



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



## CATHOLIC PARISH CENTER

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**Reverend Father James A. Flach, Pastor**

### PASTORAL STAFF

**Office Manager: Halena Estep**

**Director of Religious Education: Courtney Ferris**

**Custodial Care: Lori Davis,**

**Our Lady of Lourdes**

**Music Director: Chris Jansen, St. Elizabeth**

### OFFICE HOURS

Monday ~ Thursday 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~12:00 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 Fr. Flach for registration and information.

### 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.

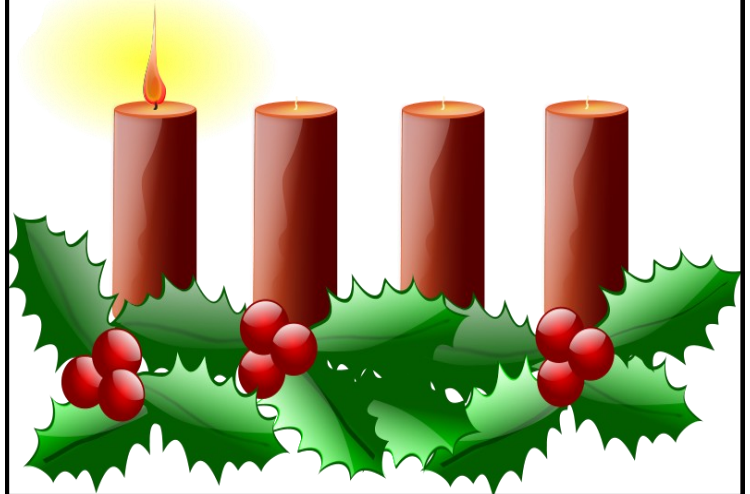
### SACRAMENT OF MARRIAGE

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, December 1, 2019 First Sunday of Advent



### The Unknown Day & Hour

Story found in Matthew 24:37—44

For as it was in the days of Noah, so it will be at the coming of the Son of Man. In those days before the flood, they were eating & drinking, marrying & giving in marriage, up to the day that Noah entered the ark. They did not know until the flood came & carried them all away. So will it be also at the coming of the Son of Man. Two men will be out in the field; one will be taken, & one will be left. Two women will be grinding at the mill; one will be taken, & one will be left. Therefore, stay awake! For you do not know on which day your Lord will come. Be sure of this: if the master of the house had known the hour of night when the thief was coming, he would have stayed awake & not let his house be broken into. So too, you also must be prepared, for at an hour you do not expect, the Son of man will come.



## Mass Intentions

Nov. 30	4:30 pm	Special Intentions
Dec. 1	7:30 am	For all parishioners by Fr. Flach
	9:00 am	Donnal Fitzmaurice by Bob & Kourtney Coffman Family
	10:30 am	Harry Bohman (Death) by George & Jane Bohman
Dec. 2	7:30 am	Anthony O'Dell—17th Birthday by George & Jane Bohman
Dec. 3	12:00 pm	Special Intentions
Dec. 4	7:30 am	Special Intentions
Dec. 5	7:30 am	Marilu Fehrenbacher by Albert Fehrenbacher Family
Dec. 6	7:30 am	Special Intentions
First Friday of the Month OLOL	5:00 pm	Donnal Fitzmaurice by Fitzmaurice Family
Dec. 7	4:30 pm	Kevin Murray by Larry Dix
Dec. 8	7:30 am	Charles Parkhurst by Parkhurst Family
	9:00 am	Roger & Helen Fabris by Kay Pescatore
	10:30 am	For all parishioners by Fr. Flach



## Ministry Schedule

Saturday, December 7 ~ Sunday, December 8, 2019

Sat. December 7, 2019 4:30 pm St. Elizabeth

LECTOR: Celeste White

USHERS: Mark & Cindy Grimm

COMMUNION MIN:

SERVERS: Jude Wirey, Isla Wirey, Liam Wirey

GIFTS: Steve Ezell Family

Sun. December 8, 2019 7:30 am St. Elizabeth

LECTOR: Shari Eckert

USHERS: Jim Jaeger, Jeff Rich

COMMUNION MIN:

SERVERS: Nathaniel Arkenberg

GIFTS: Joe Hepner Family

Sun. December 8, 2019 9:00 am Our Lady of Lourdes

LECTOR: Taylor Blank

USHERS: Carol Miller, Janelle Hoke

COMMUNION MIN:

SERVERS: Jeff Hermann

GIFTS: Carol Miller, Janelle Hoke

Sun. December 8, 10:30 am St. Elizabeth

LECTOR: Courtney Ferris

USHERS: Callie Dickerson, Anthony O'Dell

COMMUNION MIN:

SERVERS: Evan Ferris, Anthony Tran

GIFTS: Ted Staller Family

December Collection Counters: Scott & Valerie Chapman, Karen Reinoehl



## Parish School of Religion

DECEMBER DATES: WED. DEC. 4, 11, 18, 2019 6:30-7:30 pm.



## Confirmation Class Dates

CONFIRMATION CLASS DATES: DECEMBER 8 & 15, 2019.

Spiritual Reading for the First Sunday of Advent

Nothing in all the world's literature is so full of joy as the prayers of the Church for Advent & for Christmas. Every nation has its heritage of beauty in art, poetry, & music: no matter what foreign tyrant takes over the government, the people will cling to this last greatest wealth of literature. But the liturgy of the Church is a vast storehouse of wealth from which all may draw who possess one Faith. National differences disappear as all the earth cries out, today as two thousand years ago: To thee have I lifted up my soul; in thee, O God, I put my trust.... Show, O Lord, thy ways to me & teach me thy paths. There is a joy in the Advent prayers that nothing on earth can equal, because they are so perfectly in accord with the spirit of those who did receive the Redeemer. They might be the very words of Mary, Joseph, or the shepherds. Following these prayers yearly, as the Church urges us to do, makes us one in spirit with the humble ones who saw him & understood. It makes the Incarnation a living thing, not an incident of the long ago but a tremendously important part of our lives which recurs again & again. You and I were not at Bethlehem when his Mother wandered through the streets looking for a place where the Redeemer of the world could be born. We are present when he is born again each day in the Mass. He comes to us in Holy Communion to bring us joy, strength, holiness & peace. His Mother would teach us to be humble & obedient. Perhaps we are too busy to answer her knock, or we have the uneasy feeling that it must be uncomfortable to be holy & if there is anything this generation asks of life, it is to be comfortable. Two thousand years are nothing in the eyes of God, who is eternal. Today we are as certainly given the opportunity of receiving or rejecting him as were the people of Bethlehem on a starry night long ago when the Word was made flesh, & came to dwell among us.

## Our Lady of Lourdes 65 Years ~ 1954~2019



Our Lady of Lourdes Parish will reach its 65th anniversary on December 12 this year. To recognize this event, we will have a special cake & some cookies to be served after the 9:00 am Mass today, December 1. Some pictures & posters of the church's history & also a list of the first families will be displayed. All are invited to come & share in this social time.



## Pastoral Council Meeting

St. Elizabeth & Our Lady of Lourdes Pastoral Council will meet  
Tues. Dec. 3, 2019 at 6:00 pm at St. Elizabeth Parish Center.

## Christmas Dinner



The Pastoral council of ST. ELIZABETH and OUR LADY OF LOURDES is coordinating the 2019 CHRISTMAS DINNER which will be held on SUN. DEC. 8, 2019 at 4:00 P.M. in St. Elizabeth Parish Center. They are pleased & happy to invite you to be present. The menu for our CHRISTMAS DINNER will be turkey, dressing, mashed potatoes, & carrots. Please bring a salad or dessert. It is the hope and prayer that all of the members of our Parishes will feel warmly welcomed. Please mark your calendars for our CHRISTMAS DINNER on SUN. DEC. 8, 2019 at 4:00

Sunday, December 1, 2019 ~ First Sunday of Advent ~  
From The Pastor ~ Remembering The New Year

As we begin another Church Year this Sunday, I cannot help thinking about the difference between how we celebrate breaking into the New Year on the secular calendar and the beginning of the liturgical year. Welcoming another year with the illuminated, bejeweled red apple in Times Square is often frill of goodwill, resolutions and optimism. Out with the old and in with the new. Given the difficulties many have in their lives, they are ready to be done with the previous year and initiate a series of good days. And who can blame us as the champagne glasses are raised to forgetting the bad year and dreaming of something better? But the liturgical year concerns itself with remembering, not forgetting. The Church thrives on cycles, on repetitions and rituals. Far from wishing the previous year away, the Body of Christ stands at the ready to tune into the music of the heavens and become radically aware of God's presence in our midst. Fittingly enough, Advent initiates this cycle with its clarion call week after week for a fittingly enough grasp of an awareness of the divine, a vigil for the Lord's coming and to stay alert, lest the darkness overtakes us. The watch word for this First Sunday of Advent, taken from the readings, could not be clearer than a church bell at dawn: "Awake from your sleep! For our salvation is nearer now than when we first believed." The genius of the liturgical year and its cyclical pattern calls us back continually to memory, to the consoling anamnesis of "when we first believed." I know a number of friends who are rightly proud of their awakening because of a hard-earned sobriety. Having faced addictions of all sorts, they are now ready to climb up God's mountain, more alert about the community around them and in touch with their awareness of the holy in new ways. There is a lesson for all of us when it comes to living out the call to "stay awake." The image that Jesus gives us in the Gospel is that the Son of Man will come the way a thief comes to break into our homes; it is meant to startle us into a new reality. God intends to come not calling with a text message, saying he is in the neighborhood and would like to drop by with a box of Godiva chocolates. There will be no time to set the table or get the house ready. And the only thing we will be wearing is the garment of the Lord Jesus Christ — unless that was part of last year's forgotten fashions.

### Advent ~ Sunday, December 1, 2019

The sacred & holy season of ADVENT is a season of preparation in a spirit of JOYFUL HOPE which begins on SUN. DEC. 3. We joyfully anticipate the BIRTH of CHRIST JESUS by not only preparing our souls & hearts to be a more worthy place for God's Presence, but we also decorate our Churches. During this special & holy season of grace, you notice that the color of purple is used to help us in the spirit of renewal, repentance & conversion. We will once again decorate our sanctuary with the Advent Wreath which reaffirms our belief that Jesus is the Light of the World. Wreaths normally consist of a circle of evergreens. The circular shape symbolizes the everlasting nature of God & His Love. Fir evergreens represent the continuing & everlasting life that comes from God through Jesus Christ. The four large candles (three purple & one pink) mark the four weeks of Advent & help us to turn away from sin & toward God. The pink candle reminds us that we can rejoice because we are drawing near to the feast of Christmas. May we use these special days of the Advent to help us prepare for the BIRTH OF LOVE in our lives & our hearts & souls on Christmas Day. —PRAYER FOR ADVENT— God of Love, we rejoice in the promise of Your coming. You have sent Your Son, born in Bethlehem. He is the Prince of Peace, & The One in whose name all oppression shall cease. May we welcome His Presence each day & prepare for his coming at the end of time. May we build a culture

## St. Elizabeth Church ~ December Schedule

### ADVENT CONFESSIONS

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 8, 2019 AT 1:00 PM

~ ST. ELIZABETH

### CHRISTMAS DINNER

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 8, 2019

AT 4:00 PM ~ ST. ELIZABETH PARISH CENTER

### CHRISTMAS EVE SACRED EUCHARIST

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 24, 2019 AT 6:00 PM

FEAST OF THE NATIVITY OF OUR LORD

& SAVIOR ~ ST. ELIZABETH CHURCH

### CHRISTMAS DAY

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 25, 2019 AT 9:00 AM ~

ST. ELIZABETH CHURCH

### HOLY DAY OF OBLIGATION SACRED EUCHARIST

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 31, 2019 AT 6:00 PM

SACRED FEAST OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY,

THE MOTHER OF GOD ~ ST. ELIZABETH CHURCH

### HOLY DAY OF OBLIGATION SACRED EUCHARIST

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 1, 2020 AT 9:00 AM ~

SACRED FEAST OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY, THE MOTHER OF GOD



## Our Lady of Lourdes Church December Schedule

### FIRST FRIDAY MASS

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 6, 2019 AT 5:00 PM

### ADVENT CONFESSIONS

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 6, 2019 AT 4:00 PM

### CHRISTMAS DINNER

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 8, 2019 AT 4:00 PM AT

~ ST. ELIZABETH PARISH CENTER

### CHRISTMAS EVE SACRED EUCHARIST

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 24, 2019 AT 4:00 PM

FEAST OF THE NATIVITY OF OUR LORD

& SAVIOR ~ OUR LADY OF LOURDES CHURCH

### HOLY DAY OF OBLIGATION SACRED EUCHARIST

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 31, 2019 AT 4:00 PM

SACRED FEAST OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY, THE MOTHER OF GOD



## Advent ~ Sunday, December 1, 2019 continued

that welcomes Him by welcoming child, born & unborn. We pray through the same Christ Our Lord. Amen. "For they see directly, before their eyes, the Lord's return to Zion.' Isaiah 52:8. Lord, help us to wait with patience & anticipation, not caught up in the rush of the season, but resting in your ever-present love.

## In Loving Memory ~ Christmas Flowers

If you would like to remember your loved one with a donation to the fund of CHRISTMAS FLOWERS, please submit your request & donation by MONDAY, DECEMBER 16, 2019 so that you & your loved one's name will be printed in the IN LOVING MEMORY - CHRISTMAS FLOWERS bulletin for SUNDAY, DECEMBER 22, 2019. Thank you & God bless you.



## Prayer Requests

Please remember the following in your prayers: Bill Birkofer (Birkofer Family), Phil Burger (Ellen Rees) Bob Callier (Jona Uptmor), Sara Casburn & Ared Allen (Linda Allen), Scott Chapman, Eileen Fabris, Terry Free (Ruth Beckes), Anthony O'Dell (Jane Bohman), Lee Webster (Bob & Kourtney Coffman), Charlita Wilson, & the men & women in the armed forces.



## A Spotlight on the Catholic Catechism of the Catholic Church

The CATECHISM of The CATHOLIC CHURCH has four main parts commonly called pillars & are titled:

**PILLAR ONE ~ THE PROFESSION OF FAITH**

**PILLAR TWO ~ THE CELEBRATION OF THE CHRISTIAN MYSTERY**

**PILLAR THREE ~ LIFE IN CHRIST**

**PILLAR FOUR ~ CHRISTIAN PRAYER**

Future articles in the bulletins under this title will seek or clarify the relationship of Sacred Scripture, Catholic Tradition, & the Catholic Church so we are able to more fully embrace & live our faith. In past articles in our Sunday Bulletin, pertaining to the Nicene creed, we have explored our Catholic beliefs by examining our PROFESSION OF FAITH contained in the NICENE CREED as well as how we celebrate those beliefs by looking closely at the SEVEN SACRAMENTS. Today & in the coming bulletins, we will examine SACRED SCRIPTURE & the LAW to provide guides for a daily life in Christ Jesus once again through the lens of the CATECHISM OF THE CATHOLIC CHURCH. Today, we continue our presentation on THE TEN COMMANDMENTS referencing the SEVENTH COMMANDMENT to the TENTH COMMANDMENT. THE SEVENTH COMMANDMENT ~ YOU SHALL NOT STEAL ~ Made in God's image, we take up the work of creation, caring for the earth & directing its goods for the just use of all. Importantly, private ownership doesn't change the law. Rather, it places the responsibility of justice & charity in our hands & compels us to perform spiritual & corporal works of mercy. Beyond condemning theft & is appropriation of goods & services between individuals. The seventh commandment addresses the imbalance of power between nations, encouraging those of means to offer direct aid & encourage reforms in solidarity with our brothers & sisters who struggle politically & economically. In all matters, we must remember that when we attend to the needs of others, we care for Christ himself, & our temporal treatment carries eternal effects (Matthew 25, CCC 2401-63). THE EIGHTH COMMANDMENT ~ YOU SHALL NOT BEAR FALSE WITNESS AGAINST YOUR NEIGHBOR. Every effort must be made to avoid lying in all its forms, as it cooperates with the devil, "a liar & the father of lies" (John 8:44). Instead, we Christians must bear witness to the truth, for Jesus, as he states, is the "way & the truth & the life" (John 14:6). Justice & charity have to govern all our communication, private & public, preserving the dignity of individuals & the common good. This maxim extends to media, art, & entertainment as well, as expressions of the truth that lies within us & commentary on the gifts of creation granted to us. Living in the truth is a sacred trust offered by God & promulgated by martyrs, who bore the ultimate witness to the reality of our earthly journey & heavenly home (CCC 2464-2513). THE NINTH COMMANDMENT ~ YOU SHALL NOT COVET YOUR NEIGHBOR'S WIFE. The tension between body & spirit is a lingering effect of original sin. When we look to God to direct our thoughts, words, & deeds, we grow in virtue. Allowing physical desires to dictate our choices reduces us to lives of vice. Jesus teaches two lessons about this battle: sin is conceived in the heart (Matthew 15:19), & purity of heart is essential for seeing God (Matthew 5:8). To protect the heart & the body it governs, we are called to exercise modesty in appearance, thought, speech, & behavior. As modesty & chastity work together to recognize the dignity of the human person, we practice & teach these virtues as essential for individual well-being & the common good (CCC 2514-33). THE TENTH COMMANDMENT ~ YOU SHALL NOT COVET YOUR NEIGHBOR'S GOODS. There is a stark contrast between eternal life and death, "for God formed us to be imperishable; the image of his own nature he made us. But by the envy of the devil, death entered the world, and they who are allied with him experience it" (Wisdom

## A Spotlight on the Catholic Catechism of the Catholic Church continued

2:23-24). Accordingly, St. Augustine calls envy the diabolical sin; St. John Chrysostom recommends humility as the antidote, for in rejoicing in our neighbor's blessings, we give God glory (CCC 2539—2540). Finally, Jesus gives us a reality check, reminding believers that physical things decay, but storing up treasure in heaven is the only lasting value (Matthew 6:19-20, ccc 2534-57).



## Advent Giving Tree

All tags & unwrapped gifts need to be returned before Thurs. Dec. 12th. Gifts may be returned to the Parish Office (during office hours) or in the box at the entrance of the Church. questions, please contact Geri Ezell or Patti Buercklin.

## Scriptural Reflections for the First Sunday of Advent

At the first word of Advent, Christ tells us, "Stay awake! You must be prepared." The unprepared people "in the days of Noah" were distracted by their "eating & drinking," oblivious to the imminent flood. In what does Advent preparation consist? Putting on the Lord Jesus Christ through faith. "Encountering Christ, letting ourselves be caught up in & guided by his love, enlarges the horizons of existence, gives it a firm hope which will not disappoint. Faith is no refuge for the fainthearted, but something which enhances our lives. It makes us aware of a magnificent calling, the vocation of love. Faith is a lamp which guides our steps in the night & suffices for the journey" (Lumen Fidei, 53). "Let us walk in the light of the Lord!"

## Weekly Offerings

### St. Elizabeth Church

Week ending Sunday, November 24, 2019

Envelopes \$1,822.00 Loose \$478.00 Building Fund \$30.00  
6 online thru Give Central @ \$575.00 Deposit: \$2,905.00

### Our Lady Of Lourdes Church

Week ending Sunday, November 17, 2019

Envelopes \$1,177.00 Loose \$105.00 Christmas Flower \$25.00  
Deposit: \$1,307.00

## Spiritual Reading for the First Sunday of Advent

Let me tell you something strange: even the most beautiful souls, who burn to be in the Heart of Jesus, do not want to believe that confidence is the key which will open the door for them, because this door is a wound made by love. They look for other ways, as if this way were too beautiful to be reliable. How many times people have said to me, "It is too beautiful to be true." And I answer, "Jesus bought at a dear enough price, at the price of all his blood, the right to bring to earth something 'too beautiful.'" So, what then? He calls me just as I am? I can go to him with all my miseries, all my weaknesses? He will repair what I have done badly? He will supply for all my indigence? Yes, provided that you go to him, that you count on him, that you expect everything of him, that you say with Saint Paul, Omnia possum (Phil 4:13): I can do all things in him who is my only Strength & my only virtue. A beautiful prayer to pour forth from your heart throughout the day is, "Jesus, repair what I have done badly, supply for what I have left undone." Or an even more beautiful way to pray is: "Jesus, I know that you make reparation in me, that you supply for me, I know that you will draw the good from the bad that I do, & even, as Saint Augustine said, a greater good than if there had been no evil in it." Is this not worthy of adoration? I have a Jesus who does all that in me & for me & I am very sure—oh, yes indeed!—that he will never say to me, "You hoped too much of me."

**Please remember to attend weekly Mass**