

March 15 6:30 p.m. @ St. Jerome

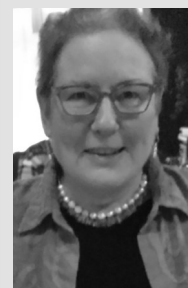
Rev. Dr. Sheldon Culver shares:

Jeremiah 31:31-34

The Mystery of it All:

How God's covenant with Creation becomes the claim on our lives.

Through biblical stories of covenant, and personal experience, Sheldon will invite you to consider how your relationship with God has come to be, and how the same covenant continues to guide and challenge your life.



Rev. Sheldon Culver is an ordained minister with the United Church of Christ (UCC.) She was born and raised in Boston, Ma, and came to St. Louis in 1966 to attend Washington University where she majored in Religious Studies, receiving a B.A. in 1971. She is a graduate of Eden Theological Seminary, St Louis, achieving a Master of Divinity degree in 1974. Eden Seminary awarded her the honorary degree of Doctor of Divinity in 2010.

Rev. Sheldon has served as Pastor and Teacher with UCC congregations in Southern Illinois, and Eastern Missouri. She became the Conference Minister (Bishop) of the Illinois South Conference of the United Church of Christ in 2007, moving to the community of Highland. In 2015 she retired, and has recently moved her home to Columbia, Il.

Rev. Sheldon continues in ministry as a Jungian Analyst, working with persons who seek deeper relationship with their spiritual selves. This ministry, focusing on dreams and soul's journey, brings her deep satisfaction.

She also sings with the Heartland Community Chorus. Sheldon invites anyone who enjoys the beauty and blessings of voices blended in song to come to the HCC concerts....AND, consider joining the chorus!

St. Jerome Speakers: March 15 & March 22

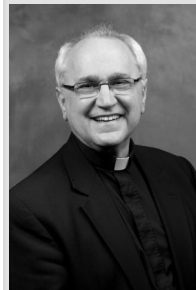
March 22, 6:30 p.m. @ St. Jerome

Fr. Richard Chiola shares:

Mark 14:1—15:47

*The Passion according to St. Mark:
A Soldier's Epiphany.*

Fr. Chiola unfolds the story of the crucifixion in Mark's Gospel. In Mark 15:39 a centurion cries out: "Truly this was Son of God."



Father Richard Chiola, ordained 1972, is a retired priest of the diocese of Springfield, IL. He is past-president of NOCERCC, the National Organization for Continuing Education of Roman Catholic Clergy. Currently Fr. Chiola has a

private practice in spiritual direction and in counseling therapy. He also gives retreats and workshops to priests, communities of religious women, and laity.

Fr. Chiola holds several degrees in theology including a Ph.D. in historical theology from St. Louis University. He also holds a M.A. in counseling from the University of Illinois at Springfield and is a licensed clinical professional counselor.

He has served as an assistant professor of pastoral theology at Yale University, a Catholic chaplain at University of Chicago, and a mission consultant for Hospital Sisters Health System. He has taught pastoral theology in both Protestant and Catholic seminaries.

In order for each parish to prepare, please R.S.V.P. via the website:

www.StJeromeParish.org

OR turn in the R.S.V.P. form to the offertory basket or office

Speaker Series Info:

- ♦ The speaker series is FREE of charge to any adult.
- ♦ **Six Thursdays of Lent:**
February 15 February 22 March 1
March 8 March 15 March 22
- ♦ Two held at St. James (St. Jacob, IL), two held at St. Elizabeth (Marine, IL) and two held at St. Jerome (Troy, IL).
- ♦ Funding for the speakers is being provided through our diocese's *Harvest of Thanks, Springtime of Hope* campaign for adult faith formation.

Thank you to St Jerome St. Ann's Council of Catholic Women, and the Troy Knights of Columbus Council #9266

Speaker Series committee:

✦ **St. James Catholic Church**
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LENTEN SPEAKER SERIES

Carry the message of CHRIST

Journey through the Scriptures this Lent.....



The 6 Thursdays of Lent ~ 2018

Simple meal & fellowship: 6:00-6:45 pm
Speaker: 6:45-8:00 pm

February 15, 6:45 p.m. @ St. James

Eliot Kapitan shares:

Genesis 9:8-15

Breaking Open the First Sunday of Lent and the 40 Days of the Season:

Noah, Covenant, and

Baptismal Water Leading us into Lent

When we pay close attention, we notice that Lent has a rich baptismal focus. It underpins our praying, fasting, and giving. Through conversation, reflection on our lives, and faith-filled prayer, we will unwrap the treasure of Baptism and the very mission of the Church.



Eliot Kapitan retired from the Office for Divine Worship and the Catechumenate after 29 years in the Diocese of Springfield in Illinois. His career includes earlier parish and diocesan positions in Texas, Louisiana and

Indiana.

A native of South Dakota, Kapitan is a graduate of Notre Dame Seminary and Graduate School of Theology in New Orleans, and is known professionally — and affectionately — for his strict attention to liturgical accuracy and detail.

Eliot received the 2015 national award from the Federation of Diocesan Liturgical Commissions. The Federation notes that Kapitan is a passionate promoter of the Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults. He coordinated the regional RCIA training entitled “Wading Deeper.” For many years he served as a team member for the North American Forum on the Catechumenate.

Ask him about being a new grandfather!!

*Thank you to the
St. Elizabeth’s Altar Sodality
and the Ladies of St. James*

St. James Speakers February 15 & February 22

February 22, 6:45 p.m. @ St. James

Fr. Kevin Laughery shares:

Genesis 22:1-2, 9A, 10-13, 15-18

“What happens to a dream deferred? Does it dry up, like a raisin in the sun?”

Langston Hughes, “Harlem”

In Genesis chapter 22, we find one of the strangest incidents in all the Scriptural interactions between God and human beings. Abraham and Sarah had longed for a son and, after they had waited a very long time, God gave them Isaac. Then God told Abraham to make a burnt offering of Isaac! What sense can we find in this incident? What does it say about dreams deferred or dashed?

Father Kevin Laughery, who grew up in the Decatur area, is pastor of St. Jerome Parish in Troy and St. James Parish in St. Jacob.



Before coming here in 2017, he served parishes in the Springfield area for 34 years while working in the diocesan Office for Tribunal Services, and was in charge of the tribunal from 2005 to 2017. He remains a tribunal judge.

He writes for Sunday Missal Service in Quincy, and has a regular column, A Big Small World, in Catholic Times.

Father Kevin is particularly interested in anti-racism work, efforts toward Christian unity, and interaction with people of non-Christian religions.

He also likes to sing.



March 1, 6:30 p.m. @ St. Elizabeth

Sr. Elyse Marie Ramirez shares:

John 2:13-25

Cleansing the Temple –Why the whip?!

Sr. Elyse Marie comes this evening to wonder aloud with us ...”How does our image of God fit or not fit with this image of Jesus in the Temple in today’s passage?” Our answer will help us to explore together how this connects with our Lenten journey of prayer, fasting and almsgiving.



Sr. Elyse Marie Ramirez O.P., is a Dominican Sister of Springfield, IL. Elyse Marie professed first vows in 1985.

Sister Elyse holds two B.A.’s from Quincy University: one in Theology, one in History, with a Certificate in Education. Elyse went on to complete both a Masters of Theology, with an emphasis in Scripture, and a certificate in Preaching at Aquinas Institute of Theology in St. Louis, MO. She continues doing graduate study as available and recently completed the Religious Formation Conference’s ForMission Program.

Sr. Elyse’s ministerial experience includes teaching grades 5-8; high school theology and Campus Ministry; seven years as Coordinator of Religious Vocations Ministries in the Archdiocese of Chicago Office for Religious. There she participated in interviewing seminary candidates, assessing candidates for communities, planning and coordinating “Cardinal” events with religious and coordinating the collaborative work of CAVA, the Chicago Archdiocesan Vocation Association.

Sr. Elyse has served as the Promoter of Preaching, Vocation Director and currently as the congregation’s Director of the first three years of Initial Formation.

March 8, 6:30 p.m. @ St. Elizabeth

Rev. Galda McCants shares:

Ephesians 2:4-10

“Twin Towers: Grace and Mercy”

Rev. Galda shares with us her story of how and where we may find God’s ever present grace and mercy in today’s sometimes painful world.



Rev. Galda McCants is a native of Chicago, Illinois and daughter of the late Judge Marion W. and Juanita Garnett.

She attended the St. Dorothy Catholic

Church for several years with her maternal grand parents for many years.

After graduation from college she converted to the African Methodist Episcopal Church where her husband worshipped.

She has been the wife of Presiding Elder Gary McCants of the Super Soaring South District of the Illinois Conference, for 40 years. She is also the mother of four children, and grandmother of one grandson.

As an ordained Itinerant Elder in the African Methodist Episcopal Church, she has served with her husband at Bethel, Kewanee, IL, Allen Chapel in Alton, IL and St. Paul in Springfield, IL. She is currently working with her husband, who is Presiding Elder of the South District of Illinois Conference. This district includes African Methodist Episcopal Churches from Lincoln, IL to Cairo.

As co chair of the ICER committee for the Illinois Conference of Churches, she serves with Father Kevin Laughery. She is an active member of the Women In Ministry and serves as assistant co coordinator. She is also the current president of God First Ministries in Springfield.

St. Elizabeth’s Speakers: March 1 & March 8