

St. Stephen News

Happy Birthday December 6 – Bernie Brown
Happy Anniversary December 5 - Jerry & Kathy Price
Please remember Ray Winka in your prayers.

Please let Beth Fancher or Trudi Herdes know what dates you are celebrating birthdays, anniversaries or any special events (i.e. births, graduations, marriage, etc.). We would like to pass this information on in the bulletin.

There will be Eucharistic Adoration each Sunday during PSR classes in the Adoration Chapel after Mass Everyone welcome

MASS INTENTIONS If you would like to have a mass intention said for a loved one who has passed, special intention or blessings received, please place name of intention and \$10 in an envelope and drop in the collection basket. If you would like specific date, try to get the information to Trudi as soon as possible, a couple weeks ahead or more before the date.

SERVERS We are in need of additional altar servers, lectors, commentators and Eucharistic ministers. Please contact Father Charles, Beth Fancher or Diane Briscoe if you would like to serve or would like more information about these ministries. All youth and adults are invited to serve. Please consider helping with these important and wonderful ministries.

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.

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. That should be our daily prayer. That should be our daily desire. That should be our daily wish.

December 1, 2019

St. Edward and St. Stephen Catholic Churches

300 NW 5th St. Fairfield IL 62837, phone 618-847-7931
Email: stedwardcatholicchurch01@frontier.com
Website: stedwardfairfield.com

812 N. Main St., Flora IL 62839, phone 618-662-6261
Email: ststephen_flora@yahoo.com
Website: ststephenflora.com

Rev. Father Charles Anyaoku, Pastoral Administrator
Rectory Phone: 618-662-6261 Cell phone: 618-641-8978

MISSION STATEMENT
*We, of St. Edward Catholic Church, Fairfield, united as a family of God’s people strive to live out the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ through a community spirit of love and service to one another. We endeavor to touch the lives of all with God’s living presence and love.
We hope to achieve these through:
Participating in the sacraments and providing for the spiritual needs of all; the young and the elderly, those with special needs and those who are no longer very active in the parish.
Providing a welcoming environment to all including new members who might like to join our parish and those who visit to worship with us.
Using our gifts and talents for the life and growth of our parish and for the greater glory of God.
Providing a comprehensive system of support services that will assist the poor and the needy as far as our scope can reach.*

St. Edward Weekend and Daily Mass Schedule
Thursday, 6:30 p.m., Friday, 8:00 a.m.
1st and 3rd Saturday, 5:00 p.m.
Sunday 10:30 a.m.
Sacrament of Penance (Reconciliation) Friday, 8:30 a.m.
1st and 3rd Saturday, 4:20 – 4:40 p.m.

Parish Office: Peggy Garrison, Office Hours Tuesday, Wednesday & Thursday, 8 a.m. to noon. Rectory and Office 847-7931, Fax 847-7393, Parish Hall 847-7512
New Parishioner Register at Parish Office
PSR Coordinator Diana Zurliene, RCIA Coordinator Ginny Barrett, Music Director Denise Zurliene
Pastoral Council – 3rd Thursday, Men’s Club – As announced Youth Ministry 3rd Sunday—5:30pm,
Food Pantry Distribution 2nd Saturday, 8 a.m.

Baptism, Marriage, Vocations, Sacrament of Anointing & Care of the Sick, contact Fr. Charles Anyaoku or call St. Edward or St. Stephen

MISSION STATEMENT
*St Stephen Church aspires:
To be united in the love of God and under the guidance of the Holy Spirit.
To proclaim the word of God by a life of witness in our community and beyond.
To give the glory through assisting the weak and the less privileged.
Putting things back together, binding, healing, affirming, serving, restoring and educating the people of God.
To serve together in reconciling with one another and with God. Sharing our gifts and ourselves for the sake of the Gospel.*

St. Stephen Weekend and Daily Mass Schedule
Tuesday, 6:30 p.m., Wednesday, 6:30 p.m.
Thursday, 8:00 a.m.
2nd and 4th Saturday 5:00 p.m.
Sunday 8:30 a.m.
Sacrament of Penance (Reconciliation) Wednesday after mass, 2nd & 4th Sat. 4:20– 4:40 pm.,
Sun 8– 8:20 am. or by appointment

Parish Office: Trudi Herdes, Secretary, Office Hours Monday & Wednesday, 8 a.m. to noon, Office, Fax & Social Room 662-8121, Rectory 662-6261
New Parishioner Register contact Fr. 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. STEPHEN MASS INTENTIONS FOR THE WEEK

Saturday, November 30, 5:00 p.m. Mass – Margie (Bultman) Heath+
Sunday, December 1, 8:30 a.m. Mass – David Sulsberger+
Tuesday, December 3, 6:30 p.m. Mass – For the living & deceased of the parish
Wednesday, December 4, 6:30 p.m., Mass – Connie Myers+
Thursday, December 5, 8:00 am Mass – Dominic & Mary Talmant+
Saturday, December 7, NO MASS
Sunday, December 8, 8:30 a.m. Mass – St. Ann’s Altar Society

Weekly Contribution- November 24

Envelopes.....\$1,645.00 (44)
Loose..... \$ 260.00
Total.....\$1,905.00
We Need - \$1,731.00
Catholic Campaign Human
Development \$318
Attendance: Sat. 75 Sunday - 85

Weekend Ministers
Saturday, December 7, NO MASS

Sunday, Dec.8, 8:30 a.m. Mass
Lector: Sam Pierce **Commentator:**
Phil Fancher **EM:** Beth
Fancher, Beth Sulsberger, Dorothy
Uebinger
Servers: Nolan & Max Duquaine,
Ushers: Jerod Fleener, Alan Huff

Please submit bulletin
information to Beth Fancher, call
618-676-4292 email
bafancher@wabash.net by noon
on Wednesdays.

St. Stephen Upcoming Activities

Saturday, November 30, 5:00 p.m. MASS
Sunday, December 1 8:30 a.m. Mass, PSR & Adoration,
Food Pantry Collection
Tuesday, December 3, 6:30 p.m. Mass
Wednesday, December 4, 6:30 p.m. Mass, Adoration
7 pm- 12am
Thursday, December 5, 8:00 a.m. Mass
Friday, December 6, Divine Mercy Chaplet 8:30 a.m. to
3:15 pm. Servite Rosary noon, Chaplet to Divine Mercy 3pm
Saturday, December 7 – NO Mass Cookie Walk
Sunday, December 8, 8:30 a.m. Mass, PSR & Adoration
Christmas Program and Dinner 6 p.m.

PRAYER INTENTIONS: Linda Griffy, Bill Marks, Nicole Wheaton,
Velma Oliver, Clara Wilson, LaVonne Kemmerer, Patience
McKnight, Mildred Garrison, Ray Vaughn, Joe Falica, Pat Venable,
Chris Boyd, Clarice Schweighart, Ray & Irene Winka, Steve Dudzik,
Ruth Wilson, Roger Wells, Bob Bluhm, Rhonda Ryker, Don &
Mary Bunnell, Paul Weidner, Marilyn Wheaton, JR Means, Lois
Houlihan, Cory Britton, Ed Perk, Georgia Klingler, Celeste
Replogle, Georgianna Weber, Luke Miller, Steve Spitzner, Helen
Powless, Nick Compton, Marie Elwat, Cindy Bloemer, Kennah
Hiestand, Jean Quinn, Betty Greenwood, Claire Karasch, Judie
Powless, Beth Reagan Snyder, Claire Fopay, Steve Feldhake,
Harrison Hilliard, Clem Hilmes, Pat Like

ST. EDWARD MASS INTENTIONS FOR THE WEEK

Saturday, November 30—NO MASS
Sunday, December 1, 10:30am—Quentin & Beulah Keck+
Thursday, December 5, 6:30pm—Blessings Received
Friday, December 6, 8:00am—Beauty & Blessings “The Father has given”
Saturday, December 7, 5:00pm—Jim Turner+
Sunday, December 8, 10:30am—Noah Gollner

Weekly Contribution 11/24

Envelopes(41) \$1,678.00
Loose 209.00
Total \$1,887.00
We need \$1,887.00

Building Fund \$312.00
Christmas Flowers 35.00
CCHD 223.00
Attendance: Sat- 0 Sun- 84

Sat., December 7—5:00pm

Lector: Jay Fyie
E. Min: Sally Conley & Diana Z.
Ushers: Ken & Theresa Nordmann
Gifts: Ray & Sally Conley
Servers: volunteers

Sunday, December 8—10:30am

Lector: Jen Wellen
E. Min: Peg Garrison, Ginny Barrett
Ushers: Scott Merkle, Paul Perez
Gifts: PSR KIDS
Servers: Jedd Wellen, Cali Bunting

Please submit bulletin information
to Peggy Garrison at the Parish
Office by noon on Wednesdays.

PRAYER INTENTIONS: Garland Keck, Kim
Buchanan, Lanora Neavill, Leon Chamness, Tom
Colvin, Jack Ciesielczyk, Jalain Thompson, Nanette
Williams, Julie Griffith, Gina Williams, Emilee Stanley,
Maddox Oppenheimer, Sara Kerchner, Charles Drechsel,
Eva Decker, Matthew Rorban, Andrew Mayo, Robyn
Meagher, Sandra Henson, Andrew Luna, Elaine Jeffers,
Homer and Shirley Clark, Alice Zurliene, Tim Dittmer,
Terri Venturelli, Linda States, James Rawls, Cathy
Newville, Luke Dewees, Adam Reyling, Ruth & Ralph
Langhauser, Teresa Williams, Randy White, Raymond
Garrison, Noah Gollner, Mary Jean Ochs, Rusti Grogan,
Ed Nelson, Wallace Hart and all priests who are sick.

Our Daily Scripture Readings:

Mon: *Advent Weekday*
Is 4:206 Mt 8:5-11
Tues: *St. Francis Xavier, Priest*
Is 11:1-10 Lk 10:21-24
Wed: *St. John Damascene, Priest*
Is 25:6-10a Mt 15:29-37
Thur: *Advent Weekday*
Is 26:1-6 Mt 7:21,24-27
Fri: *St. Nicholas, Bishop*
Is 29:17-24 Mt 9:27-31
Sat: *St. Ambrose, Bishop*
Is 30:19-21,23-26 Mt 9:35—10:1,5a,6-8
Sun: *Second Sunday of Advent*
Is 11:1-10 Rom 15:4-9 Mt 3:1-12

St. Edward and St. Stephen News

Are you a subscriber to The Messenger? Thank you! You’ve made a smart decision to receive enlightening and absorbing articles from prominent thinkers and local news all designed to give you new insights and hope. The Messenger.

The Catholic Service and Ministry Appeal... Blessed to receive, chosen to give
On behalf of the ministries and programs funded by The Catholic Service and Ministry Appeal and those they serve, we thank you for your prayers and continued generosity to the 2019 campaign. May you and your families feel the warmth of God’s love and the comfort of His peace at Thanksgiving and always.

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 .

TO ALL PARISHIONERS: Someone is sending emails with my name on it. In case you receive any strange mails bearing my name, first verify its authenticity from me by calling this number 618-641-8978 before responding. Thank you - Fr. Charles

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



WELCOME VISITORS ATTENDING MASS THIS WEEKEND
Welcome to our churches. Come visit us again.

ST. STEPHEN NEWS

There will NOT BE mass at St. Stephen’s on Saturday, December 7.



St. Ann’s Altar Society Cookie Walk will be held on December 7, 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. Ladies be thinking about cookies to bake for the walk. There are sign-up sheets at both entrances to help before, during and after the walk. We need lots of help!



- *Set up on Thursday, Dec. 5, 6 to 7 p.m.,
- *Cookie Drop off times are Friday, Dec. 6, 11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. and 5 -7 p.m.

It's Basket Raffle Time! Preparations are underway for the upcoming Basket Raffle. Baskets or items and baskets can be placed in the social room. Tickets for the basket raffle are available after weekend masses. Drawing is at noon at the Cookie Walk. Proceeds will benefit St. Ann's Altar Society and Guadalupe Project.

PSR students will be presenting a Christmas program on December 8, with a dinner at 6 p.m. Bring a covered dish, meat and drink will be provided. Mark your calendar for this special event!



If you would like to donate toward purchasing poinsettias for Christmas, in memory of a loved one. Envelope are at both entrances. Return in the offertory baskets.



Choir practices for December are on Mondays at 7 pm, unless announced otherwise. All Parishioners are invited to join us !

It was nice to see so many of you share the memory of your loved ones by displaying their pictures around the altar during the month of November. The pictures are now on the cart in the back of church and you can pick them up there. Thank you.

The next three Altar Society rotating chairmen are Jill Fehrenbacher, Mary Beth Lancaster/Susan Schroeder, Erin/Emma Pierce.

We are in need of volunteers who would be willing to pick up parishioners who need a ride to Mass on occasion. If you are able to help in this ministry, please call Trudi at the parish office on Monday or Wednesday morning, or at 618-838-2720

The high school/young adult PSR class is being revised to a group for young adults in high school and college. Each class will be a stand-alone event. We would love to have any young people, in high school or college join us. Gatherings will include videos & discussion on topics of faith. See Paul Duquaine or Laura Whitehead with any questions. laura.whitehead.91@gmail.com or text 618-599-6786

St. Stephen Parish School of Religion 2019-2020 Calendar Sunday Class Time 9:30 to 10:30 a.m.

Dec. 1 – No Class Thanksgiving	Dec. 8 – Class & Christmas program/dinner	Dec. 15 – No Class
Dec. 22 – No Class Christmas	Dec. 29 – No Class New Years	January 5 – Class
January 12 – Class		

From Fr. Charles’ desk,

Today is the first Sunday of Advent, the beginning of a new Church liturgical calendar. The new liturgical year is cycle a, the year of St. Mathew.

Advent is a time of vigilance as we wait for God’s coming in our history. It is a season of expectation, hope, renewal, new beginning. The season of Advent runs from this weekend mass till the evening of December 24, the vigil of Christmas. During Advent, the Church asks us her children to prepare for the three dimensional coming of the Lord Jesus, past, present, and future. Historically, Jesus once came into our world in time when he was born in Bethlehem. He taught people the gospel of the Kingdom of God. At the end of his life he was crucified, died, and was buried, and after three days he rose again from the dead, and ascended into heaven, promising to come again at the end of time. Mysteriously, he continues to be present in the sacraments and in our prayers, and in various ways he visits us in both personal and collective experiences.

The advent season calls us and challenges us to be awake and alert. This period of four weeks must be a time to do good work, a time to avoid sins, a time for serious prayer. This is a time to reconcile with God, neighbor and with oneself. Advent is a time we are really willing to give up our undesirable behaviors to bring the promise of Christ’s birth to our soul. St. Paul gives us a key in today’s second reading as he writes about the need to “cast off the deeds of darkness and put on the armor of light.

In today’s Gospel, our Lord warned us to beware and to be careful about how we conduct ourselves and lives in this Advent. He warned us against complacency and lack of attentiveness. He presents three stories for us. For him, his second coming will be comparable to what happened in Noah’s time, for three reasons: first, both events came suddenly, secondly, only a relatively few people were prepared, and thirdly, most people were preoccupied with worldly things and concerns.

May our Advent journey bring us God’s manifold blessings? May our steps be directed by our loving God from the path of death and destruction to the path of true life?

Let us pray: God our loving father, on this day, the first day of Advent and the commencement of the new Church liturgical year, we begin our spiritual preparation for the first historical advent and the last advent of your Son at the end of time. Prepare our hearts, minds and souls to receive Him. Give us the grace to make the best use of the time you provide for us this year. May our lives be totally turned over to the Lord? Amen.

Happy New Church Year.

ST. EDWARDS NEWS

REMINDER: NEXT SAT., December 7—There will be mass at St. Edward 5pm

December PSR SCHEDULE

1st—NO PSR (Thanksgiving)

8th—PSR

15TH—PSR (last class until Jan. 12)

YOUTH MINISTRY

Youth Ministry is selling “St. Edward” T-shirts & Polos. T-shirts are \$12 each and Polos are \$20 each. Order forms are in the hall. Orders and money are due in the parish office by Tuesday, December 10th. These would make great Christmas gifts. Show your St. Edward pride!!

BIBLE STUDY

BIBLE STUDY WILL BE HELD ON DECEMBER 15TH AT 5:00PM IN THE PARISH HALL. ALL PARISHIONERS ARE INVITED TO ATTEND. IF YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS PLEASE CONTACT KEN OR THERESA NORDMANN.

CLOTHESLINE VOLUNTEERS:

If anyone is interested or available to volunteer at The Clothesline please contact Leslie Robison (842-9602--even if you are not sure but just have questions). Morning shift is 9-12:30 and afternoon shift is 12:30-4pm. Here are the dates for the rest of the year: Dec 3rd, & Dec. 21st (9-1pm....Saturday). Please check your calendars and give Leslie Robison a call. Thank-you.

JESSE TREE

To “Prepare the way of the Lord” for your journey with the Jesse Tree, after Mass the weekend of Dec. 01, take a few parishioner/family names (that are on the labels) in the basket. Send these parishioners/families a Christmas Card. Use the label on the envelopes for your convenience. You may sign your name or simply put from a parishioner of St. Edward Church. When you come to Church next weekend, (Dec. 7-8, Second Sunday of Advent) tie a ribbon on the Jesse Tree.

CHRISTMAS PARTY: Sunday, December 8th we will be having our Annual St. Edward Christmas Party following 10:30am mass. Please bring a “Brunch” covered dish. All parishioners are invited. I also heard there might be a very special guest!!!!

THANK YOU TO PSR KIDS AND THE PARENTS THAT HAULED THEM TO DELIVER THE ADVENT BAGS TO ST. EDWARD SHUT IN PARISHIONERS. ALSO, THE CAROLING BY THE KIDS WAS A VERY NICE TOUCH. EVERYONE WAS GRATEFUL.

CHRISTMAS COOKIE WALK

Basket Raffle/Craft Vendors

DECEMBER 7, 2019

9:00 A.M. TO 1:00 P.M.

ST. STEPHEN CATHOLIC CHURCH

812 N. MAIN ST. – FLORA



Homemade holiday cookies and candy! \$8 a pound. You'll have the opportunity to take the "walk" and pick up your own cookies and candy.

Cookies -- Christmas candies -- Specialty Items -- Basket Raffle -- Craft Vendors

The perfect time to pick up that special holiday gift or treat for school, office, or party.

Come in and select your own cookies, choose from our pre-packaged assortments, or call 662-8121 to place an order Saturday, Dec. 7, from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. 1/3 of all proceeds of cookies/candies will go to the Clay County Ministerial Alliance Food Hope you can make it!



"ADVENT EVENSONG"

Sunday, December 1, 4:00pm

Holy Cross Church – Wendelin

A candlelight service with Scripture, Organ, English Carols, & Austrian Christmas music – sung in German, by the Wendelin Kloeppen Singers

Reconciliation available at 3:00pm

Refreshments after program at Holy Cross Parish Center

Dedicated to the memory of Fr. David Braun

2019-2020 St. Edward and St. Stephen Masses and Special Services

Monday, December 9 Immaculate Conception of Blessed Virgin Mary	St. Stephen Mass – 6:00 p.m.
Sunday, December 15 Reconciliation Service	St. Edward – 6:00 p.m.
Monday, December 16 Reconciliation Service	St. Stephen – 6:00 p.m.
Tuesday, December 24 Christmas Eve	St. Edward Mass - 8:00 p.m. St. Stephen Mass – 11:00 p.m.
Wednesday, December 25 Christmas	St. Stephen Mass – 8:30 a.m. St. Edward Mass - 10:30 a.m.
Tuesday, December 31 Eve of Solemnity of Virgin Mary	St. Stephen Mass – 7:00 p.m.
Wednesday, January 1 Solemnity of Virgin Mary	St. Edward Mass – 8:00 a.m. St. Stephen Mass – 10:30 a.m.