eucharist & 6:30 pm
 8:00 am ~ Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament
 11:15 am ~ Stations of the Cross
 6:00 pm ~ Stations of the Cross
 6:30 pm ~ Sacred Eucharist
 7:00 pm ~ PSR Confessions ~ Grades 6~7~8
 Friday, March 17, 2017
 7:30 am ~ Sacred Eucharist
 4:00 pm ~7:00 pm~Fish Fry
 5:30 pm ~ Stations of the Cross ~ Our Lady Of Lourdes
 Sunday, March 19, 2017
 11:45 am ~ First Reconciliation



Ministry Schedule

Sat. Mar. 18 ~ Sun. Mar. 19, 2017

Sat. March 18, 2017 4:30 pm St. Elizabeth

LECTOR: Geri Ezell

USHERS: Ken & Carol Bergbower

COMMUNION MIN: Lisa Baird, Mike Dorn

SERVERS: Eva Hermann, Ella Jenkins

GIFTS: Jack Stanley Family

Sun. March 19, 2017 7:30 am St. Elizabeth

LECTOR: Mike Uptmor

USHERS: Steve & Janet Jenkins

COMMUNION MIN: Jim & Shari Eckert

SERVERS: David Jenkins

GIFTS: Steve Jenkins Family

Sun. March 19, 2017 9:00 am Our Lady of Lourdes

LECTOR: Stacie Matson

USHERS: Ron & Ethel Dhom

COMMUNION MIN: Jim Ping, Rita Wirey

SERVERS: Ava Patchett

GIFTS: Wilson Family

Sun. March 19, 2017 10:30 am St. Elizabeth

LECTOR: Josh Quick

USHERS: Ron & Janet Mitchell

COMMUNION MIN: Teresa Gower, Missy York

SERVERS: Madalyn Myers, Lauren Staller

GIFTS: Ted Staller Family

Collection Counters: March, 2017: Kaye Pescatore, Ellen Rees, Karen Reinoehl

St. Elizabeth Catholic Church Fish Fry Dates



The dates for the St. Elizabeth Fish Fry are
 Friday, March 17, 2017 from 4:00 pm to 7:00 pm,
 Friday, March 24, 2017 from 4:00 pm to 7:00 pm,
 & Friday, March 31, 2017 from 4:00 pm to 7:00 pm at
 the St. Elizabeth Parish Hall. We are in need of HELPERS for
 this project.

**Menu is: Fish, Shrimp, Baked Potato, Cole Slaw, Baked Beans,
 Corn Bread and a Drink.**

Adult meal-\$10.00 Kids meal (Ages 10 and under)-\$5.00

Drive-up Available For Carry Outs



Breakfast at Our Lady Of Lourdes

There will be a Breakfast at OLOL's on Sunday, March 19, 2017
 after the 9:00 am Mass. The menu will be: pancakes, sausages,
 scrambled eggs, biscuits & gravy along with cookies & drinks.
 You are welcome to join us in prayer, good food & fellowship.



Daily Mass Readings 03/13/17~03/17/17

Mon. Mar. 13, 2017 Reading 1~Dn. 9:4B-10
 Gospel ~ Lk. 6:36-38

Tues. Mar. 14, 2017 Reading 1~Is. 1:10, 16-20
 Gospel ~Mt. 23:1-12

Wed. Mar. 15, 2017 Reading 1~Jer. 18:18-20
 Gospel ~ Mt. 20:17-28

Thurs. Mar. 16 2017 Reading 1~Jer. 17:5-10
 Gospel ~ Lk. 16:19-31

Fri. Mar. 17, 2017 Reading 1~Gen. 37:3-4, 12-13A, 17B-28A
 Gospel ~ Mt. 21:33-43, 45-46

Please remember to attend weekly Mass

Catholic Charities Collection

On March 12, 2017-Catholic Charities Collection on the Second
 Sunday of Lent.

Fr. Flach Scriptural Reflections for The Second Sunday of Lent

"We must never forget how many Christians are giving their lives in love. They help so many people to be healed or to die in peace in makeshift hospitals. They are present to those enslaved by different addictions in the poorest places on earth. They devote themselves to the education of children and young people. They take care of the elderly who have been forgotten by everyone else. They look for ways to communicate values in hostile environments. They are dedicated in many other ways to showing an immense love for humanity inspired by the God who became man. I am grateful for the beautiful example given to me by so many Christians who joyfully sacrifice their lives & their time. This witness comforts & sustains me in my own effort to overcome selfishness & to give more fully of myself" -- Pope Francis, "The Joy of the Gospel" Pope Francis, at the beginning of his apostolic exhortation, says to us, "The joy of the gospel fills the hearts & lives of all who encounter Jesus. Those who accept his offer of salvation are set free from sin, sorrow, inner emptiness & loneliness. With Christ, joy is constantly born anew." Three problems. One problem is that so few believe they need to be set free from sin. Why? In an age of relativism, not many people worry about personal sin. Relativism is a belief that there are few, if any, universal principles of right & wrong. Basically, we let the situation rather than a principle dictate what is right & wrong. We might all agree that to kill is wrong, but considering only the situation, relativism leads us to easily justify taking lives such as in abortion, capital punishment, euthanasia, or acceptable number of deaths of innocents in drone attacks, & we can justifiably shoot anyone if we are scared. (The problem is that there is no universal definition of "scared." It is relative. It depends on the situation.) When guided by relativism we cannot rely on the past or turn to the future. We are forced to live in the moment without regard to past or future. A mistake made in the moment gets called a goof or an accident but not a sin. A second problem is that fewer people believe in Jesus as the Son of God, or they believe yet it has no affect in how they live. A problem for many true believers is that we do not know how to encounter Christ. Making an encounter even more difficult is the ironic reality that we fear we might actually be successful & have a true encounter with Christ. The possibility of encountering Christ is frightening for many of us. Our fear even keeps us from taking Lent seriously. We do not

allow ourselves to move beyond giving up candy for Lent. We do not make the big sacrifices, we avoid Friday night, "Stations of the Cross," we have other things to do besides attending the Parish "Lenten Series," & we certainly avoid opportunities for going to confession during Lent. Every year when confronted with Lent we say, "I know. I know. I should do better." But we don't. We simply are afraid to jump in & risk an encounter with Christ. Why? Too many of us are afraid that if we have a true encounter with the Lord, we might feel compelled to do the things the Pope lists in his exhortation. Who wants to sacrifice time to take care of the elderly who are alone & forgotten? Who wants to give up their Sunday mornings to teach religious education? Who wants to sacrifice their Sunday nights to be with teens in the parish youth group? Who is really willing to enter hostile environments to cook & serve food to the smelly & scary homeless? All three readings tell us that, if we muster the courage to take a step close to God, we will survive. Paul was nearing the end of his life when he wrote to Timothy. Paul was in prison & knew his fate, but his message was: Refuse to be afraid. He told young & timid Timothy, "Bear your share of the hardship which the Gospel entails." In short, show a little courage. We see Abraham's courage in his willingness as old man to leave home & family & go to a new land. Not many of us are even willing to leave our houses for a soup kitchen! We must face our fear of encountering Christ & decide that we will make the sacrifice to improve our relationship with Him. The Transfiguration is a promise & a reassurance that, if we encounter Christ, we will receive all the strength we need for whatever He calls us to do. It is like going to Confession. We are afraid to go but, afterwards, we are so very glad we did. Pope Francis tells us that we will do far more than merely survive an encounter with Christ. We will go beyond our fears. We will experience joy.

Open Our Eyes, O Lord! Fasting Creates A Hunger For God's Leadings!

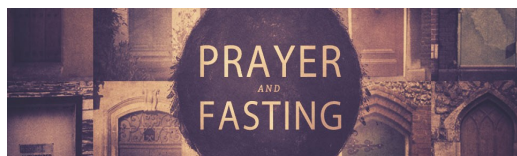
Go & make disciples of all nations...I am with you always, until the end of the world. (Matthew 28:19-20). This was Jesus' final command before he ascended into heaven. In a lot of ways, it sums up his whole ministry~as well as our calling. From the beginning of time, God has always wanted to see the entire world come to Jesus & acknowledge Him as Lord. And so, just before He left us, He entrusted us with His mission. It is now up to us to continue Jesus' work of teaching, preaching, & ministering so that more & more people will come to know Him & His Love. When we look at the way the first Christians accepted Jesus' call, we can see that fasting had an important part to play. So in this article, we want to explore how we can find new energy & focus for our mission as we take up the practice of fasting. From Humble Beginnings. From the beginning, the first disciples were eager to put the Lord's command into practice. But numerous circumstances limited their missionary field to the towns around Jerusalem & Galilee. Ironically, it took a time of persecution for the gospel to move out into the larger, non-

Open Our Eyes, O Lord! Fasting Creates A Hunger For God's Leadings! Cont.

Jewish world. St. Luke tells us that the death of Stephen, the first martyr, a "severe persecution" began against the church in Jerusalem, causing many of the believers to flee the city (Acts 8:1). It is ironic that his persecution became the catalyst for an evangelistic thrust that took the good news into Samaria, Judea, & territories even farther afield. It is even more ironic that it wasn't the twelve apostles who pave the way~even though Jesus had told them to. Rather, it was other people, largely unknown to us, who ended up spreading the gospel in the cities they fled to. These unnamed believers were probably ordinary people like us, everyday men & women without much training in theology or evangelization. But while they may have been lacking in "professional" credentials, they had everything that anyone needs to evangelize: They loved Jesus. For whenever there is a love for Jesus, there is a desire to tell other people about Him. And, whenever there is this love & this desire, there is also the Holy Spirit, bringing His blessing & opening doors for the gospel. The church belongs to Jesus, & He will see to it that.....

Open Our Eyes, O Lord! Cont.

...His Word goes out. He will even use the hardships of life, just as He used persecution in the early church, to move us to share His Gospel. Jesus wants each of us to reach out to offer His Words of Life to a world that is dying in sin. He is asking us the same question He asked the prophet Isaiah: "Whom shall I send, & who will go for us?" And he longs to hear each of us echo Isaiah's answer, "Here I am; Send me!" (Isaiah 6:8). **Hungry for God's Leading.** What does this story of expansion & evangelization in the early church have to do with fasting? It seems that the early apostles themselves fasted—and especially as they sought the Lord's guidance in spreading the Gospel. That's how the leaders of the church in Antioch discerned that God was calling Paul & Barnabas to embark on a deliberate, concentrated missionary journey throughout Asia Minor (Acts 13:1-4). What a contrast to the typical way people make decisions today! The common approach is to use reason & logic, especially when faced with an important choice. It only makes sense to let the facts of a situation discern the path for us. But here at Antioch, the apostles chose to fast so that they could discover God's plans for them. In this, they were putting into practice the words of the psalmist who prayed: "You are my rock & my fortress: for Your Names' sake, lead & guide me. (Ps. 31:4) These men didn't come to this decision lightly either. They brought specific questions & concerns before the Lord as they fasted & prayed: "Jesus told us to make disciples of all nations, but how should we do this? Where should we go? Whom should we send? How will we pay for it? Should we consult the leaders of Jerusalem? What are we hoping to accomplish? Did the elders at Antioch just pray & hope God would answer them? Not at all. Surely they reasoned through the questions & sought creative, practical answers. They probably even disagreed on some points. But they also knew that reason, argument, & discussion were not enough. They knew they needed guidance from the Spirit as well. And, so they fasted & prayed. As they fasted, they felt God was calling them to set aside Paul & Barnabas for the mission. So they placed their hands on the two men & sent them on their way. (Acts. 13:3-4). This was probably the first master plan of the early church & the beginnings of Paul's career as a "master builder." His missionary work—a project that spanned nearly twenty years & saw the founding of churches all over the Mediterranean Basin—all began with this potent combination of prayerful fasting & reasoned discussion. What a key for us as well! As individuals & families, we all face important decisions: "Where should we work? Whom should I marry? Where will we live? What do we hope to do with our children?" In our parishes, we ask: "What should our liturgies look like? How should we care for the needs of our parishioners? What about the poor? What programs of education & evaluation should we take up?" But no matter what decisions we face, one question should always be at the center: "What does God want?" And the best way to answer this question is to follow the example of the first apostles: Make sure you are praying & fasting!



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 February 23, 2017, the St. Elizabeth parish goal is \$26,747.00 with the amount of \$17,515.00 being pledged & the amount of \$16,715.00 being secured. As of February 23, 2017, Our Lady of Lourdes Parish goal is \$6,556.00 with the amount of \$2,460.00 being pledged & the amount of \$2,260.00 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.

Prayer Requests



Please remember the following in your prayers: Robert Birkofer, 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.

Weekly Collection

St. Elizabeth Church

Week Ending Sunday, March 5, 2017

Ash Wednesday-Wed. Mar. 1, 2017 \$585.00

Envelopes: \$3,467.00 Loose: \$719.36

Caritas \$25.00

Give Central 2 @\$80.00

Easter Flowers \$45.00

Building Fund \$80.00 Operation Rice Bowl \$275.00

Church in Central & Eastern Europe \$115.00

Deposit for 03-05-2017 \$5,391.36

Our Lady Of Lourdes Church

Week ending Sunday, March 5, 2017

Envelopes \$1,095.00 Caritas \$10.00

Operation Rice Bowl \$30.00

Easter Flowers \$10.00

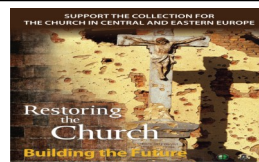
Edith Smith Food Pantry \$51.01

Church in Central & Eastern Europe \$50.00

Building Fund \$40.00 Ash Wednesday \$80.00

Deposit \$1,366.01

Church in Central & Eastern Europe Collection



Thank you for your generous contributions last week to the Collection for the Church in Central and Eastern Europe!