

DECEMBER 25, 2016

Mon.	12/26	7:30 AM	Fr. Lee Ryan by Sue Butler
Tue.	12/27	NO MASS	
Wed.	12/28	7:30 AM	The infusion of surprise blessings on Mrs. Bernita Caron & all of her family by M/M Paul Pruchnicki
Thurs.	12/29	7:30 AM	Zelma Bowers by Her Family
Fri.	12/30	7:30 AM	James Bowers by His Family
Sat.	12/31	5:00 PM	Matthew Shafer Anniv. Rem. by His Family
Sun.	1/1	7:30 AM	Marybeth Claire by Knights of Columbus
		9:00 AM	Ted Lavoie by Ed & Kay Movern
		10:30 AM	Parish Families of St. Edmund's & St. Joseph's



DATES TO REMEMBER IN JANUARY . . .

- 1 Solemnity of Mary, the Holy Mother of God
- 2 Church Office CLOSED
- 4 RE Classes Resume: 4 p.m.
- 7/8 Food Pantry
- 8 **EPIPHANY OF THE LORD**
Take Christmas Decorations down after 10:30 Mass
- 9 **BAPTISM OF THE LORD**
- 12 Knights of Columbus Meeting: 7:30 p.m.
- 15 7th/8th Gr. Parent Meeting: 11:30 a.m.
- 16-20 Week of Christian Unity
(St. Edmund's hosts on Wed., Jan. 18th)
- 21/22 Church in Latin America DOJ Collection

Weekly Parish Need for Operation:	\$ 3,200.00
Sunday Offering, Dec. 17/18, 2016:	\$ 2,204.00
DEFICIT For the Week:	\$ (996.00)

<i>St. Joseph's Offering</i>	
Sunday, December 18, 2016:	\$ 356.00

FLOWERS FOR MARY'S ALTAR—JANUARY

- 1 St. Edmund
- 8 Doug & Isabel Rogers
- 15 Sandy Harris
- 22 Chris Daszko
- 29



The generosity of one of our parishioners has brought us complimentary copies of *Resisting Happiness*, a book published by *Beacon Publishing* in connection with *DyanmicCatholic.com*. Please help yourself to a copy after Mass and if this book might seem to be a good gift to friends or family, please help yourself to another copy. Our parishioners can be so thoughtful and the gift of this book is a great example of such generosity!

THANK YOU to all who came and helped decorate St. Edmund's for the Christmas season. The Church looks very festive!

Special **THANK YOU** to Nick Arie for keeping the home fires burning at the Church and Rectory....especially during the frigid cold snap we had!

LAY MINISTERS Liturgical Appointments for Next Weekend

Dec. 31/Jan. 1	5:00 PM	7:30 AM	10:30 AM
LECTOR	Jeanette Reifel	Debbie Ochs	Lorraine Smith
SERVERS	Conner & Claire Curry	Wyatt Claire	Autumn Haskins & Dane Martin
COMMUNION	Diana Wessels	Lynette Moyer	Cup: Julie Arseneau & Lorraine Smith
HOSPITALITY	DR/M Phil Zumwalt Mark Zumwalt	M/M Larry Buswell M/M Joe Benner	M/M Kevin Hemp Family

Preparing to hear next Sunday's Gospel:
Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God
Luke 2:16-21
"Mary kept all these things, reflecting on them in her heart!"

- Do I, like Mary, keep all the things that have come to me from Jesus?
- Do I, with joy, treasure all these things in my heart?
- How can I make this new year of grace, 2017, a true year of holiness.

Prayer: Lord Jesus, at your birth Mary welcomed you with love beyond all telling. At your death on the cross you gave her to us as our Mother, too. May we live under her protection and come to be members of your Holy Family. Amen!

On this joyful Christmas Day I wish a Blessed Christmas Season to all of our parishioners and friends who join us today. As we remember the gift of Jesus over 2000 years ago, as we celebrate his presence among us, especially in the Mass and, as we prepare for his return in glory, let us make this a prayerful and merry day! Thank you for all of your Christmas kindness to our parish and to me. Like the Inn Keeper, let us make room in our homes and lives to welcome in Jesus, Mary and Joseph!

The Inn Keepers Carol

To give the weary traveler rest,
Protecting them from danger
My father's father built this Inn
To welcome in the stranger.

In David's dark and dusty town
So few have made their dwelling,
But by an Emperor's decree
The numbers great are swelling.

So when two weary travelers came
The woman great with child,
I had no room to offer them
This Holy Family, mild.

But wait, there is humble place,
Where oxen feed on hay.
Who'd dream the Lord of Heaven and Earth
Would there be born today?

A mighty king deserves a throne
And praise in wondrous story,
But this great King of Kings preferred
A manger for his glory.

This Inn my father's father built
Is bathed in marvelous light
For Christ the Prince of Peace was born
Here on this Christmas night.

M. Powell 2016
~ A blessed Christmas & grace filled 2017

JANUARY'S items needed for **HARBOR HOUSE** are: **Bras, Underwear and Socks (Various Sizes). Paper Products of all kinds are always appreciated! Thank you.**

From the Diocese . . .

Worldwide Marriage Encounter Weekends: The next **Worldwide Marriage Encounter Weekends** for 2017 are: **February 17-19, April 7-9, 2017 & June 9-11** at **Elk Grove Village, IL.** Early registration is highly recommended. For reservations/information, call **Jim & Kris** at **630-577-0778** or contact them at <http://wwme-chicagoland.org>.

Joyful Again! (A Widowed Ministry): The next **Joyful Again Widowed Retreats/Workshops** will be: **January 21/22, 2017** at **Alvernia Manor, Our Lady of the Angels House of Prayer Evangelization Center** in **Lemont** (Overnight—no commuters). To register or for more information, call **708-354-721** or email them at joyfulagain721@gmail.com. Visit their website at www.joyfulagain.org. Space is limited so please register early.

VOLUNTEER SERVICES

Volunteer Services is in need of people to help deliver noon-day meals to shut-ins. They are currently providing 22 meals 5 days/week (M-F—no major holidays). You may sign up to help as little or as much as you have time for. The food is prepared and picked up at IMH. If you can help out, please call Volunteer Services at 815-432-5785 or stop in at 1001 E. Grant St., Watseka.

Thank you & God Bless

Just a short note to wish the parishioners of St. Edmund's and St. Joseph's a joyous Christmas and blessed New Year. Hard to believe that 2016 is coming to a close....where does the time go! A special **THANK YOU** to those remembering me this holiday season with tokens of appreciation. It truly is a pleasure to be all of yours' "church lady!"

Colette

PLEASE NOTE: There are still quite a few dates available for which to provide flowers for Mary's Altar.

Please pray for our Service Members . . .

- Staff Sgt. 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
- Staff Sargent Rori Sorensen, granddaughter of Mary Sorensen

Please pray for . . .

- Francis Melson
- Peace on Earth!

One Heart, One Soul Spirituality Center
PRAYER BREAKFAST

WHEN: Thursday, January 5, 2017, from 7:30—9:00 a.m.

SPONSORED BY: Servants of the Holy Heart of Mary

TOPIC: Catholic Charities and Resources

This presentation will provide an overview of Community Services programs that Catholic Charities provides: *Emergency Services, Homeless Prevention, Supportive Services for Veteran's Families, Hispanic/Latino Services, Transitional Housing for Homeless families and Disaster Services.*

PRESENTER: *Sarah Neill, Director of Community Services*, Catholic Charities (Kankakee, Ford & Iroquois Counties)

COST: Free-will donation—Continental Breakfast available

TO REGISTER OR FOR MORE INFORMATION: Please call Sister Mary Stella, 815-935-0800

MONEY COUNTERS FOR JANUARY ARE:

1	Dick Arie & Brittany Cluver
8	Julie Arseneau & Elsie Hankey
15	Jennifer Dixon & Nick Harvey
22	Bill Janssen & Steve McCullough
29	Jamie Knapp & Bette Maxheimer

ST. EDMUND CHURCH

219 EAST LOCUST STREET
WATSEKA IL 60970

PASTOR: Reverend Michael Powell

Rectory: 815-432-3274 ~ Offices Hours: 8 a.m.—12 p.m. M-F
RE Office: 815-432-5569 ~ Office Hours: Tue. 10 a.m.—3 p.m. /Wed. 10 a.m.—5 p.m.

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