

A Prayer for Our New Bishop

O God, eternal shepherd of the faithful, who tend your Church in countless ways and rule over her in love, grant, we pray, that Michael, your servant, whom you have set over your people, may preside in the place of Christ over the flock whose shepherd he is, and be faithful as a teacher of doctrine, a Priest of sacred worship and as one who serves them by governing. Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. Amen.

Announcements From Fr. Charles' Desk:

Due to new directives from the State of Illinois, and also from the diocese of Belleville, the ceremony of the First Holy Communion for our kids is postponed to June 14th 2020 for both St. Stephen and St Edward. (This date is tentative)

The State of Illinois has issued further directives in respect of containing this coronavirus pandemic through this month of May. We are told to continue obeying the shelter in place order. There will be no public Masses until the ban is lifted. I have been saying my daily and weekend masses privately. I assure you that my weekend homilies will be posted in the bulletin. I do record my weekend masses in YouTube which can be sent to you through my secretaries.

This prayer is very important during Easter seasons, the Regina Caeli replaces the Angelus.

Queen of Heaven, Rejoice , Alleluia.
For He, whom you were worthy to bear. Alleluia.
Has risen as He said. Alleluia.
Pray for us to God. Alleluia.
Rejoice and be glad, O Virgin Mary. Alleluia.
Because the Lord is truly risen, Alleluia.

Let us pray: O God , who by the Resurrection of your son, our Lord Christ, have been pleased to give joy to the whole world , grant we beseech you, that through the intercession of the Blessed Virgin Mary, His Mother, we may attain the joys of eternal life. Through the same Christ, our Lord. Amen

*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.*

May 17, 2020

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
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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

Sixth Sunday of Easter

May 17, 2020

ST. STEPHEN MASS INTENTIONS FOR THE WEEK

NO MASSES OR EXTRACURRICULAR ACTIVITIES UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE.

May 10 - Several Weekend Collection - \$4,446.00

Food Pantry – (2 months) \$550.00
Catholic Home Mission Appeal - \$100.00
Catholic Service & Ministry Appeal - \$650.00

Next weekend is a special collection for Seminarian Education. If you don't have an envelope, place donation in a blank envelope marked for Seminarian Education. Thank you

Cemetery Fence Fund – In memory of Mr. & Mrs. John T. Frank and James D. McCarty - \$250.00

Thank you so much to those who continue to help St Stephen's financially. Please continue to mail them to the church or drop envelopes off in Fr. Charles mailbox slot on the west side, Main Street side of church.

Thank you to the 21 households that have already pledge 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 Services and Ministry Appeal. So far **\$4,548** has been pledged. If you have not please efforts to do so. Our goal \$4,976.

Rmember: Food Pantry and Guadalupe Project are in need of our help.

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, SteveDudzik, 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, Claire Karasch, Judie Powless, Claire Fopay, Harrison Hilliard, Becky Dulaney, Maria Pemberton, Joyce Heuerman, Frank Zimmerman, Mary Patridge, Clara Keys, Larry Hagen, Connie Schlabach

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

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*

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 adults are welcome.

Sixth Sunday of Easter

May 17, 2020

ST. EDWARD MASS INTENTIONS FOR THE WEEK

NO MASSES OR EXTRACURRICULAR ACTIVITIES UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE.

The Scripture readings are below for your reading.

PRAYER INTENTIONS: 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, Elaine Jeffers, Homer and Shirley Clark, Alice Zurliene, Tim Dittmer, Terri Venturelli, Linda States, James Rawls, Cathy Newville, Luke Dewees, Ruth & Ralph Langhauser, Teresa Williams, Randy White, Raymond Garrison, Noah Gollner, Rusti Grogan, Ed Nelson, Mark Fleming, Mary Murphy, Ginny Barrett, Ernie Sork, David Ochs & all priests who are sick.

Weekly Contribution 05/10

Envelopes(31)	\$1,922.00
Loose	00.00
Total	\$1,922.00
We need	\$1,887.00

Building Fund	\$177.00
Donations	140.00
Seminarian Educ.	10.00
Ascension	10.00

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

Our Daily Scripture Readings:

Mon: *Saint John I, Pope*

Acts 16:11-15 Jn 15:26—16:4a

Tues: *Easter Weekday*

Acts 16:22-34 Jn 16:5-11

Wed: *Saint Bernardine of Siena, Priest*

Acts 17:15, 22—18:1 Jn 16:12-15

Thur: *Saint Christopher Magallenes, Priest*

Acts 18:1-8 Jn 16:16-20

Fri: *Saint Rita of Cascia*

Acts 18:9-18 Jn 16:20-23

Sat: *Easter Weekday*

Acts 18:23-28 Jn 16:23b-28

Sun: *The Ascension of the Lord*

Acts 1:1-11 Eph 1:17-23 Mt 28:16-20

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—In Acts 16, we learn that Paul and Timothy had plans to preach the gospel message to the people of Asia, but they were prevented by the Holy Spirit from doing so. The surely wondered and were not told why. Still, it didn’t prevent them from continuing their mission to proclaim the gospel message. They headed to other areas. Phrygia and Galatia. There experiences remind us how during uncertainty we are called to do what we can with what we are given. It is our job to “bloom where we are planted”- even if it feels as though we have been planted for a while!

Learn, Act, Connect and Pray—To nurture our spiritual lives, consider adding a daily online Mass or an extra Mass to spend some extra time with our Lord. It will certainly elevate your at-home experience and is the ultimate for of “self-care.”

Like Paul and Timothy, our priests are doing a tremendous job sharing the Good News when things don’t seem so good! God is still in control and willing **our good**. God calls us to trust in Him. He is in our midst. Celebrate His love **for you** today!

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

SPIRITUAL 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. Stephen News

The Little White books for the Easter Season are in a manila envelope in the white mailbox on the south door entrance at church, as well as bulletins for those who would like a hard copy.

May Birthday: Clara Harvey – May 28th.

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 purchase of the paint, contact Jacquie Lueking or Deb Duquaine. Bids will be accepted.



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: Beth Fancher, Jill Fehrenbacher, Mary Beth Lancaster/Susan Schroeder.

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.

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 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.

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.

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.

St. Edward News

IF YOU WISH TO WATCH FATHER CHARLES SAY SUNDAY MASS: It will be live streamed between 10:45-11:00am (depending on arrival time of Father). It will be on Facebook under David Michael Mills Facebook page.

OUR CONDOLENCES AND PRAYERS GO OUT TO LINDA KECK AND HER FAMILY WITH THE PASSING OF GARLAND KECK. GARLAND PASSED ON TUESDAY MORNING. MAY THE SOUL OF GARLAND AND ALL WHO HAVE PASSED REST IN PEACE.

THANK-YOU TO EVERYONE WHO HAVE BEEN MAILING OR DROPPING IN THE MAIL BOX, THEIR WEEKLY DONATIONS. IT IS VERY MUCH APPRECIATED.

CATHOLIC SERVICES MINISTRY APPEAL

Here is an update on CSMA goal. To date we have collected \$3,786 toward our parish goal of \$4,582. If you have not mailed in your pledge, there is still time to do it. Thank-you to the 23 parish households that have donated.

SIXTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

Before and After Ascension. In the gospel for today, Jesus, toward the end of the Last Supper with his own, speaks to God: it is now time to do what I came to do (be lifted up on the cross). Let this doing be about eternal life for them and for all I pray for these disciples given to me (and all those to follow) so that they may continue this work you have given to me and, now, to them. ~How will I give glory to God?

~What fills my praying this week? For what and for whom?

~What works will I do because of this praying?

Food Pantry was held last weekend. We had 35 families come thru the drive up, which in turn served 76 people in our community. Thank you to everyone that helped.

CATHOLIC TRIVIA: The “M” of the Archbishop

As a young Polish priest he had consecrated himself to the Blessed Mother—as he would one day teach the world: “spiritually taking her into his home. So it was not surprising when he became an archbishop that he would choose to recognize her with a large M on his coat of arms. But when Archbishop Karol Wojtyla was elected pope, the designers of the papal coat of arms objected. They insisted that a star or a crown would be more appropriate. In the argument that ensued, Pope John Paul II remained adamant. His coat of arms would still have the M of the houseguest of his soul.

PASTORAL COUNCIL WILL MEET TUESDAY, MAY 19TH, AT 6:30PM. PLEASE WEAR A MASK.

From Fr. Charles’ desk:

This Sunday , the Church celebrates the sixth Sunday of Easter (Year A) . As we approach the feast of Pentecost , the Church invites us to celebrate the coming of the Advocate. She calls us to celebrate the spirit of truth who strengthens us in the proclamation of the good news.

Today’s first reading, Acts 8:5-8.14-17, is a continuation of the frantic efforts the disciples of Christ are making in order to bear testimony to the risen Lord. Through their efforts, the Samaritans received their sacraments of Baptism and Confirmation. It is the duty of every baptized and confirmed Christian to go on mission from where he is . This mandate to preach is directly from Jesus himself while he was going to his Father in heaven. It is a Pentecostal mission . “Go therefore make disciples of all nations “. Philip , one of commissioned disciples , preached the good news in Samaria . He was only a deacon. His power was limited only to preach , baptize, and serve . He had no power to celebrate the Mass, the Eucharist or to absolve the penitent. He also had no power to confirm—to give the Holy Spirit. That power belongs to the bishops and to those delegated by them.

What Philip did by inviting Peter (the Chief Shepherd of the Apostles) was absolutely in line with the Church’s teaching on Confirmation: “ The ordinary minister of the sacrament of confirmation is the bishop. If the need arises , He may grant the faculty to priests , although , it is fitting that he confers it himself mindful that the celebration of confirmation has been temporarily separated from baptism for this reason. Bishops are the successors of the apostles” (CCC1313)

For us to know more about our faith this week, let us go back to remind ourselves what the catechism says about baptism and confirmation. Baptism cleanses us from original sin, makes us Christians , children of God and members of the church; while in the sacrament of confirmation we receive the Holy Spirit in order to make us strong and perfect Christians and soldiers of Christ. Baptism incorporates us into the community of Christians – the Church. As confirmed Christians we are prepared to die , to be martyrs or witnesses to Christ for the sake of his body, the church. The Samaritans needed the Holy Spirit as much as we do today because ,it is the Holy Spirit that strengthens and makes one a true soldier of Christ.(CCC1303-4) .He helps us bear witness to the truth without fear .

In today’s second reading , 1 Peter 3:15-18, Peter encouraged us to have reverence for Christ . Also he admonished us to treat with respect even those who despise the gospel . Hence , he reminds us of the animating power of the Holy Spirit even in the life of Christ .

In today’s gospel ,John 14:15-21, Jesus promises us the Holy Spirit , the Advocate. However , He gives a condition for receiving the Advocate : If you love me you will keep my commandments. When we do this , he adds: “ I shall ask the Father and he will give you another Advocate to be with you forever, that spirit of truth... I will not leave you orphan.”

What is this commandment that we must keep in order to receive the spirit of truth? It is : Go into the world and preach the good news to all creation (Mk 16:15) . It is also , a command to love both God , and our neighbor (Luke 10, 25-27). When we do these , we are certainly preaching the good news of truth. The Advocate will come to strengthens us in the way of truth. Advocate’ means in modern term the following : an intercessor , one who pleads for another, the witness for the accused, defense attorney , best friend, and comforter in distress.

