

INFORMATION FOR BOTH PARISHES

Choir practice for Holy Week will begin Monday, February 19th at 7 pm and continue on Mondays unless announced otherwise. All new members are Welcome!



Today our parish will take up the 134th Annual National Black and Indian Mission Collection. Our support of this collection helps build the Church in African American, Native American and Alaska Native communities from coast to coast, including our diocese. Schools, parish religious education programs and diocesan ministries depend on your generosity to help them spread the Gospel of Jesus Christ. You can help meet unmet needs with a generous contribution today. Thank you for your support!

WORLDWIDE MARRIAGE ENCOUNTER “He that dwell apart, makes his abode outside the camp.” As Jesus cured the leper, let the love of God heal and strengthen our marital bonds so we can live within our camp with joy.” The next Worldwide Marriage Encounter in Springfield is March 23-25. Register or for more info. call 314-649-7317 or www.stl-wwme.org

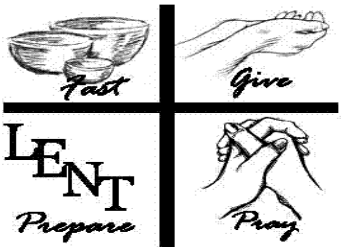
February is Catholic Press Month. Twice a month, The Messenger comes to your home to feed your faith with page after page of photos, features, local and national news. The Messenger’s content is important and cannot be found in secular publications. Please renew your subscriptions by returning The Messenger subscription envelope either by mail or in your parish collection basket (\$25), the E-Edition online \$25 or both \$30.

Hospice of Southeastern Illinois Volunteer Training Hospice Volunteer training is being offered by Carle, Richland Memorial Hospital, Olney., March 1 and 2, 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. If interested call 800-375-9343 or 618-392-2745. Info on bulletin board.

St. Clement of Rome Wurstmart
603 E. MARKET STREET, MCLEANSBORO
Sunday, February 18, serving from 10:30 am - 3:00 pm
MENU: Whole Hog Sausage-Mashed Potatoes Gravy-Sauerkraut-Applesauce-Dessert-Drinks
Tickets Adults \$10.00, Children (5-12) \$5.00
(Age 4 and under free)

St. Mary’s Brunch at St. Marie, 8 a.m. to noon Sunday March 4,
MENU: sausage, ham, scrambled eggs, biscuits and gravy, breads, fruit
Adults \$7 children \$3

The Society of St. Vincent de Paul & Western Catholic Union present “No Gun Smoking” dinner theater, March 10, McCormick Center, Belleville, ticket information 618-394-0126.



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: ststephen_flora@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

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

St. Stephen Mass Schedule:

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

Confession, Sacrament of Reconciliation:

Saturday noon-1 p.m. & Sunday 8:00-8:20 a.m.
or call for appointment

Parish Office: Trudi Herdes, Secretary,
Office hours: Monday & Wednesday, 8 a.m. to noon
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 Father Charles,
Trudi Herdes or 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.

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. STEPHEN MASS INTENTIONS FOR THE WEEK

Saturday, February 17, 6:00 p.m. mass – Richard Dunnigan+

Sunday, February 18, 8:30 a.m. mass – For the living & deceased of the parish

Tuesday, February 20, 6:30 p.m. mass – Dr. William Freesmeir+

Wednesday, February 21, 7 a.m. mass – Gerald & Pat Klein+

Thursday, February 22, 8:00 a.m. – Regina Buckleh+

Friday, February 23, 7 p.m. Stations of the Cross 8:30 a.m. - 3 p.m. Eucharistic Adoration 3 p.m. Divine Mercy Chaplet

Saturday, February 24, 6:00 p.m. mass – Robert & Agnes Feldhake+

Sunday, February 25, 8:30 a.m. mass - For the living and deceased of the parish

Rosary will be said a half an hour before each mass

+designates deceased

Weekly Contributions 02-11-2018

Envelopes..... \$1180.00

Loose..... 162.00

Total \$1342.00

We Need - \$1,731.00

Attendance: Sat. – 62 Sun. – 64

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, Gerty Grundy, Ginny Timm, Tracy Winka, Steve Dudzik, Ruth Wilson, Mike Burge, Angie Borrelli, Roger Wells, Tom Kasper, Becky Payne, Rita & Judy Porter, Bob Bluhm, Rhonda Ryker, Kelly Coan, Rick Harvey, Dr. Don Bunnell, Paul Weidner, Marilyn Wheaton, Jim Brown, Jakob Lane, Ted Zimmerman, Diana Fleener, Robbie Porter, David Sulsberger, J.R. Means, Clarice Schweighart, Maura Smith, Cory Britton, Lucille Anderson

St. Stephen Activities for the Week

Sat. February 17, Sacrament of Reconciliation, noon to 1p

Sun. February 18, Sacrament of Reconciliation 8-8:20 a.m. PSR following mass.

Tues. February 20, Bible Study after 6:30 mass

Wed. February 21, Eucharistic Adoration 7 pm- midnight

Friday, February 22, Stations of the Cross – 7 p.m. 8:30 a.m. - 3:15 p.m. Eucharistic Adoration, 12 noon - Servite Rosary, 3:00 p.m. - Chaplet of Divine Mercy

Weekend Ministers

Saturday, February 24

Lector: Mary Roy

Commentator: Volunteer

EM: Jim Fehrenbacher, Jim & Dorothy Croy

Altar Servers: Pierce Family

Ushers: Jerry Price, Mike Winka

Sunday, February 25

Lector: Ted Whitehead

Commentor: Susan Schroeder

EM: Dorothy Uebinger, Emily Milner, Pat Ridgeway

Altar Servers: Max, Sam & Nolan Duquane

Ushers: Ted Zimmerman, Dennis Holkenbrink

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.

ST. EDWARD MASS INTENTIONS FOR THE WEEK

Saturday, February 17, 4:00pm—Loretta Schoenborn+

Sunday, February 18, 10:30am—Jerry Zurliene+

Thursday, February 22, 6:30pm—Parishioners of St. Edward

Friday, February 23, 8:00am—John Robison III+

Friday, February 23, 6:00pm—Stations of the Cross

Saturday, February 24, 4:00pm—For Father Charles & all priests in the Diocese

Sunday, February 25, 10:30am—Ian Penrod+

Rosary—Every Saturday 3:30pm and 2nd Sunday 10:00am

Weekly Contributions 02-11-2018

Envelopes(25) \$1,358.00

Loose 148.00

Total \$1,506.00

We need \$1,887.00

Building Fund \$ 188.56

Attendance: Sat. 40 Sun. 31



PRAYER INTENTIONS:

Garland Keck, Kim Buchanan, Lanora Neavill, Ute Britton, Leon Chamness, Jack Ciesielczyk, Jalain Thompson, Kurt Wiseman, Nanette Williams, Julie Griffith, Gina Williams, Emilee Stanley, Noreen Reeves, Paula Zdan, Maddox Oppenheimer, Sara Kerchner, Charles Drechsel, Eva Decker, Matthew Rorban, Kathy Bramlet, Tom Colvin, Andrew Mayo, Robyn Meagher, Sheila Zurliene, Sandra Henson, Andrew Luna, Elaine Jeffers, Homer and Shirley Clark, Alice Zurliene, Tim Dittmer, Megan Young and all priests who are sick.

Our Daily Scripture Readings:

Mon: Lenten Weekday

Lv 19:1-2,11-18 Mt 25:31-46

Tues: Lenten Weekday

Is 55:10-11 Mk 6:7-15

Wed: St. Peter Damian, Bishop, Doctor of the Church

Jon 3:1-10 Lk 11:29-32

Thur: THE CHAIR OF SAINT PETER THE APOSTLE

1 Pt 5:1-4 Mt 16:13-19

Fri: Saint Polycarp, Bishop, Martyr

Ez 18:21-28 Mt 5:20-26

Sat: Lenten Weekday

Dt 26:16-19 Mt 5:43-48

Sun: SECOND SUNDAY OF LENT

Gn 22:1-2.9a.10-13.15-18 Rom 8:31b-34 Mk 9:2-10

ST. EDWARD NEWS

Father Charles birthday is Saturday, February 24th. We will be celebrating on Sunday, February 25th with a potluck following 10:30am mass. The church will provide meat, pasta and drinks. Please bring a covered dish and come and wish Father a Happy Birthday!!!!

LENTEN MATERIALS: *There are some Lenten materials in the hall to help prepare for the Life, Death, & Resurrection of our Lord, Jesus Christ. Please feel free to take some home.*

PSR CHILDREN'S CHOIR

The children's choir has started again. They will practice after PSR classes on Sunday's.

PERFORMANCE SCHEDULE:

March 4th---Lent (2:41)

April 1st---The Solid Rock

May 6th---Pharaoh, Pharaoh

Any questions please contact Laura Zurliene

Alice Zurliene *has been moved to a rehab facility in downtown Evansville. They are not sure how long she will be in there. If anyone would like to send her a card, you can just mail it to her house and the family will get it to her: 311 SW 3rd St., Fairfield, ILL 62837.*

ZURLIENE BEEF STEW LUNCH WILL BE HELD ON SUNDAY, MARCH 4TH STARTING AT NOON. THE LUNCH WILL BE HELD AT DON & DENISE ZURLIENE'S HOME. PLEASE BRING A COVERED DISH OR DESSERT. EVERYONE IS WELCOME.

ALTAR SODALITY WILL MEET ON MONDAY, FEBRUARY 19TH AT 6:00PM. ITEMS TO BE DISCUSSED WILL BE ABOUT THE UPCOMING SALAD LUNCHEON ON MARCH 15TH. THE CALLING COMMITTEE WILL BE CONTACTING EVERYONE ABOUT SALADS. ALL WOMEN OF THE PARISH ARE INVITED TO THE MEETING.

UPCOMING EVENTS:

Feb 19th: Altar Sodality—6:00pm (discussing the upcoming Salad Luncheon)

Feb 25th: Birthday Potluck for Father Charles following 10:30am mass

Mar 4th: Beef Stew Lunch at Don Zurliene's home—12:00pm

Mar 9th: Food Pantry Set up—8:30am

Mar 10th: Food Pantry Distribution—8:00am

Mar 15th: Altar Sodality Salad Luncheon—11am to 1pm

Mar 17th: St. Patrick's Day Dinner—time TBA

Mar 18th: Meeting with parishioners involved with Holy Week Liturgies—5:00pm

ST. STEPHEN NEWS

We will be having a Plant Sale along with the Rummage Sale in April. Please be thinking about plants to sale or getting plants started for the sale. Bernie Brown and Beth Fancher will be chairing this part of the sale. If you want to help, please let us know.

. MEALS ON WHEELS We are scheduled to deliver Meals on Wheels in March. There is a sign-up sheet on the table outside the Social Room. Delivery includes two routes Monday through Friday, all month. You can sign up for a day or for the whole week. More information contact Beth Fancher 618-676-4292. Please plan on helping with this wonderful program.



2018 PSR SCHEDULE

February 18, 25 – Classes

March 4, 11, 18 – Classes

March 25 – No Class, Palm Sunday

April 1 – No Class, Easter

April 8, 15, 22, 29 – Classes

May 6 – No Class, First Communion

May 13 – No Class, Mother's Day

May 20 – Last Class, Pizza Party

RITE OF CHRISTIAN INITIATION OF ADULTS (RCIA) If you or someone you know would like to learn more about the Catholic Church, or is interested in joining or returning to the Church, the RCIA program is in session and currently working on Confirmation preparation. Info contact Father Charles at 662-6261 or Cheryl McCarty at 815-343-1502.

Cookbook Copies of "Family Favorites: Clay County's Favorite Recipes" are available after Mass in the social room. Books are \$15 each and all proceeds benefit Guadalupe Project. If you have any family or friends who would like to purchase a cookbook, contact Laura and she can get extra copies to you.



Please pick up 2017 Contribution envelopes, Little Black Book for Lent and other reading materials on table in back of church.

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 Ann's Altar Society" (no punctuation). Make it your homepage or just use it to search or make online purchases.

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. Call Erin 662-2266

erinmp1968@aol.com

Please consider purchasing SCRIP cards after weekend Masses. 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, Contact Erin or shopwithscrip.com .

Eucharistic Adoration Schedule Wednesdays - 7:00 p.m. until 12 midnight

Fridays - 8:30 a.m. - 3:15 p.m. 12 noon - Servite Rosary 3:00 p.m. - Chaplet of Divine Mercy

Second Sunday of each month - Adoration for the intentions of Guadalupe Project 9:45 -10:15 a.m. when PSR is not in session 10:30. - 11:00 a.m. when PSR is in session

From Father Charles’ desk:

Praise be to Jesus both now and for ever, amen.

What we should know about Lent

Today the church celebrates the first Sunday of Lent. The Lenten season is a season of prayer, recollection, fasting, repentance, abstinence, and almsgiving. It is a journey of faith. Lent is not about God’s fidelity but about our own. Lent is a time to revive our Christian life and see whether we are still in the ark or trying to swim the waters all by ourselves. It is the Church’s holy spring. It is a time of self-denial. It calls for self- discipline. We have to command ourselves and make ourselves do what needs to be done. The change of heart to which Lent calls us can be accomplished most of all through the power of prayer. Through prayer, the power of Christ becomes available to us.

It is also a time of joy because we are preparing for Easter. Lent recalls the forty days Jesus spent in the desert, fasting and praying.

Lent is an opportunity to look at our lives. It challenges us to change what needs to be changed. But even if we take up the challenge, it may amount to little more than putting a new patch on an old garment. If we want a new garment, we must cast aside the old one. The wearing of a new garment will involve a new way of living.

Lent is a season of grace which we receive from God from his abundant mercy. It is when we give up our old ways through observing the Lenten disciplines of fasting, almsgiving, and prayer that we can receive that salvation promised to us. Therefore, this Lent let us endeavor to deepen our awareness, our faith, our prayer life, and our spirituality so that we may obtain the salvation promised us.

Scripture Note

The First reading (Gen 9:8-15) tells of the covenant or treaty God established with Noah and his descendants after the flood. What distinguishes it from other Old Testament covenants is the fact that it is made, not with Israel only, but with the whole human race. The rainbow is a reminder of God’s fidelity. This covenant prepared the way for the new and everlasting covenant God formed with humanity in Christ. In today’s Gospel reading (Mark 1:12-15) Jesus goes into the desert, and during Lent, we do so as well. During these forty days, we try to go back to basics, to breathe new life into our Christian identity.

This Lent I wish all of us moments of serenity, solitude, silence, reflection, prayer, and charity. May we impact positively on each other’s lives through compassion, forgiveness, and love. May we ask God to increase our faith in Him. Happy weekend! Please allow this moment of Lent to pass through making you anew in Christ. May the love of God always be in your hearts and minds.

Jesus came to Galilee proclaiming the Gospel of God: “This is the time of fulfillment. The kingdom of God is at hand. Repent, and believe in the Gospel.”

The message of Christ is the message of repentance. It is a time to make a “U turn” and turn to God, a time of recollection. God is gracious and merciful, waiting for us to come back to him.

St. Stephen News

USHERS: Don’t forget to count attendance on Saturday night and Sunday morning. Thanks you.

If you are interested in donating towards the Easter flowers fund, there are envelopes at both entrances. The flowers can be donated in the memory of loved ones. Turn the envelopes in the offertory basket during mass or give to Trudi.



Please look at the tables in back of church, there are contributions for 2017, weekly envelopes, calendars and various reading material.

The next Altar Society rotating chairman are: Deb & Vivian Duquane; Etchison, Winka & Whitehead; Bernie Brown

BIBLE STUDY

This series of Bible Study has begun Tuesday evenings following 6:30 p.m. mass.

As disciples we are continually shaped by the teachings of Jesus and guided by the Spirit “Virtues of Disciples.” Mercy- God’s Nature, Our Challenges is the first theme we will explore. Study will continue on February 13 and conclude on February 20.

Trust, Confidence in the God of Salvation is the second theme. It teaches us to rely on the God who created and redeems us. This theme will be discussed starts Feb. 27 through March 20. There will be no Bible Study on March 13.

Bible passages that help us discover the virtues that challenge and provide us the most fulfilling way to live well and be a part of each study.

Materials are furnished. Please join us for all or as many sessions as possible as we seek God’s Word to keep acting within us.

Lent is a good time to decide to deepen your faith, and your relationship with your spouse. Worldwide Marriage Encounter Weekends offer you new tools to improve your communication, and open a whole new world of closeness. Attend a Worldwide Marriage Encounter Weekend on Apr. 20-22 in St. Peters, MO; and Mar. 23-25, 2018 at the Chiara Center in Springfield,IL. If you would like to apply or get more information, go to <http://www.stl-wwme> www.stl-wwme or call 314.649.7317.

