

Please pray for these students as they continue their preparation for Confirmation. Allie Parker, Ellie Fleener, Nolan Duquaine, Maria Whitehead, Rachel Holkenbrink, Ellie Pierce, Andrea Moody, Jackson Mills, Ailyn Zurliene and Andrew Milligan.

Merry Christmas from the Messenger! Don't forget to Subscribe by calling **The Messenger at 618-233-8670**. To subscribe online go to www.bellevillemessenger.org

St. Vincent de Paul Needs Blankets and Coats! Cold winter weather has arrived earlier than usual and the Society of St. Vincent de Paul Belleville Council needs blankets and coats to distribute to those need Gently-used or new coats of all types for all ages – toddlers, children, teens and adults (men and women) and blankets of all types/sizes – are being requested. Items can be dropped off at the St. Vincent de Paul office #13 Vieux Carre Drive, East St. Louis or call Joe Hubbard or Pat Hogrebe at 618-394-0126

RCIA – Rite of Christian Initiation If you want to know about our faith, or would like to join us, contact Father Charles at 618-662-6261, Cheryl McCarty at 815-343-1502, Ginny Barrett at 618-335-6926, or Mary Murphy at 618-599-5018

Want to give your spouse a gift that says you truly love them and want to make the most of your marriage? Give your spouse a gift certificate for a Marriage Encounter weekend as a Christmas present! You will BOTH appreciate this special gift to one another. If that sounds good to you, just pick up the phone to find out more about a Worldwide Marriage Encounter weekend on Jan. 19-20, 2019 at St. Lawrence Catholic Church (no hotel provided); or Feb 8-10 at the Courtyard Marriott in St. Peters, MO. If you would like to get more info. call 314-694-7317, go to <https://stl-wme.org/schedule.php>

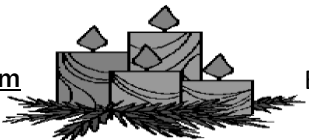
2018-2019 St. Edward and St. Stephen Masses and Special Services

Monday, December 24 Christmas Eve	St. Edward – 8 p.m. mass St. Stephen – 11 p.m. mass
Tuesday, December 25 Christmas	St. Stephen – 9 a.m. mass St. Edward – 11 a.m. mass
Monday, December 31 Solemnity of Mary	St. Stephen – 6:30 p.m. mass
Tuesday, January 1, 2019 Solemnity of Mary	St. Stephen – 8:30 a.m. mass St. Edward – 10:30 am mass



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, office phone: 618-662-6261

St. Edward Mass Schedule:
1st and 3rd Saturday 5 p.m.
Sunday 10:30 a.m.

St. Stephen Mass Schedule:
2nd and 4th Saturday 5 p.m.,
Sunday 8:30 a.m.

Confession, Sacrament of Reconciliation:
Friday – 8:30 a.m.

Confession, Sacrament of Reconciliation:
Wednesday after mass, Sunday 8 – 8:20 a.m. or call appt

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

Parish Office: Trudi Herdes, Secretary, Office Hours
Monday & Wednesday, 8 a.m. to noon, Office, Fax &
Social Room 662-8121, Rectory 662-6261

Bulletin Info: Peggy Garrison, Parish Office.
Please submit by noon on Thursday

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

New Parishioners Register at the Parish
Office

New Parishioner Register contact Father Charles,
Trudi Herdes or Dorothy Uebinger 662-3711
email dot@wabash.net

PSR Coordinator: Peggy Garrison
RCIA Coordinator: Ginny Barrett
Music Director: Denise Zurliene

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

Pastoral Council – 3rd Thursday
Altar Sodality – 3rd Monday
Men's Club - As announced
CYO Meeting - As announced
Food Pantry Distribution 2nd Saturday 8am

Food Pantry Collection 1st Weekend
Knights of Columbus – 1st Wednesday, 7 pm
Finance Committee – 3rd Wednesday, 7 pm
Pastoral Council - 4th Wednesday, 7 pm
Altar Societv – As Announced

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.

Fourth Sunday of Advent

December 23, 2018

ST. STEPHEN MASS INTENTIONS FOR THE WEEK

Saturday, December 22, 5:00 p.m. mass – Jim Stanford+

Sunday, December 23, 8:30 a.m. mass – Al Winka+

Monday, December 24, 11:00 p.m. Christmas Eve mass – Al Uebinger+

Tuesday, Dec. 25, 9:00 a.m. Christmas mass – For the living & deceased of our parish

Wednesday, Dec, 26, 6:30 p.m. mass – Regina Buckleh+

Thursday, December 27, 8:00 a.m. mass – Catholic Extension Donors

Saturday, December 29, 5:00 p.m. mass – Howard & Madonna Goellner+

Sunday, December 30, 8:30 a.m. – Dominic & Mary Talmant+

Monday, Dec 31, Solemnity of Mary, 6:30 p.m. mass - Kenny & Evelyn Myers+

Tuesday, January 1, 8:30 a.m. – St. Ann Altar Society

Weekly Contributions December 16

Envelopes \$1,267.00 (35)

Loose 162.00

Total \$1,429.00

We Need - \$1,731.00

Retirement Fund Religious \$20

Christmas Offering - \$50

Cemetery Fund - \$50

Attend: Saturday- Sunday-100

St. Stephen Activities for the Week

Saturday, December 22, 5 p.m. MASS

Sunday, December 23, 8:30 a.m. mass.

Decorate for Christmas after mass

Monday, Dec. 24, Christmas Eve Mass 11 p.m.

Christmas Music 10:30 p.m.

Tuesday, December 25, Christmas Mass, 9 a.m.

Wed. December 26 , 6:30 p.m. mass

Thursday, December 27, 8 a.m. mass

Saturday, December 29, 5 p.m. MASS

Weekend Ministers

Saturday, December 29

Euch Min - Volunteers

Ushers – Volunteers

Lector - Volunteer

Servers - Volunteers

Sunday, December 30

Lector- Emily Milner

Commentator- Ted Whitehead

Euch Min Dorothy Uebinger Sam Pierce Beth Sulsberger

Servers – Max, Sam and Nolan Duquaine

Ushers – Jerod Fleener, Tony Holkenbrink

PRAYER INTENTIONS:

Linda Griffy, Bill Marks, Nicole Wheaton, Velma Oliver, LaVonne Kemmerer, Patience McKnight, Clara Wilson, Mildred Garrison, Ray Vaughn, Joe Falica, Pat Venable, Clarice Schweighart, Ray & Irene Winka, Chris Boyd, Steve Dudzik, Ruth Wilson, Roger Wells, Becky Payne, Bob Bluhm, Rhonda Ryker, Kelly Coan, Dr. Don Bunnell, Paul Weidner, Marilyn Wheaton, Diana Fleener, J.R. Means, Lois Houlihan, Cory Britton, Lucille Anderson, Debbie Jones, Gary Nelson, Duck Greenwood, Ed Perk, Kathryn Fleener, Georgia Klingler, Gene Leonard, Celeste Replogle, Georgianna Weber, Steve Spitzner, Helen Powless, Nick Compton, Cindy Bloemer, Kennah Hiespand, Jim McCarty

Fourth Sunday of Advent

December 23, 2018

ST. EDWARD MASS INTENTIONS FOR THE WEEK

Saturday, December 22—NO MASS

Sunday, December 23, 10:30am—Don & Loretta Schoenborn+

Monday, December 24, 8:00pm—Jim Turner+

Tuesday, December 25, 11:00am—For living & deceased of St. Edward

Thursday, December 27—NO MASS

Friday, December 28—NO MASS

Saturday, December 29—NO MASS

Sunday, December 30, 10:30am—Jim Zimmerman+

Tuesday, January 1, 11:00am—For Blessings Received

Weekly Contributions—Dec. 16

Envelopes(37) \$1,976.00

Loose 252.00

Total \$2,228.00

We need \$1,887.00

Building Fund \$197.00

Donation 20.00

Imm. Conception 15.00

Ret. Rel. Fund 55.00

Christmas Off. 50.00

Christmas Flowers 35.00

Attendance: Sat. 41 Sun. 76

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, Cody Burroughs, Terri Venturelli, Linda States, all priests who are sick

Our Daily Scripture Readings:

Mon: Vigil of the Nativity of the Lord

Is 62:1-5 Acts 13:16-17,22-25 Mt 1:1-25

Tues: The Nativity of the Lord (Christmas)

Is 52:7-10 Heb 1:1-6 Jn 1:1-18

Wed: Saint Stephen, The First Martyr

Acts 6:8-10; 7:54-59 Mt 10:17-22

Thur: Saint John, Apostle, Evangelist

1 Jn 1:1-4 Jn 20:1a, 2-8

Fri: The Holy Innocents, Martyrs

1 Jn 1:5—2:2 Mt 2:13-18

Sat: Fifth Day within the Octave of the Nativity of the Lord, Saint Thomas Becket, Bishop

1Jn 2:3-11 Lk 2:22-35

Sun: The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph

Sir 3:2-6,12-14 Col 3:12-21 Lk 2:41-52

Mon, Dec. 24—8pm

Tues, Dec. 25—11am

Lector:Mike Oppenheimer

David Mills

E. Mins:Tim & Jackie S.

Emily M., Peg G.

Ushers:Don & Nick Z.

Scott Merkle, Devon B

Gifts: Nick Zurliene Family

The Garrison Family

Servers:Cali B., Ailyn Z.

Drew M., Jackson M.

Sat, Dec. 29—NO MASS

Sun, Dec. 30—10:30a

Lector:

David Mills

E. Mins:

Peg G, Ginny Barrett

Ushers:

Scott M., Rick Rennie

Gifts:

3rd &4th Grade (PSR)

Servers:

Jackson M., Cali B.

Tues, Jan. 1—New Year’s Day—11:00am

We will need volunteers for all positions. Thanks.

ST. EDWARD NEWS

REMINDER: NEXT SATURDAY, December 29—There will be no mass at St. Edward.

PSR NEWS

Dec. 23rd—NO PSR OR CONFIRMATION
Dec. 30th—NO PSR OR CONFIRMATION
Jan. 6th—PSR CLASS 9:00am Confirmation—5:00pm CYO Pizza Party—6:00pm

Thank-you to Laura Zurliene, PSR kids, CYO, and anyone else who helped with the Christmas Pageant. It was a wonderful program.

CYO NEWS

We would like to thank Libby Pond for becoming the new leader of our CYO program. The first meeting will be held on Sunday, January 6th at 6:00pm. Will have discussions on upcoming events. There will also be pizza.

LOOKING AHEAD:

December 24th—Christmas Eve: St. Edward 8:00pm/St. Stephen 11:00pm
December 25th—Christmas Day: St. Stephen 9:00am/St. Edward 11:00am
December 27th & 28th—NO WEEKDAY MASSES

MASS STIPENDS: Just a friendly reminder that if you would like a Mass to be said in memory of a loved one that has passed or just for help getting through a difficult situation, please drop an envelope earmarked in the collection basket with name or what you would like the mass for. The cost is \$10 per intention. Thanks.

ALTAR SODALITY

Thank you to everyone who participated in ‘Prepare the way of the Lord’ with our Jesse Tree. We hope this made your Advent Journey a special one.

We will be decorating the church for Christmas immediately following 10:30 mass. All help will be greatly appreciated. Thank – you.

There will be Choir Practice on Sunday, December 23rd at 6:00pm. Everyone is welcome to come and join our fabulous Choir. We will be singing on December 24th before 8:00pm mass.



ST. STEPHEN NEWS

There will be a Saturday night mass at St. Stephen’s on Saturday, December 29, 5 p.m. We need a volunteer lector, Eucharistic minsters, servers and ushers. Please check Christmas and New Years, Solemnity of Mary mass times, listed.

BULLETINS ARE NOW ON THE BOOKSHELVES BY THE TABLES AT THE FRONT OF CHURCH. Pick one up, LOT OF INFORMATION!

Please pick up your 2019 contribution envelope boxes on the table in the back of church.

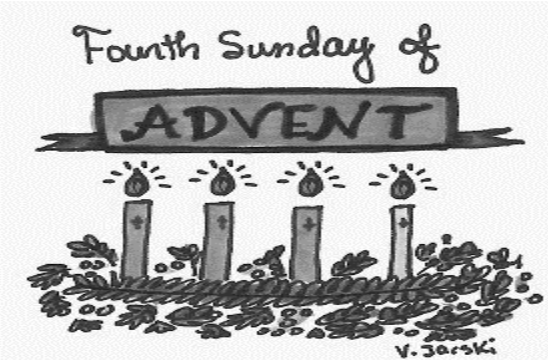
If you are celebrating an occasion such as a birthday, anniversary, new birth, wedding, new church member, etc., please contact Trudi Herdes at church or Beth Fancher bafancher@wabash.net or 618-676-4292. We would like to pray for you, put it in the bulletin and compile a list.

Special Events!

December Birthdays

- Dorothy Croy – Dec. 4
- Bernie Brown – Dec. 6
- Ray Winka – 89th - Dec. 17
- Allison Cartright – Dec. 29
- Jeanne Greuel – Dec. 30

There will be NO adoration December 26 or 28. Adoration will resume as usual the following week on Wednesday, January 2



From Father Charles’ Desk: Fourth Sunday of Advent (Year C)

THE VISIT OF GOD DEMANDS OUR RESPONSE (Micah 5:2-5a; Heb. 10: 5-10; Lk 1:39-45)

For the past weeks now, we have been preparing for the celebration of the greatest visit of God to our world in history. Our world long needed this visitation because man, the very crown of all creation whom God created in his own image, rebelled against Him, his creator. This God of ours who is majestic, glorious and all powerful did not display all his mightiness at his intervention to clam man back to Himself. He did not come as “ God ” but as one of us. He became one of us in everything but sin. He was conceived of the Holy Spirit in the womb of a virgin. The Virgin Mary offered God a coat of human flesh to make him visible. Without the obedience of Mary, the story of our redemption would have been different. In today’s Gospel reading that says, “Mary set out and went as quickly as she could to a town in the hill country of Judah. She was going to share the Good News with Elizabeth” Today’s Gospel reading is the reaction of Mary to the Good News , and this must form part of our response during this Christmas season, and also it gives us the account of the visitation . Mary’s great gift to Elizabeth during the difficult time of the older Elizabeth’s pregnancy was the gift of her time, her assistance and support. Christmas is another opportunity to reach out to your brothers and sisters, no matter what have transpired in the past.The encounter of Mary and Elizabeth gave us part of the prayer we Catholic love best--- The Hail Mary . This prayer was composed by God and Church , Christ’s presence in the world. At the annunciation, God greeted Mary ‘ Hail Full of grace The Lord is with you”. At the visitation of Mary to Elizabeth , as soon as Elizabeth heard Mary’s greeting, the child she was carrying leapt in her womb and Elizabeth was filled with the Holy Spirit (cf. Lk 1:42).” She gave a loud cry and said , “of all women you are the most blessed , and blessed is the fruit of your womb (cf. Lk 1:43)”. The Church only added , Holy Mary Mother of God pray for us sinners now and at the hour of our death”.

The visitation of Mary and Elizabeth’s response must force our minds to redefine our modern meaning of Christmas celebration. Christmas is a family celebration simply because God came through the family to save mankind. Let us make the family free of obstacles to peace and love which God came to restore at the first Christmas which we are re-living in each new Christmas. We have to take the visit Mary, our Mother , took to travel to the hill country of our families and relations.

Let us pray: Holy Mary Mother of God pray for us now and at the hour of our death.
Amen

St. Stephen News

St. Stephen PSR 2018-2019 Calendar

Sunday Class Time 9:30 to 10:30 a.m.

Dec. 23 NO Class	Jan. 6 Class	Feb. 3 Class	March 3 Class	March 31 Class
Dec. 30 NO Class	Jan. 13 Class	Feb. 10 Class	March 10 Class	
	Jan. 20 Class	Feb. 17 Class	March 17 Class	
	Jan. 27 Class	Feb. 24 Class	March 24 Class	

WEEKEND MASS The Saturday evening mass rotates between St. Stephen and St. Edward Churches. The first and third Saturdays will be at St. Edwards and the second and fourth Saturdays will be at St. Stephen. The mass on Saturdays will be at 5 p.m. The Sunday morning mass times will remain the same.
St. Stephen 8:30 a.m. St. Edward – 10:30 a.m.

WELCOME VISITORS ATTENDING MASS Welcome to our church. Come visit us again.

Guadalupe Project: Anyone wishing to make a monetary contribution to the Guadalupe Project may place their donation in an envelope labeled “Guadalupe” and put it in the collection basket .

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, 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

Goodsearch: 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.

SCRIP: 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.

Altar Society: The next three rotating chairmen are Etchison, Whitehead & Winka’s; Bernie Brown.

CRY ROOM St. Stephen’s Cry Room is in the Library, which is equipped with a TV set up with a live feed of both Masses.

Merry Christmas!

Wishing you a
blessed holiday as
we celebrate the
birth of Jesus.



Schedule and Procedure for Election of Members to the Pastoral Council

2nd Weekend in January, 12th & 13th Nominations at Masses

3rd Weekend in January, 19th & 20th Names of nominated will be in the Church Bulletin

4th Weekend in January, 26th & 27th Vote on candidates for Pastoral Council

The second weekend in January all parishioners over eighteen (18) years of age will be requested to submit the names of four (4) persons to serve on the Pastoral Council. Nomination ballots will be provided for this purpose. The names of the candidates will be published in the Church Bulletin on the third (3rd) weekend in January. The names of the nominated will be used to prepare the ballot for the election to be held, after the Masses, on the fourth (4th) weekend in January. All members of St. Stephen Church eighteen (18) years of age and older are eligible to vote.

MEMBERS WITH TERMS EXPIRING THIS YEAR ARE:

Krista Weidner

Deb Duquaine

MEMBERS WITH UN-EXPIRED TERMS TO BE RETAINED ARE:

Cheryl McCarty

Susan Schroeder

Emily Milner

Justin Fleener