

Upcoming Mass Times at St. Edward and St. Stephen

*Christmas Eve, December 24: St. Edward: 7p.m.

St. Stephen: 11p.m., with Christmas carols starting at 10:30p.m.

*Christmas Day, December 25: St. Stephen: 8:30a.m., St. Edward: 10:30a.m.

*Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God, December 31: St. Stephen: 5p.m.,

*January 1: St. Stephen: 8:30a.m., St. Edward: 10:30am

A Prayer for COVID-19 Pandemic

May we who are merely inconvenienced remember those whose lives are at stake.

May we who have no risk factors. Remember those most vulnerable.

May we who have the luxury of working from home remember those who must choose between preserving their health or making their rent.

May we who have the flexibility to care for our children when their schools close, remember those who have no options.

May we who have to cancel our Trips remember those that have no safe place to go.

May we who are losing our margin money in the tumult of the economic market, remember those who have no margin at all.

May we who settle in for a quarantine at home remember those who have no home. As fear grips our country, Let us choose love. During this time when we cannot physically wrap our arms around each other, Let us yet find ways to be the loving embrace of God to our neighbors.

An Advent Prayer

God of light and hope,
look upon us in love,
and fill us with the Spirit of Jesus
that we may love you and serve you in your kingdom.
Protect us during this week
and keep us watchful in prayer
as we await the coming of our Lord, Jesus Christ,
who is the light of the world,
and who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,
one God, for ever and ever.



St. Edward and St. Stephen Catholic Churches

December 6, 2020

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.

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, 8:00 a.m.

Thursday, 8:00 a.m.

Saturdays 4:30 p.m. Sunday 8:30 a.m.

Sacrament of Penance (Reconciliation)

Sunday 8– 8:20 am. or by appointment

Parish Office: Trudi Herdes, Secretary,

Office Hours Monday, 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,

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 Weekend and Daily Mass Schedule

Thursday, 6:30 p.m., Friday, 8:00 a.m.

Saturdays, 6:00 p.m., Sunday 10:30 a.m.

Sacrament of Penance (Reconciliation) Friday, 8:30 a.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

Altar Sodality—As Announced

Youth Ministry 3rd Sunday—5:30pm,

Food Pantry Distribution 2nd Saturday, 8 a.m.

Second Sunday of Advent



December 6, 2020

ST. STEPHEN MASS INTENTIONS FOR THE WEEK

Saturday, December 5, 4:30 p.m. mass – Jim McCarty+
Sunday, December 6, 8:30 a.m. mass - St. Ann's Altar Society
Tuesday, December 8, **Immaculate Conception**, 6:30 p.m. mass –
Bill & Mary Handley+
Wednesday, December 9, 8:00 a.m. mass - For the living & deceased
of the parish
Thursday, December 10, 8:00 a.m. mass –James Croy+
Saturday, December 12, 4:30 p.m. mass – Ray Winka+
Sunday, December 13, 8:30 a.m. mass – Paul & Marilyn Lancaster+

Sacrament of Reconciliation at 8 am Sundays or by request. Adoration on Tuesday from 7 pm until midnight and
Fridays from 8:30 am until 3:15 pm with Servite Rotarv at noon and Chaplet of Divine Mercv 3 pm.

Ministers for December

Saturday, December 12, Lector Cheryl McCarty
Usher Don Talmant, Mike Winka

Sunday, December 13, Lector Mary Beth Lancaster
Commentator Ted Whitehead Usher Dennis Holkenbrink

Saturday, December 19, Lector Jim Fehrenbacher
Usher Tony Holkenbrink, Jim Klein

Sunday, December 20, Lector Andrew Koester Commentator
Phil Fancher Usher Justin Fleener, Alan Huff

PRAYER INTENTIONS: Linda Griffy, Bill Marks, Nicole Wheaton, Velma Oliver, Clara Wilson, Ray Vaughn, LaVonne Kemmerer, Patience McKnight, Mildred Garrison, Pat Venable, Irene Winka, Clarice Schweighart, Steve Dudzik, Ruth Mary Wilson, Roger Wells, Rhonda Ryker, Don Bunnell, Marilyn Wheaton, Lois Houlihan, Cory Britton, Ed Perk, Georgia Klingler, Celeste Replogle, Luke Miller, Georgianna Weber, Helen Powless, Marie Elwat, Cindy Bloemer, Kennah Hiestand, Claire Karasch, Claire Fopay, Harrison Hilliard, Becky Dulaney, Jean Quinn, Maria Pemberton, Joyce Heuerman, Mary Patridge, Clara Keys, Connie Schlabach, Nursing home residents, Karen Foster, Beth Sulsberger, **Collin Price, Bruce Cook, Ralph Weber, Diana Fleener, Chris Niebrugge, Brenda Watkins, Kim Hamilton, Judie Powless.**

Weekly Contribution November 29

Envelopes \$ 1,384.00
Loose \$ 44.00
Total \$ 1,428.00
We need \$ 1,731.00

**Attendance: Sat 45
Sun 47**

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

Second Sunday of Advent



December 6, 2020

ST. EDWARD MASS INTENTIONS FOR THE WEEK

Saturday, December 5, 6:00pm—Andrea Erickson+
Sunday, December 6, 10:30am—The Living & deceased of St. Edward
Thursday, December 10, 6:30pm—Blessings Received
Friday, December 11, 8:00am—Garland Keck+
Saturday, December 12, 6:00pm—Jim Turner+
Sunday, December 13, 10:30am—Alice Zurliene+

Contribution 11/29

Envelopes(21) \$2,348.00
Loose 10.00
Total \$2,358.00
We need \$1,887.00

Building Fund \$ 82.00
Donations 185.00

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, Robyn Meagher, Elaine Jeffers, Homer and Shirley Clark, 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, Ginny Barrett, Ernie Sork, David Ochs, all priests who are sick.

December Lectors:

Dec. 5: Mike Oppenheimer
Dec. 6: Jen Wellen
Dec. 12: Don Zurliene
Dec. 13: Gary Snodgrass
Dec. 19: Jay Fyie
Dec 20: Tom Konopasek

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

Our Daily Scripture Readings:

Mon: *Saint Ambrose, Bishop*

Is 35:1-10 Lk 5:17-26

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

Gn 3:9-15, 20 Lk 1:26-38

Wed: *San Juan Diego*

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

Thur: *Our Lady of Loreto*

Is 41:13-20 Mt 11:11-15

Fri: *Saint Damasus 1*

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

Sat: *Our Lady of Guadalupe*

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

Sun: *Third Sunday of Advent*

Is 61:1-2a, 10-11 1 Thes 5:16-24 Jn 1:6-8, 19-28

ST. STEPHEN NEWS

THE TREE OF JOY IS UP. There are angels on the Tree of Joy, but we are still taking applications for children in need until December 10. Questions call Cheryl McCarty at 618-508-1214.



2021 CALENDARS ARE IN, HELP YOURSELF. LECTOR WORKBOOKS ARE HERE and began with the first weekend of Advent. Books are in the Sacristy or see Beth Fancher.



The envelopes for donating towards the Christmas poinsettias are at both entrances. These can be donated in memory of a loved one. Return in the weekend offertory baskets.

*****There will be an Altar Society meeting after mass this Sunday, December 6.*****

Due to some delays, the Can Am Raffle has been EXTENDED for two weeks. The drawing will be held on December 19. We can't thank everyone enough for the overwhelming support for this fundraiser! Please help us continue to sell tickets these next two weeks and look forward to an exciting drawing on December 19th.

Please welcome to the parish the RCIA catechumens and candidates. Kylie Newlin, Sierra Price and Steven Yates are preparing to complete their initiation into the Catholic Church at Easter this next year. Please also keep them in your prayers as they travel this journey of faith.

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 618-508-1214, Ginny Barrett at 618-335-6926, or Mary Murphy at 618-599-5018

The current balance towards the new cemetery fence is \$6,690! Thank you for your support of this effort.

****PSR Parents...Keep up the good work, practice prayers with kids and check your mailbox. For information about PSR contact Paul Duquaine. 618.843.8508 paulduquaine@icloud.com, PSR Coordinator******

The 2020 Cookie Walk has been cancelled. Help St. Anne's Altar Society by donating to the annual monetary fundraiser. Consider how much you usually donate to the rummage sale, cookie walk and monetary donation fundraiser. We greatly appreciate all donations. Place donation in collection basket, marked for donation.

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.

ST. EDWARD NEWS

PSR DATES

DECEMBER	January	February
6 th —9am	3 rd —NO CLASS	7 th —9am
13 th —9am	10 th —9am	14 th —NO CLASS
20 th —9am	17 th —9am	21 st —9am
27 th —NO CLASS	24 th —9am	28 th —9am
	31 st —9am	

Second Sunday of Advent

What Sort of Persons? In this Advent time of looking to the future while living in the now, Saint Peter's question is the right one: "What sort of person ought you to be?" Saint John the Baptist offers a good response and better example. He is not full of himself. He knows his minor place. He points to the One who is both with us now and is also coming.

~How will my waiting on the Lord make me more humble?

~What full-of-myself behaviors can I change, can I let go?

~Works of Mercy take the focus off me for the benefit of another. What will I do?

Just a reminder: If anyone is wanting to do some volunteer work, the Clothesline has re-opened and we are needing volunteers to represent St. Edward Catholic Church. If you have any questions please contact Leslie Robison. Thanks

The "Little Blue Advent Books" are available in the hall along with "The Word among us" which is a book with the Catholic Mass and Daily Meditations for the Advent Season. O Come, Emmanuel.

PASTORAL COUNCIL WILL BE HOLDING A DRIVE THRU BRUNCH FOR ALL PARISHIONERS OF ST. EDWARD ON SUNDAY, DECEMBER 20TH AFTER 10:30 MASS. THERE WILL BE A SIGN UP SHEET IN THE HALL IF YOU ATTEND MASS. IF YOU ARE STILL STAYING HOMEBOUND PLEASE CONTACT LIBBY POND (599-6924) OR DIANA ZURLIENE (516-1808) WITH HOW MANY CARRY OUTS YOU LIKE. THIS WAY WE CAN GET AN IDEA OF HOW MUCH TO FIX.

There will not be mass on New Year's Eve at St. Edward. Mass will be New Year's Day at 10:30am.

ST. STEPHEN NEWS

Prayer Chain: When a parishioner has an intention & requests prayers, Erin Pierce will initiate the prayer chain. She will contact Fr. Charles, who determines 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

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 Pierce or shopwithscrip.com.

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.

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.

We have begun a new RCIA session. Any and all are welcome. If you know someone who has expressed any interest in learning more about the Catholic faith, or would like a refresher course, please encourage them to contact either Father Charles or Cheryl McCarty, 618-508-1214.

Happy Birthday to: Tina Winka - December 5; Bernie Brown – December. 6; Jerry Bible - December 20; Kaleb Greenwood - December 29.

Happy Anniverary to: Jerry & Kathy Price – December 5

Please let Beth Fancher or Trudi Herdes know of special dates, birthday, anniversaries or any special events.

Next three Altar Society chairmen are: Beth Fancher, Jill Fehrenbacher, Mary Beth Lancaster/Susan Schroeder.

Kyle Gaines would like a ride to mass on the weekends. He lives on Chestnut Street in Louisville, and his phone number is 618 508-1555. Please call if anyone can give him a ride.



Message from the Very Reverend John C. Iffert, Vicar General and Moderator of the Curia **WHAT DOES TIER 3 MITIGATION MEAN FOR OUR PARISHES AND SCHOOLS?**

As of now, the Catholic Conference of Illinois advises that parishes and Catholic schools are permitted to continue in-person worship and learning, even under the Tier 3 requirements that went into effect November 20. This presumes that our parishes are diligently complying with current protocols and schools are operating under approved Covid-19 prevention plans.

Reopening protocols are available at www.diobelle.org. Key components of these protocols that must be followed include:

- Limit attendance to 20% of church capacity or 100 worshippers, whichever is smaller
- Register worshippers and maintain attendance records to assist in contact tracing
- Ask screening questions before admittance
- Wear well-fitted face masks that always cover our mouth and nose
- Sanitize hands when entering the building and before receiving Holy Communion
- Always maintain social distancing of at least six feet
- Sanitize pews and commonly touched surfaces between Masses/services

We encourage everyone to dedicate themselves to these precautions as a work of charity and mercy that we do for love of our neighbors.

Those who have elevated health risks should consider staying home and participating online or by watching Mass on television.

If you have any symptoms or have been exposed to someone who likely has Covid-19, please worship from home and be especially cautious.

Remember, during this pandemic, the obligation to attend Sunday Mass is dispensed. It is not a sin to miss Mass if we do so because of a concern about contracting or spreading coronavirus. Please pray daily and diligently for an end to this pandemic.

A special word about weddings and funerals. Although funerals are specifically mentioned in the Tier 3 mediation guidelines, funeral Masses and funeral liturgies in church buildings can operate under our protocols for Mass. The 20 percent occupancy rule (maximum of 100 people) applies to any act of public worship. Please follow all the other protocols, including the presence of sufficient staff or volunteers to screen and usher the worshippers, sanitize commonly touched surfaces, etc. Special care should be taken to maintain social distancing before and after the funeral liturgy, as people enter and leave the church building. Gatherings such as wakes or funeral luncheons, are subject to Tier 3 mediation limits on gatherings (10 persons) and are not advised at this time. This same guidance applies to weddings.

