



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



## CATHOLIC PARISH CENTER

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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: 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, January 5, 2020 The Epiphany of The Lord



Story found in Matthew 2:1-12 ~ The Visit of the Magi

When Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea, in the days of King Herod, behold, magi from the east arrived in Jerusalem, saying, "Where is the newborn King of the Jews? We saw his star at its rising & have come to do him homage." When King Herod heard this, he was greatly troubled, & all Jerusalem with him. Assembling all the chief priests & the scribes of the people, he inquired of them where the Messiah was born. They said to him, "In Bethlehem of Judea, for thus it has been written through the prophet: 'And you, Bethlehem, land of Judah are by no means least among the rulers of Judah; since from you shall come a ruler, who is to shepherd my people Israel.'"

Matthew 2:1~6



## Mass Intentions

Jan. 4	4:30 pm	Special Intentions
Jan. 5	7:30 am	For all parishioners by Fr. Flach
	9:00 am	Stephen & Francis Begley by Frank & Ann Schalasky
	10:30 am	Special Intentions
Jan. 6	7:30 am	Jane Brown by George Brown
Jan. 7	12:00 pm	Val Pescatore by Robert Birkofer
Jan. 8	7:30 am	Roy Bohman Family Family of Roy Bohman Sanders, Warren, Strand Families by Ellis & Karen Sanders
Jan. 9	7:30 am	Special Intentions
Jan. 10	7:30 am	Special Intentions
Jan. 11	4:30 pm	Karlene Frese by Pete Frese
Jan. 12	7:30 am	Special Intentions
	9:00 am	Harold Harris by Adam & Lori Davis Family
	10:30 am	For all parishioners by Fr. Flach



## Ministry Schedule

Saturday, January 11 ~ Sunday, January 12, 2020

Sat. January 11, 2020 4:30 pm St. Elizabeth

**LECTOR:** Patti Buercklin

**USHERS:** Terry & Lynne Roche

**COMMUNION MIN:**

**SERVERS:** Jude, Isla & Liam Wirey

**GIFTS:** Randy Mullins Family

Sun. January 12, 2020 7:30 am St. Elizabeth

**LECTOR:** Shari Eckert

**USHERS:** Jim Jaeger, Jeff Rich

**COMMUNION MIN:**

**SERVERS:** Mallory Mosbey

**GIFTS:** Eric Mosbey Family

Sun. January 12, 2020 9:00 am Our Lady of Lourdes

**LECTOR:** Taylor Blank

**USHERS:** Frank & Anne Schalasky

**COMMUNION MIN:**

**SERVERS:** Jared Hermann

**GIFTS:** Bob & Kourtney Coffman

Sun. January 12, 2020 10:30 am St. Elizabeth

**LECTOR:** Courtney Ferris

**USHERS:** Maddy Myers, Isabel Heidorn

**COMMUNION MIN:**

**SERVERS:** Anthony Tran

**GIFTS:** Brendan Grimm Family

January Collection Counters: Marge Boatman, Josh & Roselene Quick



## Parish School of Religion

**JANUARY DATES:** WED. JANUARY 8, 15, 22 & 29, 2020 from 6:30~7:30 pm.



## Confirmation Class Dates

**CONFIRMATION CLASS DATES:** JANUARY 12, 26, 2020 from 5:30~7:00 pm.

## Scriptural Reflections for the Solemnity of the Epiphany of the Lord



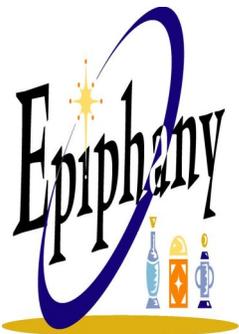
The Magi reveal that our search for meaning, our search for eternal life, concludes in worship. Our response to the Father's offer of salvation must be that of the Magi: "To offer gold is to proclaim Christ's kingship, to offer incense is to adore his Godhead, and to offer myrrh is to acknowledge his mortality" (Saint Odilo of Cluny). Creation responds as well: "When the king of heaven was born, the heavens knew that he was God because they immediately sent forth a star; the sea knew him because it allowed him to walk upon it; the earth knew him because it trembled when he died; the sun knew him because it hid the rays of its light" (Saint Gregory the Great). The manifestation of the Son of God to the world changes our lives: "Copartners in the promise in Christ Jesus through the Gospel," we are led home by another way.

## Spiritual Reading for the Solemnity of the Epiphany of the Lord

Dearly beloved, the last verse of the Gospel reading, which is still ringing in your ears, is intended for the instruction of believers. It tells how, when they had entered the house in which the blessed Virgin Mother was staying with her child, they opened their treasures, and offered the Lord three gifts—gold, frankincense, and myrrh—thereby acknowledging him as true Lord, true Man, and true King. Holy Church also offers these same gifts to her Savior every' day without ceasing. She offers him frankincense by acknowledging and believing him to be the true Lord and Creator of all. She offers him myrrh when she affirms that he assumed the substance of our flesh, in which he willed to suffer and to die for our salvation. And she offers him gold by believing without doubt that he reigns eternally with the Father and the Holy Spirit. Alternatively, the offering of these gifts may be taken in a mystical sense. Heavenly wisdom is symbolized by gold, according to the verse of Solomon which says: A priceless treasure lies in the mouth of the sage; and elsewhere Scripture says: The mouth of the just will utter wisdom. By frankincense pure prayer is to be understood, as the psalmist says: Let my prayer rise like incense in your sight, O Lord. For when our prayer is pure, it yields a purer fragrance to the Lord than the smoke of a burning incense, and just as such smoke rises upward, so does our prayer ascend to the Lord. Myrrh can be taken as the mortification of our flesh. Thus, we offer the Lord gold when we shine in his sight with the light of heavenly wisdom. We offer him frankincense when we send up pure prayer before him, and myrrh when, mortifying our flesh with its vices and passions by self-control, we carry the cross behind Jesus.



**Sunday, January 5, 2020 ~ The Solemn Feast Of  
The Epiphany Of The Lord ~ From The Pastor:  
A Gift For The Entire World**



Many believers welcome Epiphany as the final performance of the Christmas celebration. This is the happy moment when the Father reveals to the entire world his best-kept secret. Today Jesus is heralded as Messiah not only for the Jewish people, but as the Savior for all creation. This astonishingly good news manifests what God desired from the beginning. He wanted everyone on earth to have an opportunity to live life to the fullest. His incarnate Son, Jesus, born on Christmas day, would teach creation the way.

Once their time on earth ends, they are invited to live with him in eternity. Jesus' dying and rising opened heaven's gates, and the Holy Spirit inspires believers to see beyond earth's horizon to that entrance. Isaiah prophesied that Jerusalem's universal mission is not only to radiate light and splendor to the returning Jews but to guide all those from distant lands through the darkness, "bearing gold and frankincense, and heralding the praises of the Lord" (Is 60:16). Paul explains to the Ephesians, who are Gentiles arriving from distant lands, to give thanks to God that they now enjoy total equality with the Jews. The Holy Spirit's descent upon everyone who accepts Jesus removes all barriers and obstacles. Jerusalem, the city of David's lineage, is also where the three Magi met King Herod. The encounter contains the seeds that begin the future hostility between Jesus and the chosen people. The Magi arrive honestly seeking the truth about Jesus' birth. While King Herod has no idea who this king is and where he is to be born, the Magi come bearing gifts for the newborn king. Herod sends his army with drawn swords to murder the upstart king. The Magi bow down and adore him. Herod turns his back and thinks only of ways to protect his own power and authority. Epiphany reminds today's Christians that God manifested his Son to everyone — all nationalities, migrants, Catholics, Muslims and even unbelievers. His Son, Jesus, calls them from every neighborhood in every city in every town retelling us that his work doesn't end with Christmas. Jesus' hope is that roadblocks and prejudices do not block his dream. Epiphany proclaims Christ became Incarnate for all peoples. And each Epiphany reminds Christians that they have much more to do to make this happen.

**Daily Mass Readings**

Mon. Jan. 6, 2020 1 Jn. 3:22-4:6  
Gospel Mt. 4:12-17, 23-25  
Tues. Jan. 7, 2020 1 Jn. 4:7-10  
Gospel Mk. 6:34-44  
Wed. Jan. 8, 2020 1 Jn. 4:11-18  
Gospel Mk. 6:45-52  
Thurs. Jan. 9, 2020 1 Jn. 4:19-5:4  
Gospel Lk. 4:14-22  
Fri. Jan. 10, 2020 1 Jn. 5:5-13  
Gospel Lk. 5:12-16

**Charitable Contributions 2019**

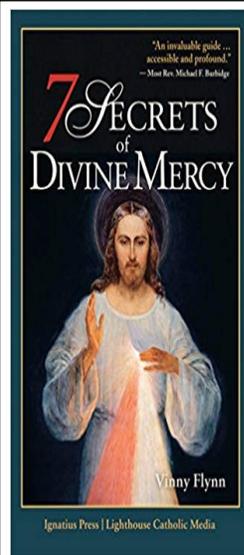
If you would like to receive a STATEMENT in regards to your CHARITABLE CONTRIBUTIONS for 2019, please call the PARRISH OFFICE at 544-7526 and a copy of your donations will be prepared. When the statement is prepared, you will receive a call to pick it up. Thank you and God bless you.

**With Sincere & Special Thanks**



St. Elizabeth & OLOL's Parish want to express our deep & sincere GRATITUDE to all those who helped in any way to decorate the Churches for the feast of CHRISTMAS. Both of our Churches looked beautiful & we are so grateful to all for beautifying our sacred places of worship for this feast. We are happy to offer SPECIAL THANKS to VALERIE CHAPMAN for St. Elizabeth & SARA PING for Our Lady of Lourdes Church. May God bless you abundantly with good health & peace in the New Year 2020.

**Kiosk Corner**



**7 Secrets of Divine Mercy (Book) by Vinny Flynn**

In this compelling and timely book, best-selling author Vinny Flynn draws from Scripture, the teachings of the Church, and the Diary of St. Faustina to reveal the heart of Divine Mercy. He offers an invitation and a road map so that Divine Mercy, the overflow of love from the Holy Trinity, can transform your life. Praise for 7 Secrets of Divine Mercy "This book will profit everyone who reads it" - Donald Cardinal Wuerl, Archbishop of Washington. Imagine if someone were to deeply ponder and powerfully proclaim the mystery of Divine Mercy for more than 35 years and then gather the most precious insights into one place. You've imagined this book - Fr. Michael Gaittey, MIC, Author, 33 Days to Morning Glory, What an amazing book! This isn't just a book for people who want to know more about Divine Mercy—this is a book for people who want their entire relationship with God revitalized - Jennifer Fulwiler, Something Other than God, Radio host on SiriusXM "I was astounded by 7 Secrets of Divine Mercy ' Vinny Flynn's book is a brilliant light to help us know St. Faustina and her beautiful message of God's mercy. " Mother Dolores Hart, OSB, Author, The Ear of the Heart Vinny Flynn has accomplished a great work for the Church in his new book 7 Secrets of Divine Mercy'—an outstanding presentation. " - Timothy T. O'Donnell, STD, KGCHS. President, Christendom College



**Prayer Requests**

Please remember the following in your prayers, 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), Linda Stewart (Nolan Stewart), Lee Webster (Bob & Kourtney Coffman), Charlita Wilson, & the men & women in the armed forces.

## Spiritual Reading for the Beginning of the New Year

We have reached the end of a solar year: in a few hours it will give way to the new year, after reaching, so to speak, its chronological fullness & the climax of the journey begun 365 days ago. The mysterious event of the Holy Night lives again in these words: The Only-Begotten & eternal Son of God "by the Holy Spirit was incarnate of the Virgin Mary, & became man." He entered the history of mankind & as it were, surpassed it. Can God's entry into history be otherwise defined than as a transcending of history itself? By the Incarnation of the Word, human time is called to share in the eternity of God. This is why the Word was made flesh & came to dwell among us, so that by welcoming him we might receive adoption as children. In the Prologue of his Gospel, the Apostle John proclaims with wonder: The Word became flesh & dwelt among us. To all who received him... he gave power to become children of God. The Only-Begotten Son, one in being with the Father, comes into the world so that through sanctifying grace all people may be born again, for they have been called to the lofty privilege of being filii in Filio, sons in the Son, by divine adoption. The Church professes this truth about the fullness of time & today wishes to proclaim it in an altogether unique way. Dear brothers & sisters, let us together serve the one cause of Redemption: since God sent his Only Begotten Son so that we might receive adoption as children (Gal 4:5), there can be no greater task for us than to be totally at the service of the divine plan. My soul magnifies the Lord! May this canticle, which welled up in Mary's heart as she visited Saint Elizabeth, become an expression of our thanksgiving today. The Church repeats it every day, recalling all the benefits which she is aware of having received & my spirit rejoices in God my Savior, for he has regarded the low estate of his handmaiden. So the Church sings with Mary, rediscovering each day her weakness, but at the same time the wonders God works in her. For behold, henceforth all generations will call me blessed; for he who is mighty has done great things for me, & holy is his name & his mercy is on those who fear him from generation to generation. We are here to proclaim the mercies wrought by the Lord during the year now ending. Te Deum laudamus. We praise you, God, we acclaim you as the Lord. O everlasting Father, all the world bows down before you. Have mercy on us Lord, have mercy on us. In you we put our trust: We shall not be put to shame.

## Weekly Offerings

### St. Elizabeth Church

#### Wednesday, December 25, 2019 Christmas Offering

Christmas Offerings Envelopes \$2,487.00 Church Offering \$30.00  
Loose \$395.10 Dependent Child \$195.00  
Deposit: \$3,107.10

#### Week ending Sunday, December 29, 2019

Envelopes \$1,102.00 Loose \$ 263.00 Building Fund \$20.00  
Harry Wong Food Memorial \$105.00 First Offering \$30.00  
Christmas Offering \$185.00 Dependent Child \$25.00 Votive  
Offerings \$166.00  
3 online @ \$175.00  
Deposit \$2,071.00

### Our Lady Of Lourdes Church

#### Week ending Sunday, December 22, 2019

Envelopes \$735.00 Loose \$120.00 Dependent Child \$10.00  
Christmas Offering \$110.00  
Deposit: \$975.00

#### Tuesday, December 24, 2019 Christmas Offering

Loose \$195.00 Dependent Child \$110.00  
Christmas Offering \$235.00  
Deposit: \$540.00

## Prayer for Grace for our Country

Dear Father united to Jesus in the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass, the Sacrifice of Calvary sacramentally made present, celebrated around the world, in the Holy Spirit. We offer up all we do united to the Mass. We united in one mind & one heart as members of the mystical body of Christ, with Christ our head in the pure & holy Hearts of Jesus & Mary through the powerful intercession of Mary with all the angels & saints & souls in purgatory, & we beg for the saving grace, for our country, the United States. Please help us. We further pray for unity to always do the will of God in love. We spread the Blood of Jesus on leaders & people of the United States & cast the devil into hell. We consecrate our country to the Sacred Heart & Immaculate Heart & all our dioceses, & beg for an outpouring of the Holy Spirit. God help us. We pray for our families, the priests, the Church & the world. In the Name of Jesus please hear us, we pray. We pray for our president & leaders. We pray that we are united as one nation under God to work together in love as God

## Why Come To Sunday Mass?

God tells us to keep holy the Sabbath (Third Commandment) & Holy Days. Jesus instituted the Mass at the Last Supper & changes our hearts. MASS honors God & changes our hearts. The Saints were MASS GOERS. You can go to Mass every day. Daily Mass is a blessing. "If we really understood the Mass, we would die for Joy, Vianney, patron saint of parish priests. At Mass, you receive Jesus in the Sacred Eucharist the summit of the Christian life, according to the Catechism Church (1324) when you are in a state of grace & holy days. Daily Mass is said St. John " sources & of the Catholic "It would be easier for the world to survive without the sun than to do without Holy Mass so said St. Pio of Pietrelcina (Padre Pip). You can hear the Sacred Scriptures at Mass. What is God saying to you through His Holy Word. Mass offers the faithful the Living Bread (John 6: 51, 54, 56). The Catechism of the Catholic Church tells us that Mass **u n i t e s u s w i t h** Jesus, Mary, & the Saints. Arrive on time or early. Then you will have time to prepare your heart to receive God's Word & His Body & Blood. Prepare to receive Holy Communion. Being in a state of grace means that one is not conscience of having committed a serious sin (missing Sunday Mass, infidelity) since one's last confession. Fast for one hour before Holy Communion. Know what's happening. Follow along with the Missal. Bow your head as a sign of reverence before receiving Holy Communion. Pray privately after the reception of Holy Communion in

## Catholic Times

In your JANUARY Offeratory Envelope Packet, there is an envelope marked CATHOLIC TIMES. If you are able to provide payment for this collection, it would be deeply appreciated from our parishes. The balance for the bill sent to the parishes from the Diocese has to be paid from the General Account. Any assistance you are able to provide again is appreciated. Thank you & God bless you.

## Online Donations thru Give Central

Give Central can be assessed on the Church website.  
[www.crawfordcountycatholics.com](http://www.crawfordcountycatholics.com)

**Please remember to attend weekly Mass**