



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: 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, January 20, 2019 Second Sunday in Ordinary Time

Story found in: John 2:1~11 ~ *The Wedding At Cana*



On the third day there was a wedding in Cana of Galilee, and the mother of Jesus was there; ² and both Jesus and His disciples were invited to the wedding. ³ When the wine ran out, the mother of Jesus said to Him, "They have no wine." ⁴ And Jesus *said to her, "Woman, ^[a] what does that have to do with us? My hour has not yet come." ⁵ His mother *said to the servants, "Whatever He says to you, do it."

John 2: 1~5



Mass Intentions

Jan. 19	4:30 pm	Karlene Frese by Pete Frese
Jan. 20	7:30 am	Special Intentions
	9:00 am	For all parishioners by Fr. Flach
	10:30 am	Marilu Fehrenbacher by Albert Fehrenbacher Family
Jan. 21	7:30 am	Special Intentions
Jan. 22	12:00 pm	Cindy Turi by Carol Wong
Jan. 23	7:30 am	Clarence, Elizabeth & Norm Anderson by Ellis & Karen Sanders
Jan. 24	7:30 am	Special Intentions
Jan. 25	7:30 am	Gene Uptmor by Mike & Jona Uptmor
Jan. 26	4:30 pm	Karlene Frese by Pete Frese
Jan. 27	7:30 am	Clarence & Arlene Schutte
	9:00 am	Wedding Anniversary-63 yrs
	10:30 am	For all parishioners by Fr. Flach



Parish School of Religion News

PSR CLASSES: Wednesday, January 23, & 30, 2019.
Wednesday, February 6, 13, 20, 27, 2019.



Ministry Schedule

Saturday, January 26 ~ Sunday, January 27, 2019

Sat. Jan. 26, 2019 4:30 pm St. Elizabeth

LECTOR: Celeste White

USHERS: Randy Mullins, Ty Mullins

COMMUNION MIN:

SERVERS: Ella Jenkins, Ella Bunten

GIFTS: Dennis Jenkins Family

Sun. Jan. 27, 2019 7:30 am St. Elizabeth

LECTOR: Mike Uptmor

USHERS: Jim Jaeger, Jeff Rich

COMMUNION MIN:

SERVERS: Eva Hermann

GIFTS: Mike Uptmor Family

Sun. Jan. 27, 2019 9:00 am Our Lady of Lourdes

LECTOR: Lori Davis

USHERS: Ethel Dhom, Carol Zellars

COMMUNION MIN:

SERVERS: Taylor Blank, Emma Davis

GIFTS: Ethel Dhom, Carol Zellars

Sun. Jan. 27, 2019 10:30 am St. Elizabeth

LECTOR: Courtney Ferris

USHERS: Korbin Rawlings, Scott Rawlings

COMMUNION MIN:

SERVERS: Maddy Myers, Lauren Staller

GIFTS: Andrew Ferris Family

January Collection Counters: Josh & Roselene Quick, Rhonda Stone

Wedding Congratulations



St. Elizabeth Parish Family is happy to offer **SINCERE & HEARTFELT CONGRATULATIONS** to **JESSICA ROSE QUICK & JACOB ELI BLANKENBEKER** as they celebrated the Sacrament of Holy Matrimony at St. Elizabeth Church on Saturday, January 12, 2019. We extend to this newly married couple our heartfelt prayers, best wishes, & love as they promise & vow to live this serious & holy covenant of Matrimony. May God always watch over you & bless you with a long, happy & fruitful married life. **CONGRATULATIONS JESSICA & JACOB** & may God bless you always.



Spiritual Reading for the Second Sunday in Ordinary Time



The great theologians & mystics of the tradition have loved Saint John's account of the wedding Feast at Cana. Beautifully crafted & symbolically dense, this narrative has proven a bottomless source of spiritual insight. Saint Augustine mused, for instance, on the miracle itself, showing how it represents, not so much a suspension of the laws of nature, but their acceleration & intensification. Water does naturally turn into wine all the time, but usually through the gradual process of assimilation, crushing, & fermentation. But the great Bishop of Hippo also focused on the water which Jesus transformed. It stands, he says, for the nature with which grace works & upon which it builds. God delights in taking what we can contribute—intelligence, passion, magnanimity, creativity— & then lifting all of it up to a higher pitch through his grace. God's grace does not despise or destroy nature but rather transfigures it. Saint Thomas Aquinas expressed this principle with typical Scholastic pithiness: *gratia supponit et perficit naturam* ("grace builds on & perfects nature"). In point of fact, Saint Thomas used this very miracle story in response to critics who complained that he was watering down the Gospel with his Aristotelian categories. The Angelic Doctor countered: "No, I am transforming water into wine!" The Catholic imagination sees no contradiction between nature & grace. As the story of the burning bush illustrates, the proximity of God does not consume the world, but rather makes it more beautiful & radiant. Why then did he say, Mine hour is not yet come? Because, having it in his power when to die, he did not yet see it fit to use that power. "When I know that it is the fitting time for me to suffer, when my suffering will be profitable, then I will willingly suffer. He had come, then, having it in his power when to die & surely it would not have been right were he to die before he had chosen disciples. Had he been a man who had not his hour in his own power, he might have died before he had chosen disciples. The hour then had not yet come, the fit time was not yet. Disciples had to be called, the kingdom of heaven to be proclaimed, the Lord's divinity to be shown forth in miracles, & his humanity in his very sympathy with mortal men. For he who hungered because he was man, fed so many thousands with five loaves because he was God; he who slept because he was man, commanded the winds & the waves because he was God. All these things had first to be set forth, that the evangelists might have what they should write, that there might be what should be preached to the Church. But when he had done as much as he judged to be sufficient, then his hour came, not of necessity, but of will not of condition, but of power.

Mama Celeste's frozen pizza was among the top-selling brands of the 1970s. Part of the brand's success was its TV advertising, which prominently featured "Mama Celeste" Lizio herself-an Italian immigrant & former restaurateur whose recipes were the basis for the product line. "Mama's" signature line, which became a well-known cultural meme, was "Abbondanza!" meaning, of course, "abundance." The Jewish people in the time of Jesus likewise associated their generous God with abundance. In their b e t t e r , m o r e faith-filled moments, they remembered how God consistently amazed them by exceeding their hopes & expectations. The prophet reflects that spirit of gratitude and expectation in today's first reading. Even as he celebrates the return of his people from exile, he does not hesitate to confidently anticipate the glorious restoration of the city of Jerusalem. His God, after all, is known for "abbondanza." That same God very much is in evidence at the wedding feast of Cana. To me, the most amazing detail of this miracle story is the quantity & quality of the wine Jesus makes from water. John is careful to include the detail that each of the six massive stone water jars held 20-30 gallons. Nor is it cheap table wine! As the astonished headwaiter observes to the groom after tasting it, "You have kept the good wine until now." Apparently, the smartest thing that groom ever did was to invite Jesus to his wedding feast! Another popular TV ad of this one for the 1970's antacid Alka-Seltzer featured an overstuffed & somewhat queasy-looking husband confessing to his wife, "I can't believe I ate the whole thing!" Maybe the guests at the Cana wedding feast were saying something similar while they nursed their hangovers after drinking all of Jesus' miraculous wine. But the good news for us is that if we trust God & follow his Son faithfully, we can expect them regularly to exceed our hopes & expectations. At the banquet of the Lord's Supper, the Spirit transforms bread & wine into the body & blood of Christ & that miraculous food & drink are but a foretaste of the heavenly wedding feast that awaits us because of the dying & rising of Jesus. "Abbondanza," indeed.

Spiritual Reflections for the Second Sunday in Ordinary Time

At a wedding feast at Cana, Christ performed the first of the seven signs (miracles) recounted in the Gospel of John. The wanting wine threatens to spoil the celebration of new love. But the Mother of God notices the need & speaks to her Son. With one word from his Mother, Jesus reveals his divinity so that, just as a bridegroom rejoices in his bride, all people can realize just how much our God rejoices in us. Just as it did for his first disciples, this revelation of glory leads us to deeper belief in Christ. The miracle of "good wine" continues through the outpouring of the spiritual gifts of the Holy Spirit to each individual.

Financial Statements

If you would like to receive your 2018 FINANCIAL CONTRIBUTIONS STATEMENT, the document is prepared for you to receive at St. Elizabeth Parish Center. Thank you.

Daily Mass Readings

- Mon. Jan. 21, 2019—Heb. 5:1-10-Gospel-Mk.2:18-22
- Tues. Jan. 22, 2019—Heb. 6:10-20 Gospel-Mk. 2:23-28
- Wed. Jan. 23, 2019—Heb. 7:1-3, 15-17 Gospel-Mk. 3:1-6
- Thurs. Jan. 24, 2019—Heb. 7:25-8:6 Gospel-Mk. 3:7-12
- Fri. Jan. 25, 2019—Acts. 22:3-16 or Acts 9:1-22
Gospel Mk. 16:15-18

Fatima Prayer & Christian Hope

The vision of hell shown to the children on July 13, 1917, and the "decade prayer" highlight a number of important Catholic doctrines: the reality of hell; God's desire for the salvation of all; and our need to pray for the conversion of poor sinners, especially those in most need of God's mercy. In her July 13, 1917, apparition, Our Lady predicted the coming of many afflictions, saying: "The good will be martyred, the Holy Father will have much to suffer, various nations will be annihilated. In the end, my Immaculate Heart will triumph." In his 2000 commentary as prefect of the Congregation for the Doctrine of the Faith, Cardinal Joseph Ratzinger explained the meaning of the triumph of Mary's Immaculate Heart: "The heart open to God ... is stronger than guns and weapons of every kind. The fiat of Mary, the word of her heart, has changed the history of the world, because it brought the Savior into the world — because, thanks to her yes, God could become man in our world and remains so for all time. The Evil One has power in this world, as we see and experience continually; he has power because our freedom continually lets itself be led away from God. But since God himself took a human heart and has thus steered human freedom toward what is good, the freedom to choose evil no longer has the last word."

Faith & Hope

The message of Fatima is both prophetic & eschatological. We can never lose hope, because we trust in the triumph of good over evil. This is why the Blessed Mother asked the children to pray to Jesus "to lead all souls to heaven, especially those in most need of thy mercy." There has been much discussion about the 1986 book by the SWISS theologian Hans Urs von Balthasar "Was Dürfen Wir Hoffen?" which was published in English in 1988 under the title "Dare We Hope: That All Men Be Saved." Balthasar never claimed that salvation for all is a fact, but he did believe that there is an obligation to hope for the salvation of all. We don't need to enter into the debate as to whether or not Balthasar's position is sound or convincing. It is enough to note what the Catechism of the Catholic Church teaches: "In hope, the Church prays for 'all men to be saved'" (No. 1821), & "the Church prays that no one should be lost" (No. 1058). The possibility of hell is real, but for those still living there is always hope for conversion & salvation. The "decade prayer" of Fatima reminds us of our obligation to pray that "no one should be lost." Because of God's universal salvific will, there is always hope for even the worst of sinners. They are the ones "most in need" of God's mercy, & we should pray and sacrifice for their salvation.

POPE FRANCIS ON OUR LADY OF FATIMA



"Our Lady foretold, & warned us about, a way of life that is godless and indeed profanes God in his creatures. Such a life — frequently proposed & imposed — risks leading to hell. Mary came to remind us that God's light dwells within us & protects us. ... According to the belief & experience of many pilgrims, if not of all, Fatima is more than anything this mantle of Light that protects us, here as in almost no other place on earth. I've need but take refuge under the protection of the Virgin Mary & to ask her, as the Salve Regina teaches: 'show unto us ... Jesus.'" — Homily on May 13, 2017, during the canonization Mass of Sts. Francisco and Jacinta Marto

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!** Terry Roche, Big Divvy Chair

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 in 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 January 3, 2019, the goal for St. Elizabeth is \$38,376.00 with the total pledged of \$17,285.00 & the total paid of \$16,360.00. As of January 3, 2019, the goal for Our Lady of Lourdes is \$8,112.00 with the total pledged of \$3,768.00 & the total paid of \$3,143.00. Your deep & sincere generosity is appreciated as we strive together to fulfill our parish goals. Thank you & God bless you.

Thank You from Heritage at Hutsonville

Dear Friends at St. Elizabeth: Another Christmas Season has come & gone but the joy & blessing still linger here! The anticipation & preparation for this beautiful time is such a blessing itself-but those whose task is to prepare for the day can often find it a struggle especially buying for someone you have never met. That being said, all your labors of compassion brought so much joy & overwhelming blessings! One of the fellas who has been here for several years & really gets excited about Christmas was sharing his happy time of last Christmases here with some of the new residents. His comment was, "Listen, guys, you just ain't seen nothing like it! We have a big feast & everyone gets a gift or two & we laugh & sing & eat & remember our sweet Jesus-it don't get no better than that! Amen! Thank you for helping to make our Christmas so special. We pray the good Lord blesses each of you with all the joy only He can give just as you have (again) blessed us! With love & appreciation from all your grateful friends at the Heritage in Hutsonville. God bless America & you.

Catholic Times

In your JANUARY Offertory 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. The fee for Catholic Times for St. Elizabeth is \$3,151.00 & \$784.00 for Our Lady Of Lourdes.



Weekly Offerings

St. Elizabeth Church

Week Ending Sunday, January 13, 2019

Envelopes \$2,281.00 Loose \$291.00 Catholic Times \$300.00
First Offering \$40.00 Building Fund \$45.00 3 online @\$185.00
Spiritual Kiosk \$8.00
Deposit: \$ 3,150.00

Our Lady of Lourdes Church

Week Ending Sunday, January 6, 2019

Envelopes \$835.00 Loose \$81.00 Building Fund \$130.00
Edith Smith Food Pantry \$20.00 Solemnity of Mary \$65.00
Catholic Times \$15.00
Deposit: \$1,146.00



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.

Prayer Requests

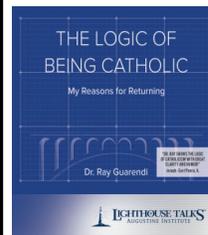
Please remember the following in your prayers: Sara Casburn (Linda Allen), Scott Chapman, Helen Decker (Clarence Schutte), Todd Drake, Eileen Fabris, (Kathleen Pescatore), Greg Hill, Nancy Ping, Layton Roy (Sean Sexton), Charlita Wilson, Darrell Wilson & the men & women in the armed forces.

First Friday Mass

The FIRST FRIDAY MASS is scheduled for FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 1, 2019 at 5:00 pm in Our Lady of Lourdes Church.

Kiosk Corner ~ *The Logic of being Catholic*

Dr. Ray Guarendi shares his story of how logic led him home to the Catholic Church. He found out that, contrary to his Protestant misunderstandings, the Church is coherent & never contradicts herself. Dr. Ray explains how the answers to his objection to Catholicism were both Biblical & believed by the earliest Christians. Explore the logic that led him to the full of truth. Parishioner Comments. Dr. Ray shows the logic of Catholicism with great clarity & humor! Joseph-East Peoria, IL. This may be the most convincing talk I've ever heard about the truths of the Catholic Faith! Emmi-Arcata, CA.



Please remember to attend weekly Mass