



# 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: Jerry Pittman, St. Elizabeth

Custodial Care: Lori & Adam 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, September 10, 2017 23rd Sunday in Ordinary Time



*Matthew 18:19*

*Again I say to you that if two of you agree on earth concerning anything that they ask, it will be done for them by My Father in heaven.*

A Brother Who Sins. Matthew 18:15-20

**If your brother sins against you, go and tell him fault between you and him alone. If he listens to you, you have won over your brother. If he does not listen, take one or two others along with you, so that every fact may be established on the testimony of two or three witnesses. If he refuses to listen to them, tell the church. If he refuses to listen even to the church, then treat him as you would a Gentile or a tax collector. Amen, I say to you, whatever you bind on earth shall be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth shall be loosed in heaven. Again, I say to you, if two of you agree on earth about anything for which they are to pray, it shall be granted to them by my heavenly Father. For where two or three are gathered together in My Name, there am I in the midst of them.**

## Mass Intentions

Sept. 9	4:30 pm	Arlene Schutte by Schutte Family
Sept.10	7:30 am	Loretta Holscher By Dave & Kaye Holscher
	9:00 am	Special Intentions
	10:30 am	Connie Cooper by Dave & Eileen Cooper
Sept.11	7:30 am	For all parishioners by Fr. Flach
Sept.12	12:00 pm	Paul & Clara Hartrich by Dave & Eileen Cooper
Sept.13	7:30 am	Special Intentions
Sept.14	7:30 am	Arlene Schutte by Schutte Family
Sept.15	7:30 am	Jane Brown by George Brown
Sept.16	4:30 pm	Sonny Mann & Kevin Murray by Monica Mann
Sept.17	7:30 am	Favorable Weather
	9:00 am	For all parishioners by Fr. Flach
	10:30 am	Special Intentions



## Ministry Schedule

Saturday, September 16, 2017 ~ Sunday, September 17, 2017

<u>Sat. Sept. 16, 2017 4:30 pm</u>	St. Elizabeth
LECTOR:	Geri Ezell
USHERS:	Jack & Carol Watts
COMMUNION MIN:	Ginger Osborne, Celeste White
SERVERS:	Ty Mullins, Liam Wirey
GIFTS:	Terry Baird Family
<u>Sun. Sept. 17, 2017 7:30 am</u>	St. Elizabeth
LECTOR:	Mike Uptmor
USHERS:	Kurt & Anne Holscher
COMMUNION MIN:	Jim & Shari Eckert
SERVERS:	Jacob Eckert
GIFTS:	Eric Mosbey Family
<u>Sun. Sept. 17, 2017 9:00 am</u>	Our Lady of Lourdes
LECTOR:	Keith Wirey
USHERS:	Don & Sharon Fitzmaurice
COMMUNION MIN:	Rita Wirey, Kourtney Coffman
SERVERS:	Ava Patchett
GIFTS:	Don & Sharon Fitzmaurice
<u>Sun. Sept. 17, 2017 10:30 am</u>	St. Elizabeth
LECTOR:	Cydnee Weber
USHERS:	Mike & Susan Emmerich
COMMUNION MIN:	Phyllis Inboden Roselene Quick
SERVERS:	Joe Quick, Owen Schmidt
GIFTS:	
Collection Counters:	September, 2017: Janet Hill, Ellen Rees, Chris Tylka

**Please remember to attend weekly Mass**

## PSR Upcoming Meetings



Wednesday, September 13, 2017 6:30—7:30 pm  
Wednesday, September 20, 2017 6:30—7:30 pm  
Wednesday, September 27, 2017 6:30—7:30 pm

## Scriptural Reflections for the 23rd Sunday in Ordinary Time

### 23<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of Ordinary Time

When Saint Paul says that we are to "owe nothing to anyone except to love one another," he is not referring to something sentimental. The love that the Apostle enjoins on us is summed up by the Prophet Ezekiel: "If you do not speak out to dissuade the wicked from his way, I will hold you responsible for his death." Our love must extend to those attitudes and actions that would prevent our neighbors from truly loving themselves and their own destiny. "If your brother listens to you, you have won him over" because Jesus himself is in the midst of such love.

## Daily Mass Readings Sept. 11 ~ Sept. 15, 2017



Mon. Sept. 11- Reading 1~ Col. 1:24-2:3  
Gospel Mt. Luke 6:6-11

Tues. Sept. 12- Reading 1~ Col. 2:6-15  
Gospel Luke 6:12-19

Wed. Sept. 13 - Reading 1~ Col. 3:1-11  
Gospel Luke 6:20-26

Thur. Sept. 14- Reading 1~ Nm. 21:4B-9  
Reading 2~Phil. 2:6-11  
Gospel John 3:13-17

Fri. Sept. 15 - Reading 1~ 1 Tm. 1:1-2, 12-14  
Gospel John 19:25-27 or Luke 2:33-35



## Prayer Requests



Please remember the following in your prayers: Sherry Boswell, Lori Brown, Scott Chapman, Ron Dhom, Sharon Drake, Sandy Ellis, Jamie Hartrich, Leona Kocher, Trent Matthews, Charlie Stegall, Katie Stovall, Rich Welp, Janis Wickland, Brian Wilson, Vickie Wilson, the men & women in armed forces.

## Embracing the Icon of Love



If you are participating in the SPIRITUAL RETREAT entitled EMBRACING THE ICON OF LOVE, please note the date of our first session is MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 11 FROM 6:00 PM TO 7:00 PM. On this date, Father Flach will distribute the resource and explain the process.

If there are any questions, please contact Father Flach. Thank you & God bless you.

September 10, 2017 23rd Sunday in Ordinary Time  
From the Pastor ~ Love Thy Neighbor



Veronica loved her mom's crystal bowl. It sat on the dining room table for decades. Her mom promised it would be hers one day. Veronica's fondness for the crystal bowl was built on the many meals shared at this table, where so many family

memories were created. After her mom died, Veronica's father unknowingly gave the bowl to his neighbor, Terry, for the care she gave to Veronica's mom before she died. Veronica was deeply hurt and never again could speak to her neighbor. After some years passed, Veronica had an opportunity to explain to Terry the reason for her long, cold silence. When she did, Terry understood, handing over the crystal bowl immediately. Terry said, "This has more meaning for you than it can ever have for me." Throughout his ministry, Jesus stressed the depth of love God his Father has for everyone. Jesus reminded his listeners that this powerful love needed to be practiced with both friend and adversary. That's why he speaks of loving God as the "greatest and the first commandment" (Mt 22:38). Jesus continued by saying, "The second is like it: You shall love your neighbor as yourself" (Mt 22:39), insisting that loving your neighbor is another way of loving God. In this week's Gospel passage, Jesus saw an opportunity to show his disciples how love is possible in conflict. He knew his followers loved a God they did not see but struggled when disagreements arose among neighbors they saw every day. Was it their closeness to one another or the competition between them? Whatever the reasons, loving neighbors had more obstacles, and Jesus knew this.

Jesus showed that mending people's hearts and spirits was better than punishment. These readings are concerned with clashes and disagreements. Jesus urged that these be settled with the same honor and respect God shows us with his mercy. Loving your neighbor before anything else was paramount. Paul, likewise, persuaded his Romans to live in the same respectful way. Ezekiel sought to protect God's word from disharmony. In various ways, both these readings support Jesus' message in the Gospel. When someone offends, disciples need to hasten with esteem and graciousness, explaining their grievances courteously rather than standing defensively to save face as Veronica did with Terry. This is why Jesus reminds his disciples, and us, that "the whole law and the prophets depend on these two commandments" (Mt 22:40).

### Rest In Peace



Please remember to pray for the repose of the soul of **MILDRED BUESCHER**, the mother of Kaye & Dave Holscher that God will grant her a place of eternal love in the Kingdom of God & that her family will receive comfort & peace in their sorrow & Loss. Please keep this family in your prayers.

## Spiritual Reading about Our Lady of Sorrows



What part had Mary in Jesus' darkness? It would be rash to make any affirmation whatsoever. Yet we may at least remind ourselves that Mary lived by faith and not in the face to face vision of God. She believed, she did not see. She had, we may be sure, received the most certain assurances of the mystery which had been accomplished within her. Yet its

reality was for her not an object of knowledge but of faith. May it have been by the fissure which lies between faith and sight that she was invaded by the darkness which submerged the soul of her Son? If so, she did not cease to adhere with unshakable certainty to the Word which had always been her guide. Yet it seems that if such a trial were reserved for her, as is probable, it was not at this moment. Her share had still, it would appear, an exclusively maternal character. As other women bring to the dying the luminous gift of supreme tenderness, she brought a mother's heart to the death agony of God. And she alone realized the immensity of the tragedy which centered all human history in the crucifixion of Love. God died and he was her Son: And she was His mother. The one being who could be with him, she stood erect in her inviolable solitude, offering her innocence as witness of his, making all his opprobrium wholly her own, stricken with all our denials, suffering the pain of all his wounds. He looked upon her. He saw her sorrowing in all his sorrows, pierced through with his distress, bearing in all her being the wound of Love pitilessly contemned. In a creation rebellious from its beginning, she at least was wholly his. And he gave her to us: Behold your Mother.

### St. Elizabeth ~ Church Balcony

Please refrain from going up into the BALCONY of the Church unless the Church is full. Thank you!

### Sacred Feast of Our Lady of Sorrows



The Blessed Virgin was born to be the Mother of God. From the first moment of Mary's immaculate presence in her mother's womb, our Lady has led us to her Son. From the cross, Christ commands, "Behold your Mother." As the Savior's dying gift to us, Jesus leads us back to Mary. For we need the maternal closeness of the Sorrowful Mother to sustain us when overcome by the terrifying trials of life. Through Mary's compassionate presence at the cross, that event-as it recurs in our lives-becomes more deeply human, filling us with the courage to face life's sufferings, certain in the secure embrace of divine

providence. Whenever Mary loves us, she gives us Jesus. By obeying the Lord in our devout beholding of the Mother of God, we give Mary the chance to speak her Yes to the "annunciation" uttered from the cross: "Behold your son."

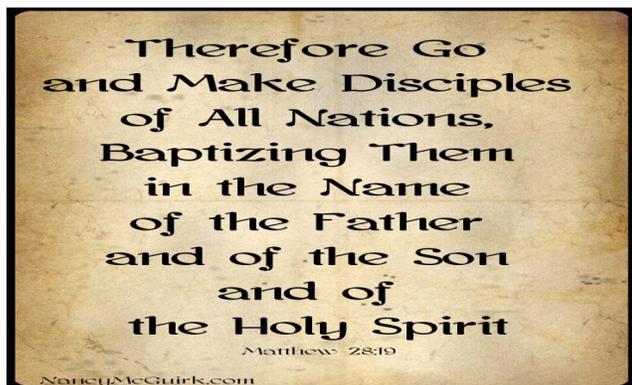
## Annual Catholic Services Appeal 2017 ~ 2018 "Go Therefore & Make Disciples"

Our relationship with God is described in the Bible as a covenant. Our covenantal relationship with God compels us to offer our "first fruits" to him in sacrifice and praise. The offering of the first fruits is inseparably connected with God's covenantal relationships. When God covenants with his people, an offering of the "first" acknowledges God's sovereignty and gives thanks to God from whom all things come. When God dealt directly with His people in the Old Testament, He gave them a standard for giving. It was to be the **FIRST 10%** of their income. In the New

Testament, Jesus praised the widow who gave from her substance, not her surplus. Watching this poor widow put two copper coins in the temple treasury, Jesus said, "I assure you, this poor widow has put in more than all the rest. They make contributions out of their surplus, but she from her want has given what she could not afford — every penny she had to live on" (Luke 21:1-4). The Second Vatican Council echoed and urged the same understanding: "Indeed, it is the duty of the whole People of God, following the word and example of the bishops, to alleviate as far as they are able the sufferings of the modern age. They should do this too, as was the ancient custom in the Church, out of the substance of their goods, and not only out of what is superfluous" (Pastoral Constitution on the Church in the Modern World, Gaudium et Spes, no. 88 [1965], emphasis added). Practicing our Catholic faith brings with it many

blessings, such as receiving the sanctifying graces of the sacraments, especially the Baptism and Confirmation of ourselves and our loved ones, being nourished with the Body and Blood of Christ in the Eucharist, being reconciled with God and the Church in the Sacrament of Penance, celebrating the commitment of faithful love between husband and wife in the Sacrament of Holy Matrimony, being blessed with the sacred ministry of priests, deacons and our bishop through the Sacrament of Holy Orders, and receiving God's healing powers in the Sacrament of the Anointing of the Sick. Our participation in parish life invites us to experience the love and friendship of a caring community of brothers and sisters in Christ, offers religious education and formation for people of all ages, and gives comfort and consolation to those who grieve the death of a loved one as we pray for the eternal salvation of the faithful departed. To be Catholic means that we also look beyond the local parish congregation to the larger church family, our diocese and the universal church. Your support of the Annual Catholic Services Appeal strengthens the bond of communion that unites all Catholics in faith, worship and service. With the gift of God's grace, may we continue to grow as intentional disciples by generously supporting the theme of this year's appeal: **GO THEREFORE and MAKE DISCIPLES.**" Your deep and sincere generosity is appreciated as we strive to fulfill the goal for ST.

Therefore Go and Make Disciples of All Nations, Baptizing Them in the Name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit



## Liturgical Ministry Contacts



**St. Elizabeth Parish**  
**Readers: Father Flach 544-7526**  
**Servers: Father Flach 544-7526**  
**Art & Environment:**  
**Robb Sparks 546-5606**  
**Our Lady of Lourdes**  
**Scheduling of Liturgical Ministries**  
**Anita Kocher 592-3384**

## September Church Meetings



**The Finance Council for St. Elizabeth will be on Tuesday, September 12, 2017 at 6:00 pm.**



## Weekly Collection

### St. Elizabeth Church Week Ending Sunday, Sept. 3, 2017

**Envelopes \$ 2,407.00**

**Loose \$ 381.30**

**2 Online @ \$80.00**

**Building Fund \$150.00**

**Deposit \$3,018.30**

### Our Lady Of Lourdes Church Week ending Sunday, August 27, 2017

**Envelopes \$710.00**

**Loose \$28.00**

**Building Fund \$50.00**

**Deposit \$788.00**

## Give Central Online Donations



St. Elizabeth has an online donations system called Give Central. All monies come directly to St. Elizabeth. You can go to the Church website [www.crawfordcountycatholics.com](http://www.crawfordcountycatholics.com) & click on **DONATE** to access Give Central. You can give to what donation you choose to. Thank you to those who use the online giving.

## Upcoming Second Collections

World Missions Sunday will be on Sunday, October, 23, 2017. On October 23rd we will join Catholics around the world to "celebrate the hope that saves." Our prayers and attention will be directed towards strengthening our brothers and sisters worldwide. We will have an opportunity to contribute financially to a special collection for the Society for the Propagation of the Faith supporting missionaries and Church workers who are giving daily witness to Christ by offering service and hope to the poor and most vulnerable in mission countries.