

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

The Newman Auxiliary is having a Quilt & Cash Bingo on April 29, at St. John the Baptist Parish, Red Bud. Lunch beings at 11 a.m. and Bingo starts at 1 p.m. Win quilts, cash, gift baskets & door prizes.

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 especiaally 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 17, 4:00 p.m. mass – Sharon Pierce+
Sunday, March 18, 8:30 a.m. mass – For the living & deceased of the parish
Tuesday, March 20, 6:30 p.m. mass – Margo Etchison+
Wednesday, March 21, 6:30 p.m. , Stephen Lenten Penance Service
Thursday, March 22, 8:00 a.m. – Regina Buckleh+
Friday, March 23, **7 p.m. Stations of the Cross** 8:30 a.m. - 3 p.m. Eucharistic Adoration
3 p.m. Divine Mercy Chaplet
Saturday, March 24, 6:00 p.m. mass – Richard Dunnigan+
Palm Sunday, March 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 03-11-2018

Envelopes..... \$1288.00 (37)
Loose..... 163.00
Total \$1451.00
We Need - \$1,731.00

Catholic Relief Services Collection - \$605.00
Attendance: Sat. – 57 Sun. – 72



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, Diana Fleener, Robbie Porter, J.R. Means, Clarice Schweighart, Cory Britton, Lucille Anderson, Debbie Jones

Weekend Ministers Palm Sunday
Saturday, March 24
Narrator: Jim Fehrenbacher
Voice: Sam Pierce
Commentator: Cheryl McCarty
EM:
Altar Servers: Pierce Family, Alie Parker
Ushers:

Sunday, March 25
Narrator: Deb Zimmerman
Voice: Phil Fancher
Commentor: Beth Sulsberger
EM: Beth Fancher, Emily Milner
Altar Servers:
Ushers:

St. Stephen Activities for the Week
Sat. March 17, Sacrament of Reconciliation, noon to 1p
Sun. March 18, PSR, Sacrament of Reconciliation 8-8:20 a.m.
Tues. March 20, Bible Study after 6:30 mass
Friday, March 22, Stations of the Cross – 7 p.m.

Food Pantry Collection will be April 7 & 8 due to only one mass the weekend of Easter.

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 17, 6:00pm—Jim Turner+
Sunday, March 18, 10:30am—Larry McClure+
Thursday, March 22, 6:30pm—St. Edward Parishioners
Friday, March 23, 8:00am—Blessings Received
Friday, March 23, 6:00pm—Stations of the Cross 6:30pm—Penance Service
Saturday, March 24, 6:00pm—John Robison III+
Sunday, March 25 (Palm Sunday), 10:30am—Albert Ochs+

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

Weekly Contributions 03-11-2018

Envelopes(26) \$1,663.00
Loose 133.00
Total \$1,796.00
We need \$1,887.00

Building Fund \$ 82.00
Easter Flowers 40.00
CSMA 955.00
Catholic Relief Serv. 50.00
Donation 20.00
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: *Saint Joseph, spouse of the Blessed Virgin Mary*
2 Sm 7:4-5a,12-14a,16 Lk 2:41-51a
Tues: *Lenten Weekday*
Nm 21:4-9 Jn 8:21-30
Wed: *Lenten Weekday*
Dn 3:14-20,91-92,95 Jn 8:31-42
Thur: *Lenten Weekday*
Gn 17:3-9 Jn 8:51-59
Fri: *Saint Turibius of Mogrovejo, Bishop*
Jer 20:10-13 Jn 10:31-42
Sat: *Lenten Weekday*
Ez 37:21-28 Jn 11:45-56
Sun: PALM SUNDAY OF THE PASSION OF THE LORD
Is 50:4-7 Phil 2:6-11 Mk 14:1—15:47

Saturday, March 24
Lector: Diana Zurliene
EM: Ken & Theresa Nordmann
Usher: Sue Milligan, Hank Eckleberry
Gifts: Ray & Sally Conley
Servers: volunteers

Sunday, March 25
Lector: Jen Wellen
EM: Peg Garrison, Emily Milligan
Ushers: Scott Merkle, Kent Ochs
Gifts: The Titzer Family
Servers: Grace & Andrew Milligan

ST. EDWARD NEWS

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

CHRISM MASS: WE ARE STILL IN NEED OF SOMEONE TO ATTEND THE CHRISM MASS IN BELLEVILLE ON TUESDAY, MARCH 27 AT 11:30AM. PLEASE CONTACT THE CHURCH OFFICE IF INTERESTED.

IF YOU ARE WANTING TO DONATE TOWARDS THE EASTER FLOWERS IN MEMORY OF YOUR LOVED ONES, PLEASE DROP IN THE COLLECTION BASKET WITH THE NAMES.

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. 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.

OUR CONDOLENCES ARE WITH THE FAMILY OF DIANE DEVOUS. MAY DIANE'S SOUL AND THE SOULS OF ALL THE FAITHFUL DEPARTED THROUGH THE MERCY OF GOD REST IN PEACE. AMEN

Thank-you to everyone who helped with the Food Pantry. The number of people helped ,by you giving your time and talent were: February—101 March—91. Please keep up this very important ministry.

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.



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 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.

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

2018 PSR SCHEDULE

March 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

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

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

Thank you for the seven households that have already pledged to support the mission of the church to teach, preach, minister and serve in the name of Jesus through their financial support of the Catholic Service and Ministry Appeal. So far \$1515 has been pledged. If you have not yet responded please do so.

Choir practice for Holy Week is every Monday evening, 7 pm and continue on Mondays unless announced. New members are welcome!

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

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 shopwithscrip.com

Fifth Sunday of Lent

Scriptural Readings – Jeremiah 31:31-34, Hebrews 5:7-9, John 12:20-34

In the Gospel reading Jesus says, “When I am lifted up, I will draw all people to myself.”

This is the last Sunday before Palm Sunday or Passion Sunday. This Sunday, the Church encourages us to reflect on the cross of Jesus, which is the true power of Jesus Christ. His true power is found in His crucifixion and His saving death. The true, enduring miracle of Jesus is His saving death and resurrection which is made present at every mass. The power of that miracle, called Redemption, is available to all of us.

In this gospel reading, Jesus has more teachings for us. He says, “Unless a grain of wheat falls to the ground and dies, it remains just a grain of wheat; but if it dies, it produces much fruit.” The grain of wheat refers first of all to Jesus. It took Jesus’ death on the cross to break the shell, the limitations of His human nature, so that, now risen, He is present in countless places, to countless lives. The Lord is also speaking about a deep and wider truth about every Christian life. Something about us has to die for new life to be born and be released. We have to die to carefree youth for the maturity that comes with responsibility to be born. We have to die to a self-centered life to make room for life with another in marriage. We have to die to self in order to experience spiritual re-birth. Dying to self is necessary to receive new life.

When we die to self and crack open the shell of sinful behavior in our lives, it is to bring something else to life – spiritual wisdom in our daily affairs, a powerful and personal relationship with God, closeness to Christ, the strength of the Holy Spirit in any storm, the power to enhance the lives of others through forgiveness and through intelligent, wise, discerning love – all the things that Jesus was.

What is there in your life that has to die for new life in Christ to be born? Pride? Disobedience? Unfaithfulness? Selfishness? Infidelity?

I would like you to reflect on these acts of mercy and think about how you have put them to practice in your life.

The corporal works of mercy	The Spiritual works of Mercy
1. To feed the hungry	1. To counsel the doubtful
2. To give drink to the thirsty	2. To instruct the ignorant
3. To clothe the naked	3. To admonish the sinner
4. To shelter the homeless	4. To comfort the sorrowful
5. To visit the sick	5. To bear wrongs patiently
6. To visit the imprisoned	6. To forgive offenses willingly
7. To bury the dead	7. To pray for the living and the dead

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

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 Anonymous 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. 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, 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 by 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.

Bible Study at St. Stephen’s: 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.

