

INFORMATION FOR BOTH PARISHES

“On Tuesday of Holy Week March 27, I will celebrate the Mass of Chrism in our Cathedral of St. Peter in Belleville. The Mass will begin at 11:30 a.m., in order to make it easier for our school children to participate.

The Chrism Mass is one of the principal expressions of the life of our Local Church. On this day, the Priests and the Christian Faithful of the Diocese gather around me as I consecrate the Sacred Chrism and bless the Oil of the Catechumens and the Oil of the Sick.

I am pleased to invite each parish and institution that reserves the Holy Oils to send two representatives to receive the Holy Oils at the Chrism Mass.”

The Most Reverend Edward K. Braxton, Bishop of Belleville

Contact Trudi at St. Stephen or Peggy at St. Edward, if you are interested in going

LENTEN AND HOLY WEEK SCHEDULE

St. Stephen Lenten Penance Service, 6:30 p.m. Wed. March 21

St. Edward Lenten Penance Service, 6:30 p.m. Friday March 23, Stations of the Cross 6 p.m.

Palm Sunday, March 25 – regular mass times at both churches

Chrism Mass in Belleville, 11:30 a.m., Tues., March 27

Holy Thursday, March 29- 6:30 p.m. St. Stephen, no service St. Edward

Good Friday, March 30 - Stations of the Cross – 3 p.m. and Passion 7:30 p.m. – St. Stephen
Stations of the Cross – 5 p.m. and Passion 5:30 p.m. – St. Edward

Easter Vigil - 8 p.m. – St. Edward no mass St. Stephen

Easter Sunday – regular mass times both churches

A Pilgrimage of Peace to the Holy Land

Prayer- Solidarity – Peace

You are invited to join us on a once in a lifetime “Pilgrimage to the Holy Land,”

Nov. 26 to Dec. 7, including visits to Nazareth, Cana, Sea of Galilee, Mt. Tabor, Mt of Beatitude, Jericho, Jerusalem, Bethlehem, CRS Projects in the area and more.

\$3,339 from Chicago plus \$195 in tips. Pilgrimage coordinator is Cheryl Sommer, CRS Coordinator.

Download from brochure and registration form, www.GoCatholicTravel.com/18017 or for more info contact Cheryl at 618-234-1166 or send an email to crsdiobelle@gmail.com. Register today.

The Pontifical Good Friday Collection

Pope Francis has asked our parish to support the Pontifical Good Friday Collect, which helps Christians in the Holy Land.

Your support helps the church minister in parishes, provide Catholic schools and other religious education. The Good Friday Collection also helps to preserve the sacred shrines.

The wars, unrest and instability has been especially hard on Christians. Thank you

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, in St. Peters, MO; and March 23-25, at the Chiara Center in Springfield. If you would like to apply or get more information, go to www.stl-wwme or call 314.649.7317.

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 10, 6:00 p.m. mass – Maureen Maher+
Sunday, March 11, 8:30 a.m. mass – St. Anne’s Altar Society
Tuesday, March 13, 6:30 p.m. mass – Bill & Mary Handley+
Wednesday, March 14, 6:30 p.m. mass – C.F. (Clement) Marley+
Thursday, March 15, 8:00 a.m. – Catholic Extension Donors
Friday, March 16, **7 p.m. Stations of the Cross** 8:30 a.m. - 3 p.m. Eucharistic Adoration
3 p.m. Divine Mercy Chaplet



Saturday, March 17, 4:00 p.m. mass (time change) – Sharon Pierce+

Sunday, March 18, 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 03-04-2018

Envelopes..... \$1455.00
Loose..... 145.00
Total \$1600.00 43 envelopes
We Need - \$1,731.00

Support Churches in Central &
Eastern Europe - \$10.00
Food Pantry - \$419.25
Black & Indian Mission - \$25.00
Attendance: Sat. – 65 Sun. – 74



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, Jim Brown, Marilyn Wheaton, Jakob Lane, Ted Zimmerman, Diana Fleener, Robbie Porter, J.R. Means, Clarice Schweighart, Maura Smith, Cory Britton, Lucille Anderson, Debbie Jones

Weekend Ministers
Saturday, March 17
Lector: Jim Fehrenbacher
Commentator: Volunteer
EM: Sam Pierce, Cheryl McCarty, Pat Ridgeway
Altar Servers: Pierce Family, Alie Parker
Ushers: Jim Klein, Tony Holkenbrink

Sunday, March 18
Lector: Ted Zimmerman
Commentor: Deb Zimmerman
EM: Phil & Beth Fancher, Ted Whitehead
Altar Servers: Max, Sam & Nolan Duquane
Ushers: Justin Fleener, Jacob Whitehead

St. Stephen Activities for the Week
Sat. March 10, Sacrament of Reconciliation, noon to 1p
Sun. March 11, PSR, Sacrament of Reconciliation 8-8:20 a.m.
Tues. March 13, Bible Study after 6:30 mass
Wed. March 14, Finance committee meeting, 7 p.m.
Friday, March 16, Stations of the Cross – 7 p.m.

MASS TIME CHANGE: SATURDAY, MARCH 17.
MASS AT ST. STEHEN WILL BE 4 P.M. AND ST. EDWARD 6 P.M. THIS IS SO ST. EDWARD CAN HAVE THEIR ANNUAL ST. PATRICK’S DINNER AT 7 P.M.

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, March 10, 4:00pm—Dennis Milligan+
Sunday, March 11, 10:30am—Bill Grogan+ & the Grogan Family
Thursday, March 15, 6:30pm—St. Edward Parishioners
Friday, March 16, 8:00am—Blessings Received
Friday, March 16, 6:00pm—Stations of the Cross
Saturday, March 17, 6:00pm—Jim Turner+
Sunday, March 18, 10:30am—Larry McClure+

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

Weekly Contributions 03-04-2018

Envelopes(34) \$1,874.00
Loose 78.00
Total \$1,952.00
We need \$1,887.00

Building Fund \$ 257.00
Easter Flowers 25.00
CSMA 720.00

Attendance: Sat. 31 Sun. 52



PRAYER INTENTIONS:
Garland Keck, Kim Buchanan, Lanora Neavill, 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, Ed Potts and all priests who are sick.

Our Daily Scripture Readings:

Mon: Lenten Weekday
Is 65:17-21 Jn 4:43-54
Tues: Lenten Weekday
Ez 47:1-9, 12 Jn 5:1-16
Wed: Lenten Weekday
Is 49:8-15 Jn 5:17-30
Thur: Lenten Weekday
Ex 32:7-14 Jn 5:31-47
Fri: Lenten Weekday
Wis 2:1a, 12-22 Jn 7:1-2,10,25-30
Sat: Saint. Patrick, Bishop
Jer 11:18-20 Jn 7:40-53
Sun: FIFTH SUNDAY OF LENT
Jer 31:31-34 Heb 5:7-9 Jn 12:20-33

Saturday, March 17
Lector: Mike Oppenheimer
EM: Jim & Margaret Thompson
Usher: Diana Zurliene, Nick Zurliene
Gifts: Ray & Sally Conley
Servers: volunteers

Sunday, March 18
Lector: Tom Konopasek
EM: Mary Murphy, David Mills
Ushers: Scott Merkle, Rick Rennier
Gifts: The Felowitz Family
Servers: Colin Pickens, Jackson Mills

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:

April 1st—The Solid Rock

May 6th—Pharaoh, Pharaoh

Any questions please contact Laura Zurliene

UPCOMING EVENTS:

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.

Alice Zurliene would like to thank everyone for prayers, cards, flowers, and all the get well wishes. She is very grateful.

St. Edward Clean-up Day

Saturday, March 31, 2018 we will be having a clean up day for Easter Liturgies. The times are 9am-12pm with lunch provided. The more hands the quicker the work goes.

EASTER EGG HUNT

ON EASTER SUNDAY ST. EDWARD WILL BE HAVING AN EASTER EGG HUNT AFTER MASS. BRING YOUR OWN BASKET. ANYONE WILLING TO DONATE "FILLED EGGS" PLEASE CONTACT LAURA ZURLIENE.

ST. STEPHEN NEWS

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



March 11 - There will be a St Anne's Altar Society meeting after mass

April 13/14 - Rummage Sale and Plant Sale. Start your spring cleaning and save your good clean items for our annual rummage sale. No clothes please.



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.

Cookbook Copies of "Family Favorites: Clay County's Favorite Recipes" are available after Mass in the social room. Books are \$15. All proceeds benefit Guadalupe Project. Contact Laura and she can get copies to you.

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.

The next Altar Society rotating chairman are: Bernie Brown, Donna Myers, Beth Fancher

Sign up Sheets for Palm Sunday weekend mass, Holy Week and Easter masses are on the table by the Social Room. Please sign up, so we can prepare for the weekends. PLEASE CONSIDER HAVING YOUR FEET WASHED ON HOLY THURSDAY. LET BETH FANCHER KNOW IF INTERESTED

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



2018 PSR SCHEDULE

March 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

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 Fr. Charles’ desk...

First Reading --2 Chronicles 36: 14-16, 19-23—the causes for the Israelites’ captivity in Babylon are described.

Responsorial Psalm ----Psalm 137:1-2, 3,4-5,6 A lament from exile for the loss of Jerusalem

Second Reading ----Ephesians 2:4-10 In grace we have been saved, so that we may do the work of the Lord.

Gospel Reading ----John 3:14-21-----Jesus tells Nicodemus that the son of man will be raised up so that those who believe in him will have eternal life

 The fourth Sunday of Lent is sometimes called Laetare Sunday. Laetare is a Latin word that means “ rejoice.”

Today’s Gospel reading is taken from John’s Gospel. It consists of two parts . The first part is the final sentence of Jesus’ reply to Nicodemus, the Pharisee who approached Jesus at night . Nicodemus acknowledged Jesus as someone who had come from God and seemed to want to be a follower of Jesus. Jesus greeted Nicodemus with the observation that one must be born from above to see the kingdom of God. The dialogue between Jesus and Nicodemus that followed was about the meaning of this phrase. Nicodemus misunderstood Jesu at every point, but there was no animosity in the questions he posed to Jesus.

 In the part of the conversation with Nicodemus in today ‘s Gospel, Jesus referred to an incident reported in the Old Testament. When the Israelites grumbled against the Lord during their sojourn in the desert, God sent venomous serpents to punish them for their complaints.T he Israelite repented and asked Moses to pray for them. The Lord heard Moses’s prayer and instructed him to make a bronze serpent and mount it on a pole. All who had bitten by a serpent and then looked upon the bronze serpent were cured. By recalling this story , Jesus alludes to the salvation that would be accomplished through his death and resurrection.

 The second part of today’s Gospel is a theological reflection on Jesus’ words to Nicodemus. The Gospel of John is known this kind of reflection offered within the narrative. In this reflection, John elaborates on a number of themes that are found in the Gospel : Light and darkness, belief and unbelief, good and evil, salvation and condemnation.

 In John’s reflection, we find an observation about human sinfulness. Jesus is the light that has come into the world, but people preferred the darkness. We wish to keep our sinful hidden, even from God. Jesus has come into the world to reveal our sins so that they may be forgiven. This is the Good News; it is the reason for our rejoicing in this season of Lent and throughout our lives

St. Stephen News

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.

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

Bible Study This series of Bible Study is 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 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.

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 and their intentions in their prayers.

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.

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 .

“We would like to thank everyone who was a part of our son David’s funeral service last weekend.

Father Charles was a great comfort to us, and his words were very uplifting.

The choir was wonderful and the songs we selected were beautiful.

Thank you everyone who helped with the dinner and brought delicious food.

We especially want to thank our church family and our extended families for the calls, cards, food, comforting words, on-line condolences and prayers which is helping us get through this sad time. David would have loved the songs, music, friends and families who helped celebrate his life.

The flowers, special memorials, donations for masses and contributions to the Cancer Crusaders were wonderful gestures from friends and family.

God bless each and every one who helped us in every way.”

Thank you, Jim & Sandy Sulsberger, sons, Jim and John

