



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



## CATHOLIC PARISH CENTER

207 E. Walnut, Robinson, IL 62454

Phone Number: (618) 544-7526

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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 Hartrich Cooper

Director of Religious Education: Courtney Ferris

Custodial Care: Katrena Burton, 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

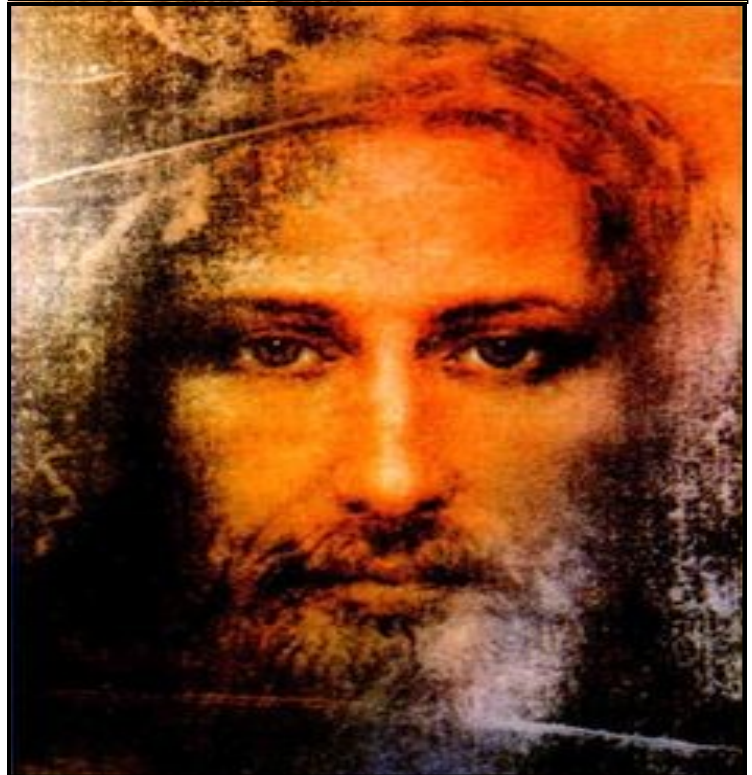
If you are considering marriage, please contact Father Flach no later than 6 months prior to the proposed wedding date and the diocesan and parish guidelines will be explained.

#### SACRAMENT OF PENANCE

Saturdays at St. Elizabeth 3:45 pm or by appointment

## Sunday , November 20 2016

## Our Lord Jesus Christ King of the Universe



Story found in Luke 23:35-43

**“If You are the  
King of the Jews,  
save yourself.”**

Luke 23:37

The New American Bible



## Mass Intentions

Sat. Nov. 19	4:30 pm	Loretta Holscher by the Holscher Family
Sun. Nov. 20	7:30 am	Arlene Schutte by the Schutte Family
	9:00 am	Onanna Pearl Harris by Keith & Rita Wirey
	10:30am	Joe & Henrietta Stein by George & Jane Bohman
Mon. Nov. 21	7:30 am	Jennifer Diane Rich by Tom Huss
Tues. Nov. 22	12:05 pm	Special Intentions
Wed. Nov. 23	7:30 am	Madonna Kirts by Jeff & Linda Rich
Thurs. Nov. 24 <i>Thanksgiving Day Mass St. Elizabeth</i>	9:00 am	Mary Beth Huss Culler by Tom Huss
Fri. Nov. 25	7:30 am	Norm Andersen by Karen Sanders
Sat. Nov. 26	4:30 pm	Special Intentions by Keith & Patti Buercklin
Sun. Nov. 27	7:30 am	Charles Parkhurst by Donna Parkhurst & Family
	9:00 am	Special Intentions
	10:30 am	For all parishioners by Fr. Flach
	10:30 am	



## Ministry Schedule

Sat. Nov. 26 ~ Sun. Nov. 27, 2016

Sat. Nov. 26, 2016 4:30 pm St. Elizabeth  
**LECTOR:** Karen Sanders  
**USHERS:** Terry & Lynne Roche  
**COMMUNION MIN:** Linda Reis  
 Celeste White  
**SERVERS:** Anthony Tran, Liam Wirey, Kifer Stevens  
**GIFTS:** Khai Tran Family

Sun. Nov. 27, 2016 7:30 am St. Elizabeth  
**LECTOR:** Shari Eckert  
**USHERS:** Mike & Jona Uptmor  
**COMMUNION MIN:** Joe Hepner, Phyllis Inboden  
**SERVERS:** Jacob Eckert  
**GIFTS:** Clarence Schutte Family

Sun. Nov. 27, 2016 9:00 am Our Lady of Lourdes  
**LECTOR:** Keith Wirey  
**USHERS:** Don & Sharon Fitzmaurice  
**COMMUNION MIN:** Jim & Nancy Ping  
**SERVERS:** Kayla Matson  
**GIFTS:** Jerry & Sarah Ping

Sun. Nov. 27, 2016 10:30 am St. Elizabeth  
**LECTOR:** Josh Quick  
**USHERS:** Karen Free, Roselene Quick  
**COMMUNION MIN:** Teresa Gower, Roselene Quick  
**SERVERS:** Emily Heirdorn, Isabel Heidorn  
**GIFTS:** Doug Heidorn Family

Collection Counters: November, 2016-*Ione Lopiccolo, Carol Wong, Karen Reinhoehl*



## Prayer Requests

Please remember the following in your prayers:  
 Lori Brown, Renee Craig, Judy Eckert, Geri Ezell, Logan Inboden, Bill Meirink, Dorla Shook, Sharon Skaggs, Vickie Wilson & all the men & women in the armed forces.



## PSR & Youth Events

No PSR on Wed. Nov. 23, 2016.  
5<sup>th</sup> Grade Social—meets at Gower's House on Sun. Nov. 20, 2016 at 5:00 pm to 6:30 pm. Uprising & Men's Group—Sun. Nov. 20, 2016 from 6:30 pm-9:00 pm will pack NOW Thanksgiving sacks. On 11/30, 12/7 and 12/14 Father Flach will be having an Advent Service in the "big room" of the Parish Center for ALL PSR classes and teachers. Parents are encouraged to attend. This will begin at 6:30 pm on each of these evenings.

### PSR Parents

Please refrain from dropping your children off at the front door of the Parish Center & then driving off. ALL CHILDREN are to be escorted into the building to ensure the safety and protection of all children. Thanks for helping us to prevent a serious accident.



## MANY HEARTFELT THANKS

Special thanks to the SENIOR HIGH YOUTH GROUP & some of their parents who helped to decorate the outside of St. Elizabeth Church with the Advent Candles, the Angels, & the Christmas garland. We are so appreciative of your efforts & so glad you are such an important part of our Parish. God bless you!



## HAPPY THANKSGIVING TO EACH OF YOU!



### Be Thankful

Be thankful that you don't already have everything you desire. If you did, what would there be to look forward to? Be thankful when you don't know everything, for it gives you the opportunity to learn. Be thankful for the difficult time. During those times you grow. Be thankful for your limitations, because they give you opportunities for improvement. Be thankful for each new challenge because it will build your strength & character. Be thankful for your mistakes. They will teach you valuable lessons. Be thankful when you're tired & weary, because it means you've made a difference. It's easy to be thankful for the good things. A life of rich fulfillment comes to those who are also thankful for the setbacks. Gratitude can turn a negative into a positive. Find a way to be thankful for your troubles, & they can become your blessings. -Author Unknown-

### OUR THANKSGIVING PRAYER

Good & gracious God, we come before You today united with all who give You thanks & praise. Fill us with gratitude for Your many blessings, both physical & spiritual. We thank You in particular this day for the gifts of food & family. Bless this food, Lord, that it may nourish our bodies. Bless our family, especially those who can not be with us today. Also, today, we remember those of our family who have gone to be with You. Grant us Your spiritual blessings & help us pray daily for the grace to serve You in response to Your bountiful blessings & graces. We ask this through Your Son, our Lord Jesus Christ, who lives & reigns with you now & forever. Amen.

Please remember to attend weekly Mass

# Fr. Flach Scriptural Reflections for the Feast of Christ Our King

*"Who among us is worthy of grace? We are more like thieves who hung next to Jesus than we are like Jesus."* Nancy Lynne Westfield in *Feasting on the Word*.

Bjornstjerne Bjornson, who won the 1903 Nobel Prize in Literature, is considered one of the four greatest Norwegian writers. Like many writers, Bjornson was very political. Once he so aroused the anger of the Norwegian Parliament that many of its members accused him of not being loyal to his country. He so inflamed Parliament that some of its members went to Bjornson's home to protest & to smash his windows. Feeling patriotic for what they had done to someone they considered a traitor, the protestors left Bjornson's house loudly singing the national anthem. Bjornson smiled as the angry members of Parliament marched away. They had evidently forgotten that it was Bjornson who had written the lyrics of their national anthem.

One of Luke's favorite techniques was the use of irony. Scholars usually refer to Luke's use of irony as his "Great Reversal." In story after story about Our Lord's teaching, Luke presents Jesus as beginning his teaching or parables with putting people's assumptions about God in a good light only to show them completely wrong by the end of the story.

A sign proclaiming the crime of a condemned man was always placed on a cross. We know that Pilate instructed the executions to put the sign, "This is the King of the Jews" on Jesus' cross as the description of Jesus' crime. The irony is that the sin was correct. Luke drives home the irony by describing how the rulers sneered & the soldiers jeered at Jesus. The worse came as another condemned man hanging on his own cross reviled Jesus. To prove that Jesus was completely powerless & not a king, that criminal sarcastically requested that Jesus save him & the others. Luke showed that Jesus' degradation was complete when another condemned criminal made fun of Him even as he, too was being put to death. We see the innocence of Jesus hanging next to complete depravity.

We see the contrast in the second criminal who, in admitting his own guilt, recognized the complete innocence of Jesus. Further, unlike the first criminal, he did not ask for Jesus to save him. He asked only to be remembered by Jesus. Who are we in this story? Are we in any way guilty of mocking Jesus? Of course we will say, "Absolutely not!" but we do not have to say it when our actions speak more loudly. The easiest example is when we have been guilty of mocking or jeering or being sarcastic with a person who did not deserve it. Spreading false gossip that

wrongly harms an innocent person is a participation in the sins of Pilate, the rulers, the soldiers & the first criminal.

Luke's great love of irony allowed Jesus to challenge our assumptions about God & about our own righteousness. His whole purpose in writing was to make clear to the people of his day-& to us-who that King really is; we must know who He is, for if we do not, we cannot possibly be true disciples.

The second criminal actually became a model of discipleship. He acknowledged his guilt & his unworthiness to approach Jesus with a request to save him. Even though the criminal did not ask Jesus to save him, his recognition of Jesus' innocence & the sin in his own life made it possible for Jesus to save him & to freely offer him a place in Paradise anyway.

Paradise is a word brought back from exile in Babylon. It was the hunting grounds of the king, a place only the king & those whom the king invited could go. We have a King who invites us to His Paradise. The rulers & soldiers had heard Jesus' claims of salvation, claims they mocked by saying, "If you are the one, then save yourself!" They had looked at salvation only in terms of physical salvation. For them, salvation would be the perpetuation of human existence. NO wonder they taunted by saying, "Go ahead, Jesus, save yourself. Let us see you come down from that cross! Let us see you live!" The irony is that Jesus did have salvation to offer, just not the salvation that they expected.

Jesus offered something totally unexpected. Today, we are called to a discipleship that acknowledges the King of the Universe for who He is, & in humility to accept the invitation to Paradise that we do not deserve but is offered to us anyway.

## Christmas Choir



The Choir will be singing at the 4:00 pm mass on Christmas Eve. New choir members are of course welcome. We will be practicing on Sunday mornings during Advent from 9:00 am-10:00 am. We will begin practices on Nov. 27, 2016.

## LOL First Friday of the Month Mass

The First Friday of the Month Mass will be on Fri., Dec. 2, 2016 at 5:30 pm at Our Lady of Lourdes.



## Christmas Parish Dinner

The Pastoral Council of St. Elizabeth & Our Lady Of Lourdes Parish is coordinating the Christmas Dinner & the members are happy to invite you to be present. The menu for our Christmas Dinner will be turkey, pork roast, mashed potatoes, dressing, green beans. Please bring a salad or dessert. The entertainment for our dinner will be the Oblong High School Chorus under the direction of Sara Boehl & they will be singing both religious & festive seasonal songs. Santa will be making an appearance with a special gift for each child. There will be an ornament exchange.

If you are interested in participating in this, please bring a Christmas ornament to exchange. It is the hope & prayer of all the members of the Pastoral Council that all of the members of our Parishes will feel warmly welcomed & that you will be present. If you are unable to come, you will be missed. Please check your calendars for SUN. DEC. 4, 2016 AT 4:00 PM.

## Advent Nursing Home Project

At this time of year, mailboxes are filled with requests for many "worthy causes". Your participation is encouraged in our Parish Advent "Nursing Home Project". Our Parishes will provide Christmas gifts to residents of three Crawford County nursing homes. These residents have little or no family & their wish lists consists of simple necessities. By your generosity, they will know that they are loved & remembered. Through your acts of kindness, their Christmas will be filled with love, joy & peace.

If you wish to participate, please take a heart ornament from the tree located in the front of the Church. Purchase the items & return the unwrapped gift & tag to the Church (weekends) or the Parish Center (weekdays during office hours) before Wed. Dec. 14, 2016. It is very important that all gifts & tags be returned by that date. If you are making a clothing purchase, please keep in mind that these are elderly residents who may need assistance with their daily routine. Any cash donations will be used to purchase gift bags & boxes & any other needed items.

Gifts will be wrapped & delivered before Christmas. For more information or questions, contact Geri Ezell, (544-7910) or Patti Buercklin, (544-8704).

Will you consider sharing your blessings & reach out to someone in love this Advent Season?

Thank you for your continued support & generosity for this Project. May your days be blessed & filled with the peace of Christ.

**Holy Day of Obligation ~  
The Sacred Feast Of The Immaculate Conception of the  
Blessed Virgin Mary**



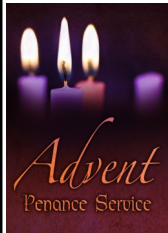
Feast of the Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary in the first instance of her conception, by a singular privilege and grace granted by GOD, in view of the merits of Jesus Christ, the Savior of the human race, was preserved from all stain of original sin....

**Why do we celebrate this holy day in honor of the Blessed Virgin Mary? What does this special feast teach us? What are we to learn spiritually from this solemnity honoring the Mother of Jesus, the Son of God? Through this Solemnity, the Church reminds us of God's tremendous love for us in making it possible for Jesus to**

**enter our humanity through the chosen vessel of the Blessed Virgin Mary. Christians reasoned that the Son of God could not enter the world through something or someone touched by Original Sin. A perfect nature cannot be born from someone touched by a sinful nature. Today, we do not so much celebrate the Blessed Virgin Mary as we celebrate that God did something that made salvation possible. All of this, however, is about an act of God. What about today? When we received the Sacrament of Baptism, through the anointing with the oil of chrism & Baptism & the pouring of the Holy Water over our foreheads, we received the gift of Sanctifying Grace which brings to us the saving action of Christ thus freeing us from the effects of Original sin. Given to the Blessed Virgin Mary even prior to her conception, it allowed Mary to be born untouched by sin & left her open to constantly choose God's Will. On this Feast of the Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary, we celebrate that receiving this grace ourselves through Baptism, we have a power within us to defeat evil & to usher in grace & blessings. This feast teaches us what Mary could do by grace. Today's celebration reminds us of our own potential to foster God's Love in our everyday lives. We can be channels of goodness & light.**

**The Holy Sacrifice of the Mass for the Feast of the Immaculate Conception will be celebrated on  
Wed. Dec. 7, 2016 at 5:30 pm at Our Lady Of Lourdes Church &  
on Thurs. Dec. 8, 2016 at 7:30 am & 6:00 pm in St. Elizabeth Church.  
God bless you!**

**Advent Penance Service**



This holy & sacred season of ADVENT is a time of spiritual reflection & preparation as we ready our hearts through sacrifice, prayer, generosity, & contrition. This sacred season before the birth of Jesus is a perfect opportunity to consider those choices & decisions that we have freely made in which we have turned away from God seeking our own desires & will. Even though confession or

**celebrating the SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION is not some action that most of us look forward to, it is of the utmost importance because in order to ask God for His faithful & merciful forgiveness within our hearts for the rebirth of the miracle of love, we need to begin anew in our relationship with God as well as strive to love & be merciful in the Spirit of God's Presence & Grace. St. Elizabeth Parish & Our Lady of Lourdes Parish will celebrate ADVENT RECONCILIATION SERVICE on Mon. Dec. 12, 2016 at 6:00 pm in St. Elizabeth Church. There will be 2 priests hearing confessions that evening. Father Ron Hilt from St. Mary's in Paris will be here to help Father Flach.**

**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 November 9, 2016, the St. Elizabeth Parish goal is \$26,747.00 with the amount of \$12,460.00 being pledged & the amount of \$10,310.00 being secured. As of November 9, 2016, the Our Lady Of Lourdes parish goal is \$6,556.00 with the amount of \$1,730.00 being pledged & the amount of \$1,310.00 being secured. Sincere thanks to all those parishioners who have already participated in this important & necessary fundraiser for the Diocese & may God bless you for your devoted & 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, Nov. 13, 2016  
Envelopes: \$ 2,972.00 Loose: \$ 329.15  
Online Thru Give Central 2 @\$80.00 Caritas \$30.00  
Building Fund \$90.00 All Saints Day \$7.00 All Souls Day \$30.00  
Christmas Flowers \$20.00  
Total Church Offerings Deposit \$ 3,558.15  
CCW \$100.00 Arlene Schutte Memorial  
Total Arlene Schutte Memorial to date: \$8,185.00

**Our Lady Of Lourdes Church**  
Week Ending Sunday, Nov. 13, 2016  
Envelopes \$510.00 Loose \$39.00 Caritas \$15.00  
Total Deposit \$564.00 God Bless You.



**Give Central Online Donations**

To give online, go to the Church website & click on DONATE. You can give to what donation you choose. All monies go directly to St. Elizabeth.



**Daily Mass Readings 11-21-16/11-25-16**

Mon. Nov. 21, 2016 Reading 1 Rev. 14:1-3, 4B-5  
Gospel Luke 21:1-4 Tues. Nov. 22, 2016 Reading 1 Rev. 14:14-19  
Gospel Luke 21:5-11 Wed. Nov. 23, 2016 Reading 1 Rev. 15:1-4  
Gospel Luke 21:12-19 Thurs. Nov. 24, 2016 Reading 1 Rev. 18:1-2,  
21-23; 19:1-3, 9a Gospel Luke 21:20-28 Fri. Nov. 25, 2016 Reading  
1 Rev. 20: 1-4, 11-21:2 Gospel Luke 21:29-33

**Robinson Food Pantry Thank You**



The Robinson Area Food Pantry would like to thank all the Churches, organizations & individuals that donate on a regular basis.