

St. Edward and St. Stephen Catholic Churches



300 NW 5th Street, Fairfield IL 62837
 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.

Confession, Sacrament of Reconciliation:

Saturday, 3:30 p.m.

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

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.

Confession, Sacrament of Reconciliation:

Sunday 8 a.m.

Parish Office: Trudi Herdes, Secretary,
 Office hours Monday & Wednesday mornings.
 Office, Fax and Social Room - 662-8121
 Rectory – 662-6261

Bulletin info: Beth Fancher, 665-3163 submit by
 Thursday email: bafancher@wabash.net

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

Music Director: Diane Briscoe
PSR Coordinator: Paul Duquaine
RCIA Coordinator: Cheryl McCarty

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, 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.

Vocation Corner:

“The Lord has his plan for each of us, he calls each one of us by name. Our task is to be listeners, capable of perceiving his call, to be courageous and faithful, so that we may follow him, and in the end, be found as trustworthy servants who have used well the gifts entrusted to us.” – Pope Benedict, September 11, 2006

Show Your Gratitude to Our Retired Diocesan Priests Collection This Weekend

On both ordinary and extraordinary days, our priests have been there for us...at baptisms, weddings, First Communion and Confirmation, at times of sickness and sorrow...dedicated their lives to bring us closer to Christ.

Now it is our turn to be there for them during their retirement years through a gift to the Retired Diocesan Priests Collection. All funds will be used only for long-term nursing care, Medicare supplemental insurance and prescription medication.

Note: Our diocesan priests do not receive any funding from the Retirement Fund for Religious collection which is held in December. Please show your appreciation with a generous gift today.

Thank you so much!!

The Catholic Service and Ministry Appeal... join us as Partners in Hope

Holy Angels Shelter provides not only food, clothing and shelter for homeless women, children and intact families but also gives ongoing support so clients may become self-supporting, productive member of their community in a home of their own. You can partner with Holy Angels and make dreams come true through your gift to The 2017 Catholic Service and Ministry Appeal. Thank you for your consideration.

The Diocese of Belleville is seeking a part time (20 hours per week) Coordinator of Lay Ministry and Catechist Certification. Qualifications include a Bachelor's Degree; professional knowledge, training or certification plus 1-3 year's experience. See church bulletin board for details.

ST. EDWARD MASS INTENTIONS FOR THE WEEK

Saturday, September 16, 4:00pm—Dennis Milligan+
Sunday, September 17, 10:30am—All PSR Kids
Thursday, September 21, 6:30pm—Kris Huffstodt+
Friday, September 22, 8:00am—Catholic Extension Donors
Saturday, September 23, 4:00pm—John Robison III+
Sunday, September 24, 10:30am—The Homer Clark Family

Weekly Contributions 09-10- 17

Envelopes(30) \$1,555.00
Loose 110.00
Total \$1,665.00
We need \$1,887.00

Building Fund \$ 87.00
Ret. Belle. Priest 25.00
Donation 20.00
Hurricane Harvey 30.00

Attendance: Sat.25
Sun. 58



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, Andrew
Mayo, Robyn Meagher, Sheila Zurliene, Sandra
Henson, Andrew Luna, Elaine Jeffers, Jeff Zurliene,
Jodi Hunt, Mary Murphy, Claire Grosso, Sarah Frye
and all priests who are sick.

**PASTORAL COUNCIL WILL MEET THURSDAY
SEPTEMBER 21ST AT 7:00PM. AGENDAS AND
MINUTES ARE ON THE BULLETIN BOARD.**

Our Daily Scripture Readings:

Mon: 1 Tm 2:1-8 Lk 7:1-10
Tues: 1 Tm 3:1-13 Lk 7:11-17
Wed: 1 Tm 3:14-16 Lk 7:31-35
Thur: Eph 4:1-7, 11-13 Mt 9:9-13
Fri: 1 Tm 6:2c-12 Lk 8:1-3
Sat: 1 Tm 1:15-17 Lk 8:4-15
Sun: Is 55:6-9 Phil 1:20c-24, 27a Mt 20:1-16a

Saturday, September 23
Lector: Mike Oppenheimer
EM: Dave & PJ Cavanaugh
Ushers: Don & Nick Zurliene
Gifts: The Nick Zurliene Family
Servers: volunteers

Sunday, September 24
Lector: Jen Wellen
EM: David Mills, Emily Milligan
Ushers: Libby & Annie Pond
Gifts: The Bunting Family
Servers: Collin Pickens, Will Wright

ST. STEPHEN MASS INTENTIONS FOR THE WEEK

Saturday, September 16, 5:30 p.m. – Rosary, 6:00 p.m. mass – Evelyn & Connie Myers+
Sunday, September 17, 8:00 a.m. Rosary, 8:30 a.m. mass – For the living & deceased
of the parish

Tuesday. September 19, 6 p.m. – Rosary, 6:30 p.m. mass – Tom Scanlan+
Wednesday, September 20, 6 p.m. – Rosary, 6:30 p.m. mass – Catholic Extension Donors
Eucharistic Adoration 7:00 p.m. until 12:00 midnight

Thursday, September 21, 8 a.m. – Rosary, 8:30 a.m. mass – Regina Buckleh+
Friday, September 22, No mass, - Eucharistic Adoration 8:30 a.m. – 3:15 p.m.

Servite Rosary 12:00 noon, Chaplet of Divine Mercy 3:00 p.m.
Saturday, Sept. 23, 5:30 p.m. – Rosary, 6:00 p.m. mass - Robert & Agnes Feldhake+
Sunday, September 24, 8:00 a.m. Rosary,
8:30 a.m. mass– For the living & deceased of the parish

Weekly Contributions
09-10-17

Envelopes..... \$ 1385.00
Loose..... 336.00
Total \$ 1721.00

Food Pantry - \$351.05

Mass Attendance:
Saturday- 60 Sunday – 80

Thank you for your continued monetary support! We have budgeted for a
weekly collection of \$1,731 to meet our expenses.

*“Each one must give as he has decided in his heart, not reluctantly or under
compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver.” 2 Corinthians 9:7*

St. Stephen Activities for the Week

Sunday, Sept 17 – Sacrament of Reconciliation 8 a.m.,
First PSR Class, Church Picnic 12 noon
Monday, Sept. 18, Meals on Wheels all month
Tuesday , Sept 19, Bible Study,
Wed., Sept.20 – Eucharistic Adoration 7 pm - midnight
Friday, Sept. 21 - Divine Mercy Prayer – 3 p.m.
Sunday, Sept. 23– Sacrament of Reconciliation 8 a.m.
PSR Class.

Weekend Ministers

Saturday, September 23

Lector: Jim Fehrenbacher
Commentator: Volunteer
EM: Krista Weidner, Paul Birk, Sam Pierce
Altar Servers: Pierce Family,
Ushers: Jerry Price, Max Feldhake

Sunday, September 24

Lector: Deb Zimmerman **Commentator:**
Ted Zimmerman
EM: Beth & Phil Fancher, Pat Ridgeway
Altar Servers: Kevin & Evelyn Stiner
Ushers: Tom Lancaster, Jesse Harvey



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,
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, Rhonda Ryker, Kelly Coan,
Rick Harvey, Dr. Don Bunnell, Mike Winka, Duck Greenwood,
Paul Weidner, Marilyn Wheaton

ST. STEPHEN NEWS

PSR NEWS: PSR begins this weekend following 8:0 a.m. mass. It is not too late to register for PSR! We are having Pre-K/Kindergarten class all the way up to High School. Contact Paul Duquaine. 618-843-8508, paulduquaine@icoud.com.



The **Parish Picnic** will be this Sunday, Sept. 17. All parishes, family and friends are welcome. We are asking people to bring a covered dish or dessert. It will start around noon. We'll eat about 12:30p. There will be games, and fun things for the kids. A great time to visit, so plan to attend.

St. Ann's Altar Society is accepting donations to fund the many activities and projects we support. Please pick up your envelope in the back of church. We can save money in postage by picking up the envelope instead of mailing them. Thank you

RITE OF CHRISTIAN INITIATION OF ADULTS (RCIA): If you or know someone who would like to learn more about the Catholic Church or are interested in joining the church, we will be starting an RCIA program. For more information contact Father Charles at 662-6261 or Cheryl McCarty at 815-343-1502.

BIBLE STUDY: Fr. Charles has started a Bible Study on Tuesday evenings following mass, from 7 to 7:30 pm. Please come to mass and stay for the Bible Study. Everyone is welcome.

The St. Stephen Parish / Knights of Columbus Chicken BBQ will be held Sunday, October 7. Serving is from 11:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m. Ladies of the parish are asked to bring two desserts. Help is needed on Saturday, October 7, and on the day of the barbecue. Sign up sheets are on the table by the social room. Please sign up to help. Thank you!



IF YOU EMAIL INFORMATION FOR THE BULLETIN PLEASE USE MY NEW EMAIL ADDRESS:
bafancher@wabash.net Thank you - Beth Fancher.

There are extra bulletins in the white mailbox on the door at the south entrance of the church.

Guadalupe Project is open for distribution on the second weekend of each month: Saturday: 10:00-11:00, and Monday 10:00-12:00 and 4:30-5:30.

If you are interested in work times, please email laura@guadalupeproject.net to get on the newsletter list and to receive updates regarding work days, current needs, and other important information.

All parishioners are welcome to join in 30 minutes of Eucharistic Adoration to pray for all those who visit Guadalupe Project on the second Sunday of each month, immediately following PSR Class. (If PSR Class is not in session that week, Adoration will immediately follow Mass.) Thank you!



ST. EDWARD NEWS

PSR NEWS

PSR CLASSES WILL BEGIN THIS WEEKEND (SEPTEMBER 17TH) AT 9:00AM. THERE WILL ALSO BE AND ALTAR SERVER MEETING AND TRAINING FOR ALL KIDS THAT ARE ELIGIBLE. THIS MINISTRY IS SO IMPORTANT TO OUR WEEKEND LITURGIES,

HURRICANE HARVEY RELIEF ASSISTANCE

Thank-you to everyone that donated to Hurricane Harvey Relief. We raised \$832.00 total from both weekends. The funds were forwarded to the Diocese of Belleville which in turn will be sent to help Catholic Churches affected by Hurricane Harvey in Texas. Nice job St. Edward Parishioners.

One of our parishioners is turning "90 years young". Homer Clark is celebrating his Ninetieth Birthday on September 26th. Let's shower him with cards. We are trying to get him 90 cards!
Address: 1676 County Road 350N, Fairfield, IL 62837.

There is a new Vocation Committee being formed at St. Stephen Parish. Here at St. Edward we are needing someone to represent our church. Kevin Stinner from Flora will be chairperson, but you will need to meet with him and discuss ways to bring more vocations to our parishes. If anyone is interested please contact the church office.

UPCOMING EVENTS TO PUT ON YOUR CALENDARS:

SUNDAY, October 8th: Parish Feast Day—Potluck to follow 10:30am Mass.
SATURDAY, October 21st: Fall Harvest Party at Nick & Laura Zurliene's Home.--
Following 4:00pm Mass.
MORE DETAILS ON BOTH EVENTS WILL BE IN FUTURE BULLETINS

Twenty-Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time—Sin and forgiveness – yet again.

Jesus tells a long story responding to Peter's question: how often must I forgive? We know the answer by heart – not seven times but seventy seven times. The wisdom of the Old Testament offers this help: do not hug sin tight...do not refuse mercy...put enmity aside...do not hate your neighbor...overlook faults. And St. Paul sings a hymn of baptismal belonging to Christ and to each other, a living and dying in the Lord (Romans 14:7-9) that underpins forgiveness.

~Who in my life (still) needs forgiveness?

~How will I be full of mercy?

~How can I live and die for the Lord this week?

FROM FATHER CHARLES’ DESK:

Praise be to Jesus both now forever Amen.

Today, the church celebrates the Twenty Four Sunday of Ordinary Time Year A. The church wants us to reflect on the impacts of forgiveness in the life of Christians.

If we expect God’s forgiveness, there is need we forgive those who hurt us. In today’s first reading , from the book of Sirach 27:30, ;28:7, one thing that strikes me is where he writes, “Forgive your neighbor’ injustice then when you pray , your own sins will be forgiven”. There is need we learn from Jesus who forgave those who crucified him on the cross. If we have come to believe in today’s second reading from the letter of Saint Paul to Romans 14:7-9. Saint Paul said, We are the Lord’s.” If we believe actually that we are the Lord’s , we should be willing to forgive those who hurt us because he forgives us .He is our model, He forgives us our sins when we approach him with contrite hearts ,when we resolve firmly not to commit sins against God by showing our love to God.

Forgiveness has never been easy to put in practice, but it is very necessary ingredient of Christian virtue which makes us as real and true disciples of Christ.

In today’s Gospel reading Mathew 18:21-35, this particular passage is striking which touched me so tenderly , he says, “Should you not have had pity on your fellow servant, as I had pity on you..... So will my heavenly father do to you unless, each of you forgives your brother from your heart.”

We sometimes forgive, but do we forgive from our hearts? According to Christ, It is very important to forgive from our hearts. Though it is always hard for us in forgiving one who hurts us This is why Peter asked him how often must one forgives , and he goes on to remind him of his knowledge of forgiveness, He thought seven times was sufficient but Jesus reminded him the correct way and the best way to forgive which can lead us to salvation , which will earn us a peace of mind.

A great writer, Joseph Krempa says, We need to forgive , to forgive is to recognize the damage someone has done to move away from revenge and retaliate but to refuse to be damaged further by what that person has done. And to refuse to forgive is to allow a past hurt you to stay radioactive in our heart and our life, gradually poisoning our life. And Forgiveness frees us from an obsession with past hurts. Forgiveness helps us to move on with our life and to grow in grace.

HOW CAN WE BEGIN TO FORGIVE NEIGHBOR?

The Lord said, ”Pray for those who persecute you.” Prayer transforms us from being a victim into becoming an intercessor. With prayer we can start to see people who have done us wrong in a new light as individuals themselves in need of healing . Again, there is need we pray for ourselves in other to have the spirit of forgiveness.

FROM FATHER CHARLE’S DESK: (continued)

We should always have in our mind that Christ’s sacrifice on the cross is the source of a great, huge river of forgiveness.

Finally, forgiveness comes as we look forward to what can be in our life and not to what was. As the book of Sirach says in today’s first reading, Remember your last days set enmity aside, remember death and decay and cease from sin.” In other words, life is short. We need to look to our future with the Lord. So, we forgive in other to make room for God’s grace in our life possible.

I pray for everyone of you who has been making earnest efforts to forgive.

ST. STEPHEN NEWS

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

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.

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.

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.

The next **Altar**

Society
rotating
chairman are:
Berenice Mary Brown,
Gretchen Stinner, Beth Fancher.

Please consider purchasing SCRIP cards after weekend Masses or contact Erin Pierce at 662-4967. There are several retailers & 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. Information contact Erin or visit shopwithscrip.com. Complete retailer list is available on website.

Prayer Chain: When a parishioner has an intention & requests prayers, Erin Pierce will initiate the prayer chain. She will contact Fr. Charles, 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. erinmp1968@aol.com or call 662-2266.

