

From the Diocese . . .

Worldwide Marriage Encounter Weekends: Up-coming *Worldwide Marriage Encounter Weekends* in 2016 are: **February 12-14, April 8-10, and June 10-12** at **Elk Grove Village, IL**. Early registration is highly recommended. For reservations/information, contact **Jim & Kris at 630-577-0778** or at <http://wwme-chicagoland.org>.

Joyful Again! (A Widowed Ministry): The next *Joyful Again Widowed Retreats/Workshops* in 2016 will be: **January 16/17 and March 5/6**, at **Our Lady of the Angels House of Prayer in Lemont**. Contact them at **708-354-7211** or email joyfulagain7211@gmail.com. Visit their website at www.joyfulagain.org. Space is limited so please register early.

The new 2016 *Flowers for Mary* sign-up sheets are now up on the bulletin board in the vestibule of the Church. Please sign up early if you have a special date you would like to provide flowers for Mary's Altar.

You may also get your 2016 Mass requests in to Colette at the Rectory, 815-432-3274.

One Heart, One Soul Spirituality Center
A TIME OF PRAYER
"Listening Prayer"

WHEN: Thursday, December 10, from 9 a.m.—12 p.m.

SPONSORED BY: Servants of the Holy Heart of Mary

PRESENTERS: Sister Loretta Finn, SSCM & Sister Anne Jaeger, SSCM

COST: \$5, if possible. If not, come anyway.

TO REGISTER OR FOR MORE INFORMATION: Call 815-935-0800 or just stop by.

Treat Yourself to a Time of Prayer

Please pray for our Service Members . . .

- Sr. Airman Thomas Westrick, son of Steve & Sharon Westrick
- AFC Andrew Kelnhofer, son of Michelle Hastings
- Hm3 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 *Extraordinary Jubilee of Mercy* opens on Tuesday, December 8, the Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception and the Feastday for the diocese of the United States of America. We are given twelve months to be merciful like the Father, to make this a daily habit. Mary's life gives us a pattern for our own.

- How can I magnify, sing the praise of God today?
- How can I be more like her—full of grace?

OPENING OF THE HOLY DOOR TO BEGIN THE HOLY YEAR OF MERCY

All the faithful are invited to attend the 5:00 p.m. Mass on **Saturday, December 12th** at the **Cathedral of St. Raymond in Joliet**. This liturgy will be our diocesan initiation of the *Holy Year of Mercy*. Prior to the beginning of Mass, Bishop Conlon will open the Cathedral's Holy Door, our local way of joining with Pope Francis as he opens the Holy Doors in Rome. Let us enter into this Holy Year in joyful celebration of God's extravagant love and mercy. May our own carrying out of the Corporal and Spiritual Works of Mercy make present God's tender mercy.

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 6, 2015

Mon.	12/7	7:30 AM	In Thanksgiving of Our 50th Wedding Anniversary by The Family
Tue.	12/8	NO MASS	
Wed.	12/9	7:30 AM	Joyce Donohue by Bob Donohue
Thur.	12/10	7:30 AM	Doris Duensing by Norma Ely
Fri.	12/11	7:30 AM	In Thanksgiving for All The Prayers, Cards & Visits by Bob & Phyllis Tonner
Sat.	12/12	5:00 PM	Edward Gooding by John Gooding & Family
Sun.	12/13	7:30 AM	Richard Ryan by Knights of Columbus Council # 4391
		9:00 AM	Parish Families of St. Edmund's & St. Joseph's
		10:30 AM	Luella Lesch by Her Family

Preparing to hear next Sunday's Gospel:
Third Sunday of Advent "C"
Luke 3:10-18
"He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and with fire!"

- How can I do my job more sincerely and more honestly?
- John calls us to share with those in need. How am I doing that this Advent Season?
- Do I truly live as the "wheat" that Christ will gather into his barn or have I been more like the "chaff" that will be separated from him?

Prayer: Lord Jesus, John the Baptist went before you to prepare your way. Help me live in a manner more worthy of being your disciple. May I grow in grace during this season of preparation. Amen!

Weekly Parish Need for Operation:	\$ 3,200.00
Sunday Offering Nov. 28/29, 2015:	\$ 2,202.00
DEFICIT For the Week:	\$ (998.00)

Roof Fund Donations Nov. 28/29, 2015:	\$ 75.00
Total Roof Fund Donations:	\$ 152,189.00

Offering at St. Joseph's, Nov. 29, 2015	\$ 557.00

Let's give this a try!

I'm sure most of you have heard the problem we are having with static feedback in the sound system at Mass. Other churches in the area are having the same problem. One even tried fixing their speakers but that didn't help. Then they tried an experiment. The congregation was asked to turn off their cell phones, not simple mute them down but turn them off. That seemed to work. So let's try it here. Please turn your phones "OFF" when you get to Church, perhaps (fingers crossed) this may take care of the disturbance.

Thanks,
Fr. Mike

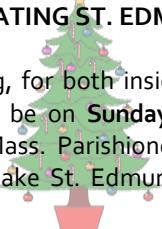
SECOND COLLECTION
Next Weekend ~ December 12/13, 2015

Next weekend's Second Collection is for the **Retirement Fund for Religious**. Your gift provides vital support for senior Catholic sisters, brothers and religious order priests. Thank you!

LAY MINISTERS Liturgical Appointments for Next Weekend

Dec. 12/13	5:00 PM	7:30 AM	10:30 AM
LECTOR	Jeanette Reifel	Debbie Ochs	Mary Decker
SERVERS	Conner & Claire Curry		Cole Arseneau & Zakkary Clark
COMMUNION	Rosann Miller	Kevin Bohlmann	Lorraine Smith
HOSPITALITY	M/M Carl Gullquist Ray Gullquist	DR/M William Burwell Christine Ryan Carol Haas	Marion Jaworski Family M/M Gene Ochs

DECORATING ST. EDMUND'S

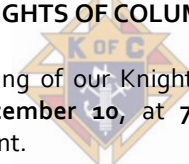


Church decorating, for both inside and outside at St. Edmund's will be on **Sunday, December 20th** following 10:30 Mass. Parishioners are invited to come and help make St. Edmund's ready for the Christmas season.

EUCHRE PARTY

St. Edmund's Senior Citizens will be having their next **Euchre Party** on **Thursday, December 10, at 1 p.m.** at the **Parish Center**. Parishioners, as well as non-parishioners, are welcome to attend. All attendees are asked to bring an item for our local food pantry.

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS



The next meeting of our Knights of Columbus is **Thursday, December 10, at 7:30 p.m.** in the Church basement.

One Heart, One Soul Spirituality Center
(Sponsored by The Servants of the Holy Heart of Mary)

You are invited to come pray with us, *Servants of the Holy Heart of Mary*, on the **2nd Friday** of every month from 7-8 p.m. for **Adoration for Vocations** in the chapel at One Heart, One Soul Spirituality Center in Kankakee.

ST. EDMUND CCW

- Our **BAKE SALE** is **THIS weekend, December 5/6, AFTER ALL MASSES**. Please bring your baked goods to the basement at whatever Mass you attend. If you are unable to bring a baked good or purchase a baked good, free-will donations will also be accepted. *Thank you.*
- You can still get your donation in to purchase a poinsettia in memory of a loved one. Just put your donation in an envelope with the name of your loved one, mark the envelope **CCW Christmas Poinsettia** and place it in the collection basket. **Checks are to be made payable to St. Edmund CCW.** *Thank you.*

Our Christmas and New Year's Mass schedule is as follows:

Thursday	December 24	4:00 & 6:00 p.m.
Friday	December 25	9:00 & 10:30 a.m.
Thursday	December 31	5:00 p.m.
Friday	January 1, 2016	10:30 a.m.

On **Wednesday, December 16th**, **Individual Confessions** will be heard from **11:30 a.m.—12:30 p.m.** There will also be a **Penance Service** that evening at **7 p.m.**