

Pope Francis’s prayer to Mary during Coronavirus Pandemic

O Mary, you always shine on our path as a sign of salvation and of hope. We entrust ourselves to you, Health of the Sick, who at the cross took part in Jesus’ pain, keeping your faith firm. You, Salvation of the Roman People, know what we need, and we are sure you will provide so that, as in Cana of Galilee, we may return to joy and to feasting after this time of trial. Help us, Mother of Divine Love, to conform to the will of the Father and to do as we are told by Jesus, who has taken upon himself our sufferings and carried our sorrows to lead us, through the cross to the joy of the resurrection. AMEN.

Under your protection, we seek refuge, Holy Mother of God. Do not disdain the entreties of we who are in trial, but deliver us from every danger, O glorious and blessed Virgin.

Memorandum on Flu and other infectious diseases from the committee on Divine worship with the United states conference of Catholic Bishops on fundamental guidelines and precautionary measures.

Fundamentals that always apply:

- Priests, deacons, and extraordinary ministers of Holy Communion should practice good hygiene, washing their hands before Mass begins or even using an alcohol based anti-bacterial solution before and after distributing Holy Communion. Discern how to do this to best maintain the reverence of the Mass.
- Ensure all vessels used at Mass, once purified, are thoroughly washed with soap and hot water after each use.
- Assure the faithful that if they are sick or are experiencing symptom of sickness they are not obliged to attend Mass, and even that out of charity they ought not to attend.
- The General Instruction of the Roman Missal does not mandate a particular gesture to use in the Rite of Peace. The customary gesture is to extend a hand to those near. However, if one is ill with the cold or the flu, or if one feels the need, another gesture is perfectly acceptable. For example, a nod of the head and a smile could accompany the verbal sharing of Christ’s peace.
- In regard to Holy Communion from the Chalice, communicants should always act responsibly. If one is ill, he or she should refrain from taking Holy Communion from the Chalice.

Precautionary measures that could be applied:

- suspending the exchange of the sign of peace
- suspending the distribution of Holy Communion to the faithful via the chalice.

On a more positive note, among the Masses for Various Needs in the Roman Missal, the three Mass formularies provided under the heading 48. For Any Need are particularly appropriate in the face of a health threat to the general public. GIRM 374

Thank you for your kind attention to this memorandum.

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 Parish Offices.

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. Edward and St. Stephen News	
RECONCILLIATION SERVICES AT: ST. EDWARD WILL BE MARCH 26 AT 6 P.M. ST. STEPHEN WILL BE MARCH 30 AT 6 P.M.	
The season of Lent continues to the Mass of the Lord’s Supper, April 9, Inclusive. Everyone 14 years of age or over is bound to abstain from meat on Ash Wednesday, Good Friday and all Fridays of Lent. Everyone 18 years of age and under 5 years of age is also bound to fast on Ash Wednesday and Good Friday. On these two days of fast and abstinence, only one full meatless meal is allowed. The other meatless meals, sufficient to maintain strength, may be taken according to one’s needs, but altogether they should not equal another full meal. Eating between meals is not permitted on these two days, but liquids, including milk and fruit juices are allowed. Then health or ability to work would be seriously affected, the obligation of the law is modified. Those that are excused from fast and abstinence outside the age limit include the physically or mentally ill including individuals suffering from chronic illnesses such as diabetes. Also excluded are pregnant or nursing women. In all cases, common senses should prevail, and ill persons should not further jeopardize their health by fasting. Because Lent is a special season for all Christians, we should not lightly excuse ourselves from these penitential practices.	
There will be a special collection for Support of Catholic Relief Services Collection. If you don’t have an envelope put contribution in plain envelope marked for Support of Catholic Relief Services.	
OCP Grants Available – They are once again offering grants to support parishes seeking to enhance their worship experience. The grant program is open to all Roman Catholic parishes in the US. See bulletin board.	
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 .	
21 st Annual Reverse Raffle St. Theresa of Avila Church, Saturday, March 14, doors open at 6 p.m. Dinner and Event starts at 7 p.m. until Midnight. Come join us for a fun evening of dinner, dancing & drinks. Reverse Raffle Drawing 1 st prize - \$5,000. Only 200 tickets. See bulletin board for info.	
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 by calling me at 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

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.

St. Stephen News
St. Stephen’s Annual Rummage Sale will be April 24 and 25. We will accept good clean items in good working condition. Drop off times will be posted closer to sale dates. We will not accept clothing and older TV’s. START DIGGING!! 
The Bible Study of the Passion and Resurrection Narratives of Jesus will meet on the following dates: Sunday, March 22 - CANCELLED, Sunday, March 29, Sunday, April 19, Sunday, April 26, Sunday, May 3. We will meet at 6 p.m. in the Social Room at St. Stephen Church. Please come and join us as we review our Faiths good news of Christianity – the passion, death and resurrection of Jesus. All are welcome. Father Charles is moderator and Joann Stanford will be facilitating.
There are several chalk boards that will be removed from the walls in the Social Room before repainting the room. If interested in purchasing the boards or donating towards the purchase of the paint, contact Jacquie Lueking or Deb Duquaine. Bids will be accepted. 
March Birthdays: Pat Quinn – March 17, Heather Greenwood – March 22
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 put these dates in the bulletin.
If you would like to contribute to the cemetery fence fund, please place your donation in an envelope marked 'cemetery fence.' and drop it in the collection basket. Thank you.
The next three Altar Society rotating chairmen are: Donna Myers, Beth Fancher, Jill Fehrenbacher.
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.
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 Frin or showwithscrip.com.

St. Edward News

RESOURCES:

Daily & Weekend Masses: EWTN, The Diocesan website: www.diobelle.org,
Churches doing live streaming: St. Theresa of Avila Parish, St. Bruno in Pinckneyville, St. Mary in Mt. Vernon, St. Joseph Freeburg (Fr. Mark Reyling), Most of the churches that are live streaming you can find on their websites or YouTube.

BIBLE STUDY BIBLE STUDY IS SUSPENDED UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE.

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. Thank-you.

2020 Schedule: Apr. 1st & 18th; May 6th & 23rd; June 11th & 29th.

TO ALL ST. EDWARD PARISHIONERS:

IN ORDER TO OBEY THE SOCIAL DISTANCING CONCEPT, THE BISHOP HAS DECIDED AND DIRECTED THE PASTORS TO CANCEL ALL LITURGICAL SERVICES AND MASSES. PLEASE BEAR WITH US AT THIS MOMENT. LET US UNITE IN PRAYERS THAT GOD WILL COME TO OUR NEED. BE ASSURED OF MY PRAYERS.

PLEASE CONTACT ME AT 618-641-8978 OR PEG GARRISON AT 618-599-2098 WITH ANY QUESTIONS.

FR. CHARLES, PASTOR ADMINISTRATOR, ST. EDWARD CATHOLIC CHURCH

CANCELLATIONS **Weekday & weekend liturgies**

Stations of the Cross, PSR CLASSES, Bible Study, Youth Ministry, Men's Sausage Dinner

WILL TRY TO KEEP EVERYBODY UPDATE, PLEASE STAY SAFE

COLLECTIONS: Just a reminder if at all possible to please mail or drop off at Rectory office your weekly contributions. Your financial support remains an integral part of parish life and the continued operation of our parish and it's mission of Christian Service. Any questions please call Peg Garrison or the rectory office. Thank you.

St. Stephen News

TO ALL ST. STEPHEN PARISHIONERS: IN ORDER TO OBEY THE SOCIAL DISTANCING CONCEPT, THE BISHOP HAS DECIDED AND DIRECTED THE PASTORS TO CANCEL ALL LITURGICAL SERVICES AND MASSES. PLEASE BEAR WITH US AT THIS MOMENT. LET US UNITE IN PRAYERS THAT GOD WILL COME TO OUR NEED. BE ASSURED OF MY PRAYERS. **PLEASE CONTACT ME AT 618-641-8978 OR Trudi Herdes WITH ANY QUESTIONS.**

FR. CHARLES, PASTOR ADMINISTRATOR, ST. STEPHEN CATHOLIC CHURCH

CANCELLATIONS: **Weekday & weekend liturgies**
Stations of the Cross, PSR CLASSES, Bible Study, Parish Meetings

WILL TRY TO KEEP EVERYBODY UPDATED, PLEASE STAY SAFE

Thank you to the **15 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 \$3,002.92, has been pledged. If you have not yet responded, please make every effort to do so.

The envelopes for donating towards the purchase of Easter flowers are at both entrances on the bookshelves. Flowers can be donated in memory of a loved one. Place donation in the envelopes and put them in the offertory baskets during mass.



Do you like to sew? Would you enjoy spending a little time sewing with an old-fashioned sewing circle? Clay County Health Department's hospice program is in need of lap quilts for the hospice patients. They provide the fabric. All you need is a sewing machine and sewing notions. We would gather in the Social Room to visit and sew. You've never made a quilt but would like to come? No problem. We will teach you. Call Cheryl McCarty, 815-343-1502 for more information.



HOME BLESSINGS - Contact Ted Whitehead to set up a time for Father Charles to come and bless your home. For more information see Ted or Father Charles.

We are in dire need of altar servers. Altar servers can be children who have received their first communion as well as any adult. All are welcome.

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 THIS WEEK AND WEEKEND
Come visit us again.