



# 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

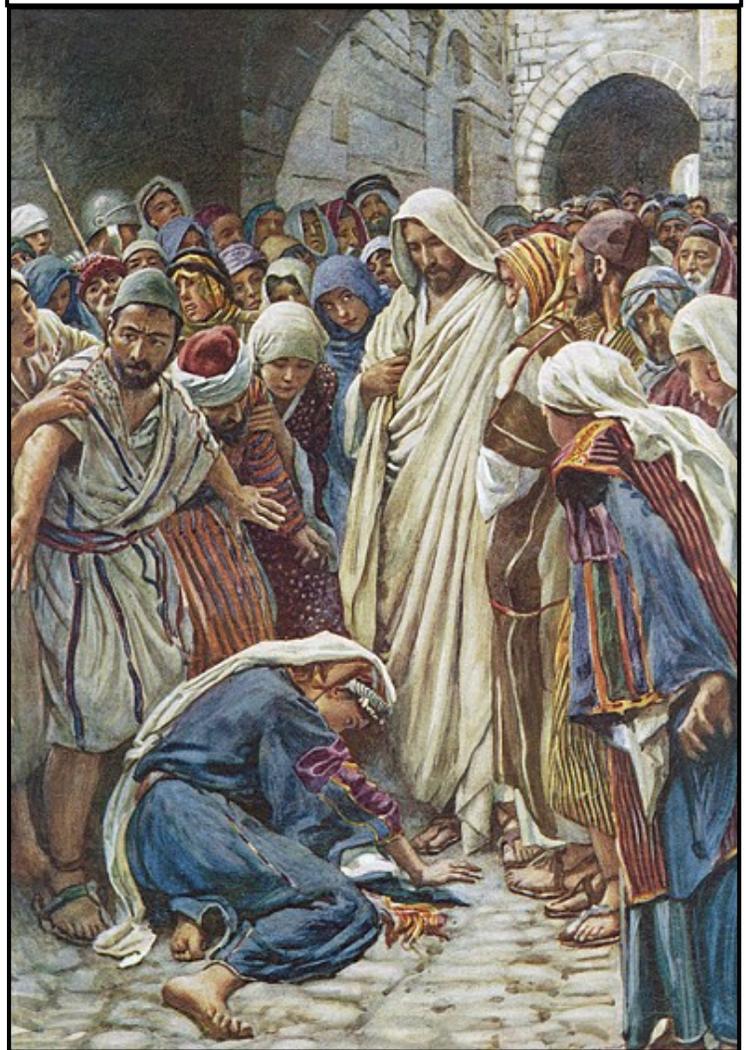
If you are considering marriage, please contact Father Flach no later than 6 months prior to the proposed wedding date and the diocesan and parish guidelines will be explained.

### SACRAMENT OF PENANCE

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

## Sunday, July 1, 2018 Thirteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Story found in Mark 5:21-43



**She said, "If I but touch  
his clothes, I shall be  
cured."  
Mark 5:28**



## Mass Intentions

June 30	4:30 pm	Arlene Schutte by Schutte Family
July 1	7:30 am	Mike & Judy Smolinski by Mike & Jona Uptmor
	9:00 am	Special Intentions
	10:30 am	For all parishioners by Fr. Flach
July 2	7:30 am	Special Intentions
July 3	12:00 pm	Henrietta Stein (Death) by George & Jane Bohman
July 4	7:30 am	Special Intentions
July 5	7:30 am	Edna O'Dell Deceased Birthday by George & Jane Bohman
July 6	7:30 am	Marilu Fehrenbacher by Greg & Elizabeth White
OLOL First Friday Mass	5:00 pm	Peace in the World
July 7	4:30 pm	Doris Prier by Mike & Jona Uptmor
July 8	7:30 am	Special Intentions
	9:00 am	For all parishioners by Fr. Flach
	10:30 am	Marilu Fehrenbacher by Robert & Karla Birkofer



## Ministry Schedule

Saturday, July 7, 2018 ~ Sunday, July 8, 2018

Sat. July 7, 2018 4:30 pm St. Elizabeth

LECTOR: Patti Buercklin

USHERS: Ken & Carol Bergbower

COMMUNION MIN: Mike Dorn, Susan Goodwine

SERVERS: Abby Mullins, Lily Ann Mullins

GIFTS: Randy Mullins Family

Sun. July 8, 2018 7:30 am St. Elizabeth

LECTOR: David Holscher

USHERS: Clarence Schutte, Randy Schutte

COMMUNION MIN: Jim & Shari Eckert

SERVERS: Mallory Mosbey

GIFTS: Steve Jenkins Family

Sun. July 8, 2018 9:00 am Our Lady of Lourdes

LECTOR: Anita Kocher

USHERS: Rod Wilson, Wilmer Wilson

COMMUNION MIN: Mary Patchett, Jim Ping

SERVERS: Jared Hermann

GIFTS: Adam & Lori Davis Family

Sun. July 8, 2018 10:30 am St. Elizabeth

LECTOR: Sam Quick

USHERS: Ken Deters, Chris Weber

COMMUNION MIN:

SERVERS: Xavier Brown

GIFTS: Miguel Vega Family

July Collection Counters: July 2018: Carol Bergbower, Lexi Gower, Rhonda Stone

## Vacation Bible School Program



We are so excited to have your children participate in this year's VBS program "Marvelous Mystery~The Mass Comes Alive." This year's program has been especially designed to help the Mass come alive for your children. VBS will be held July 8-10 from 6-8 p.m. in the Parish Center.



### Scriptural Reflections for the Thirteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

In Christ's blood we are made strong, even though weakness persists in our sensuality. So we can see how this strength is gained, since all our weakness is in the sensual side of us. Here, I am saying, is how we gain this glorious virtue of strength & steady perseverance: since our reason is made strong in Christ's blood, we must drown ourselves in this sweet glorious ransom. How? With our minds eye & by the light of most holy faith we see it within the vessel of our own soul, in the knowledge that our being comes from God, and that God created us anew to grace in the blood of his Only Begotten Son & in that blood we were freed from our weakness. Oh, look & be happy! For you have been made a vessel that holds the Blood of Christ crucified—if you are but willing to taste it in the affection of love! Oh compassionate blood, through you was distilled compassionate mercy! You are the glorious blood wherein we ignorant people see & know the truth of the eternal Father—in which indescribable truth & love we were created in God's image & likeness. His truth was this: that we should share in & enjoy that supreme good of his which he experiences in himself. In the blood you have shown us this truth, & you created us for no other purpose. Oh blood, you dissipated the darkness & gave us light so that we might know the eternal Father's truth & holy will. You filled our soul with grace, the source of our life & our freedom from eternal death. You fatten us on the food of God's honor & the salvation of souls. If we desire reproach & bear it for Christ Crucified, you give us our fill of such reproach. You burn & consume our soul in the fire of divine charity, eating up anything there that is alien to God's will; yet you do not cripple us or dry us up as does the guilt of deadly sin. Oh sweet blood, you strip us of the selfish sensual love that weakens those who wear it, and you clothe us in the fire of divine charity. For we cannot taste your blood, unless you clothe us in fire as we draw near you in our souls, since you were shed by the fire of love. For there is no love without strength, nor strength without perseverance—and that is why you strengthen & comfort us in every adversity. So you see...this is how you come to perfect strength; by uniting yourself with the fire of divine charity which you will discover in the blood, & by there drowning to death all selfish will. Then, once you have drawn near to supreme strength, you will be strong & persevering.

### Spiritual Reading for the Thirteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time



The synagogue official & the woman with the hemorrhage are convinced that God "formed man to be imperishable" an imperishability that begins now in their present plight. How can they be so sure? Because they have encountered Jesus Christ, to whom they hand themselves over in their certainty. God made the human person "in the image of his own nature." It is to that relationship with the Infinite that this man and this woman appeal with infinite hope, convicted that the Lord will draw them clear, preserve them from the pit, and change their mourning into dancing... which he does.

Sunday, July 1, 2018

From the Pastor: Fear is Useless. What is Needed is Trust.

Like many others, I was deeply moved by the 2016 film "Lion," based on the autobiographical book "A Long Way Home" by Saroo Brierley. Born into a poor Indian family, at the age of 5, Saroo already was working alongside his older brother, assisting him to steal coal that could be traded for milk and food for the fam-

ily. During one of their jobs, an exhausted Saroo falls asleep on a train-station bench and wakes up to find his brother gone. Thinking that the older boy must have boarded a train, Saroo does the same and falls again into a deep sleep. When he awakes, he finds himself far from home. Saroo's lot improves when he is adopt-

ed by a loving Australian couple and returns with them to Tasmania. Years later, realizing the devastation his disappearance must have caused his birth family, Saroo begins to hunt for his hometown using Google Earth. He searches relentlessly for a long (and often discouraging) time until, at last, by persistence, he finds his birth mother and sister and is reunited with them back in India. I share the story as an example of persistent faith, which is arguably the core message of today's Gospel from



Mark. The woman with the hemorrhage violates the Mosaic law on several counts because of her unshakeable faith that Jesus may succeed where countless doctors have failed her. The synagogue official, Jairus, for his part, somehow trusts in us even after receiving the news that his daughter has died. I always have loved the old 1970 New American Bible translation of Jesus' words to the grieving father: "Fear is useless; what is needed is trust." And because Jairus somehow does trust, even death itself is forced to give way when Jesus tells the child, "Little girl, I say to you, arise!" Ours is a God of life, a God of surprises, a God who changes mourning into dancing. The challenge for us lies in resisting the distractions of the world's seeming darkness. Jesus is himself life and light. If we cling tenaciously to his promises and persevere in our faith, we may not always get the cure that we want, but we always will get the healing that we need.



## A God of Faithfulness & Justice

It must have been tough to be an ancient Greek especially if you were religious. Not only did you have to sacrifice to a number of different gods, but you never knew for sure what these gods were going to do. Unlike Yahweh, the God of Israel, Zeus and his companions were a fickle lot. They could just as easily strike you down with the plague as reward you with long life and good health, and it had little to do with how well you behaved or how many sacrifices you made. You were in constant fear of angering one god or another. And even if you didn't do anything personally, there was still the threat that a fight might break out between two gods, resulting in a flood, an earthquake, or some other natural disaster. How different it was for the people of Israel! They worshipped a God who had created, everything out of nothing, a God who ruled over all creation and who was not in contest with other gods or goddesses. He was the one true God, who never changed and whose covenant with Israel was everlasting, literally written in stone. A Faithful God. This belief that God was unchanging lies behind the Israelites' ability to trust in God. You couldn't really "trust" Zeus or Poseidon because you never knew what they were going to do next. But you could definitely trust in Yahweh, because he was completely faithful. You could trust him also, because he revealed himself as being "abounding in love and fidelity, continuing his

love for a thousand generations" (Exodus 34:6-7). Not only does God never change; he is a good and loving God, a God of compassion and mercy. This is the God who has covenanted himself to his people. This is the God who has called us out of the darkness of slavery and brought us into a land of promise and blessing. God has spoken; he has promised. He will not change his mind; his purpose is fixed forever. If he were to act now in any way that goes against his past promises, it would make him false, a liar. It would make him "not-God." As for us, whenever we deny God or turn away from his commandments, when we think or act in any way that doubts God's abundant blessings upon us, we confirm a basic truth about our humanity. We "prove" that we are sinners. God is faithful, but we are unfaithful. We shift and adapt our thoughts and actions to suit our immediate goals. We are not like the eternal, perfect, unchanging One who reigns on high. But the good news of the gospel is that we, the unstable, unfaithful ones, can become like God, the faithful and true One! We are not trapped; we are redeemed! In fact, God delights in reshaping our character so that we can reflect his goodness and perfection more and more each day! The Justice of the Cross. There is another important dimension to God's faithfulness, and that is his justice. They may seem like two unrelated aspects of who God is, but they are closely connected. Whenever Scripture talks about the justice of God, it is connected to his faithfulness. God is just because he is consistent. He is just because he is always true to who he is and what he has promised. God would be unjust if he failed to fulfill a promise he made. If God ever changed his mind, it would mean that he was imperfect, that he went back on his word. To reverse course like this would indeed be an unthinkable injustice. But God is just! He is faithful! Even in the face of humanity's repeated unfaithfulness, God remained faithful to his promises. When our first parents disobeyed, he promised a savior (Genesis 3:15), and from that moment on, he saw to the fulfillment of his promise. Through Abraham, he called a people to himself (17:4-8). Even though this people turned to worship false gods (2 Kings 22:15-20), God remained faithful and promised to restore them (Jeremiah 31:33-34, 38-40). He remained true to his word - to the point, even, of sending his own Son to overcome the injustice of our sins. God's justice - his faithfulness to his promises - shines the brightest in the cross and resurrection of Jesus. Above everything else God has ever done, the cross shows us a God who does not change, a God who paid the highest price just to purify his people from sin and unite them to himself in love. Jesus' maintained a steadfast commitment to the Father's plan, even though it cost him his own life, Faithful to all his promises, God raised his Son from the dead, and through him, offers all of us freedom from sin and death. Justice has been done! But it wasn't the false justice of an angry god taking out his wrath on his son instead of on us. It wasn't the unsatisfying sense of "vindication" that we might get from exacting cruel revenge upon our enemies. No, it was the justice of a faithful God. It was the justice of a God whom we can rely on in every possible situation. Faith in the Faithful One. These truths about God's faithfulness in the Scriptures can seem remote from our everyday lives. We live in complex and confusing times when trust is rare and truth is questioned at every turn. But this is precisely where faith comes in. The writer of the Letter to the Hebrews defined faith as "the realization of what is hoped for and evidence of things not seen" (Hebrews 11:1). Throughout Scripture, we read of men and women whose faith in God defied what seemed to be overwhelming evidence to the contrary - and they were not disappointed. Think about how Moses believed that if he just raised his hands over the Red Sea the entire people of Israel would be saved from Pharaoh's army.

Please remember to attend weekly Mass



## Faith in the Faithful One Continued

Think about Anna & Simeon waiting all those years for the Messiah - & not even knowing what he would look like! Think, too, about Mary saying yes to the angel's offer to conceive the Son of God in her immaculate womb. We can also think about the people who placed their faith in something other than the Lord & his promises. They may have started out relying only on their human logic, but in the end they succumbed to deception, self-centeredness, & vengeance. People like King Saul, who was overcome by jealousy; or David, whose lust opened the door to murder; or Jezebel, whose desire for power and influence inspired a massive persecution against all the prophets of the Lord. We too will face challenges that test our faith. When these situations arise, our best response is to hold fast to the truths of God: his love, his wisdom, his faithfulness, & his justice. Our best strategy is to face these challenges using all of the tools at our disposal: our natural tools of logic, experience, & imagination; & our supernatural tools of faith, the promises of Scripture, & the teachings of the church. **Resolving Our Unfaithfulness.** It should be clear by now that, for all our talk about God's faithfulness, we are still sinners. We still have to deal with our unfaithfulness. Sin is an affront to God, & he will not ignore it. But we need to be careful when we start thinking about things like the wrath of God & his punishments. We are not saying that God gets angry & that he sits in proud satisfaction once he has exacted vengeance upon an evildoer. Rather, we need to see that whenever we sin, we separate ourselves from God & if we hold on to our sin & fail to repent & change, we simply cannot remain in his presence. God doesn't visit a furious punishment upon us; we have turned our backs on him, & we are reaping the consequences of our actions. Truth and falsehood are mutually exclusive. This is why Jesus opened his arms on the cross: to free us from the power of sin so that we can learn to become faithful. Jesus relied on God's faithful love, even when he was sorely tempted and faced with the agony of the cross, but he held fast. And now, having redeemed us by that very same cross, he has blazed a trail that each of us must follow: a trail of trust, faithfulness, and surrender. Jesus wants all of us to place our faith in him. He wants us to come to him for salvation & even more important, for the gift of his Holy Spirit. For it is through the Spirit that we can find the power we need to become holy as Jesus is holy - to become faithful as he is faithful. **Make God Firm.** Let's ask the Holy Spirit to open our hearts & minds to understand our heavenly Father more fully. Let's take the attributes we have studied & make them the foundation of our faith. We really can come to know who God is, so let's seek out his love & mercy, his wisdom & goodness, his faithfulness & justice every day. Let's ask the Spirit to reveal to us the greatness of our God & the emptiness of sin. Let's all ask for the grace to turn from darkness & enter into the glorious light of Christ. United with all his people, let's trust that God, who has carried us this far, loves us & will lead us into his kingdom.



### St. Elizabeth Finance Council Meeting

The Finance Council Meeting for St. Elizabeth will meet on Tuesday, July 10, 2018 at 6:00 pm in the Parish Center.



### Rest in Peace

Please pray for the families of Ellen Rees & Ron Dhom. Dorothy Dudine, the aunt of Ellen Rees passed away last week & Ron Dhom, a long time parishioner of OLOL's passed away on Monday, June 25, 2018 at his home. Ron was the husband of Ethel Dhom & uncle of Brian, Jack, Rod & Wilmer Wilson.



## Weekly Collection

St. Elizabeth Church  
**Week Ending Sunday, June 24, 2018**  
 Envelopes \$1,712.00 Spiritual Kiosk \$59.00  
 Loose \$238.00 Votive Candles \$127.85  
 Peter's Pence \$608.00 Harry Wong Memorial \$20.00  
 4 online @\$285.00 Total Deposit: \$ 3,049.85  
 Our Lady of Lourdes Church  
**Week Ending June 17, 2018**  
 Envelopes \$655.00 Loose \$ 135.00 Building Fund \$10.00  
 Total Deposit: \$800.00

## Kiosk Corner



This booklet contains an introduction to the life of St. Therese & explains the origin of devotion to her "Little Way" as well as her importance in our everyday life & on our journey of faith. The best loved litanies, novenas, devotions, & hymns are included to encourage a prayerful visit to this well-loved saint & a mind & heart lifted up to God.



## Prayer Requests

Please remember the following in your prayers: Erica Adams (Patti Buercklin), Kevin Bennett (Karen Bailey) Scott Chapman, Todd Drake, Marissa Rees (Ellen Rees), Barb Skaggs (Sharon Skaggs) Brian Wilson, Dylan Wesley (Celeste White) Charlita Wilson & the men & women in armed forces.



## Daily Mass Readings

**July 2, 2018** First Reading Am. 2:6-10, 13-16 Gospel Mt. 8:18-22  
**July 3, 2018** First Reading Eph. 2:19-22 Gospel Jn. 20:24-29  
**July 4, 2018** First Reading Am. 5:14-15, 21-24  
 Gospel Mt. 8:28-34 **July 5, 2018** First Reading Am. 7:10-17  
 Gospel Mt. 9:1-8 **July 6, 2018** First Reading Am. 8:4-6, 9-12  
 Gospel Mt. 9:9-13



## Parish Office Closed

The Parish Office will be closed for the Fourth of July Holiday on Wednesday, July 4, 2018. We will reopen on Thursday, July 5, 2018. Have a Safe & Happy Fourth of July!

## First Friday of the Month Mass OLOL



There will be the First Friday of the Month Mass at Our Lady of Lourdes on Friday, July 6, 2018 at 5:00 pm. The Mass will be for Peace in the World.

## School Sisters of Notre Dame



On behalf of the SCHOOL SISTERS OF NOTRE DAME, SISTER ROSEANN & SISTER ELEANOR who came to speak to us on behalf of their service & ministry to the people of Africa, they are pleased to express their sincere gratitude for the outstanding generosity that we extended to them with the Missionary Appeal of the Diocese held on June 3 & 4, 2018. Your generosity will allow these missionaries to continue their service to God's People in Africa. The amount of \$410.00 was donated from OLOL's Parish & the amount of \$1953.00 from St. Elizabeth for a total of \$2363.00 that was sent to the Office of the Missions. God bless you abundantly for your special generosity.