



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

Web Site: 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

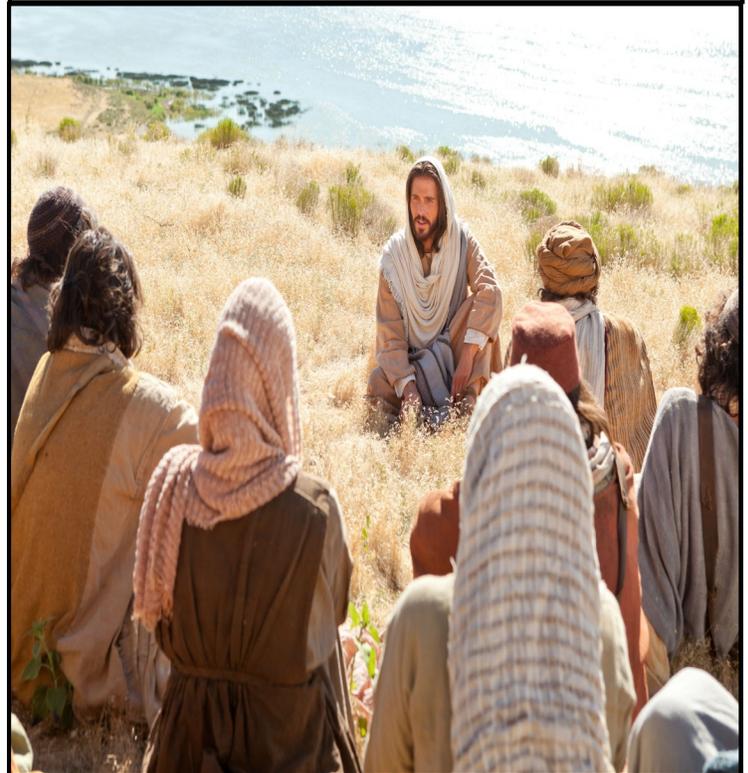
If you are considering marriage, please contact Father Flach no later than 6 months prior to the proposed wedding date and the diocesan and parish guidelines will be explained.

SACRAMENT OF PENANCE

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

Sunday, January 29, 2017

4th Sunday in Ordinary Time



The Beatitudes Matthew 5:1-12

**Blessed are those who
hunger & thirst for
righteousness, for they shall
be filled.
Matthew 5:6**



Mass Intentions

Jan. 28	4:30 pm	Arlene Schutte by Schutte Family
Jan. 29	7:30 am	Special Intentions
	9:00 am	George & Margaret Schalasky By Francis & Anne Schalasky
	10:30 am	For all parishioners by Fr. Flach
Jan. 30	7:30 am	Jim Loy by Anne Loy
Jan. 31	12:05 pm	Arlene Schutte By Randy & Ginny Wendt
	7:30 am	Madonna Kirts by Larry Kirts
Feb. 1	7:30 am	Bernard & Rosalia Hoisington By John & Vicky Hoisington
Feb. 2	7:30 am	Raymond Halter by CCW
	5:30 pm	Francis & Stephen Begley by Francis & Anne Schalasky
Feb. 3	4:30 pm	Howard Rio by Terry & Lynne
First Friday	7:30 am	Roche
OLOL	9:00 am	Special Intentions
Feb. 4	10:30 am	Iouzapou Aidt by F. & A. Schalasky
Feb. 5	10:30 am	For all parishioners by Fr. Flach



Ministry Schedule

Sat., Feb. 4~ Sun. Feb. 5, 2017

Sat. Feb. 4, 2017 4:30 pm St. Elizabeth

LECTOR: Geri Ezell

USHERS: Mike & Susan Emmerich

COMMUNION MIN: Patti Buercklin, Kitty Platt

SERVERS: Eva Hermann, Jared Hermann

GIFTS: Mark Hermann Family

Sun. Feb. 5, 2017 7:30 am St. Elizabeth

LECTOR: Janet Jenkins

USHERS: Clarence Schutte, Randy Schutte

COMMUNION MIN: Chad Arkenberg, Anne Holscher

SERVERS: Sarah Rynke

GIFTS: Kurt Holscher Family

Sun. Feb. 5, 2017 9:00 am Our Lady of Lourdes

LECTOR: Stacie Matson

USHERS: Rod Wilson, Wilmer Wilson

COMMUNION MIN: Keith Matson, Wilmer Wilson

SERVERS: Ethan Matson

GIFTS: Keith Matson Family

Sun. Feb. 5, 2017 10:30 am St. Elizabeth

LECTOR: Roselene Quick

USHERS: Ed & Linda Reis

COMMUNION MIN: Sean & April Sexton

SERVERS: Emily Heidorn, Isabel Heidorn

GIFTS: Matt Hartrich Family

Collection Counters: *January, 2017: Don Brown, Kaye Holscher, Alan Maddox*

PSR & Youth Events

02-01-2017-PSR 6:30 pm- 7:30 pm ACRE TEST 5 & 8
02-05-2017 Senior High Ice Skating & Sky Zone
02-08-2017 PSR 6:30 pm—7:30 pm, 02-12-2017 Junior High Youth, 02-05 & 02-15-2017 PSR 6:30 pm—7:30 pm

Prayer Requests

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

Happy Mardi Gras 2017



HAPPY MARDI GRAS

Join us for the 16th Annual
Crawford County Catholics
Mardi Gras

Saturday, February 25, 2017
6:00 pm – 12:00 am

Quail Creek Country Club

Party tickets are \$25.00 & include 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.

MARDI GRAS NEWS

As of Jan. 24, 2017, out of 1,000 Raffle Tickets, 444 have been sold. We are striving to sell all 1,000 tickets & we need as much help as possible. If you are able, please consider purchasing a ticket or two. There are TWO early bird drawings before Feb. 25. The first early bird drawing will take place at 11:30 am on Sun. Jan. 29, 2017 in the vestibule of the Church. This prize is for \$100.00. The winning tickets will be placed back into the spinner. Let's all try to make sure that this is the year that all 1,000 tickets are sold.

Daily Mass Readings 01/30/17~02/03/17

Mon. Jan. 30, 2017 Reading 1 Heb. 11:32-40

Gospel Mk. 5:1-20, Tues. Jan. 31, 2017 Reading 1 Heb. 12:1-4

Gospel Mk. 5:21-43, Wed. Feb. 1, 2017 Reading 1

Heb. 12:4-7,11-15, Gospel Mk. 6:1-6, Thurs. Feb. 2, 2017

Reading 1 Mal. 3:1-4, Reading 2 Heb. 2:14-18, Gospel Luke 2:22-40 or 2:22-32, Fri. Feb. 3, 2017 Reading 1 Heb. 13:1-8

Gospel Mk. 6:14-29



Please remember to attend weekly Mass

Fr. Flach Scriptural Reflections for The Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time

The Scribes were a very revered group of men. They were the authorized biblical scholars of Jesus' day. It was their task to read & interpret the Scriptures & then create rules & laws for everyday living. When necessary, as people broke these rules & laws, the Scribes would also act as judges. If no rule or law covered a situation brought before them, they would debate & then make a rule for the situation. These rules were expected to be memorized by students wishing to become Scribes.

When sitting in judgement or when asked for an official opinion, the Scribes would begin, "There is a teaching that says..." The Scribes would footnote everything & refer to every Scripture passage necessary to give authority to their opinion.

The Temple was the place for worship & sacrifice. In the synagogue, however, in addition to praying, people read & discussed the Scriptures. So, while the synagogue was a place of prayer, it was also a place of learning. There was an individual in charge, & it was his role to ask any competent male to speak about the Scripture just read. At the beginning of Jesus' mission to announce the Kingdom, Mark places Jesus in the synagogue in Capernaum where it is Jesus who is asked to speak.

Jesus did not begin by saying "There is a teaching that says..." nor did He provide footnotes from the Law of the Prophets. Jesus said, "What I say to you is..." No man had this kind of authority to teach on his own! Even the Scribes, the highest of authorities, relied on someone or something else. While taken aback by that, the next incident left the onlookers absolutely thunderstruck.

It was the belief of the Jews that if you knew a person's name you had a type of control over them. Teachers know this to be true. Calling a child's name gains more control than saying, "Hey, you!" The Jewish idea of control ran a bit deeper. The unclean spirit revealed that it knew who Jesus was. This implied that the spirit would have power over Jesus, but Jesus rebuked the unclean spirit & ordered it to leave-which it did. This was an unusual display of authority. Jesus preached on His own authority, & even the unclean spirit, although it knew who Jesus was, had no power over Him!

As we are still at the beginning of our Church year & just beginning to explore the person of Jesus in the Gospel of Mark, we might well ask what authority we give Jesus in our lives versus how much authority we try to retain for ourselves.

Jesus taught primarily by action. We do not know what He taught in the synagogue that day, but we do know what He did. We might well ask what we teach by our actions. Every person who sees us & our behavior is our student. Everyone studies us. So, what are we teaching? What do our children learn from or behavior? What do our spouses learn? What do our friends learn? What do our coworkers learn?

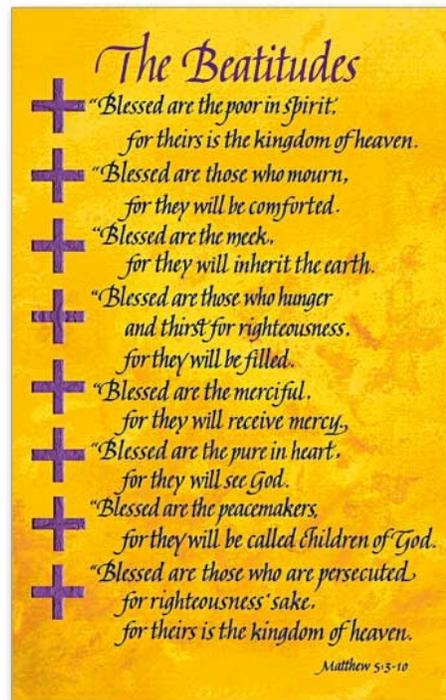
Two weeks ago we heard from Paul that as we grow in our spirituality we begin to shape our lives & behaviors around our awareness of God. God is the ultimate authority, so does the shaping of our behavior reveal that we have given Him authority over us? Or, do we try to become an authority unto ourselves? Paul's passage today from 1 Corinthians sounds a bit strange, especially to married couples. Paul is clearly giving some preference to celibacy for the unmarried & those who are widowed. Why? Paul, as did most of the first Christians, early on believed that Jesus would return within their lifetime. Most of us have pondered what we do if we knew the end was coming soon. Paul answered the question: stay focused on holiness, that is, on Christ. Paul is not making marriage second best to celibacy, rather he is saying to stay as focused as you can on Christ. It is not that marriage distracts couples from Christ; it is that marriage requires spouses to pay attention to each other, & they should.

Deuteronomy tells us that we must listen to those who speak for God, yet we often shut out those who do speak for God. We do not pick up the Bible to discover what God teaches. We often completely ignore the Church on matters of faith & morals. The truth is that we do not like being told what to do. We must struggle to give God's teaching authority. We cannot harden our hearts. We must learn to listen to Christ with a humble heart & form our lives around Him in such a way that our actions teach the way of faith.

Spiritual Reflection on the Eight Beatitudes

The sole end of man is to be happy, & Jesus Christ came only to give us the means of being so. The source of all good is to place happiness where it ought to be; & the source of all evil is to place it where it ought not to be. Suppose, then, we have said, "I wish to be happy," we have next to see how we may become so: to see in what end happiness consists, & what are the means of obtaining it.

Now, we shall find the end set forth in each one of the eight Beatitudes, for eternal happiness is the subject of them all, but described by various names. Thus, in the first it appears as a kingdom, in the second as the promised land, in the third as true & perfect consolation, & in the fourth as the fulfilment of all our longings. In the fifth, we find it as the final act of mercy that shall free us from every evil & bestow on us every good. In the sixth it is named by its true name, which is the vision of God. In the seventh it is set forth as the seal set on our adoption; & in the eighth, once more as the Kingdom of Heaven. Here, then we have the end throughout; but as there are several means, each Beatitude proposes one of these to us, whilst all of them together must bring about man's final happiness.



First Friday of the Month Mass OLOL

First Friday of the Month Mass at OLOL on Friday, February 3, 2017 at 5:30 pm.

Pastoral Council Meeting

There will be a Pastoral Council Meeting on Tuesday, February 7, 2017 at 6:00 pm. We will be meeting at OLOL this month.

Finance Council Meetings



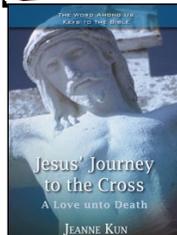
There will be a Finance Council meeting at St. Elizabeth Parish Hall on Tuesday, February 14, 2017 at 6:00 pm.
There will be a Finance Council Meeting at Our Lady Of Lourdes Parish Hall on Tuesday, February 21, 2017

Chili—Cookoff

Our Parishes, St. Elizabeth's & Our Lady Of Lourdes' have planned the "2017 Chili Cook-Off" to take place on Sun. Feb. 12, 2017 between 3:00 pm to 5:00 pm at Our Lady Of Lourdes Parish Hall, Oblong, Illinois. Competitors are invited to register with Jeff Mueller. Telephone Number: 713-264-1601 or email: jmueller28@yahoo.com. Registration fee of \$10.00 with 4 quarts of chili from competitors & a free will donation from the "hungry" would be appreciated. Come & enjoy!



Bible Study News



As you know, our first session for our Bible Study is on Mon. Feb. 20 from 6:00 pm to 7:00 pm. Fr. Flach will give you the resource Jesus' Journey to the Cross-A Love unto Death, at the first class. At the first session, Fr. Flach will explain the resource. If you have not already provided payment for the resource, you may do it that evening. I am sincerely grateful for your interest. God bless you!

STRIVING TO LIVE THE VIRTIOUS LIFE

St. Alphonsus Maria de Liguori (1696-1787) was a man of many accomplishments. Ordained to the priesthood at the age of thirty, he was a tireless preacher of the Word of God, a popular writer on theological & spiritual topics, & the founder of the Congregation of the Most Holy Redeemer (the Redemptorists). His greatest accomplishments was his ability to preach the Gospel & explain Catholic spiritual direction. In the truest sense of the phrase, he was a pastor of souls. He considered the moral virtues, many & varied as they are, as gifts that enable us to shape our conscious behavior according to the Law of God as revealed to us by Jesus.

In his usual characteristic fashion, St. Alphonsus proposed a practical plan that could help ordinary people grow in their imitation of Christ. He recommended the practice of the "virtue of the month"; the idea of highlighting a different key virtue & giving special attention to that virtue in one's reading, reflection, prayer, & daily faith life. The important point is that the Christian virtues are not theoretical constructs to be admired, but practical gifts to be used in living a Christian life.

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 December 20, 2016, the St. Elizabeth Parish Goal is \$26,747.00 with the amount of \$16,415.00 being pledged and the amount of \$14,315.00 being secured. As of December 20, 2016, Our Lady of Lourdes Parish Goal is \$6,556.00 with the amount of \$2,190.00 being pledged and the amount of \$1,680.00 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, January 22, 2017
Envelopes: \$1,900.00 Loose: \$285.00 Caritas \$50.00
Give Central \$80.00 Catholic Times \$30.00
Building Fund \$65.00
Church in Latin America \$420.00
First Offering \$10.00
Total Church Offerings Deposit \$ 2,840.00

Our Lady Of Lourdes Church
No envelopes yet for 01-15-2017
Envelopes week ending Sunday, January 22, 2017
Envelopes \$405.00 Catholic Times \$15.00
Loose \$69.01
Church in Latin America \$130.00
Total Church Offerings Deposit \$619.01



Give Central

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.