



# The Nuncio

Serving St. Elizabeth & Our Lady of Lourdes



CATHOLIC PARISH CENTER  
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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.

# Sunday November 29, 2015



# First Sunday Of Advent



## Mass Intentions

Nov.28	4:30 pm	Favorable Weather
Nov.29	7:30 am 9:00 am 10:30am	Howard Rio by Terry & Lynne Roche Herman Steber by the Davis Family For all parishioners by Fr. Aloy
Nov.30		NO MASS
Dec. 1	12 :05pm	Harry Bohman by George & Jane Bohman
Dec.2	7:30 am	Anthony O'dell by George & Jane Bohman
Dec. 3	7:30 am	Mike Smolinski by Eileen Hartrich
Dec.4	7:30 am	Mike & Judy Smolinski by Keith & Patti Buercklin
First Friday of the Month Mass OLOL	5:30 pm	Helen Parkhill by Basil Ikemire Family
Dec. 5	4:30 pm	Judy Smolinski by Eileen Hartrich
Dec. 6	7:30 am 9:00 am 10:30am	For all parishioners by Fr. Aloy Roger & Helen Fabris by Val & Kaye Pescatore James Frank Myers & Michelle Anne Myers by Katrena Burton



## Ministry Schedule

*December 5-6, 2015*

<u>4:30 pm</u>	LECTOR: Eileen Hartrich USHERS: Ken & Carol Bergbower COMMUNION MIN: Jack & Marylin Stanley, Ginger Osborne SERVERS: Emily Heidorn, Xavier Brown, +Halle Gower GIFTS: Lantz Griffin Family
<u>7:30 am</u>	LECTOR: Linda Sikorski USHERS: Kathy Harris, Stewart Schutte COMMUNION MIN: Jim & Shari Eckert, Mike Dorn SERVERS: Samuel Eckert, Jacob Eckert GIFTS: Linda Schalasky
<u>9:00 am</u>	LECTOR: Stacie Matson USHERS: Richard & Anita Kocher COMMUNION MIN: Bob & Kourtney Coffman SERVERS: Taylor Blank GIFTS: Richard Kocher Family
<u>10:30 am</u>	LECTOR: Patti Buercklin USHERS: Chris Weber, Ken Deters COMMUNION MIN: Eileen Hartrich, Phyllis Inboden Matthew Hartrich SERVERS: Sarah, David & +Lauren Staller GIFTS: Matt Hartrich Family

## Mass Stipends

We are in need of Mass Stipends for 2016.



## Prayer Requests

**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, Cindy Lewis, Donna McIntire, Rick McKinley, Grover Michl, Bill Meirink, Danny Miller, Sam Mitchell, Val Pescatore, Brice Reed & family, Angie Rhoten, Mary Rogers, Pete Rosenski, Arlene Schutte, Marian Scott, Billy Skaggs, John Skaggs, Linda Sparks, John Stedelin, Linda Wedge-Stephens, Mike & Isabella & Nolan Stephens, Pamela Stephenson, Terry Stevens, Nolan (Butch) Stewart, Linda Stewart, Cherie Stewart, Bertha Taylor, Mark Wagner, Becky VanSchoyck, Ginny Varner, Zachariah Waxler, Shari Weber, Bill Wilson and all the men & women in the armed forces.



## PSR

PSR on **Wednesday, December 2, 2015** at 6:30 pm.

## Food Packing Group

On **Sun. Nov. 21, 2015**, a group of volunteers from the Crawford County Catholics packed Thanksgiving Dinner boxes for the Robinson Food Pantry. The group packed 150



## Thank You

Thank you to Robb Sparks for providing chicken and noodles on the square at the Christmas festivities this past Friday night. \$713.00 was the profit which will go toward the Advent Candles on the North side of the Church. The sales elves were Geri Ezell, Patti Buercklin and Carol Wong.

## Thank You to CCW Ladies

Once again, the women of St. Elizabeth Parish served Thanksgiving Dinner at the Heritage Health Care. Appreciation from the facility to: Ione, Marylin, Jean, Suzanne, Patti, Ginny, Charlie and Carol.

## Our Sympathy

Our sympathy to the family of Dorla Shook at the loss of Dorla's husband-Lloyd on Mon. Nov. 23rd. Lloyd was 93. Please keep this family in your prayers.

# Shepherd News

## Scriptural Reflections

God sent Jeremiah to shape the people of Israel into an inspiring example of faith. The image of pottery making contributes to this theme. The word of God was placed in Jeremiah's mouth to build the people up, just as a potter builds up a clump of clay into a work of art. Sadly, the people refused to accept Jeremiah's words. The ideals he tried to instill in the hearts of Israel would be realized only later in time. This oracle describes those brighter days to come.

God will fulfill the promise made to David many centuries before. This promise came at the time David intended to build a house for God. But God sent the prophet Nathan to announce God would be the One doing any building of a house. David's line would remain—even if individuals in that line failed. And so, in this reading, God will raise "a just shoot" in the royal family tree. Unlike so many who preceded him on the throne of David, this king will do what is right and just. Kings like Zedekiah allowed themselves to be guided by the limited thinking of their courtiers. This ideal king will be guided by the word of God.

Earlier kings sought to secure the kingdom by earthly means: wealth, arsenals, and alliances with other nations. The ideal king will secure the kingdom through a right relationship with the God of Israel. In an earlier oracle, Jeremiah warned that Jerusalem would be broken to pieces like a clay jar (19: 10-11). But with this ideal king, the danger of shattering to pieces will be removed. People will call Jerusalem "The Lord our justice," which in Hebrew sounds

very much like Zedekiah, the name of Israel's last king.

The communities for which this Gospel was written were well aware that the great temple of Jerusalem had been destroyed by the Romans in 70 AD. The shock of that monumental event put both Christians and Jews on the watch.

What might be next and what would be the signs? Throughout his Gospel, Lk portrays Jesus as God's innocent prophet. In the present passage, Jesus assumes that prophetic role as he points to several cosmic signs indicating the coming of redemption and the advent of the Son of Man. For Lk, this Son of Man is the Messiah.

The language used for such extraordinary occurrences is apocalyptic. Technically, this word means to uncover something that is hidden. This is language used to describe phenomena that are cosmic in scope and catastrophic in effect.

Thus, apocalyptic language is dramatic, poetic, visionary, and symbolic. It is not intended to be understood literally. What is described here are portents that lie ahead in the future for Lk and his community. Much of the imagery found here is taken from the OT prophets. There are echoes of Isaiah, Ezekiel, Joel, and Amos—all accentuating the nature of these events. All of it points to the dramatic advent of the Son of Man who will come in a cloud with power and great glory. This is imagery from Dn 7:13-14. What is being

### Diocesan Campaign for Justice & Hope

Thank you for your contributions to the annual Diocesan Campaign for Justice & Hope (DCJH). Your generosity brings hope to people in our diocese living in poverty. For information about how groups and organizations can apply for a DCJH grant, please call, 217-698-8500, ext. 168, or email or visit us at [www.dio.org/dcjh](http://www.dio.org/dcjh).

### First Sunday of Advent ~How Can We Be Merciful Like The Father in this First Week of Advent?



The Collect (opening prayer at Mass) asks God to give us the resolve to run forth to meet Christ. So, we begin this new Church year running once more to be with Christ who is coming to us. At this meeting, let us be found

doing works of mercy. The **Spiritual Works of Mercy** are: counseling the doubtful, instructing the ignorant, admonishing the sinner, comforting the sorrowful, forgiving injuries, bearing wrongs patiently, and praying for the living and the dead. Who needs mercy this week? What righteous deed of mercy will I do?

### Rediscover Jesus Book Study

Tues. Dec. 1, 2015 will be the last meeting for the Rediscover Jesus book study. In January, we will begin a 7 week study of "Everybody Needs to Forgive Somebody." Please contact [Courtney King Ferris](mailto:Courtney.King.Ferris) for details.

### First Friday of the Month Mass OLOL

There will be the First Friday of the Month Mass at OLOL on Fri. Dec. 4, 2015 at 5:30 pm.

### Upcoming Men's Retreat

Men, There is still time to make a Retreat (3 day silent, preached) during Advent. The Jesuit's White House Retreat Center has only a few rooms left to the last Retreat opportunity there this year. Our Springfield/Central Illinois-Area group will go on Retreat from Thursday evening, **Thurs. Dec. 3, 2015 through Sun, Dec. 6, 2015**. The White House Retreat Center is located at the southern-most acreage of St. Louis, overlooking/adjacent to the Missouri side of the Mississippi River. There is no fixed charge. A free will offering will be accepted. Handicapped accessible. For more details, or further information, contact 800-643-1003, [www.whretreat.org](http://www.whretreat.org), or our area Group Captain-Denny at 217-629-8260.



### Christmas Choir Practice

Choir practices for the Christmas Eve 10:00 P.M. mass will be from 9:00-10:00 on Sunday mornings starting Dec. 6th. We are always looking for new choir members.

### Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary

The Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary will be on **Mon. Dec. 7, 2015 at OLOL at 5:30 pm & Tues. Dec. 8th at 12:05 pm at St. Elizabeth.**



## 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.

## 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. Thank you for your gifts to this collection.

## Advent Nursing Home Project

All tags and unwrapped gifts must be returned before Wednesday, December 16th. Any questions call Geri Ezell @ 544-7910 or Patti Buercklin 544-8704. Donations of robe boxes or gift bags would be appreciated...

## New Book Study



We will begin a new book study on "Everybody Needs To Forgive Somebody" on **Wed. Jan. 6, 2016** at 7:00 pm. We will meet for 7 wks. so that we will be done by Ash Wed.

## New Mardi Gras Committee Members

If interested in being a Mardi Gras Committee member, please contact Beth Rynke.

Please remember to attend weekly Mass

## Annual Catholic Services Appeal

The 2015 ACSA Parish Goals for **St. Elizabeth**  
The goal for St. Elizabeth is \$19,666.00  
\$12,250.00 paid out of \$14,575.00 pledged amount.  
Balance \$2,325.00 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  
\$1,105.00 paid out of \$1,755.00 pledged amount.  
\$650.00 balance of the pledged amt.

Updated 11-09-2015

## Liturgical 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 22, 2015**

Envelopes \$1,723.00 Loose 289.25

Campaign for Hope & Justice \$454.00

All Souls Day 1 @\$20.00

Online 1@\$50.00 Christmas Flowers \$490.00

**Total Deposit \$3,026.01**

### Our Lady of Lourdes

Week ending **November 22, 2015**

Envelopes \$405.00 Loose \$55.00

Christmas Flowers 180.00

Campaign for Human Development \$194.00

**Total Deposit: \$834.00**

Thank You. May God bless you.

## 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

Mom's Group meets on Fri. 9 am—10:30 am during school.