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”

Pastor: Reverend Aloysius Okey Ndeanaefo

PASTORAL STAFF
Secretary:  Halena Estep
Youth and Religious Education Coordinator: Courtney Ferris
Parish Outreach Volunteer: Eileen Hartrich
Custodial Care:  Lori & Adam Davis, Our Lady of Lourdes
Custodial Care:  Katrena Burton, St. Elizabeth
Music Director: Chris Jansen, St. Elizabeth

OFFICE HOURS
Monday—Friday: 8:00 am—4:00 pm
Parish Office
Closed for lunch:  12:00 pm - 1:00 pm

MASS SCHEDULE
Daily Mass at St. Elizabeth:
Tuesday - 12:05 pm
Wednesday—Friday: 7:30 am
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

PARISH REGISTRATION
New parishioners are always welcome!
You may register in person or by calling the Parish Center.

SACRAMENT OF PENANCE
Saturdays at St. Elizabeth 3:45 pm
Or by appointment

BAPTISMS
Please contact the Parish Center for registration and reservation.

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

ANOINTING OF THE SICK
Parishioners who are seriously or critically ill or having surgery, please contact Father Aloy.

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.
Mass Intentions

Dec. 5 4:30 pm  Judy Smolinski by Eileen Hartrich  For Roberta Bohman & all parishioners
Dec. 6 7:30 am  Roger & Helen Fabris by Val & Kaye Pescatore
9:00 am  James Frank Myers & Michelle Anne Myers by Katrena Burton
10:30 am  St. Elizabeth IMMACULATE CONCEPTION OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY
Dec. 7 5:30 pm  Lloyd Shook by Anonymous  IMMACULATE CONCEPTION OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY
Dec. 8 12:05 pm  Mike & Judy Smolinski by Keith & Patti Buercklin
7:30 am  William & Margaret Brown
9:00 am  Mary Ann Tracy by George & Jane Brown
10:30 am  Charles Parkhurst from Parkhurst Family
Dec. 9 7:30 am  Perry & Jamie Ping by Ping Family
Dec. 10 7:30 am  Mary Ann Tracy by George & Jane Brown
Dec. 11 7:30 am  Charles Parkhurst from Parkhurst Family
Dec. 12 4:30 pm  Charles Parkhurst from Joe & Carole Hepner
Dec. 13 7:30 am  Helen & Roger Fabris by Val & Kaye Pescatore
9:00 am  For all parishioners by Fr. Aloy

December 12-13, 2015

4:30 pm  LECTOR: Mary Jo Bonham
USHERS:  Mark Grimm, Dennis Carroll
COMMUNION MIN:  Karen Sanders, Jack & Marylin Stanley
SERVERS: Ty Mullins, Abby Mullins
+Owen Schmidt
GIFTS: Mullins Family

7:30 am  LECTOR: Dave Holscher
USHERS: Kathy Harris, Carol Zellars
COMMUNION MIN: Mike & Jona Uptmor, Mike Dorn
SERVERS: Matthew Jenkins, David Jenkins
GIFTS: Carol & Joe Hepner

9:00 am  LECTOR: Val Pescatore
USHERS: Jerry & Sarah Ping
COMMUNION MIN: Keith & Rita Wirey
SERVERS: J. Hermann
GIFTS: Davis Family

10:30 am  LECTOR: Geri Ezell
USHERS: Karen Free, Dennis Carroll
COMMUNION MIN: Sean & April Sexton, Roselene Quick
SERVERS: Joe Quick, Gerardo Rios, + M. Pujel
GIFTS: Ron & Janet Mitchell

Collection Counters: December, 2015
Ellen Rees, Kaye Pescatore, Don Brown

Please remember the following in your prayers:
Patti Ackerman, Theresa Bowen, Kevin Boyd, Jane Brown, Lori Brown, Roger Burton, Bobbie Cheesman, Ben Curtis, Ron Dhom, Pastor Sheila Ducommon, Linda Dudine, Daniel Ferguson, Jason Genta, Debbie Goodwin, Jeanie H., Pat Hanson, Debbie Henry, Judy Hester, Betty Boyd Hippler, Jared Holmes, Charlie Hryniewicz, MaDonna Kirts, Kimberly Knapp, Jordyn Koester, Donna McIntire, Rick McKinley, Grover Michl, Bill Meirink, Danny Miller, Sam Mitchell, Val Pescatore, Brice Reed & family, Mary Rogers, Pete Rosenski, Arlene Schutte, Marian Scott, Billy Skaggs, John Skaggs, Linda Sparks, John Steidelin, Linda Wedge-Stephens, Mike & Isabella & Nolan Stephens, Pamela Stephenson, Terry Stevens, Nolan (Butch) Stewart, Linda Stewart, Cherie Stewart, Bertha Taylor, James Tyler, Mark Wagner, Becky VanSchoyck, Ginny Varner, Zachariah Waxler, Shari Weber, Bill Wilson and all the men & women in the armed forces.

Judy Smolinski by Eileen Hartrich
For Roberta Bohman & all parishioners

PSR on Wed. Dec. 9, 2015 at 6:30 pm.

If someone you know suffers because of an experience with abortion, please encourage him or her to talk to a priest or contact a Project Rachel volunteer at 1-877-RACHEL-5. Pray that many will seek and receive the gift of God’s infinite mercy. Safe, supportive, confidential gathering of post-abortion women, 1st Tues. of the Month at 7:00 pm, Springfield Right to Life (323 E. Monroe St.). Come break the silence and heal from the wounds of your experience.

Please remember to attend weekly Mass

Geri Ezell (544-7910) or Patti Buercklin (544-8704).
Baruch served as scribe to the great prophet Jeremiah. Like his prophet-mentor, Baruch would have seen firsthand the sad decline of the kingdom of Judah. Years of sin and ignorance led to exile for the people and the destruction of Jerusalem. But in the book that bears his name, Baruch says things have changed. A repentant nation offers a sincere prayer, asking for God's mercy (Bar 1:15–3:8). In this reading, the people hear God's response.

Like a grieving mother, the city of Jerusalem once wore robes of mourning for her children far away in Babylon. Now Baruch invites the city to replace those drab robes with colorful festive garments. But these are no ordinary robes. They are of a spiritual fabric, exhibiting God's glory. Such glory is always associated with the marvelous things God does for salvation. The return of God's people from exile is certainly one such marvelous thing. Baruch further invites Jerusalem, wearing her fine robes, to look east. In the distance, she will see her children rejoicing as God leads them home.

Years earlier, the people were led away “on foot” to their place of exile. Now they are carried “aloft in glory” like kings and queens on elevated royal thrones. The road back to the Promised Land is level and smooth. God has removed the mountains and the depths, symbols of now-discarded human pride and ignorance. The people are much wiser than before; they look to God for security. They enjoy the protection of God, like shade from fragrant trees.

Today's Gospel begins with a lengthy and somewhat awkward recitation of the names of political and religious leaders. A careful examination of the names and the locations with which they are associated manifests serious historical discrepancies. Lk, however, is not interested in the historical accuracy of his list. He is interested in setting a historical tone, a framework within which to hear and understand salvation history. The saving actions of God did not happen in a vacuum far removed from the religious and political life of the world. Salvation history is intimately connected with world history.

The person chosen to announce this advent of God’s saving activity was John the Baptist. His call came in the wilderness, the place of challenge and purification, the place where Israel had journeyed for decades before being allowed to enter the Promised Land. In many ways, this reference to the desert indicates a new beginning for a reconstituted Israel. John’s mission is to proclaim and administer a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins. This is not the same as Christian Baptism, a rite of initiation administered by the Church. John’s baptism was an act of prophetic symbolism. It pointed to the reality of God’s forgiveness and a renewed allegiance to God’s will. Included in this was also a sense of urgency.

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**Year of Mercy Pilgrimage to the Holy Land**

Year of Mercy Pilgrimage to the Holy Land - Pope Francis has called for a year of mercy beginning on December 8, 2015. Our Holy Father suggests a pilgrimage as a way to live this holy year. [www.dio.org/missions/mission-trips.html](http://www.dio.org/missions/mission-trips.html).

**JUBILEE YEAR OF MERCY** The Extraordinary Jubilee Year of Mercy begins on 08 December 2015. This most helpful year will help us explore ways to continue to be merciful like the Father. Begin pondering right now, “how does this parish, how does this city manifest mercy.”

**National Night of Prayer**

Join in the National Night of Prayer for Life – Dec. 8-9, 2015, 9:00 p.m.-1:00 a.m. The National Night of Prayer for Life bridges the Feast of the Immaculate Conception with the Feast of St. Juan Diego to honor Our Blessed Mother and to pray for the sanctity of all human life. Event locations include: Blessed Sacrament Parish, Springfield; Holy Family, Granite City; and The Newman Catholic Center, St Philip Neri Chapel, EIU, Charleston.

**Parish Christmas Party**

The Parish Christmas Party will be on Sat. Dec. 12, 2015 from 5:30 pm to 7:30 pm at the Parish Hall. We will be having a meal catered in by Kaye Holscher. We will be having roast pork with gravy, turkey, mashed potatoes, noodles, dressing and rolls. The Parish is asked to bring a side dish for names beginning with A-M and a dessert, last names beginning with N-Z. Drinks & table service will be provided.

**Effingham Deanery Pilgrimage**

In honor of the Year of Divine Mercy, you are cordially invited to the Effingham Deanery Pilgrimage starting at Immaculate Conception Church, 320 N. 21st St., Mattoon. It will be held Sun. Dec. 13, 2015, at 3:44 pm with a Holy Hour and Sacrament of Reconciliation, and followed by a social hour.

**Retirement Fund For Religious**

The Retirement Fund For Religious Collection will be on Sun. Dec. 13, 2015. This collection is for the aging religious senior Catholic sisters, brothers & religious order priests. Please give to those who have given a lifetime. Thank you.

**Parish Office Closings**

The Parish Office will be closing at 12 noon on Thurs. Dec. 24 to celebrate the Christmas Day Holiday on Fri. Dec. 25. Also, will be closing on Thurs. Dec. 31st at 12 noon to celebrate the New Year’s Day Holiday Fri. Jan. 1, 2016.

**Catholic Children’s Home Collection**


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**Annual Catholic Services Appeal**

The 2015 ACSA Parish Goals for St. Elizabeth

The goal for St. Elizabeth is $19,666.00

$13770.00 paid out of $16,770.00 pledged amount.

Balance $3,000.00 of the pledged amt.

The 2015 ACSA Parish Goals for Our Lady of Lourdes

The goal for Our Lady of Lourdes is $2,873.00

$1,305.00 paid out of $1,945.00 pledged amount.

$640.00 balance of the pledged amt.

**Updated 11-23-2015**

**Liturical Ministry Contacts**

St. Elizabeth Parish

Readers: Eileen Hartrich 544-8251

Servers: Father Aloy 544-7526

Art & Environment: Robb Sparks 546-5606

Usher: Ron Mitchell

Our Lady of Lourdes

Eucharistic Ministers and Ushers: Keith Wirey 592-4179

Music & Liturgy: Dorla Shook 592-3893

Servers: Father Aloy 544-7526

**Weekly Collection**

St. Elizabeth Church

Week ending November 29, 2015

Envelopes $1,512.00 Loose $214.00

Online 1@$50.00 Christmas Flowers $55.00

Caritas $20.00

DDL Sisters Donation $640.50 (this came out of Total Deposit)

Total Deposit $1,851.00

Our Lady of Lourdes

Week ending November 29, 2015

Envelopes $ 580.00 Loose $64.00

Christmas Flowers $65.00

DDL Sisters Donation $196.00

Total Deposit: $905.00

**Advent Mass Schedule Special Services**

St. Elizabeth

Wed. Dec. 16, 2015 - Christmas Penance Service at 6:00 pm

Thurs. Dec. 24, 2015 - Christmas Eve Mass 10:00 pm

Fri. Dec. 25, 2015 - Christmas Day Mass at 9:00 am

Fri. Jan. 1, 2015 - New Year’s Day Mass at 9:00 am

Our Lady of Lourdes

Thurs. Dec. 17, 2015 - Christmas Penance Service 6:00 pm

Thurs. Dec. 24, 2015 - Vigil Mass at 7:00 pm

Thurs. Dec. 31, 2015 - Vigil Mass at 5:30 pm