



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: 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, May 5, 2019
Third Sunday of Easter**



"Jesus saith unto him, I am the way, the truth, and the life: no man cometh unto the Father, but by me."

John 14:6 (KJV)

King James Bible Online .org

Jesus said to him, "I am the way, and the truth, and the life; no one comes to the Father but through Me. John 14:6"



Mass Intentions

May 4	4:30 pm	Mary Longnecker by Chris Tylka & Janet Hill
May 5	7:30 am 9:00 am	For all parishioners by Fr. Flach Mildred Schmidt by Bob & Kourtney Coffman Family
May 6	10:30 am	Max Dunlap by Patty Dunlap
May 7	7:30 am	Special Intentions
May 8	12:00 pm	Special Intentions
May 9	7:30 am	Special Intentions
May 9	7:30 am	Jane Brown by George Brown
May 10	7:30 am	Francis Medina by Rito & Maria Medina
May 11	4:30 pm	Special Intentions
May 12	7:30 am	Gene & Betty Uptmor by Mike & Jona Uptmor
	9:00 am	Carol Murray by Keith & Rita Wirey
	10:30 am	For all parishioners by Fr. Flach



Ministry Schedule

Saturday, May 11, ~ Sunday, May 12, 2019

<u>Sat. May 11, 2019 4:30 pm</u>	St. Elizabeth
LECTOR:	Patti Buercklin
USHERS:	Mark & Cindy Grimm
COMMUNION MIN:	Janet Hill, Chris Tylka
SERVERS:	Lily Ann Mullins
GIFTS:	Randy Mullins Family
<u>Sun. May 12, 2019 7:30 am</u>	St. Elizabeth
LECTOR:	Shari Eckert
USHERS:	Brad Schutte, Randy Schutte
COMMUNION MIN:	Mike & Jona Uptmor
SERVERS:	Mallory Mosbey
GIFTS:	Mike Uptmor Family
<u>Sun. May 12, 2019 9:00 am</u>	Our Lady of Lourdes
LECTOR:	Anita Kocher
USHERS:	Jerry & Sarah Ping
COMMUNION MIN:	Wilmer Wilson, Donna Keller
SERVERS:	Taylor Blank, Emma Davis
GIFTS:	Jerry & Sarah Ping
<u>Sun. May 12, 2019 10:30 am</u>	St. Elizabeth
LECTOR:	Courtney Ferris
USHERS:	Ken Deters, Chris Weber
COMMUNION MIN:	Phyllis Inboden, Roselene Quick
SERVERS:	Emily Ferris, Lauren Staller
GIFTS:	Josh Quick Family
May Collection Counters:	Don Brown, Alan Maddox, Rhonda Stone

Please remember to attend weekly Mass



Parish School of Religion

May Dates: Wednesday, May, 8, 15, & 22, 2019

Scriptural Reflections for the Third Sunday of Easter

Here is the Lord, again appearing to the disciples after the Resurrection, and questioning the Apostle Peter; & he obliges him three times to confess his love, because three times he had denied him through fear. Christ rose again in the flesh, & Peter in the spirit; because when Christ died in his Passion, Peter died by his denial. Christ the Lord was raised from the dead; out of his love he raised Peter. He questioned him about the love he was confessing, and entrusted him with his sheep. After all, what benefit could Peter confer on Christ, by the mere fact of his loving Christ? If Christ loves you, it's to your advantage, not Christ's; and if you love Christ, it's to your advantage, not Christ's. And yet Christ the Lord wanted to indicate in what way people ought to indicate that they love Christ, and he made it plain enough by entrusting him with his sheep. Do you love me? I do. Feed my sheep (Jn 21:15-17). All this once, all this a second time, all this a third time. Peter made no other reply than that he loved him; the Lord asked no other question but whether he loved him; when he answered, he did nothing else but entrust his sheep to him.... So, let us love him, let there be nothing dearer to us than he. So, do you imagine that the Lord is not questioning us? Was Peter the only one who qualified to be questioned, and didn't we? When that reading is read, every single Christian is being questioned in his heart. So, when you hear the Lord saying, Peter, do you love me? think of it as a mirror, and observe yourself there. I mean, what else was Peter doing but standing for the Church? So, when the Lord was questioning Peter, he was questioning us, he was questioning the Church. The account of the appearance of the risen Jesus by the shore of the Sea of Galilee is one of the most-beautiful and theologically textured narratives in the Gospel of John. Every detail is worthy of contemplation. I would draw attention, for our purposes, to a few fascinating features. We hear that Peter and six other Apostles were in a boat on the sea. Now whenever a Gospel writer speaks of Peter and the disciples in a boat, we are meant to think of the Church, and the peculiar number of seven—evocative of completion or fulfillment—is meant to make us consider the eschatological Church, the community of Jesus approaching the end of its journey through space and time. On the shore (though they don't clearly recognize him at first) is the Lord Jesus. At his command, they lower their nets and bring in an extraordinary catch. Well, this is the work of the Church until the end of the age: to gather in souls and to bring them to Christ at the end of time. When they empty their nets before Jesus, they discover 153 large fish. Numbers are never accidental in the Gospel of John, and many theories as to the meaning of this figure have been proposed. My favorite is the one put forward by Saint Augustine. According to the science of that time, Augustine argued, there were 153 species of fish in the sea, and therefore, this extraordinary number is meant to signal the universality of the Church's salvific mission.

Rest In Peace



Rest in peace, Anna Lou Stone. Anna was the Mother of Tony & Susan Madlem and the Sister-In-Law of Rhonda Stone. In God's Love we pray that He will grant Anna Lou Stone a place of eternal love in the kingdom of heaven & that her family will receive comfort & peace in their sorrow & loss.

I find Peter so lovable & relatable. As we see him portrayed in the Gospels, he comes across as impetuous & somewhat prone to inserting his foot in his mouth. But the upside of that is this: Peter is free of pretense. With him, you always know exactly what he is thinking & feeling at any given moment & I think Jesus loved that in Peter. Perhaps even more importantly, Peter is all passion, all heart. I can't help smiling at his response in today's Gospel when "the disciple whom Jesus loved" recognizes the mystery man on the beach as "the Lord." Peter is wearing only a loincloth at the time, which is appropriate for the hot, heavy labor of fishing. But when he understands that it is Jesus, he can only think of getting to his teacher & friend as quickly as possible. So he puts on his outer garment, jumps overboard and swims as fast as he can to shore. Some commentators claim that he dresses up because no subordinate in Peter's culture would appear before his superior shirtless; but somehow, I like to think that Peter, ever himself, is just so excited that he can't really think straight. In fact, I envision him sloshing out of the water like a big wet St. Bernard dog and sweeping Jesus up in a bear hug that leaves both of them dripping wet. This is the new, fearless Peter — the one who no longer feels a need to hide from possible persecution, the one who boldly defies the Sanhedrin, telling its members, "We must obey God rather than human beings." This is Peter transformed by his teacher's resurrection & empowered by the Spirit (breathed into the apostles by Jesus himself on the evening of the first Easter in John's Gospel). And this is also Peter who has no doubts about the depth of his love for Jesus, whatever it may cost him. No wonder Jesus leaves him in charge of his fledgling Church. The Master knows that this Peter will follow Jesus to the end & faithfully will feed his master's sheep & we are called to follow Peter — to be our messy selves, but redeemed & loved into life.

A Spotlight on the Catholic Catechism of the Catholic Church

The CATECHISM OF THE CATHOLIC CHURCH has four main parts commonly called pillars & are titled:

- PILLAR ONE ~ THE PROFESSION OF FAITH
- PILLAR TWO ~ THE CELEBRATION OF THE CHRISTIAN MYSTERY
- PILLAR THREE ~ LIFE IN CHRIST
- PILLAR FOUR ~ CHRISTIAN PRAYER

Future articles in the bulletins under this title will seek of clarity the relationship of Sacred Scripture, Catholic Tradition, & the Catholic Church so we are able to more fully embrace & live our faith.

PART ONE ~ CONTINUED:

How does the fact that the Church predates the written New Testament affect how we practice our faith today? First, living our beliefs without a printed guide has precedent in salvation history. For example, the Israelites were a nomadic people who relied on oral tradition to share the faith with each passing generation. Even some religions that mistakenly maintain that Moses wrote the first five books of the Old Testament acknowledge that he doesn't arrive on the scene until Exodus. So, the faith that formed during the few thousand years covered in Genesis and expressed and preserved in the lives of God's Chosen People was developed by way of tradition. Second, Catholics can appreciate that when a tenet of our faith may not be explicit in Scripture, it is present implicitly. A good example of a uniquely Catholic belief is the sacrament of confession. While we hold with our non-Catholic brethren that God alone can forgive sins, we remember the cited text from Matthew 16 where Jesus

shares his authority with Peter and the apostles. Through apostolic succession (see Acts 2, where Matthias replaces Judas), that authority continues in the priesthood to the present day. Third, Scripture and Tradition aren't in competition with each other. Both are actions of the Holy Spirit. The Catechism explains that Tradition is distinct from Sacred Scripture, though closely connected to it. Through Tradition, "the Church, in her doctrine, life and worship, perpetuates and transmits to every generation all that she herself is, all that she believes" (CCC 78). So, our faith is formed by Scripture & Tradition, as well as a third component: The magisterium (the pope in communion with the bishops). These Church leaders serve the faithful by preserving and handing on the entire deposit of faith. "The task of giving an authentic interpretation of the Word of God, whether in its written form or in the form of Tradition, has been entrusted to the living teaching office of the Church alone. Its authority in this matter is exercised in the name of Jesus Christ." This means that the task of interpretation has been entrusted to the bishops in communion with the successor of Peter, the Bishop of Rome. "Yet this Magisterium is not superior to the Word of God, but is its servant. It teaches only what has been handed onto us. At the divine command and with the help of the Holy Spirit, it listens to this devotedly, guards it with dedication and expounds it faithfully. All that it proposes for belief as being divinely revealed is drawn from this single deposit of faith" (CCC 85—86). The relationship of Scripture, Tradition, and the magisterium is beautiful and mutually supportive. The Bible shows there's a tradition of faith and group of apostles who share it with the faithful. Further, tradition illustrates there's a written word of God that continues to be passed on through apostolic successors to this day. Finally, our pope and bishops teach the truths expressed in Scripture and Tradition that continue to form our faith. Rather than fearing questions about the scriptural basis for our uniquely Catholic beliefs—as some do—we should be excited to learn the answers for ourselves and be ready to share our faith when asked. Peter knew that the gift of faith would draw attention, and he told believers to be ready: But even if you should suffer because of righteousness, blessed are you. Do not be afraid or terrified with fear of them, but sanctify Christ as Lord in your hearts. Always be ready to give an explanation to anyone who asks you for a reason for your hope, but do it with gentleness and reverence, keeping your conscience clear, so that, when you are maligned, those who defame your good conduct in Christ may themselves be put to shame. I PETER 3:14-17. Where can we look for the answers to questions about the faith? The Catechism of the Catholic Church is a wonderful resource that offers explanations with gentleness and reverence. Written clearly and fully footnoted, the CCC includes key scriptural references that pertain to our beliefs. To find Church teaching about a particular topic, look in the CCC index. The Catechism helps the faithful understand the whole of our faith through its design into four main parts or pillars: "The Profession of Faith" (the Apostles' Creed), "The Celebration of the Christian Mystery" (the liturgy and the sacraments), "Life in Christ" (the Eight Beatitudes, morality, and the Ten Commandments), and "Christian Prayer." This year, we'll journey through the Catechism one pillar at a time. By unpacking the timeless treasure of our faith that has welcome application during these tumultuous times, we can better understand and live Church teaching. As we grow more grateful to belong to the Church whose faith is revealed in Scripture and Tradition and taught by the magisterium, we'll also grow more confident in Jesus' promise that the gates of hell will not prevail against it.



Daily Mass Readings

Mon. May 6, 2019—First Reading Acts 6:8-15
Gospel Jn. 6:22-29

Tues. May 7, 2019 - First Reading Acts 7:51-8:1A
Gospel Jn. 6:30-35

Wed. May 8, 2019 First Reading Acts 8:1B-8
Gospel Jn. 6:35-40

Thurs. May 9, 2019 First Reading Acts 8:26-40
Gospel Jn. 6:44-51

Fri. May 10, 2019 First Reading Acts 9:1-20
Gospel Jn. 6:52-59

Pastoral Council



St. Elizabeth & Our Lady of Lourdes PASTORAL COUNCIL will meet on Tuesday, May 7, 2019 at 5:00 pm in Our Lady of Lourdes Church.

St. Elizabeth Finance Council Meeting



St. Elizabeth Finance Council Meeting will be on Tuesday, May 14, 2019 at 6:00 pm in St. Elizabeth Parish Center.

BABY BOTTLE COLLECTION



Our two parishes will participate in the BABY BOTTLE COLLECTION from Mother's Day~May 12, 2019 to Father's Day~June 16, 2019. The proceeds from the Baby Bottles will go to the Crisis Pregnancy of Eastern Illinois. Fr. Flach & the Pastoral Council have reviewed this particular organization & are in support of this project. Below is information about this organization. Crisis Pregnancy Center or Choices Pregnancy & Health is a faith-based organization that exists to assist women, men, & families experience the trauma of an unplanned pregnancy by providing accurate information, compassionate care & practical assistance to further the sacred reverence of ALL OF HUMAN LIFE, most especially the innocent life within the womb of the mother. The organization recognizes the worth of all of human life is created in the image of GOD with dignity & purpose. We are committed to reaching out to all communities with this life-affirming message. We have never referred for abortions & we never will. We exist to serve women, men, & their families by meeting the various needs they encounter in an unplanned pregnancy. We offer the options of adoption, parenting, foster care as well as physical, emotional, & spiritual support. We are able to confirm pregnancy confirmation through ultra-sound. We are committed to encouraging positive relationships through teaching the value of sexual abstinence outside of marriage, child-birth & parenting education & post abortion healing. Thank you for your prayerful & financial support for the Baby Bottle Program. May God bless you.

Prayer Requests

Please remember the following in your prayers: Sara Casburn (Linda Allen), Gerald Bierman (Clarence Schutte), Scott Chapman, Eileen Fabris & Valentine Pescatore, (Kathleen Pescatore), Anthony O'Dell (Jane Bohman), Charlita Wilson, Darrell Wilson & the men & women in the armed forces.

Scriptural Readings for the Third Sunday of Easter

In the face of Peter's triple denial of him, Jesus asks Peter three times, "Do you love me?" In other words, Jesus enables Peter to make reparation; Jesus uses Peter's own failure and contrition to give him a deeper love. The "honor and glory and blessing" that the slain Lamb is worthy to receive is this confidence in his love when all we see in ourselves is misery and betrayal. Like Peter, "We must obey God rather than men"—which means that we remain confident in Christ's love even when our own weak humanity tempts us to give up.

Church Picnic ~ May 5, 2019

This year's picnic will take place on Sunday, May 5, 2019, from 11:30-2:00 p.m. in the Parish Center. We will begin with a meal of hamburgers, hotdogs and pork tenderloins catered by Kay Holscher's Catering. We are asking that parishioners please bring a side or a dessert to share. The "Pie Baking Competition" will also be making a return with prizes being awarded in two divisions: Adult and Youth. We will also have a cornhole tournament, bingo and lawn games for the kids. "White Elephant" prizes are being collected for bingo and can be brought the day of the picnic. Please make plans to attend this year's picnic and enjoy some wonderful food and the company of your Parish family.



Weekly Offerings

St. Elizabeth Church

Week ending Sunday, April 28, 2019

Envelopes \$1,670.00 Loose \$332.00 Votive Candles \$76.00

Seminarians \$25.00 Catholic Home Missions \$255.00

Harry Wong Memorial for Food Pantry \$95.00

Building Fund \$25.00

4 @ \$285.00

Deposit: \$2,763.00

Our Lady Of Lourdes Church

Week ending Sunday, April 21, 2019

Envelopes \$1,055.00 Loose \$70.00 Holy Thursday \$70.00

Operation Rice Bowl \$30.00 Holy Land-Good Friday \$80.00

Easter Flowers \$60.00 Seminarians \$140.00

Deposit \$1,505.00



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.