



# 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](mailto:crawford_catholics@rocketmail.com)

Web Site: [www.crawfordcountycatholics.com](http://www.crawfordcountycatholics.com)

Join us on Facebook! Search for "Crawford County Catholics"

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

### PASTORAL STAFF

**Office Manager: Halena Estep**

**Director of Religious Education: Courtney Ferris**

**Custodial Care: Jerry Pittman, St. Elizabeth**

**Custodial Care: Lori Davis,**

**Our Lady of Lourdes**

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

### OFFICE HOURS

Monday Thursday from 8:00 am~5:00 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 16, 2018 Third Sunday of Advent

Story found in: Luke 3:1~6



**“A voice of one crying out in the desert: ‘Prepare the way of the Lord, make straight his paths. Every valley shall be filled & every mountain & hill shall be made low. The winding roads shall be made straight, & the rough ways made smooth, & all flesh shall see the salvation of God.’”**

**Luke 3: 4~6**

Dec. 15	4:30 pm	Karlene Frese by Pete Frese
Dec. 16	7:30 am	Charles Parkhurst by Joe & Carol Hepner
	9:00 am	Augusta & Loretta Pescatore by Val & Kaye Pescatore
	10:30 am	For all parishioners by Fr. Flach
Dec. 17	7:30 am	Marilu Fehrenbacher by Albert Fehrenbacher Family
Dec. 18	12:00 pm	Mary Angela Flach
Dec. 19	7:30 am	Marie Bohman-Death by George & Jane Bohman
Dec. 20	7:30 am	Special Intentions
Dec. 21	7:30 am	Special Intentions
Dec. 22	4:30 pm	Sonny Mann & Kevin Murray by Sherri Murray Thomas
Dec. 23	7:30 am	Special Intentions
	9:00 am	Don Davis by Chuck & Karen, Mike, Nai, & Kyle Bailey
	10:30 am	For all parishioners by Fr. Flach



## Ministry Schedule

Saturday, December 22 ~ Sunday, December 23, 2018

Sat. Dec. 22, 2018 4:30 pm St. Elizabeth

**LECTOR:** Celeste White

**USHERS:** Mark Grimm, Ty Mullins

**COMMUNION MIN:**

**SERVERS:** Lily Ann Mullins

**GIFTS:** Ken & Carol Bergbower Family

Sun. Dec. 23, 2018 7:30 am St. Elizabeth

**LECTOR:** Shari Eckert

**USHERS:** Mike & Jona Uptmor

**COMMUNION MIN:**

**SERVERS:** Matthew Jenkins

**GIFTS:** Garrett Rich Family

Sun. Dec. 23, 2018 9:00 am Our Lady of Lourdes

**LECTOR:** Lori Davis

**USHERS:** Ethel Dhom, Carol Zellars

**COMMUNION MIN:**

**SERVERS:** Jared Hermann

**GIFTS:** Ethel Dhom, Carol Zellars

Sun. Dec. 23, 2018 10:30 am St. Elizabeth

**LECTOR:** Sam Quick

**USHERS:** John Grimm, Jack Grimm

**COMMUNION MIN:**

**SERVERS:** Korbin Rawlings, Anthony Tran

**GIFTS:** Josh Quick Family

December Collection Counters: Scott & Valerie Chapman, Karen Reinoehl

**PSR News:** Due to the fact that our **FIRST CLASS** for the New Year of 2019 falls so close to the Holiday of January 1, 2019, the scheduled **CLASS** for Wednesday, January 2, 2019 will be postponed & made up on Wednesday, May 15, 2019. **NO CLASS ON JANUARY 2, 2019. MAKE UP CLASS ON MAY 15, 2019. JANUARY PSR CLASSES: Wed. Jan. 9, 16, 23, & 30.**

## Our Lady of Lourdes News

The Parish family of **OUR LADY OF LOURDES** is pleased & honored to be able to express our deep & sincere **GRATITUDE & APPRECIATION** to **ETHEL DHOM** for her most kind & generous donation to the two new **ALTAR CANDLESTICKS** that are on the Sacred Altar in the Sanctuary of Our Lady of Lourdes Church. With the four original candlesticks that were on the altar, now there are six & all of them are matching. Ethel has donated these two candlesticks **IN LOVING MEMORY** of her beloved husband, **RON**. In his deep faith, Ron was so close to God & Jesus in the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass so how suitable & appropriate that each time the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass is celebrated on this consecrated altar, the memory of **RON'S** strong & lasting faith is brought closer to our hearts. With the blessed candles lit in **LOVING MEMORY OF RON**, our souls receive the gift of God's grace which assures us that **RON** is forever in God's Love in the Kingdom of Heaven. We are **GRATEFUL** to you, Ethel, for remembering Our Lady of Lourdes Parish & may God bless you in many ways for this lasting & beautiful gift.



## Prayer Requests

Please remember the following in your prayers: Erica Adams (Patti Buercklin), Kevin Bennett (Oblong, OLOL) Sara Casburn (Linda Allen), Scott Chapman, Todd Drake, Eileen Fabris (Kathleen Pescatore), Layton Roy (Sean Sexton), Charlita Wilson, Darrell Wilson & the men & women in the armed forces.

## Christmas Schedule for St. Elizabeth & OLOL's Church

### [Our Lady of Lourdes](#)

Mon. Dec. 24, 2018 ~

Feast of the Nativity of Our Lord & Savior ~ Sacred Eucharist ~ 6:00 pm

Mon. Dec. 31, 2018 ~

Holy Day Mass ~ Feast of Mary, the Mother of God ~ Sacred Eucharist ~ 4:00 pm.

### [St. Elizabeth](#)

Mon. Dec. 24, 2018 ~ Feast of the Nativity of Our Lord & Savior ~ Sacred Eucharist ~ 4:00 pm

Mon. Dec. 25, 2018 ~ Feast of the Nativity of Our Lord & Savior ~ Sacred Eucharist ~ 9:00 am

Mon. Dec. 31, 2018 ~ Holy Day ~ Feast of Mary, the MOTHER OF GOD ~ Sacred Eucharist ~ 6:00 pm  
 Tues. Jan. 1, 2019 ~ Holy Day ~ Feast of Mary, the MOTHER OF GOD ~ Sacred Eucharist ~ 9:00 am



Sun. Dec. 16, 2018 ~ Third Sunday of Advent ~ From The Pastor:

Megan decided to walk home from school and not wait for her dad. She knew the way, and it wasn't too far. Soon rain, lightning and darkness overcame Megan. She was cold, wet and lost. Through her tears, she heard a car horn. It was her father. She expected to be punished for disobeying. Instead her father swooped her up, saying, "Here's my little girl. I thought I lost you. Let's go home and dry off." Advent season is like finding a lost child. Instead of punishment, God shows joy in bringing us home. There is great cause for rejoicing today: Yahweh is coming for his people not for the expected judgment, but to show his faithfulness. Yahweh promised them a savior to free them from endless wanderings and to lead the way out of darkness. This Messiah is the son of this loyal God. He comes to these often-faithless people not in judgment but to liberate them from their self-indulgence. Despite these imperfections, the Savior devotedly comes to redeem t h e m .

However, the Advent season shouts joyfully despite their fickleness. God still loves them unconditionally and wants to begin again. Our readings announce the good news revealing that the Messiah is God's son, who is pitching his tent among us. John the Baptist proclaims, "I am not worthy to loosen the thongs of his sandals" as he brings this joyous good news to the people (see Lk 3:16). Another reason to rejoice is because the Lord comes not as judge, but as Savior. God, who would rather forgive than punish, is giving them a second chance. The babe born in Bethlehem is coming like a shepherd to guide his flock home. The Advent season always demonstrates God's wonderful goodness and his desire that creation achieve eternal happiness. Advent also reminds believers how God works constantly to make this happen and how he wants all creation to do the same. Jesus' teachings will provide all the words, all the examples and all the graces necessary. However, every believer is responsible to accept joyfully and choose faithfully what Jesus offers. Advent gives God our Father hope that creation hears again his desire and vigorously will accept it.

### Scriptural Reflections For The Third Sunday Of Advent

When people come to John the Baptist asking, "What should we do?" he gives them the most reasonable, commonsense reply. He says in effect, "Live reality. God is asking you to be faithful to the ordinary circumstances of your life. He will make himself evident there." And with that advice, "the people were filled with expectation, asking in their hearts whether John might be the Christ." All because John made them attentive to their own hearts in a way that neglected nothing of their humanity. They can exult with all their heart because now they can trust that the desires of their heart are not illusions. They have no anxiety, for the Lord is as near as the next moment and whatever it brings.

### THANK YOU, THANK YOU, THANK YOU

Our Parish families would like to extend a SINCERE THANK YOU to all of those parishioners from both ST. ELIZABETH & OUR LADY OF LOURDES for helping with the Catholic Charities Food Bank on Tuesday, December 11, 2018. Your dedicated help in pitching in made this possible & brightened the Holy day of Christmas for others. May God bless you in may

### Advent Nursing Home Project



There are still a few remaining gifts/tags that have not been returned. Please return so all gifts can be wrapped & delivered. Any questions, contact Geri Ezell

**ADVENT** at 544-7910 or 554-1999. Thanks.

## Annual Catholic Services Appeal

As you are aware, the theme of the 2018~2019 Annual Catholic Services Appeal is *"IN GRATITUDE FOR GOD'S ABUNDANT BLESSINGS."* Gratitude is an attitude & response that is integral to the life of a disciple of Jesus Christ. God blesses us in so many ways & one way for us to express our gratitude to God is our participation supporting our parishes goal for the Annual Catholic Services Appeal. With the gift of God's grace, may we continue to become intentional disciples through our gift to the ACSA. As of December 2, 2018, THE GOAL FOR ST. ELIZABETH IS: \$38,376.00 with the total pledged of \$14,500.00 & the total paid is \$13,350.00. As of December 2, 2018, the goal for OUR LADY OF LOURDES PARISH IS: \$8,112.00 with the total pledged of \$3,684.00 & the total paid is \$2,902.00. Your deep & sincere generosity is appreciated as we strive together to fulfill our parish goals. Thank you & God bless you.

### Sincere Christmas Blessings



Sincere & heartfelt CHRISTMAS PRAYERS & BLESSINGS to the COUNCIL OF CATHOLIC WOMEN & OLOL's PARISH for their kind & most generous gifts that were presented to me at our Christmas Dinner on Sunday, December 9, 2018. Your generous gifts will be fondly cherished. May God bless you in the New Year of 2019 with good health & peace.

### Special Thanks For Our Christmas Dinner



Sincere & heartfelt THANKS to all those who helped to prepare for the CHRISTMAS DINNER held on Sunday, December 9, 2018 in St. Elizabeth Parish Center. SPECIAL THANKS to the PASTORAL COUNCIL MEMBERS who helped to prepare the Hall, prepare the drinks, served the delicious dinner prepared by Kaye Holscher & all those who stayed to help clean up. Many thanks to the Ladies of Our Lady of Lourdes who prepared the treat bags for Santa to give to the children. We also want to say THANK YOU to Chris Jansen & our Choir Members for providing the beautiful songs & for letting us sing with you & finally a GREAT BIG THANK YOU to SANTA WHO RETURNED THIS YEAR TO OUR DINNER. Your assistance & help in any way is deeply appreciated. May God bestow His grace upon you & your loved ones during the Christmas Season & may God bless you with good health & peace throughout the New Year of 2019.

### Daily Mass Readings

Mon. Dec. 17, 2018 Gn. 49:2, 8-10 Gospel Mt. 1:1-17  
Tues. Dec. 18, 2018 Jer. 23:5-8 Gospel Mt. 1:18-25  
Wed. Dec. 19, 2018 Jgs. 13:2-7 & 24-25A Gospel Lk. 1:5-25  
Thurs. Dec. 20, 2018 Is. 7:10-14 Gospel Lk. 1:26-38 Fri.  
Dec. 21, 2018 Sg. 2:8-14 Zep. 3:14-18A Gospel Lk. 1:39-45



## The Big Divvy

It's once again that time of year...time for the Big Divvy Mega Raffle. The Big Divvy has the potential to generate between \$13,000~\$14,000 for our parishes. Funds generated from the Mega Raffle have helped our Parishes in many ways: religious education, audio/video system in the Hall, our carillon, church insulation & many others. The prizes will be the same as last year. First prize is \$7,000.00 2nd Prize-\$1,500.00, 3rd Prize-\$500.00, 4th Prize-\$400.00, 5th Prize-300.00, 6th Prize-\$200.00 & 7th Prize-\$100.00. Grand prize winners will be drawn at 9:00 pm at the Stoney Ridge on March 2, 2019. The Seller of the winning ticket will win \$100.00 & the individual selling the most tickets will win \$100.00. Tickets are \$25.00 each & we will sell only 1000 tickets so your odds of winning are 1 out of 1000...much better than the lottery! You may pick up tickets to sell from either Terry Roche or from the Parish Office. Our Committee needs to be our entire Parish, so we hope that you will all help in the endeavor. WE NEED NEW SELLERS! Let's make this a great project, have fun & help our Parishes in the process. In advance. THANK YOU VERY MUCH!  
Terry Roche, Big Divvy Chair

## Spiritual Reading For The Third Sunday of Advent

The wisdom of God...is the expression of intelligence & mercy with which God accomplishes his plan. In the end, events will render justice to this wisdom & her children—those who have known how to enter the plan of God—will bear witness to it. It is true that, to our way of thinking, this wisdom does not seem too readily apparent. Actually, the world appears to lack wisdom, to be governed by chance; it does not show forth the work of an intelligent & merciful God. That is the most common objection we encounter & that was John's objection, too, since he was bewildered as we all are—or as we all ought to be—by the way things happen. But this is true only until the time when we penetrate more deeply into reality & place our confidence in the Word of Jesus as John did. Then we will discover that, in the midst of all these apparent detours, a plan is being carried out: a plan guided by a wisdom infinitely superior to our own, a plan in which we can justifiably place our complete confidence. This the children of wisdom will testify to, by acknowledging that they acted correctly one day in placing their confidence in God's plan, in abiding by the delays, in letting themselves be guided by this wisdom, even though they were puzzled by its ways.

## Weekly Offerings

### St. Elizabeth Church

Week Ending Sunday, December 9, 2018

Envelopes \$2,193.00 Loose \$414.00 Building Fund \$45.00

Christmas Flowers \$115.00 Harry Wong Memorial \$85.00

6 online @ \$585.00 Retirement Fund \$425.00

Immaculate Conception \$470.00 Justice & Hope \$20.00

Deposit: \$ 4,352.00

### Our Lady of Lourdes Church

Week Ending December 2, 2018 Envelopes \$780.00

Loose \$89.00 Building Fund \$130.00

Edith Smith Food Pantry \$145.00 Christmas Flowers \$10.00

Deposit: \$1,154.00

## Advent



The sacred & holy season of ADVENT is a season of preparation in a spirit of JOYFUL HOPE which begins on SUNDAY, DECEMBER 2, 2018. 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 candles 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 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 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.

## Crawford County Pictorial Directory



The new PICTORIAL DIRECTORY is currently being published. When it is prepared, each parishioner who had their picture taken will receive a copy of it. When the Directories arrive, they will be distributed after the Masses. Sincere & heartfelt THANKS to those parishioners who made the PICTORIAL DIRECTORY possible & we are so grateful for their dedicated & helpful service. We are pleased to say THANK YOU to: CAROL BERGBOWER, BOB COFFMAN, COURTNEY FERRIS, ANITA KOCHER, JOSH QUICK, MARY BETH REILLY, LYNNE ROCHE, KATHY STALLER, & JONA UPTMOR. There are other parishioners who may have helped as Hosts & Hostesses & we are GRATEFUL to you as well. As the Holiday Season approaches, may God bless you & your loved ones with good health with God's richest blessings.

## Thank You from Oblong Food Pantry



The Oblong Food Pantry would like to thank Our Lady Of Lourdes Parish for the recent food drive. We will be able to fill a lot of baskets for the upcoming holiday thanks to your generosity. 20 bags of non-perishables & monetary donations were given as well. Nancy Ping says "THANKS"

Please remember to attend weekly Mass