

INFORMATION FOR BOTH PARISHES

WORLDWIDE MARRIAGE ENCOUNTER : Our marriage was brought to new life by our Worldwide Marriage Encounter weekend. For the first time in a long time, our marriage was renewed and restored to the communication and spark that we had in our dating days. Life-changing weekends will be offered on Apr. 20-22 or Aug 3-5, 2018. If you would like to apply or get more info go to www.stl-wwme.

St. Joseph Quilt and Cash Bingo Social: St. Joseph's Parish will be hosting a Quilt & Cash Bingo Social on March 18, 2018, in our Parish Center in Freeburg, IL. The location of the parish center is 6 North Alton Street. The social will begin a 11:00am with serving pork sausage sandwiches, sloppy joes, fruits cups, chips and desserts.

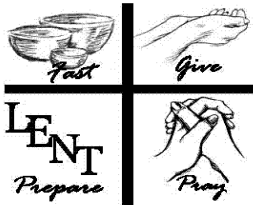
Chrism Mass will be held on Tuesday, March 27, 2018. Mass will begin at 11:30am. We are in need of 1 or 2 people from each parish to attend to accept the oils. Please contact offices if interested.

Prayer is the light of the spirit

Prayer is the light of the spirit true knowledge of God, mediating between God and man. The spirit, raised up to heaven by prayer, clings to God with the utmost tenderness; like a child crying tearfully for its mother, it craves the milk that God provides. It seeks the satisfaction of its own desires, and receives gifts outweighing the whole world of nature.

Prayer stands before God as an honored ambassador. It gives joy to the spirit, peace to the heart. I speak of prayer, not words. it is longing for God, love too deep for words, a gift not given by man but by God's grace. The apostle Paul says: We do not know how we are to pray but the spirit himself pleads for us with inexpressible longings.

Practice prayer from the beginning. Paint your house with the colors of modesty and humility. Make it radiant with the light of justice. Decorate it with the finest gold leaf of good deeds. Adorn it with the pinnacle of prayer. In this way you will make it a perfect dwelling place for the Lord.



The Catholic Service and Ministry Appeal Commitment Weekend March 3-4

This is commitment weekend of The 2018 Catholic Service and Ministry Appeal. Through this annual campaign, 14 ministries and programs that provide service to thousands of people throughout our Belleville Diocese are funded. Please watch your mail for additional information and how your gift makes a difference in the lives of many!

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

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.

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.**

ST. STEPHEN MASS INTENTIONS FOR THE WEEK

Saturday, March 3, 6:00 p.m. mass – For the Living and deceased of the parish+
Sunday, March 4, 8:30 a.m. mass – Jim Stanford+
Tuesday, March 6, 6:30 p.m. mass – Dominic & Mary Talmant+
Wednesday, March 7, 7 a.m. mass – Al Winka+
Thursday, March 8, 8:00 a.m. – Regina Buckleh+
Friday, March 9, **7 p.m. Stations of the Cross** 8:30 a.m. - 3 p.m. Eucharistic Adoration
3 p.m. Divine Mercy Chaplet
Saturday, March 10, 6:00 p.m. mass – Maureen Maher+
Sunday, March 11, 8:30 a.m. mass – St. Anne’s Altar Society

Rosary will be said a half an hour before each mass +designates deceased

Weekly Contributions 02-18-2018
Envelopes(39)..... \$1415.00
Loose..... 173.00
Total \$1588.00

We Need - \$1,731.00
Churches in Central & Eastern Europe -\$20.00
Black & Indian Collection - \$58.00
Attendance: Sat. – 63 Sun. – 82

Weekend Ministers
Saturday, March 10
Lector: Cheryl McCarty
Commentator: Volunteer
EM: Paul Birk, Dennis Holkenbrink, Gerald Klein
Altar Servers: Pierce Family
Ushers: Jim McCarty, Jerry Price

Sunday, March 11
Lector: Beth Sulsberger
Commentor: Ted Whitehead
EM: Randy Wells, Deb Zimmerman, Pat Ridgeway
Altar Servers: Max, Sam & Nolan Duquane
Ushers: Ted Zimmerman, Tom Lancaster

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.



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, J.R. Means, Clarice Schweighart, Maura Smith, Cory Britton, Lucille Anderson

St. Stephen Activities for the Week

Sat. March 3, Sacrament of Reconciliation, noon to 1p
Sun. March 4, Sacrament of Reconciliation 8-8:20 a.m. PSR following mass.
Tues. March 6, Bible Study after 6:30 mass
Wed. March 7, Eucharistic Adoration 7 pm-midnight
Friday, March 9, 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

ST. EDWARD MASS INTENTIONS FOR THE WEEK

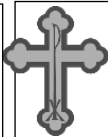
Saturday, March 3, 4:00pm—Marshall & Lucille Sork+
Sunday, March 4, 10:30am—Larry McClure+
Thursday, March 8, 6:30pm—Albert Ochs+
Friday, March 9, 8:00am—John Robison III+
Friday, March 9, 6:00pm—Stations of the Cross
Saturday, March 10, 4:00pm—Dennis Milligan+
Sunday, March 11, 10:30am—Bill Grogan+ & the Grogan Family
Rosary—Every Saturday 3:30pm and 2nd Sunday 10:00am

Weekly Contributions 02-25-2018

Envelopes(31) \$1,320.00
Loose 141.00
Total \$1,461.00
We need \$1,887.00

Building Fund \$ 197.00
Donations 30.00
First Offering 5.00

Attendance: Sat. 35 Sun. 65



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*
2 Kgs 5:1—15b Lk 4:24-30
Tues: *Lenten Weekday*
Dn 3:25, 34-43 Mt 18:21-35
Wed: *Saints Perpetua and Felicity*
Dt 4:1, 5-9 Mt 5:17-19
Thur: *Saint John of God, Religious*
Jer 7:23-28 Lk 11:14-23
Fri: *Saint Frances of Rome, Religious*
Hos 14:2-10 Mk 12:28-34
Sat: *Lenten Weekday*
Hos 6:1-6 Lk 18:9-14
Sun: *FOURTH SUNDAY OF LENT*
2 Chr 36:14-16,19-23 Eph 2:4-10 Jn 3:14-21

Saturday, March 10
Lector: Jay Fyie
EM: Tim & Jackie Schoenborn
Usher: Ken & Theresa Nordmann
Gifts: John & Leslie Robison
Servers: volunteers

Sunday, March 11
Lector: Debra Simmers
EM: Jeff & Mary Murphy
Ushers: Bob & Hank Simmers
Gifts: The Girl Scouts
Servers: Jed Wellen, Cali Bunting

ST. EDWARD NEWS

MASS TIME CHANGE: ON SATURDAY, MARCH 17TH----ST. EDWARD MASS WILL BE 6PM AND ST. STEPHEN MASS WILL BE 4PM. WE ARE SWITCHING TIMES SO EVERYONE WILL BE ABLE TO ATTEND THE ANNUAL ST. PATRICK'S DAY DINNER. THERE ARE SIGN-UP SHEETS FOR ATTENDANCE AND WORKERS IN THE HALL. EVERYONE FROM BOTH PARISHES ARE INVITED. DINNER STARTS AT 7PM & THE COST IS BY DONATION TO HELP COVER EXPENSES. COME JOIN IN THE FUN!!!!

Ladies Altar Sodality's Annual Salad Luncheon will be held on March 15th—11am-1pm. The cost is \$10.00 per person. This is one of their annual fund raisers. The calling committee will be contacting everyone to bring their delicious salads. They will be decorating on Wed., March 14th from 6pm-7pm. Any help would be greatly appreciated. Also, the Ladies are selling raffle tickets for the birds displayed in the hall. (the birds were made by Ken Nordmann) They will draw the winners at the Men's Sausage dinner on Sunday, April 8th.

PSR CHILDREN'S CHOIR---- 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

UPCOMING EVENTS:
Mar 4th: Beef Stew Lunch at Don Zurliene's home—12:00pm
Mar 8th: Joint Pastoral Council at St. Edward—7pm
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

Penance Services

You will have 2 opportunities to Reconciliation this year. The first Penance service will be held Thursday, March 22nd following 6:30pm mass. (This one is for PSR kids making First Communion). The second opportunity will be Friday, March 23rd following the Stations of the Cross at 6pm.

ST. STEPHEN NEWS

We will be having a Plant Sale along with the Rummage Sale on April 13 & 14.. 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.

March 11 - There will be a St Anne's Altar Society meeting after mass on Sunday morning in social room.
April 13/14 - Rummage Sale and Plant Sale Start your spring cleaning and save your good clean items for our annual St Stephen rummage sale. No clothes.



The next Altar Society rotating chairman are:
Etchison, Winka & Whitehead; Bernie Brown, Donna Myers

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. 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 copies to you.



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.

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

. 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
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

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 .

From Father Charles’ desk:

Christ the fullness of God’s wisdom and fullness of the Law (First reading-Exodus 20:1-17; Psalm 18:8-11; Second reading – Romans 5:1-2, 5-8; Gospel – John 4:5-42)

In our first reading from Exodus, God gave the Law to Moses for Israel. The Law was given to Israel to help them become wiser. It was also given to them in order to strengthen their relationship with Go9d and to help them organize their social and religious life.

We are called to live as neighbors, respecting one another. The commandments of God are meant to form us into a sacred community. The ultimate purpose of the Law is to know, respect, and worship God our creator.

In our second reading, Paul reminds us the Christ is “The fullness of God’s wisdom”.

In today’s Gospel, John narrates Jesus’ encounter with those profaning God’s Sanctuary. His action simply demonstrates that He is actually God’s wisdom and the fullness of the Law. His Zeal distinguished Him from the authorities. Instead of representing God’s interest, they represented their selfish economic and social interests.

There are many lessons we must learn in this Gospel message. First, we are not supposed to keep quiet or remain indifferent while things go wrong, especially in the house of God, in our homes, in our offices, or in our nation. The Church is the house of God and a place of worship. We must keep it holy and respect it.

Finally, Christ prophesied his death and his resurrection. He said, “Destroy this temple and I will raise it up in three days.” Christ’s prophecy will be fulfilled during the Paschal Mystery – the suffering, death, and resurrection of Jesus Christ.

LENTEN & HOLY WEEK SCHEDULES

- Wed., March 21st—St. Stephen Lenten Penance Service-- 6:30pm
- Thurs., March 22nd —St. Edward PSR kids Penance Service—7:30pm
- Fri., March 23rd—Stations—6pm St. Edward Lenten Penance Service—6:30pm
- Sun., March 25th—Palm Sunday St. Stephen—8:30am St. Edward—10:30am
- Tues., March 27th—Chrism Mass in Belleville—11:30am
- Thurs. March 29th—Holy Thursday (at St. Stephen only) 6:30pm
- Fri. March 30th—Good Friday St. Stephen Stations—3pm St. Edward Stations—5pm
- St. Stephen Passion—7:30pm St. Edward Passion—5:30pm
- Sat. March 31st—Easter Vigil (at St. Edward only) 8pm
- Sun. April 1st—Easter Sunday St. Stephen—8:30am St. Edward—10:30am

St. Stephen News

MASS CHANGE: ON SATURDAY, MARCH 17TH MASS AT ST. STEPHEN WILL BE 4PM AND ST. EDWARD MASS WILL BE 6PM. THIS IS SO ST. EDWARD CAN HAVE THEIR ANNUAL ST. PATRICK’S DINNER AT 7PM.

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.



Choir practice for Holy Week has begun. Every Monday evening, 7 pm and continue on Mondays unless announced otherwise. All new members are Welcome!



Anonymous Angels of the Altar St. Anne’s Altar Society is inviting members of the parish to join in caring for the needs of our parish by becoming an “Anonymous Angel of the Altar.” A parish member can become an angel simply by making a yearly donation to St. Anne’s to help with the charitable project for which we are responsible.

St. Anne’s Altar Society purchases altar breads, altar cloths and flowers for the altar, as well as supplying the votive candles. They also provide the funeral dinners for families of parish or families of those buried at St. Stephen’s Cemetery. In addition they provide supplies for the kitchen and contribute to the purchase of gifts for First Communion, Confirmation and Graduation classes and for new mothers and the newly married from our parish.

If you decided to become an Anonymous Angel of the Altar, you may do so by putting your donation into an envelope labeled “Angels of the Altar,” and dropping it into the collection basket or mailing it to St. Stephen’s. If you pay be check make your check out to St. Anne’s Altar Society. A receipt will be proved to you.

The members of St. Anne’s Altar society will keep their Anonymous Angels of the Altar and their intentions in their prayers.

1BIBLE STUDY This series of Bible Study has begun on Tuesday evenings following 6:30 p.m. mass.

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.

