



# 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)

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**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

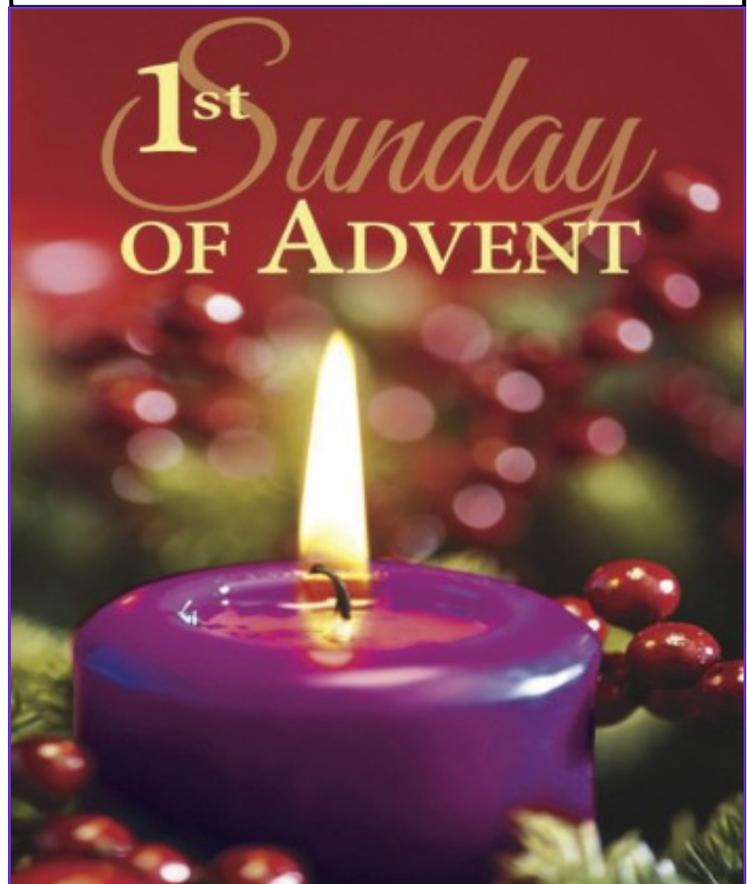
If you are considering marriage, please contact Father Flach no later than 6 months prior to the proposed wedding date and the diocesan and parish guidelines will be explained.

### SACRAMENT OF PENANCE

Saturdays at St. Elizabeth 3:00 pm to 4:00 pm or by appointment

## Sunday, December 2, 2018 First Sunday of Advent

Story found in: Luke 21:25~28, 34~36



**Be vigilant at all times & pray that you have the strength to escape the tribulations that are imminent & to stand before the Son of Man."**

**Luke 21:36**



## Mass Intentions

Dec. 1	4:30 pm	Daniel McElroy
Dec. 2	7:30 am	For all parishioners by Fr. Flach
	9:00 am	In Memory of Alex Marley by Sharon Skaggs
	10:30 am	Anthony O'Dell ~ 16th Birthday by George & Jane Bohman
Dec. 3	7:30 am	Karlene Frese by Pete Frese
Dec. 4	12:00 pm	Marilu Fehrenbacher by Ginger Osborne
Dec. 5	7:30 am	Special Intentions
Dec. 6	7:30 am	Special Intentions
Dec. 7	7:30 am	<b>Holy Day~Marilu Fehrenbacher by Albert Fehrenbacher Family</b>
<small>OLOL Holy Day Mass</small>	4:00 pm	<b>Holy Day~Don Davis by Chuck &amp; Karen, Mike, Nai &amp; Kyle Bailey</b>
<small>St. Elizabeth Holy Day Mass Holy Day Mass</small>	6:00 pm	<b>Holy Day~Special Intentions</b>
Dec. 8	9:00 am	<b>Holy Day~Favorable Weather</b>
Dec. 9	7:30 am	Special Intentions
	9:00 am	Roger & Helen Fabris by Val & Kaye Pescatore
	10:30 am	For all parishioners by Fr. Flach



## Ministry Schedule

Saturday, December 8 ~ Sunday, December 9, 2018

<u>Sat. Dec. 8, 2018 4:30 pm</u>	St. Elizabeth
LECTOR:	Celeste White
USHERS:	Mark & Cindy Grimm,
COMMUNION MIN:	
SERVERS:	Ty Mullins
GIFTS:	Don Biernbaum Family
<u>Sun. Dec. 9, 2018 7:30 am</u>	St. Elizabeth
LECTOR:	Shari Eckert
USHERS:	Dave Holscher, Tom Huss
COMMUNION MIN:	
SERVERS:	Matthew Jenkins
GIFTS:	Randy Schutte Family
<u>Sun. Dec. 9, 2018 9:00 am</u>	Our Lady of Lourdes
LECTOR:	Kourtney Coffman
USHERS:	Frank & Anne Schalasky
COMMUNION MIN:	
SERVERS:	Ava Patchett
GIFTS:	Adam & Lori Davis Family
<u>Sun. Dec. 9, 2018 10:30 am</u>	St. Elizabeth
LECTOR:	Cydnee Weber
USHERS:	John Birkofer, Sam Quick
COMMUNION MIN:	
SERVERS:	Ian Schmidt, Owen Schmit
GIFTS:	Clark Myers Family

December Collection Counters: Scott & Valerie Chapman, Karen Reinochl



## Parish School of Religion

PSR: Wednesday, December 5, 12, 19, 2018 from 6:30 pm to 7:30 pm.

### December Schedule for St. Elizabeth & OLOL

#### Our Lady of Lourdes

Fri. Dec. 7, 2018 Advent Confessions ~ 3:00 ~ 4:00 pm  
Holy Day Mass ~ Feast of the Immaculate Conception

Sacred Eucharist ~ 4:00 pm

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

Fri. Dec. 7, 2018 ~ Holy Day Mass ~ Feast of the Immaculate Conception ~ Sacred Eucharist ~ 6:00 pm

Sat. Dec. 8, 2018 ~ Holy Day Mass ~ Feast of the Immaculate Conception ~ Sacred Eucharist ~ 9:00 am

Sun. Dec. 9, 2018 ~ Advent Confessions ~ 2:00 pm

Sun. Dec. 9, 2018 ~ Christmas Dinner ~ 4:00 pm

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

Mass for the Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception of The Virgin Mary

The Holy Sacrifice of the Mass for the Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception will be celebrated on Fri. Dec. 7, 2018 at 4:00 pm OLOL (First Friday of the Month Mass) & at 6:00 pm in St. Elizabeth Church as well as on Sat. Dec. 8, 2018 at 9:00 am in St. Elizabeth Church.

Spiritual Reflections for the Feast of the Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary

God chose Mary, the Immaculate Conception, to be our "model of holiness" (Preface) in much the same way that DNA plays an integral role in our genetic code: from the inside, not from the outside. At Mary's conception, a new way of being human happens, & we are "chosen, destined" to share it. Adam & Eve were tricked by the serpent's "conception." The yes of Mary at the Annunciation, the culmination of the Immaculate Conception, undoes the disobedience of Eden & makes paradise a possibility once again for us.



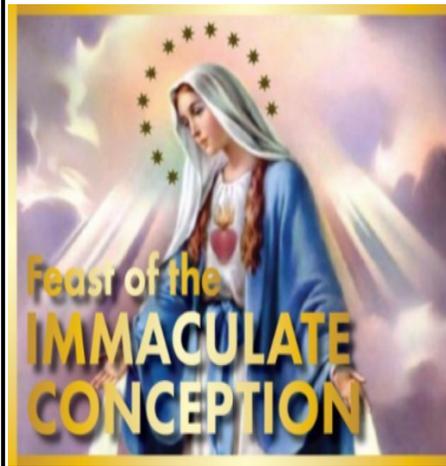
## Prayer Requests

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), Nancy Ping, Layton Roy (Sean Sexton), Charlita Wilson, Darrell Wilson & the men & women in the armed forces.

Fred Rogers, star of the famous TV children's program "Mr. Roger's Neighborhood," told his young viewers that a way to get past their fears & discover hope in times of crisis was to "look for helpers." Through the helpers' caring manner, they bring hope. The people of Israel waiting in darkness for a messiah had helpers, too. They found caring helpers in Yahweh's covenant, in King David's family line, in the prophets &, finally, in Jesus. Advent is all about helpers of hope. As Advent begins again, the readings set a tone of expectation. The prophet Jeremiah highlights Yahweh's promise to Israel to raise up from King David's family a "just shoot" who will "do what is right & just" (Jer 33:15). Israel saw this as the messiah, who will bring deliverance for God's chosen people. The faithful clung to hope in the promise of Yahweh's covenant with them. They were his people, & he was their God, even though many of David's descendants showed few signs or interest in fulfilling that expectation. While hope may have dimmed, it never was lost. In the second reading from Thessalonians, Paul highlights patience to a community abundantly grateful for their gift of redemption & eternal life. In fact, they are so overwhelmed that they wanted the messiah to return as soon as possible. To temper their enthusiasm, Paul persuaded them to live Jesus' message more visibly, preaching, "May the Lord make you increase & abound in love for one another & for all" (1 Thes 3:12). He urged them to build the Kingdom by feeding the hungry, looking after the sick, taking care of those needing healing & sheltering the homeless — no matter who they are or from where they came. When the Lord comes, he will find them loving, loyal, holy & doing good works. From their generosity, Jesus will recognize he was loved during his absence. Advent reminds us all that Jesus is coming to gather & claim his brothers & sisters. His disciples need not panic at this, but instead be as joyous as the angelic choir that sang at Jesus' birth & as amazed as the shepherds who spread this astonishing good news. Why? Jesus already has showed his followers the way, which we are encouraged to follow every Advent.



Who is she? She is nothing in herself, like all other creatures, but thanks to God's work she is the most perfect among creatures. The most perfect resemblance of the divine being in a purely human creature. She derives; therefore, from the Father through the Son & the Spirit, as the Creator who from nothing, in the image of himself, in the image of the Most Holy Trinity, calls finite beings into existence, out of love for his own finite likenesses, which they reproduce. Beings endowed with free will & reason know & acknowledge their provenance & are aware of having received from God all they are, all they can do, & all they possess at every instant. They reciprocate with love, both for what they have received, & for the fact that he, as infinite perfection, is worthy of infinite love. Consequently, as limited beings, unable to render unto him infinite love, at least they overcome the constraints & efforts of such love. The Immaculata never had any stain of sin, which means that her love was always full, without flaws. She loved God with all her being, & love united her with God in this perfect fashion from the first instant of her life, such that on the day of the Annunciation, the angel could address her saying: Full of grace, the Lord is with thee (Lk 1:28). She is therefore a creature of God, the property of God, the resemblance of the image of God, the daughter of God, in the most perfect way possible for a human being. She is God's instrument in full awareness, she lets herself be guided by God. She conforms to his will. She desires only what he wants; operates in accordance with his will & in the most perfect way possible, without the slightest blemish, without any deviation of her will from his. [She is God's instrument] in the perfect use of her faculties & privileges she was granted, in order to carry out always and in all things, solely and exclusively God's will, out of love toward God One and Triune. Such love toward God reaches such heights that it produces divine fruits of love. Her union of love with God reaches such a point that she becomes the Mother of God. The Father entrusts his own Son to her, the Son descends into her womb, while the Holy Spirit, from the body of her, shapes the most holy body of Jesus.



Who is she? She is nothing in herself, like all other creatures, but thanks to God's work she is the most perfect among creatures. The most perfect resemblance of the divine being in a purely human creature. She derives; therefore, from the Father through the Son & the Spirit, as the Creator who from nothing, in the image of himself, in the image of the Most Holy Trinity, calls finite beings into existence, out of love for his own finite likenesses, which they reproduce. Beings endowed with free will & reason know & acknowledge their provenance & are aware of having received from God all they are, all they can do, & all they possess at every instant. They reciprocate with love, both for what they have received, & for the fact that he, as infinite perfection, is worthy of infinite love. Consequently, as limited beings, unable to render unto him infinite love, at least they overcome the constraints & efforts of such love. The Immaculata never had any stain of sin, which means that her love was always full, without flaws. She loved God with all her being, & love united her with God in this perfect fashion from the first instant of her life, such that on the day of the Annunciation, the angel could address her saying: Full of grace, the Lord is with thee (Lk 1:28). She is therefore a creature of God, the property of God, the resemblance of the image of God, the daughter of God, in the most perfect way possible for a human being. She is God's instrument in full awareness, she lets herself be guided by God. She conforms to his will. She desires only what he wants; operates in accordance with his will & in the most perfect way possible, without the slightest blemish, without any deviation of her will from his. [She is God's instrument] in the perfect use of her faculties & privileges she was granted, in order to carry out always and in all things, solely and exclusively God's will, out of love toward God One and Triune. Such love toward God reaches such heights that it produces divine fruits of love. Her union of love with God reaches such a point that she becomes the Mother of God. The Father entrusts his own Son to her, the Son descends into her womb, while the Holy Spirit, from the body of her, shapes the most holy body of Jesus.

Unless we have been shocked to our depths at ourselves & the things we are capable of, as well as at the failings of humanity as a whole, we cannot possibly understand the full import of Advent. If the whole' message of the coming of God, of the day of salvation, of approaching redemption, is to seem more than a divinely inspired legend or a bit of poetic fiction, two things must be accepted unreservedly. First, that life is both powerless & futile in so far as by itself it has neither purpose nor fulfillment. It is powerless & futile within its own range of existence & also as a consequence of sin. To this must be added the rider that life clearly demands both purpose & fulfillment. Secondly, it must be recognized that it is God's alliance with humanity, his being on our side, ranging himself with us, that corrects this state of meaningless futility. It is necessary to be conscious of God's decision to enlarge the boundaries of his own supreme existence by condescending to share ours for the overcoming of sin.... All we have to rely on is the fact that these promises have been given & that they will be kept.... God helps us to find ourselves & then to get away from ourselves, back to him.

Spiritual Reading for the First Sunday of Advent



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Pastoral Council Meeting For St. Elizabeth & Our Lady of Lourdes



There will be a Pastoral Council Meeting on Tuesday, December 4, 2018 at 6:00 pm at St. Elizabeth Parish Center.

## Spiritual Meditation: Mystery of the Immaculate Conception

God finished his creations & perfected them when he formed humans in his likeness as rulers over the entire world. The creatures created on this day (the animals of the earth & humans) rendered obedience to the one who the Lord predestined & distinguished as Mother of his Son as an act of justice rather than grace. When Adam was created in original justice & grace, it was his nature to be ruler over all that was created on the earth, and so all the lesser creatures rendered him obedience. When he sinned & transgressed against God, he was rejected by his inferiors. The elements & the rest of the creatures rebelled against him. Therefore, if Mary most holy was preserved from this original poison, in justice she would be owed all the privileges due her because of being conceived in grace. Therefore, as a matter of original justice, all creatures would be subject to her, because she did not participate in that sin which caused their rebellion against Adam & all of children. This benefit not to be considered as a new gift but a manifestation of the benefit that her Son & our Lord gave to her by preserving her from Original Sin & all the homage rendered her by the creatures of the earth resulted from the grace of her conception, like the grace of the original creation of Adam, & is a testimony to her being immaculately conceived. She alone was the one in whom the image & likeness of God, erased by the sin of our first father, the perfection of all the universe, was restored. Holy Scripture calls Adam the perfection & ornament fall creation either because the final creature the crown of the entire work or because the rest of the creatures were created for his sake. All the other creatures were left imperfect through the sin of Adam. Divine Omnipotence to be credited not only with restoring human nature, by redeeming it, but by making use of human nature, by predestining & preserving in his eternal mind a pure creature adorned with sanctifying grace from the first instant of her king. Through her the image & likeness of God was restored, perfecting the rest of work & restoring it to its rightful order. For this reason, it is not only human beings who are in Mary's debt but all the other creatures as well because she gives them perfection & nobility. They all owe her their service for this, if for no other reason. On this day, therefore, all the brute beasts render her obedience.



## Weekly Offerings

### St. Elizabeth Church

Week Ending Sunday, November 25, 2018

Envelopes \$3,212.00 Loose \$366.24

Building Fund \$15.00

Christmas Flowers \$465.00

Hope & Justice Collection \$25.00

Votive Candles \$99.50

4 online @ \$285.00

Deposit: \$ 4,467.74

### Our Lady of Lourdes Church

Week Ending November 18, 2018

Envelopes \$ 677.00 Loose \$85.00 Building Fund \$10.00

Deposit: \$772.00

## Christmas Flowers



Please submit your Christmas Flowers Offering before Thursday, December 13, 2018 if you wish to place your family loved one's name that has passed in the Christmas Flowers Bulletin.

Please remember to attend weekly Mass

## Scriptural Reflections ~ First Sunday of Advent

Jesus warns of terrifying signs to come. Nonetheless, we are not among the people who "will die of fright in anticipation of what is coming upon the world." Why? Because we are united with the One who has come into the world & dwells among us. All our vigilance is a response to a personal Presence that strengthens our hearts to "be blameless in holiness before our God." We spend our Advent with the desire to conduct ourselves in a way that pleases God because "the friendship of the Lord" moves us to want to rise above "the anxieties of daily life" so as to remain in peaceful certainty "before the Son of Man."

## Christmas Eve Choir Practice



Join the Choir...  
You'll Be Glad  
You Did!

More singers are always encouraged to join the choir. Rehearsals for Christmas Eve Choir will be at 9:00 am on Sundays starting Dec. 2. Anyone wishing to sing Christmas Eve is welcome.

## Advent Confessions

The holy & sacred season of ADVENT is a time of spiritual reflections & preparation as we ready our hearts through sacrifice, prayer, generosity, & contrition. This sacred season before the birth of our Lord & Savior Jesus Christ, is a perfect opportunity to consider those choices & decision that we have made in which we have turned away from God seeking our own desires & wills. Through the Sacrament of RECONCILIATION, we are able to renew our relationship with God, our Father. ADVENT CONFESSIONS will be heard on Fri. Dec. 7, 2018 at 3:00 pm in OLOL's Church & on Sun. Dec. 9, 2018 at 2:00 pm in St. Elizabeth Church. May we receive God's faithful & merciful forgiveness within our hearts for the rebirth of the miracle of His Love on the morning of Christmas. God bless you.



## Christmas Dinner

The Pastoral Council of ST. ELIZABETH & OUR LADY OF LOURDES is coordinating the Christmas Dinner and they are 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 for all of the members of the Pastoral Council that all of the members both of our Parishes will feel warmly welcomed. Dinner on Sun. Dec. 9, 2018 at 4:00 pm.



## Daily Mass Readings

Mon. Dec. 3, 2018 ~ Is. 2:1~5 Gospel Mt. 8:5~11

Tues. Dec. 4, 2018 ~ Is. 11:1~10 Gospel Lk. 10:21~24

Wed. Dec. 5, 2018 ~ Is. 25:6~10A Gospel Mt. 15:29~37

Thurs. Dec. 6, 2018 ~ Is. 26:1~6 Gospel Mt. 7:21,24~27

Fri. Dec. 7, 2018 ~ Is. 29:17~24 Gospel Mt. 9:27~31

## Give Central

Give Central can be accessed on the Church Website. You can click on the Donate button and you can donate to whatever collection you would like to. Thank you to all for using this service.

