

<b>Weekly Parish Need for Operation:</b>	<b>\$ 3,200.00</b>
Sunday Offering Dec. 12/13, 2015:	\$ 2,674.00
<b>DEFICIT For the Week:</b>	<b>\$ (526.00)</b>
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Roof Fund Donations Dec. 12/13, 2015:	\$ 700.00
<b>Total Roof Fund Donations:</b>	<b>\$ 152,889.00</b>
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<b>Offering at St. Joseph's, Dec. 13, 2015</b>	<b>\$ 972.00</b>

**ST. JOSEPH CHURCH**  
Crescent City

Our 2016 Church Envelope Packets can be picked up in the back of the Church. Please take only those with your name on them. If you do not have envelopes and would like them, put your name on the sign-up sheet next to a number and take the corresponding number box of envelopes.

*Thank you!*

**THANK YOU** to Roy Baier at Baier Funeral Home for once again sponsoring our Parish Calendar.

**ST. EDMUND CCW**

Ladies, we have quite a collection of bowls and dishes down in the Church basement. If you've brought a dessert or salad to a funeral dinner in the last few months and think one of them may belong to you, please check the shelves in the southwest corner of the Church basement. We'd really like to find all of these a home! Thank you.

**PRAYER INTENTION OF THE HOLY FATHER**

**Evangelization: Families**

That families, especially those who suffer, may find in the birth of Jesus a sign of certain hope.

**Please pray for our Service Members . . .**

- Sr. Airman Thomas Westrick, son of Steve & Sharon Westrick
- Sr. Airman Andrew Kelnhofer, son of Michelle Hastings
- Hm2 Richard Kelnhofer, son of Michelle Hastings
- Sgt. Erik Shepherd, son-in-law of Michelle Hastings
- Sgt. Allison Shepherd, daughter of Michelle Hastings
- Lance Corporal Samuel Gross, grandson of Linda Hunt
- Sr. Airman Rorie Sorensen, granddaughter of Mary Sorensen

**Please pray for . . .**

- Francis Melson

The 2016 Church Contribution Packets are available in the Church basement. They are in alphabetical order. **Please write your name on the front of your envelopes the first few weeks of the new year.**

If you were new to St. Edmund's this past year and asked for (and used) envelopes or you signed up for a box last year, there should be a box with your name on it.

**If you DO NOT see a box with your name on it and would like a box, please take a box IN NUMERICAL ORDER and write your name on the corresponding line on the envelope sign-up sheet on the table in the basement.**

If you **DO NOT** wish to receive envelopes in the future, please call the Rectory and let Colette know.

Thank you!

**From the Choir Loft . . .**

Our choir will be singing at both, the 4 and 6 p.m. Christmas Eve Masses.

I would like to thank all the wonderful parishioners who come to sing with the choir, our faithful weekly regulars, as well as those who are able to join our Christmas musical celebration. A special note of thanks to Sandy Hamende for her assistance...We couldn't do it without you! *A blessed and Merry Christmas to all and a Happy 2016!*

**ST. EDMUND CHURCH**

219 EAST LOCUST STREET  
WATSEKA IL 60970

**PASTOR: Reverend Michael Powell**

**Rectory: 815-432-3274 ~ Office Hours: 8 a.m.—12 p.m. M-F**

**Religious Education Office: 815-432-5569**

**Website: www.stedstjoe.org**

**MASSES:**

**M-W-TH-F**

**7:30 AM**

**SATURDAY**

**5:00 PM**

**SUNDAY**

**7:30 & 10:30 AM**

**CONFESSIONS: Saturday, 4:30-4:50 PM or by appointment**

**“Transforming the world in which we live by bringing the teachings of Jesus Christ to every living person.”**

**ST. JOSEPH CHURCH**

(A mission of St. Edmund Church)

307 UNION STREET  
CRESCENT CITY IL 60928

**PASTOR: Reverend Michael Powell**

**MASS: SUNDAY 9:00 AM**

# SUNDAY, DECEMBER 20, 2015

**Mon. 12/21 7:30 AM** Clifford Ducat by His Family  
**Tue. 12/22 NO MASS**  
**Wed. 12/23 7:30 AM** Vivian Lovelass by Knights of Columbus Council #4391  
**Thur. 12/24 4:00 PM** Frances Ducat by Her Family  
**6:00 PM** Landon Miller by His Family  
**Fri. 12/25 10:30 AM** Michael Sampson Anniversary Remembrance by His Family  
**Sat. 12/26 5:00 PM** Jim Butler by Russell Patnaude  
**Sun. 12/27 7:30 AM** Carmen O'Connor by Her Family  
**9:00 AM** Parish Families of St. Edmund's & St. Joseph's  
**10:30 AM** Esther Ingram by Her Family



## Lonely Shepherds

*Lonely shepherds, deepest darkness, biting wind and starless sky,  
 Unforgiving winter coldness 'neath a pall of night they lie,  
 Then as though a needle pierced it, the horizon seems to shine  
 Till a light as bright as ten suns manifests a heavenly sign!*

*Hear a single Angel's message, "Have no fear, I bring great joy!  
 You will find a gracious mother, humble man and baby boy.  
 He will be to all a Savior, he the Christ and sovereign Lord.  
 In his birth this blessed morning heavenly union is restored."*

*Where was once a single herald now is seen a glorious band,  
 Praising God in highest heaven, gifting peace to all the land.  
 Lonely shepherds now no longer leave their grazing flocks behind  
 And in wonder hail the Christ child as the Word made Flesh they find.*

M. Powell 2015

*~ A Holy Christmastide and a New Year of Grace to all of our Parish family.*

*Bring on 2016, we're ready!*

## LAY MINISTERS Liturgical Appointments for Next Weekend

Dec. 26/27	5:00 PM	7:30 AM	10:30 AM
LECTOR	Doug Duffy	Doug Geiger	Ericka Clark
SERVERS	J. McTaggart & M. Lopez	Will Lyznicki	Aden Quick & Zakkary Clark
COMMUNION	Laura Stepp	Julie Schippert	Jane Zummallen
HOSPITALITY	Jan Dillman Jeanette Reifel	M/M Ira Claire M/M Myron Cailteux	M/M Kevin Hemp Family

## CHRISTMAS EVE AND CHRISTMAS DAY LITURGICAL APPOINTMENTS

DECEMBER 24/25, 2015

MINISTRIES	12/24 ~ 4:00 PM	12/24 ~ 6:00 PM	12/25 ~ 1030 AM
LECTORS	Rhonda Pence	Steve Westrick	RaDonna Hasselbring
EUCCHARISTIC MINISTERS	Cup: Patti Duffy & Debbie McCullough	Cup: Paul McTaggart & Diane Buswell	Cup: Kevin Hemp & Barb Quigley
ALTAR SERVERS	M. & R. Gooding	M. Bevelle & K. Jaworski	T. & S. Hemp
HOSPITALITY	M/M Chris Curry Family	Helen Bruens Louise Bruens	M/M Wade Bell Family

### Preparing to hear next Sunday's Gospel:

**The Feast of the Holy Family  
Luke 2:41-52**

*"He went down with them to Nazareth and was obedient to them!"*

- How can I better respect my parents and elder family members?
- How can I better be there for my brothers and sisters and family members my age?
- How, by word and example, can I teach my children and other young members of my family to be good disciples of Jesus?

**Prayer:** Lord Jesus, you came among us as a member of a family. Let the example of your life with Mary and Joseph be my goal with my family. Amen!

### The Solemnity of Christmas

**John 1:1-18**

*"And the Word became Flesh and dwelt among us!"*

- How can this Christmas season help me grow in holiness?
- Will I make room in my heart for the Word made Flesh?
- Will this blessed season make me more of a generous person?

**Prayer:** Lord Jesus you laid aside the splendor of your divinity and chose to humbly share in our humanity. May we come to share in your divinity by more and more reflecting your love to others...Happy birthday. Amen!

