

If you receive an unusual email supposedly from Fr. Charles, do not open them, first call Fr. Charles or the church offices, to see if they are legitimate emails.

These are unknown writers using Fr. Charles email address. These emails are not coming from him.

Mid-life Singles (mid-30s to 50s): Are you looking for a renewed sense of purpose & belonging? Register today for alife-changing REFLECT weekend retreat at King’s House Retreat Center, Belleville, IL (20 min from downtown St. Louis, MO), on May 31-June 2. Take a chance and get involved... you won't regret it! Cost is \$195 for meals and a single room. Visit www.ReflectRetreat.com, e-mail reflect.stlouis@gmail.com, or call (314) 283-0044 for details.

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

Catholic Conference of Illinois Statement on Senate Committee Passage of SB 1594

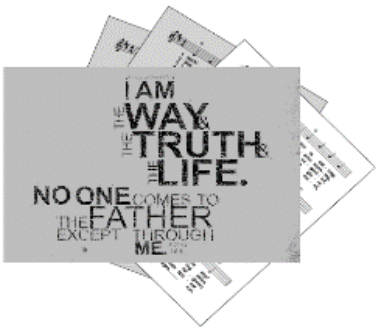
It is truly tragic the Senate Public Health Committee approved Senate Bill 1594, which seeks to repeal the Illinois Parental Notice of Abortion Act. Since this law went into effect, the incidence of abortions among minors has dropped 57 percent in Illinois.

Why would anybody vote for legislation that effectively removes parents and guardians of minors from a major decision that is known to have significant physical and mental after effects?

Current law makes it illegal for minors in Illinois to use an indoor tanning bed; buy cigarettes, alcohol or lottery tickets; or vote in an election. Are we to believe abortion is somehow less consequential than getting a tan?

We urge the full Senate to use reason, support parents and their daughters, and strongly reject this appalling legislation.

The Catholic Conference of Illinois was created in 1969 to serve as the public policy voice of the Illinois bishops and the six dioceses of the State. Of Illinois.



St. Edward and St. Stephen Catholic Churches

300 NW 5th St. Fairfield IL 62837
Email stedwardcatholicchurch01@frontier.com
Website: stedwardfairfield.com

Rev. Father Charles Anyaoku,
Pastoral Administrator

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

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

Parish Office: Peggy Garrison, Secretary
Office hours Tuesday, Wednesday
& Friday, 8 a.m. to noon
Rector/Office 847-7931 Fax 847-7393
Parish Hall 847-7512

Bulletin Information to Peggy Garrison, Parish
Office. Please submit by noon on Thursday

New Parishioners Register - Parish Office
PSR Coordinator: Peggy Garrison
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.

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.



812 N. Main St., Flora IL 62839
Email ststephen_flora@yahoo.com
Website: ststephenflora.com

Phone: 618-662-6261
Email fronyekaanyaoku@yahoo.com

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

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

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

Bulletin information to Beth Fancher, 665-3163
submit by Thursday, email bafancher@wabash.net
New Parishioner Register contact Father Charles,
Trudi Herdes or Dorothy Uebinger 662-3711

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

Knights of Columbus – 1st Wednesday, 7 pm
Finance Committee – 3rd Wednesday, 7 p.m.
Altar Society - As announced
Pastoral Council - 4th Wednesday, 7 p.m.
Food Pantry Collection - First Weekend

ST. EDWARD NEWS

REMINDER: NEXT SATURDAY, May 25th —THERE WILL BE NO MASS AT ST. EDWARD

MESSAGE FROM CHURCH OFFICE

Starting June 1st, 2019, the church office will have new hours for the summer months. The office will be open Tues, Wed, & Thurs from 8am-12pm. If you have any information for the bulletin please have submitted by noon on Wednesday. The bulletin will be printed on Thursday.
Thank-you, Peg

CONGRATULATIONS GRADUATES

8 th Grade	High School	College
Jackson Mills	Jeffrey Zurliene	Alicia Garrison
Andrew Milligan	Noah Ochs	

We are very proud of all of you and wish you blessings in all your endeavors.

THANK-YOU: TO THE MEN’S CLUB FOR ANOTHER VERY SUCCESSFUL LADIES’ APPRECIATION DINNER. A GREAT TIME WAS HAD BY ALL. ALSO, AWESOME SOCIALIZING AND FOOD. THANKS AGAIN.

NICE JOB ST. EDWARD PARISHIONERS: The Food Pantry which was held last weekend had 34 patrons come through which resulted in serving 86 people in the community.

BLESSED ARE THE MEEK, FOR THEY WILL INHERIT THE LAND. BLESSED ARE THEY WHO HUNGER AND THIRST FOR RIGHTEOUSNESS, FOR THEY WILL BE SATISFIED.

REMINDER: LAST YEAR IF YOU “ADOPTED A SPOT” ON CHURCH GROUNDS, PLEASE CHECK YOUR AREAS FOR WEEDS. ESPECIALLY WITH ALL THE RAIN WE HAVE HAD. THANK-YOU FOR TAKING ON THIS “VERY APPRECIATED” JOB. LET’S KEEP ST. EDWARD LOOKING SPIFFY!

FINANCE COMMITTEE: On Thursday, May 23rd there will be a Finance Meeting at 7pm in the church hall. Last meeting minutes are on the bulletin board in the hall.

VBS: Please mark your calendars now that the tentative dates are July 15th thru 18th. The times will be 5-7pm. Snacks will be served each night with a dinner on the last night of the event. More details to come in the next couple weeks.

ST. STEPHEN NEWS

The Grade and High School graduates were honored with a gift from the Parish Organizations last Sunday. If you are a graduate and you were not here last Sunday, you may pick up your gift on the table in the back of church at the east entrance.

Grade School Graduates

Ellie Fleener
Rachel Holkenbrink
Maria Whitehead

High School Graduate

Vivian Duquaine
Gracey Himelick



Special
Congratulations to
our high school
graduates, Vivian
and Gracey. Both of
these young ladies
were recipients of
many achievement
awards.

It has come to our attention that we are in need of additional mass servers, particularly for events such as funerals that occur on school days. We would like to invite any of the men and women of the parish who would like to participate in this ministry to contact Father Charles or a member of the Pastoral Council. We will joyfully accept you and arrange training. Thank you.

Congratulations to Justin Fleener. Teutopolis’ Wooden Shoes head baseball coach. Justin’s teams have won more than 500 games for Teutopolis. That puts him just outside the top 50 on the IHSA all-time wins list.

Guadalupe Project Events

Baby Bottle Benefit: Pick up a baby bottle from the tables by either entrance. Those bottles can be filled with spare change and returned on or before Father’s Day. All proceeds will benefit the families who visit Guadalupe Project. Thank you!

*Summer Cash Raffle: Tickets are on sale now for the 2019 Summer Cash Raffle. Tickets are \$20 or 6/\$100. Each ticket will be entered in to drawings all summer. Each week, two \$100 cash prizes will be awarded, with grand prizes of \$500 and \$1,000 being drawn the week of Labor Day. Drawings begin May 29 and will be drawn and announced by WNOI Radio. If you would like to help sell tickets to family, friends, and coworkers, please let Laura Whitehead know. Tickets will be available for sale in the social room after weekend masses beginning May 18/19.

St. Stephen PSR 2019 Calendar

May 19 – Last Class - Pizza Party

Congratulations to Benjamin Pierce who graduated on May 12, from SIUE with a degree in Mechatronics and Robotic Engineering.

FYI: Trudi will not be in the office next week.

Thank you to BSpeedy for copying the bulletins last week. There have been problems with the copier and thanks to Trudi for taking care of these problems and seeing that the bulletin was printed last week.

Our Church will be selling the partial lots we own on Holly Lane, Flora. If anyone is interested in purchasing this property or has any questions concerning this matter please contact Trudi Herdes.

Today , we celebrate the fifth Sunday of Easter
My reflection will be focusing on Jesus Christ’s teaching (New Commandment) to his disciples on the eve of his passion , that is last supper when he said to them to keep the new commandment “ mandatum novus --- love one another as I have loved you .

Jesus Christ said ;” by this love you have for one another ;everyone will know that you are my disciples”.

The law of Love is the only way to make Jesus present at all times and he will be recognized if we love as he did .

Easter celebration is a celebration of love. Jesus Christ who freely accepted death in order to bring salvation for us , forgiveness of sin and to set us free from the darkness and sin.

The love that Christ had shown for us was very remarkable because his love was selfless , sacrificial and universal , limitless . he forgave those who crucified him unconditionally.

The apostles’ love for the gospel , Christ and the church were demonstrated in the Acts of the Apostles. They adhered Christ ‘s teaching and commandments, “ they were with one mind and one heart contributing for the growth and development of the church. Many of them sold their properties and lands gave to the apostles, and said prayers together and eat together . in fact the first apostles and early Christian endured sufferings and hardship for the love the had for the gospel and Christ.

We are now living in that new place that was built by the blood of Jesus and the love of the first apostles. We must learn how to live here well, so that the early Christians’ love, which was to the limits of endurance, will not have been in vain. In the midst of our hardships and disappointments, which are no greater than the hardships and disappointments of Jesus and the first apostles, we must continue to re -create the universe and establish the new social order. If there is love like that of Jesus among us , the little disappointments we daily experience in life will be very insignificant and less burdensome. That is , total love which excludes no one , by way of a special solidarity

In our parish , for us to progress and gained more converts for the church and Christ , we must stick to Jesus Christ’s teaching, “Love one another “. We must learn to come together to learn from one another in this journey of our salvation. There is no way we can make any necessary growth when we stay away from one another.

The first apostles prayed together and they had time to listen one another in their difficult times . Can we make out time for others in our space and time ,or are we always comfortable living by ourselves ? There is need we come together as a group because united we stand but divided we fail

This is how all will know that you are my disciples , if you have love for one another .

St. Stephen News

WEEKEND MASSES The Saturday evening mass rotates between St. Stephen and St. Edward Churches. The 1st and 3rd Saturdays will be at St. Edwards and the 2nd and 4th Saturdays will be at St. Stephen. Saturdays masses 5 p.m. The Sunday morning mass times will remain the same. St. Stephen 8:30am. St. Edward 10:30 a.m. When there is a 5th Sunday in a month, we switch back and forth. (i.e. like in April).

Altar Society: The next three rotating chairmen are: Berenice Mary Brown, Donna Myers, Beth Fancher.

Please let Beth Fancher or Trudi Herdes know when you are celebrating a birthday, anniversary or any special event (i.e. births, graduations, marriage, etc.). We would like to pass this information on to everyone, so that we can pray & celebrate with you.

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.

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.

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

