

St. Edward and St. Stephen Catholic Churches



FATHER CHARLES' CALENDAR FOR THE WEEK OF JULY 29 – AUGUST 6

St. Edward mass, Saturday, July 29, 4:00 p.m.
 St. Stephen mass, Saturday, July 29, 6:00 p.m.
 St. Stephen mass, Sunday, July 30, 8:30 a.m.
 St. Edward mass, Sunday, July 30, 10:30 a.m.
 St. Stephen mass, Tuesday, August 1, 6:30 p.m.
 St. Stephen mass, Wed., August 2, 6:30 p.m.
 St. Stephen mass, Thursday, August 3, 8:00 a.m.
 St. Edward mass, Thursday, August 3, 6:30 p.m.
 St. Edward mass, Friday, August 4, 8:00 a.m.
 St. Edward mass, Saturday, August 5, 4:00 p.m.
 St. Stephen mass, Saturday, August 5, 6 p.m.
 St. Stephen mass, Sunday, August 6, 8:30 a.m.
 St. Edward mass, Sunday, August 6, 10:30 a.m.

UPCOMING PICNIC

Holy Cross Parish Picnic, August 6, Mass at 10 a.m. Chicken dinners starts at 11 a.m. – 5 p.m., \$10 Adults, \$5 kids – 6-12, under 3 free. Pedal tractor pulls – 2 – 3 p.m. Country store, beer garden, bingo, inflatables, cake stand, theme baskets, raffles, 50/50 drawing, children's games. Lunch stand – pork burgers, brats etc. Live music – 11 – 1 p.m. Gunslingers, 1-2 p.m. 4 – 5 p.m. Rhonda Kuenstler, 2-4 p.m. Benny and the Amigos, 7:30 – 9:45p.m. Triple Play



Diocese of Belleville has started formation for Lay Ecclesial ministry called **"Into My Vineyard."** It is a two-year program to increase the number of well-trained Lay Ecclesial (Church) Ministers for servant leadership...to renew and rebuild Catholic life in our **Parish Partnerships.** For more information pick up a brochure at the back of the church, or go to <http://www.diobelle.org/offices/into-my-vineyard>. Anyone interested in being part of this program should see Father Charles.

Vocation Corner "When I was in grade school, I used to help a priest prepare to celebrate Mass at a local hospital. I never could have imagined that my entry to the seminary would lead me from a remote town in the Philippines to Milwaukee. I came to learn the truth in the expression, "God does not call the qualified, but qualifies those whom he calls." I now dedicate my life to God by professing the vows of poverty, chastity and obedience, and embracing the special charism of my religious Order by serving the sick even with danger to my own life." Father Jojo Orosa, Order of St. Camillus, Milwaukee, WI, Columbia, "Keep the Faith Alive", June, 2016, pg. 34.

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 Email stedwardcatholicchurch01@frontier.com
 Website: stedwardfairfield.com

812 N. Main Street, Flora IL 62839
 Email: ststephenflora@yahoo.com
 Website: ststephenflora.com

Rev. Father Charles Anyaoku, Pastoral Administrator

email: fronyekaanyaoku@yahoo.com, cell phone: 618-641-8978, office phone: 618-662-6261

St. Edward Mass Schedule:

Saturday: 4:00 p.m. and Sunday 10:30 a.m.

Reconciliation: Friday after mass or by appt.

Parish Office: Peggy Garrison, Secretary
 Office hours Tuesday, Wednesday & Friday,
 8 a.m. to 12 noon Rectory/Office 847-7931
 Fax – 847-7393 Parish Hall 847-7512

Bulletin Info: Peggy Garrison, Parish Office.
 Please submit by noon on Thursday

New Parishioners Register at the Parish Office

PSR Coordinator: Sarah Pickens

RCIA Coordinator: Ginny Barrett

Music Director: Denise Zurliene

PARISH MONTHLY MEETINGS

Pastoral Council – 3rd Thursday
 Altar Sodality – 3rd Monday
 Men's Club - As announced
 CYO Meeting - As announced
 Food Pantry Distribution – 2nd Saturday 8am

St. Stephen Mass Schedule:

Saturday: 6:00 p.m. and Sunday 8:30 a.m.

Reconciliation: Thursday, 7:30 a.m. or by appt.

Parish Office: Fern Ketzner, Trudi Herdes
 Secretary, Office hours Monday & Thursday
 morning. Office, Fax and Social Room - 662-8121
 Rectory – 662-6261

Bulletin info: Beth Fancher, 665-3163 submit by
 noon on Thursday email: bfancher1@hotmail.com

New Parishioner Register contact Dorothy
 Uebinger 662-3711 email dot@wabash.net

Music Director: Diane Briscoe

PSR Coordinator: Paul Duquaine

PARISH MONTHLY MEETINGS

Knights of Columbus – 1st Wednesday, 7 pm
 Finance Committee – 2nd Wednesday, 7 p.m.
 Altar Society - As announced
 Pastoral Council - 4th Wednesday, 7 p.m.
 Food Pantry Collection - First Weekend

Baptism, Marriage, RCIA, Vocations, Sacrament of Anointing & Care of the Sick, contact
 Father Charles Anyaoku or call St. Edward or St. Stephen Parish Offices.

**One thing I ask of the Lord, and this I long, to dwell in the house of the Lord all the days of my life. (Ps. 27, 4)
 That should be our daily prayer. That should be our daily desire. That should be our daily wish.**

ST. EDWARD MASS INTENTIONS FOR THE WEEK

Saturday, July 22, 4:00pm—Jim Turner+
Sunday, July 23, 10:30am—Joe & Kathryn Basinger+
Thursday, July 27, 6:30pm—Catholic Extension Donors
Friday, July 28, 8:00am—Catholic Extension Donors
Saturday, July 29, 4:00pm—John Robison III+
Sunday, July 30, 10:30am—Larry McClure+

Weekly Contributions 07-16-2017

Envelopes(31) \$1,304.00
Loose 92.00
Total \$1,396.00
We need \$1,887.00

Building Fund \$103.00
Donation 50.00

Attendance: Sat.32
Sun. 60



PRAYER INTENTIONS:

Garland Keck, Kim Buchanan,
Lanora Neavill, Ute Britton, Leon Chamness
Jack Ciesielczyk, Jalain Thompson, Jim & Jane
Mowry, Phyllis Laird, Kurt Wiseman, Nanette
Williams, Julie Griffith, Gina Williams, Emilee
Stanley, Noreen Reeves, Paula Zdan, Maddox
Oppenheimer, Sara Kerchner, Charles Drechsel,
Dorothy Baylor, Eva Decker, Matthew Rorban,
Kathy Bramlet, Virginia Weinkeler, Tom Colvin,
Teresa Williams, Andrew Mayo, Robyn Meagher,
Sheila Zurliene, Sandra Henson, Andrew Luna,
Elaine Jeffers, Jeff Zurliene, Jodi Hunt, and all
priests who are sick.

**VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL: JULY 31ST-AUG. 3RD. TIMES:
5-7PM. POTLUCK THURS. AUG 3RD, FOLLOWING 6:30PM
MASS. EVERYONE WELCOME TO POTLUCK.**

Our Daily Scripture Readings:

Mon: Ex 14:5-18 Mt 12:38-42
Tues: 2 Cor 4:7-15 Mt 20:20-28
Wed: Ex 16:1-5, 9-15 Mt 13:1-9
Thur: Ex 19:1-2, 9-11 Mt 13:10-17
Fri: Ex 20:1-17 Mt 13:18-23
Sat: Ex 24:3-8 Jn 11:19-27
Sun: 1 Kgs 3:5, 7-12 Rom 8:28-30 Mt 13:44-52

Saturday, July 29
Lector: Don Zurliene
EM: Jim & Margaret Thompson
Ushers: Ken & Theresa Nordmann
Gifts: The Nick Zurliene Family
Servers: volunteers

Sunday, July 30
Lector: Debra Simmers
EM: Ginny Barrett, Emily Milligan
Ushers: Tom & Hunter Konopasek
Gifts: The Garrison Family
Servers: Jackson Mills, Drew Milligan

ST. STEPHEN INTENTIONS FOR THE WEEK

Saturday, July 22, 6:00 p.m. – Tom Scanlan+
Sunday, July 23, 8:30 a.m. – Catholic Extension Donors
Tuesday, July 25, 6 p.m. Rosary, 6:30 p.m. mass - Al Uebinger+
Wednesday, July 26, 6 p.m. Rosary, 6:30 p.m. mass – Margo Etchison+
Thursday, July 27, 8:00 a.m. – Raymond Grundy+
Fri., July 28, No mass, Eucharistic Adoration 8:30 a.m. - 3:15 p.m. 3p.m. Divine Mercy Chaplet
Saturday, July 29, 6 p.m. – Sharon Pearce+
Sunday, July 30, 8:30 a.m. – For the living & deceased of the parish.



PRAYER INTENTIONS: Linda Griffy, Bill
Marks, Nichole Wheaton, Lisa Persinger, Verna
Oliver, LaVonne Kemmerer, Patience McKnight,
Clara Wilson, Claire Fopay, Mildred Garrison, Ray
Vaughn, Anita Allen, Joe Falica, Lois Houlihan,
Pat and Jean Quinn, Ray & Irene Winka, Pat
Venable, Chris Boyd, Dr. Mark Wallace, Gerty
Grundy, Ginny Timm, Herman Rudolphi, Tracy
Winka, Jay Burgner, Steve Dudzik, Ruth Wilson,
Mike Burge, Angie Borrelli, Roger Wells, Tom
Kasper, Becky Payne, Rita & Judy Porter, Bob
Bluhm Jim Coatney, Jim Stanford, Rhonda Ryker,
Kelly Coan, Rick Harvey

CRY ROOM St. Stephen's Cry Room is in the
Library, which is equipped with a TV set up with
a live feed of the Mass in progress on weekend.

Prayer Chain A prayer chain has
been formed in our parish.
When a parishioner has an
intention and requests prayers,
Erin Pierce will initiate the prayer
chain. She will contact Fr. Martin
who will determine the prayers.
An email will be sent to all
members, who will pray for the
intentions. Each member should
endeavor to assure the obligation
is met. Contact Erin 662 -2266
or erinmp1968@aol.com

Weekly Contributions 07-16-17

Envelopes..... \$963.00
Loose.....\$151.00
Total.....\$1,114.00

Fiscal Year Collections (7/1/16 to 6/30/17) were
\$10,177 UNDER Projected/Budgeted Collections
for the Fiscal Year.

We have budgeted for a weekly collection of
\$1,731 to meet our expenses. Our 7-2-17
collections of **\$1,550** were **\$181 UNDER** Projected
Collections for the week. Fiscal Year to Date
Collections (7/1/17 to 6/30/18) are **\$181 UNDER**
Projected/ Budgeted Collections for the Fiscal Year.

Attendance: Saturday- 62 Sunday – 60

If you would like to help earn money for St. Ann's general fund visit
Goodsearch.com and register making St. Ann's your charity. Please
type in "St Anns Altar Society" (no punctuation). Make it your
homepage or just use it to search or make online purchases.

Please consider purchasing SCRIP cards after weekend Masses or
contact Erin Pierce at 676-4967. There are several retailers and
restaurants participating in the program. St. Ann's buys the cards at a
discounted rate and sells them at full face value. When you buy a
card you receive a card worth the purchase price, for example a \$100
Wal-Mart card is worth \$100. For more information contact Erin or
visit shopwithscrip.com. Complete retailer list is available on website.

ST. STEPHEN NEWS

WELCOME Father Charles Anyoaku, to St. Stephen Parish. We are truly grateful and blessed to have him join our Parish Family!

There will be a reception for Father Martin-Edward on Saturday, August 5, following 6 p.m. mass. Meat and drink will be provided by the parish. Bring a side dish to share. This will also be the last day that he will be with us. He is leaving on August 6. Contact Deb Duquaine or Kevin Stinner if you would like to help.



Sympathy is extended to Dorothy Winka and family on the death of her brother, Roger Beard of Town and Country, MO, who passed away Wednesday, July 12. His Memorial Service was Saturday, July 22 at Mari de Villa Clubhouse. May he rest in peace.

There will be a new **Vocation Committee** formed. This committee will be formed for the expressed intention for praying and actively advocating for vocations in our parish. Anyone interested in being part of this ministry contact Kevin Stinner.

The next **Altar Society rotating chairman** are: Deb and Vivian Duquaine, Etchison/Whitehead/Winka and Berenice Mary Brown.

Please consider becoming a Lector, Commentator, Eucharistic minister or altar server. Contact Father Martin-Edward, Kevin Stinner or Beth Fancher in interested in the ministries.

There are extra bulletins in the white mailbox on the south door.



CEMETERY CORNER
Efforts are ongoing to keep our cemetery a beautiful resting place for loved ones. Many thanks to those who do such a great job.

ST. EDWARD NEWS

St. Edward Pastoral Council has an opening for a new member. Any parishioner interested on serving on the Council please contact President Dave Cavanaugh or any council member. We would also like to Thank Richard Gomez for serving on the Council the past 3 years. We appreciate the time and commitment you dedicated to St. Edward Parish.

MASS & PICNIC: On Sunday, July 30th, we will be holding 10:30am mass at Tom & Lisa Konopasek’s cabin, (east of town). Following mass we will have a picnic to welcome Father Charles to St. Edward Parish. The parish will provide meat, please bring covered dish or dessert. There is a signup sheet in the hall (so we have an idea on how much meat to get). Hope to see you there. **DIRECTIONS: EAST ON RT. 15, TURN NORTH AT KLINE’S CORNER (2400 E). ONE MILE NORTH LITTLE SIGN ON RIGHT HAND SIDE “LOG CABIN ROAD” TURN RIGHT. AT THE BOTTOM OF HILL TURN LEFT ONTO LANE. THERE WILL BE SIGNS UP. PLEASE BRING LAWN CHAIRS.**

NATIONAL CATHOLIC YOUTH CONFERENCE (NCYC): NCYC will be held November 16-18, 2017 in Indianapolis, Ind. If any youth is interested in attending please contact Laura Titzer or the church office. This event is for Catholic teenagers or youth who have been confirmed. This is a great opportunity for any teen who wish to grow in their Catholic Faith. If you want to know more about NCYC log on to <http://www.ncyc.info/promovideos/>.

BUILDING FUND: AS MOST OF YOU KNOW, WE PURCHASED 2 NEW FURNACES FOR THE CHURCH, SO OUR BUILDING FUND ACCOUNT IS DEPLETED. IF ANYONE WOULD LIKE TO MAKE A DONATION, WHETHER IT BE A ONE TIME DONATION OR CONTINUOUS, WILL BE GREATLY APPRECIATED.

SIXTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME—ANOTHER FARMING STORY.
We do not live in a perfect world. Shocking? Not really, not if we pay attention. Today’s farming story shows, because of evil action, that weeds and grain grow together. So, where do we find hope? Disciples find it in Jesus; find it in God who is just, who is kind, who is forgiving.
~How do I live in this world without giving up?
~What good “seed” do I plant and water?
~What is the harvest I seek?

From The Desk of Fr. Charles Anyaoku.

The grace of Christ is sufficient for us, and evil has no power over good.

Praise be to Jesus both now and forever Amen. Today, the church celebrates the sixteenth Sunday in ordinary time, year A. Today’s Gospel reading (Mathew 13:24-43) tells us about wheat and weeds in the farmland, that the church is the soil (farmland) where all kinds of things grow: wheat and weeds. This story would be very familiar to all of us because here we have farmland. When wheat was planted and started to grow, weeds would sprout too. Their seeds were mixed with the wheat and couldn’t be distinguished at first. Then, by the time you could tell them apart, their roots were so tangled together, that if you tried to remove the weeds, the wheat was pulled as well.

The farmer had to let them grow together. But at harvest time, he had to separate them because that kind of weed was toxic. This agricultural parable reminds us of some important truths about God, about the church, and about our world.

The story teaches that our God is a patient God. That’s what the first reading from the Book of Wisdom teaches. “Though you are master of might, you judge with clemency and with much leniency you govern us.” Often, we are tempted to want it to be otherwise. We want God to punish swiftly, surgically and severely. It’s a comfort to know that our God is not as impulsive as we are, that God is patient. At the end, there will be a judgement and a reckoning for everyone. People can slip through our justice system but they cannot slip through God’s justice and judgement is eminently fair and final.

God’s judgement is final, sometimes He will give us in our life early warning signs, wake – up calls, fire bells in the night. Those warnings and corrections are moments of grace and signs of love. He is a God of the second chance.

The parable also teaches us a truth about the church. All kinds of wheat abound in the church. But there are weeds. The church is a mixed bag. It always was and always will be. We are not a church of the perfect. We all know that we have been growing and learning to be better because it is where sinners become saints. Therefore, no one has right to judge but God alone who searches all hearts.

The parable teaches us about our world. The wheat and the weeds both grow and have power. Evil in our world is not just error, mistake, and imperfection. It is a power to destroy so intense that it is driven by a personal being, the evil one. But grace also has real power.

About Fr. Charles Anyaoku

Charles Onyekachukwu Anyaoku, was born on February 24, 1971, at Obosi, Anambra State - Nigeria of West Africa. He is the first son and second child of John Chukwukalo A. Anyaoku and Virginia Ekemma Anyaoku of Okpuno-Umuota Obosi, Anambra State, Nigeria.

On September 6, 1985, he entered St. Paul Minor Seminary, Ukpok and All Hallow Seminary, Onitsha. He completed his minor seminary studies in 1992. This was followed by pastoral assignment at St. Raphael Parish, AWKUZU and Christ the King Parish, Onitsha in 1992 and 1993. In 1994, he started spiritual formation at St. Pius X Seminary, Akwa-Ukwu Anambra - Nigeria. He entered major seminary formation at Bigard Memorial Seminary Enugu - Nigeria in 1995, and obtained a bachelor’s degree in philosophy in 1999. In October, 1999, he entered the same major seminary to study theology, which he completed in June 2003, receiving a bachelor’s degree in Theology.

He was ordained a priest on August 16, 2003, by His Excellency The Most Rev. Dr. Valerian M. Okeke at the Cathedral Basilica of the Most Holy Trinity, Onitsha, and Anambra - Nigeria. After his priestly ordination, he served in pastoral assignments in different parishes, including St. Mary Parish, Nnokwa; St. Raphael, Awkuzu and St. Peter the Apostle, Ugwu- agba Obosi. He was assigned to SS John and Paul Parish, Awada, Obosi 2004 -2005. In 2006, he served at Madonna Parish Nnobi. From 2007 to 2008, he served at St. Joseph Parish Onitsha. From 2009 to 2014, he was assigned to St. John the Baptist Parish, Nsugbe as pastor, and also to serve as pastoral administrator of St. Joseph, Abata Nsugbe.

More so, he furthered his education at Nnamdi Azikiwe University Awka, Anambra State - Nigeria, and he obtained a Post Graduate Diploma in education, 2005 to 2007. He enjoys writing, reading, listening to good music and watching good movies.

In January 2015, Charles was sent to United States on mission by his bishop to serve in the Belleville Diocese, Illinois (fidei donum). From July 14 to August 16, 2016, he was assigned to St. Paul Parish, Johnston City as pastoral administrator and also sacramental minister of Our Lady of Mount Carmel and St. Joseph, Marion. From August 16, 2016 to July 11 2017, he served as associate pastor at St. Joseph Olney, St. Joseph Stringtown and Holy Cross, Wendelin. Currently, he is serving at St. Stephen, Flora and St. Edward, Fairfield as the pastoral administrator.

