

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.

SPRITUAL COMMUNION

My Jesus, I believe that you are present in the Most Blessed Sacrament, I love you above all things and I desire to receive you into my soul. Since I cannot now, receive you sacramentally, Come at least spiritually into my heart. I embrace you as if you were already there, And unite myself wholly to you. Never permit me to be separated from you. Amen.

SAINT MICHAEL THE ARCHANGEL

Saint Michael the Archangel, Defend us in battle. Be our protection against the Wickedness and snares of the devil. May God rebuke him we humbly pray; And do thou, O Prince of the Heavenly Host, By the power of God, cast into hell Satan And all the evil spirits that prowl about the world. Seeking the ruin of souls. Amen.

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. STEPHEN MASS INTENTIONS FOR THE WEEK

NO MASSES OR EXTACURRICULAR ACTIVITIES UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE.

Weekly Contribution March 22, 29 and April 5

Envelopes: \$2,809.00 (38)

Thank you so much for the weekly contributions. Please continue to mail them to the church or drop the off in Fr. Charles mailbox slot on the west side, Main Street side of church.

Catholic Relief Services - \$120 Food Pantry - \$60

So far St. Stephen has pledged \$3,823.00 for the Catholic Service and Ministry Appeal. Our goal is \$4,976.00. If you have not responded please mail your pledge to the church.

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

A Prayer for Spiritual Communion My Jesus, I believe that You are present in the Most Holy Sacrament. I love you above all things and I desire to receive You in my body, my soul and my whole being. Since I cannot at this moment receive you sacramentally, Come at least spiritually into my heart I embrace You as if you were already there And unite myself wholly to You. Never permit me to be separated from You. Amen

PRAYER INTENTIONS: Linda Griffy, Bill Marks, Nicole Wheaton, Velma Oliver, Clara Wilson, Ray Vaughn, LaVonne Kemmerer, Patience McKnight, Mildred Garrison, Pat Venable, Clarice Schweighart, Irene Winka, Steve Dudzik, Ruth Wilson, Roger Wells, Rhonda Ryker, Don & Mary Bunnell, Marilyn Wheaton, Lois Houlihan, Cory Britton, Ed Perk, Georgia Klingler, Celeste Replogle, Georgianna Weber, Luke Miller, Helen Powless, Marie Elwat, Cindy Bloemer, Kennah Hiestand, Jean Quinn, Betty Greenwood, Claire Karasch, Judie Powless, Claire Fopay, Harrison Hilliard, Larry Hagen, Becky Dulaney, Maria Pemberton, Joyce Heuerman, Fritz (Frank) Zimmerman, Mary Patridge, Clara Keys, Jim McCarty

*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. EDWARD MASS INTENTIONS FOR THE WEEK

NO MASSES OR EXTACURRICULAR ACTIVITIES UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE.

The Scripture readings are below for your reading.

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, Glory Almon, 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, Mark Fleming, Mary Murphy, Ginny Barrett, Ernie Sork, Donna Sullivan, David Ochs & all priests who are sick.

Weekly Contribution 04/12

Envelopes(26) \$2,458.00

Loose 00.00

Total \$2,458.00

We need \$1,887.00

Building Fund \$201.00

Donation 100.00

Cath. Home Miss. 10.00

Holy Land 60.00

Easter Flowers 50.00

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

Our Daily Scripture Readings:

Mon: Easter Weekday

Acts 4:23-31

Jn 3:1-8

Tues: Saint Anselm

Acts 4:32-37

Jn 3:7b-15

Wed: Easter Weekday

Acts 5:17-26

Jn 3:16-21

Thur: Saint George, Saint Adalbert

Acts 5:27-33

Jn 3:31-36

Fri: Saint Fidelis of Sigmaringen

Acts 5:34-42

Jn 6:1-15

Sat: Saint Mark, Evangelist

1 Pt 5:5b-14

Mk 16:15-20

Sun: Third Sunday of Easter

Acts 2:14.22-33 1 Pt 1:17-21

Lk 24:13-35

*Let our actions reflect the trust and peace that can only be found
in Christ Jesus. Stay close to Jesus and the Blessed Mother in
prayer, asking that those who are suffering from the disease or
from related anxiety may find healing and peace. Amen*

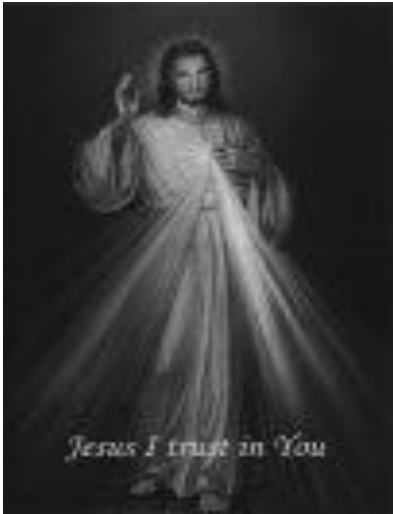
St. Edward and St. Stephen News

Respect Life Corner- “They did not yet understand.” (John 20:9) How fitting the Gospel reading today reflects our times. You would think the apostles would be beaming with joy in the realization that Christ did what He promised them He would do: Rise from the dead, defeat sin, with the offer of eternal life with Him! Instead, we hear about panic, misunderstanding and confused faith. They wonder if Jesus’s body has been stolen. They are shocked by the empty tomb and while some of them start to believe, they haven’t seen the risen Lord...yet. Christ enters into suffering himself and becomes the healing salve, the cure, of the world. In “our” sinfulness, we put Christ on the cross. He responds with His divine mercy and love, transforming suffering forever. In fact, His cross is life saving for us and world, especially during this time. We have faith that whatever we feel, wherever we are in our faith, Christ is with us. His resurrected love is the other side of darkness. We are better off because of His suffering. **Learn, Act, Connect, Pray-** Christ has risen for all of us. Let’s go out and meet Him. The apostles rejoiced when they had a personal encounter with Him. Let’s thank Him for His care and intervention in our lives. Through His salvation, we find eternal healing.

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 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



St. Stephen News

Sympathy is extended to Trudi Herdes and family on the death of her brother-in-law, JR Means who passed away Sunday, April 12, 2020, surrounded by his family. A private family funeral service was held on April 16, at the Kistler-Patterson Funeral Home, Olney with burial following in the Clay City Cemetery. May his soul rest in peace.

Sympathy is extended to Lois Hout and her family on the death of Lois’sister-in-law Helen (Hout) (Kessler) Davison who passed away April 11, Effingham. A Celebration of Life for Helen will be conducted at a later date with burial in Honeoye Falls Cemetery in Honeoye, New York with her late husband. May her soul rest in peace.

The Little White books for the Easter Season are in a manila envelope in the white mailbox on the south door entrance at church.

St. Stephen’s Annual Rummage Sale CANCELLED

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.

FOR SALE!

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.

St. Edward News

THANK YOU TO EVERYONE WHO HELPED PUT THE BAGS TOGETHER FOR “FOOD PANTRY” LAST WEEKEND. WE HAD 37 VEHICLES COME THRU THE PICK UP LINE OUT IN FRONT OF THE HALL WHICH IN TURN WILL HELP 93 PEOPLE. ALSO, THANK YOU TO PJ CAVANAUGH FOR THE FACE MASKS. THEY WERE VERY MUCH APPRECIATED.

“THE LITTLE WHITE BOOKS” Anyone wanting a “Little White Book” they will be available in the porch on the south side of the Rectory. Please feel free to come and pick one up. There is also a few of “The Messenger” newspaper.

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.

FATHER CHARLES, PASTOR ADMINISTRATOR, ST. EDWARD CATHOLIC CHURCH

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.

THANK-YOU TO EVERYONE WHO HAVE BEEN MAILING IN THEIR WEEKLY DONATIONS. IT IS VERY MUCH APPRECIATED. If anyone would like to put a couple extra dollars to help with the postage and envelopes for the bulletin mailings. Thanks again, Peg

THE DIVINE PRAISES TO PRAY FOR DIVINE MERCY SUNDAY

1. **BLESSED BE GOD**
2. **BLESSED BE HIS HOLY NAME**
3. **BLESSED BE JESUS, CHRIST, TRUE GOD AND TRUE MAN**
4. **BLESSED BE THE NAME OF JESUS**
5. **BLESSED BE HIS MOST SACRED HEART**
6. **BLESSED BE HIS MOST PRECIOUS BLOOD**
7. **BLESSED BE JESUS IN THE MOST HOLY SACRAMENT OF THE ALTAR**
8. **BLESSED BE THE HOLY SPIRIT, THE PARACLETE**
9. **BLESSED BE THE GREAT MOTHER OF GOD, MARY MOST HOLY**
10. **BLESSED BE HER HOLY AND IMMACULATE CONCEPTION**
11. **BLESSED BE HER GLORIOUS ASSUMPTION**
12. **BLESSED BE THE NAME OF MARY, VIRGIN AND MOTHER**
13. **BLESSED BE SAINT JOSEPH, HER MOST CHASTE SPOUSE**
14. **BLESSED BE GOD IN HIS ANGELS AND IN HIS SAINTS**

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.**

Father, Charles, Pastoral Administrator, St. Stephen Catholic Church, Flora

CANCELLATIONS: Weekday & weekend liturgies, PSR Classes, Bible Study, Parish Meetings

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.

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.

April Birthdays: Emily Milner April 17. Happy Birthday to you!!

April Anniversaries: Cole & Myranda Greenwood - April 2 and Jim & Diana Fleener - April 2

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.

