

St. Stephen News

Happy Birthday December 5th - Tina Winka and 6th – Bernie Brown
HAPPY 90TH BIRTHDAY Ray Winka – December 17.
Happy Anniversary December 5 - Jerry & Kathy Price

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 8, 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, December 7, NO Mass

Sunday, December 8, 8:30 a.m. Mass – St. Ann’s Altar Society

Monday, Dec. 9, 6:00 p.m. Mass – For the living & deceased of the parish

Tuesday, December 10, 6:30 p.m. Mass – Regina Buckleh+

Wednesday, December 11, 6:30 p.m., Mass – Bill & Mary Handley+

Thursday, December 12, 8:00 am Mass – Catholic Extension Donor

Saturday, December 14, 5:00 p.m. MASS – Carroll & Virginia Sulsberger

Sunday, Dec. 15, 8:30 a.m. Mass – For the living & deceased of the parish

Weekly Contribution- December 1

Envelopes.....\$1,289.00 (40)

Loose..... \$ 172.00

Total.....\$1,461.00

We Need - \$1,731.00

Food Pantry - \$388.19

Attendance: Sat. 52 Sunday - 84

Weekend Ministers

Saturday, December 14, 5 p.m. MASS

Commentator – Jim Fehrenbacher

EM: Krista Weidner, Pat Ridgeway, Cheryl

McCarty Servers: Pierce Family

Ushers: Don Talmant, Mike Winka

Sunday, Decemer 15, 8:30 a.m. Mass

Lector: Deb Zimmerman Commentator:

Ted Zimmerman EM: Ted Whitehead,

Emily Milner, Dennis Holkenbrink

Servers: Nolan & Max Duquaine EthanMilner

Ushers: Justin Fleener, Tony Holkenbrink

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

St. Stephen Upcoming Activities

Saturday, December 7, NO MASS, Cookie Walk

Sunday, December, 8 8:30 a.m. Mass, PSR &

Adoration, Christmas Program and Meal

Monday, December 9, Mass – 6 p.m.

Tuesday, December 10, 6:30 p.m. Mass

Wednesday, December 11, 6:30 p.m. Mass, Adoration

7 pm- 12am

Thursday, December 12, 8:00 a.m. Mass

Friday, December 13, Divine Mercy Chaplet 8:30 a.m.

to 3:15 pm. Servite Rosary noon, Chaplet to Divine

Mercy 3pm

Saturdav. December 14 –5 p.m. Mass

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, Carrie Nussmeyer

ST. EDWARD MASS INTENTIONS FOR THE WEEK

Saturday, December 7, 5:00pm—Jim Turner+

Sunday, December 8, 10:30am—Noah Gollner

Thursday, December 12, 6:30pm—Blessings Received

Friday, December 13, 8:00am—St. Edward Parishioners

Saturday, December 14—NO MASS

Sunday, December 15, 10:30am—Larry McClure+

Weekly Contribution 12/01

Envelopes(29) \$1,513.00

Loose 105.00

Total \$1,618.00

We need \$1,887.00

Building Fund \$135.00

Christmas Flowers 175.00

Ret. Fund Religious 5.00

Attendance: Sat- 0 Sun- 70

Sat., December 14—NO MASS

Lector:

E. Min:

Ushers:

Gifts:

Servers:

Sunday, December 15—10:30am

Lector: Gary Snodgrass

E. Min: Jeff & Mary Murphy

Ushers: Scott Merkle, Paul Perez

Gifts: Anthony & Elizabeth

Zurliene

Servers: Hayden Felowitz, Stella Z

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,
Andrew Luna, Elaine Jeffers, Homer and Shirley Clark,
Alice Zurliene, Tim Dittmer, Terri Venturelli, Linda
States, James Rawls, GloryAlmon, Cathy Newville, Luke
Deweese, Adam Reyling, Ruth & Ralph Langhauser,
Teresa Williams, Randy White, Raymond Garrison, Noah
Gollner, Mary Jean Ochs, Rusti Grogan, Ed Nelson,
Wallace Hart, Mark Fleming, & all priests who are sick.

Our Daily Scripture Readings:

Mon: *The Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin
Mary*

Gn 3:9-15,20 Eph 1:3-6,11-12 Lk 1:26-38

Tues: *Advent Weekday*

Is 40:1-11 Mt 18:12-14

Wed: *St. Damasus I, Pope*

Is 40:25-31 Mt 11:28-30

Thur: *Our Lady of Guadalupe*

Zec 2:14-17 Lk 1:26-38

Fri: *St. Lucy, Virgin, Martyr*

Is 48:17-19 Mt 11:16-19

Sat: *St. John of the Cross, Priest*

Sir 48:1-4,9-11 Mt 17:9a,10-13

Sun: *Third Sunday of Advent*

Is 35:1-6a,10 Jas 5:7-10 Mt 11:2-11

St. Edward and St. Stephen News

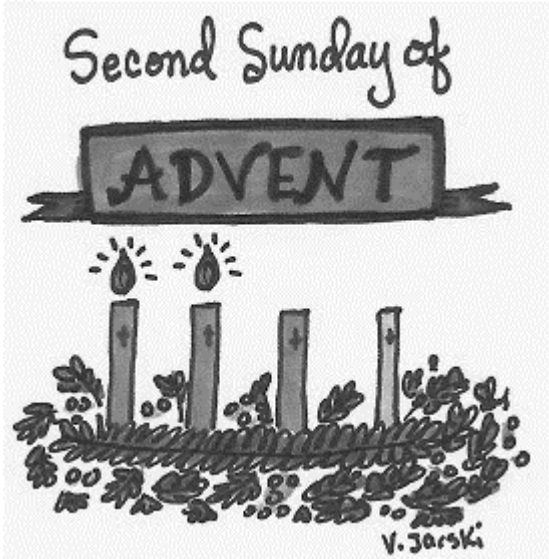
Are you a subscriber to The Messenger? Thank you! You’ve made a smart decision to receive enlightening and absorbing articles from prominent thinkers and local news all designed to give you new insights and hope. The Messenger.

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 BE mass at St. Stephen’s on Saturday, December 14.

We extend our sympathy to the family of Clem Hilmes. Clem passed away December 2. A funeral mass was held December 6, at St. Stephen with Father James Nall officiating, burial followed in St. Stephen Cemetery. May his soul rest in peace.

PSR students will be presenting a Christmas program this Sunday, Dec. 8, with a dinner at Bring a covered dish, meat and drink will be provided. The kids have been working hard. Please support their effort.

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

Thank you to Frank and Bright Funeral Home for the 2020 calendars. Please pick them up in the back of church.

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

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. 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 January 19 – Class
January 26 – Class February 2 - Class February 9- Class February 16 – Class February 23 - Class

From Fr. Charles’ desk,

Today, the Church celebrates the second Sunday of Advent.

Theme: “Preparing for Christmas demands a change of heart ”

Last week, the first Sunday of Advent, the church gave instructions on how to prepare for Christmas. Today’s liturgy continues the instruction on how to achieve this preparation for a fruitful celebration of Christmas. It speaks of personal change of heart, or conversion.

In today’s Gospel, St Mathew introduces us to John the Baptist and his mission. John the Baptist is the center of today’s liturgy. John was the last and greatest of the long line of prophets who prepared the people for the coming of the messiah. John began with the urgent call: “ Repent, for the Kingdom of Heaven is close at hand. St. John the Baptist was the man Prophet Isaiah spoke about when he said: “ A voice cries in the wilderness; prepare a way for the Lord, make his paths straight”. John was not talking about ordinary highways and roads of our country and streets of our cities but roads and highways of our hearts which have grown crooked and rugged by sins and wickedness.

God’s love shows itself in saving sinners. God’s love for us is immeasurable, and unwearied. If God so loved us, how much should we imitate the love? Therefore, St John the Baptist is calling us for true repentance.

Repentance is one of the main themes of Advent, the need to get ready to welcome Jesus into our hearts on the anniversary of his birth. Repentance involves three steps:

1. Recognizing our sins and sinfulness.
2. Turning away from our sins and sinfulness.
3. Turning to God asking for forgiveness and help.

The church encourages us to true repentance involving an interior conversion or change of heart which leads to a better life. With a repentant heart the vision of prophet Isaiah will be fulfilled in our time. True repentance will promote tolerance and acceptance of each other .True repentance of heart as preached by John the Baptist will give us reason to see our diversities and differences as gifts of God to humanity.

Happy Sunday!

ST. EDWARDS NEWS

REMINDER: NEXT SAT., December 14—THERE WILL BE NO MASS AT ST. EDWARD

December PSR SCHEDULE
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. 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. 7-8, all parishioners are asked to do, or sincerely say something nice for/to a family member, a co-worker, a neighbor, a friend, etc. Next weekend, (Dec. 14-15, Third Sunday of Advent) tie a ribbon on our Jesse Tree.

FOOD PANTRY

Friday, Dec. 13th at 8:30am will be Food Pantry set-up and on Saturday, Dec.14th at 8:00am will be distribution. If anyone has some spare time on either day please consider coming and lend a helping hand. Thank-you.

Our Condolences go out to Lisa Konopasek and her family with the passing of her sister, Sandra Henson. May perpetual light shine upon Sandra and all who have fallen to sleep with the Lord.

THERE WILL BE ANOINTING AFTER BOTH MASSES THIS WEEKEND FOR ANYONE WISHING TO RECEIVE.

CONGRATULATIONS:

Jeff & Mary Murphy 12-18-1987 (32yrs.) Anthony & Elizabeth Zurliene 12-29-2018 (1yr.)

**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.