



## How Should I Spend My Time in Adoration?

No two holy hours – as hours spent in adoration are often called- are alike. Our Lord acts upon our souls in manifold ways. Perhaps we may be inspired by a line of Sacred Scripture on which we meditate.

We may be experiencing a great sorrow or worry, and He helps us to bring it before Him, to be trusting and open with our gentle Savior about our fears and struggles. We may feel exhausted and check our watch every two minutes, but even then, He is working.

When it is hard to pray, we have the gift of showing our love through self-sacrifice. We will be surprised at the fruits that will come from this prayer of patient, persevering love.

When we come to adoration, we don't have to check our real lives at the door and open a prayer book to be able to commune with the One who knows us better than we know ourselves. He wants to meet us where we are. Giving in to distractions and letting our minds wander is very different from taking the realities of our day, the problems we face, and talking them over with the One who is waiting for us to be honest with Him.

Often, though, we need something to help us focus our attention on the great treasure of Our Lord's Real Presence. We may need a springboard to dive into prayer or something to pull from when our minds begin to wander.

Devotions such as the Rosary or the reading of Scripture can be a great aid to quieting our minds and focusing our attention on our Eucharistic Lord and the mysteries of His love.

From: *Manual for Eucharistic Adoration* of the Saint Joseph Adoration Monastery

## Eucharistic Adoration at St. Stephen Parish:

Tuesdays from 7:00pm-12:00midnight

Fridays from 8:30am-3:15pm

## Eucharistic Revival: Let's Make it Matter at our Sister Parishes

*The American Catholic Church is engaged in a multi-year Eucharistic Revival. 2023-2024 is the second year and focuses on grassroots "Year of Parish Revival." In this spirit, Deacon David Mills invites parishioners of St. Edward-Fairfield and St. Stephen-Flora to participate in an 8 month book study of "Jesus and the Jewish Roots of the Eucharist" by Brant Pitre leading up to Easter next March. Meetings will take place on Sunday afternoons from 2 p.m. to 4 p.m. It will begin with Eucharistic Adoration set to the Liturgy of the Hours in the church and transition to a group discussion in the parish hall. Book Study Schedule: 11/19 at St. Edward, 12/17 at St. Stephen, 1/28 at St. Edward, 2/25 at St. Stephen, 3/24 at St. Edward, 4/28 at St. Stephen.*

# St. Edward and St. Stephen Catholic Churches

Our Lord Jesus Christ, King of the Universe

November 26, 2023

**Rev. Father Charles Anyaoku, Pastoral Administrator**

*Rectory Phone: 618-662-6261 Cell Phone: 618-641-8978*

**Deacon David Mills, Permanent Deacon**

### St. Edward Catholic Church

300 NW 5<sup>th</sup> Street

Fairfield, IL 62837

Phone: 618-847-7931

[stedwardcatholicchurch01@frontier.com](mailto:stedwardcatholicchurch01@frontier.com)

[stedwardfairfield.com](http://stedwardfairfield.com)

New Parishioners register at Parish Office  
Please send bulletin information to the parish office  
by noon on Wednesdays.

Parish Secretary: Libby Pond  
PSR Coordinator: Jen Wellen  
RCIA Co-Coordinator: Ginny Barrett  
Music Director: Linda Keck

Trustees: Don Zurliene  
Jay Fyie

Finance Council: David Cavanaugh  
Jay Fyie  
Don Zurliene  
Teresa Williams  
Jen Wellen  
Ken Nordmann

Parish Council: Diana Zurliene  
Linda Keck  
David Cavanaugh  
Tim Schoenborn  
Libby Pond  
Kent Ochs  
Mike Oppenheimer  
Scott Merkle

### In Case of Emergency Contact:

Father Charles: 618-641-8978  
Deacon David Mills: 618-599-4683  
Laura Anderson: 618-599-6786  
Libby Pond: 618-599-6924

### St. Stephen Catholic Church

812 N. Main Street

Flora, IL 62839

Rectory: 618-662-6261 Office: 618-662-8121

[ststephen\\_flora@yahoo.com](mailto:ststephen_flora@yahoo.com)

[ststephenflora.com](http://ststephenflora.com)

*Bulletins and special reminders can be sent to  
your cell phone or email via Flocknote.  
Contact the parish office to sign up.*

New Parishioners register with Fr. Charles,  
Parish Office or Dorothy Uebinger (662-3711)

Prayer Requests: Contact Trudi Herdes

### Parish Office Contact Information

Laura Anderson

618-599-6786 (cell) or 618-662-8121 (office)  
[laura.whitehead.91@gmail.com](mailto:laura.whitehead.91@gmail.com) or [ststephen\\_flora@yahoo.com](mailto:ststephen_flora@yahoo.com)

Wednesday & Thursday Mornings  
Submit bulletin information by Wednesday at noon.

Parish Secretary: Laura Anderson  
PSR Coordinator: Paul Duquaine  
RCIA Co-Coordinator: Cheryl McCarty  
Music Director: Diane Briscoe

Trustees: Randy Wells  
Susan Schroeder

Finance Council: Jesse Harvey  
Trudi Herdes  
Dorothy Uebinger  
Krista Weidner  
Deb Zimmerman  
Ted Zimmerman

Parish Council: Cory Anderson  
Laura Anderson  
Justin Fleener  
Pat Greenwood  
Mary Beth Lancaster  
Andrew Vahling

St. Stephen Liturgical Schedule

Saturday, November 25:	4:00pm	Confession
	4:30pm	Mass + <i>Helen &amp; Violet Powless</i>
Sunday, November 26:	8:00am	Rosary & Confession
	8:30am	Mass <i>For the living &amp; deceased of the parish</i>
Tuesday, November 28:	6:00pm	Rosary
	6:30pm	Mass + <i>Kenny, Evelyn, &amp; Connie Myers</i>
	7:00pm	Adoration until midnight
Wednesday, November 29:	7:30am	Rosary
	8:00am	Mass <i>For all those people who come to pray at the Divine Mercy Shrine or in the Ave Maria Garden and for their intentions</i>
Thursday, November 30:	7:30am	Rosary
	8:00am	Mass + <i>Al Winka</i>
Friday, December 1:	9:00am	First Friday Adoration until 6:00pm
	12:00noon	Servite Rosary
	3:00pm	Chaplet of Divine Mercy
	5:30pm	Rosary, followed by benediction
	6:00pm	Mass + <i>Connie Myers</i>
Saturday, December 2:	4:00pm	Confession
	4:30pm	Mass <i>For the living &amp; deceased of the parish</i>
Sunday, December 3:	8:00am	Rosary & Confession
	8:30am	Mass + <i>James Croy</i>

Weekly Contribution: 11-19-23		Attendance: 11-19-23
Envelope:	\$1,470.00	Campaign Human Development: \$45
Loose:	\$ 247.00	Cemetery: \$200.00
TOTAL:	\$1,717.00	
Weekly Budget		\$2,270.00

Ministers for November

<u>Saturday, December 2:</u>	
Lectors: Cheryl McCarty	Eucharistic Ministers: Jim Fehrenbacher, Krista Weidner, Volunteer
Servers: Allison & Austin Cartright	Ushers: Jerry Price & Kurt Holkenbrink
<u>Sunday, December 3:</u>	
Lector: MaryBeth Lancaster	Commentator: Justin Fleener
Eucharistic Ministers: Emily Milner, Ted Whitehead, Trudi Herdes	
Servers: Ethan & Landon Milner, Landon Thompson Ushers: Jerod Fleener & Alan Huff	

Happy Birthday:

Kathy Price: November 2	Josh Winka: November 7	Jim Fleener: November 8
Irene Winka: November 9	Trudi Herdes: November 12	Wyatt Harvey: November 20

Prayer Intentions

Linda Griffy, Bill Marks, Nicole Wheaton, Velma Oliver, Clara Wilson, Ray Vaughn, LaVonne Kemmerer, Patience McKnight, Mildred Garrison, Irene Winka, Mary Wilson, Celeste Replogle, Luke Miller, Ralph & Georgianna Weber, Marie Elwat, Kennah Hiestand, Harrison Hilliard, Becky Dulaney, Mary Patridge, Chris Niebrugge, Margaret Bateman, Helen Wilkins, Fern Ketzner, Paul Birk, Gerald Klein, Dale Jennings, Bob Porter, Lisa Schimp, Jane Henson, Tammy Lough, John D., Bobby Wilkin, Emma Winslow, Justin Traub, Lois Lewis, Galen Gill, Matt Kuenstler, Sydney Knott, Shallon Booth, Smitty, Robert Tatman, Josh Winka, repose of the souls in the Troksh family, & nursing home residents. *Please let the parish office know if names can be added or removed.*

St. Edward Mass Intentions for the Week

Sunday, November 26, 2023 10:30 am –Rick Buchanan+  
Thursday, November 30, 2023 6:00 AM – Erwin Manns+  
Friday, December 1, 2023 8:00 AM – Alice Zurliene+  
Sunday, December 3, 2023 10:30 am – Jerry Zurliene+

Weekly Contributions

11/12/2023	
Envelopes	\$ 1873
Loose	\$ 55
Total	\$1928
We Need	\$ 2032
Mass Stipends	\$0
Building Fund	\$174
Food Pantry	\$ 35
Candles	\$ 32
Campaign for Human deve	\$185

Prayer Intentions

Kim Buchanan, Lanora Neavill, Robyn Meagher, Donna Turner, Marilyn Butler , Michelle Dalton, CeCe Coorapi, , Margaret Thompson, Richard Rennie, Lee Bouldin, Fr. Ray, Marty Hawkins, Spencer Meagher, Judy Maguire, Fr. Jim Daugherty, Ray Glover, Dick Hibbetts, David Mills, Donna Williams, Teresa Keyser, Shirley Miller, Glory Almon  
Let the office know if names need to be added or removed from our prayer list.

Our Scripture Readings

Sun - Our Lord Jesus Christ, King of the Universe  
Ez 34: 11-12, 15-17 1 Cor 15: 20-26, 28  
Mt 23: 1-12  
Mon - Weekday  
Dn 1: 1-6, 8-20 Lk 21: 1-4  
Tues - Weekday  
Dn 2: 31-45 Lk 21: 5-11  
Wed - Weekday  
Dn 5: 1-6, 13-14, 16-17, 23-28 Lk 21: 12-19  
Thurs- Saint Andrew, Apostle  
Rom 10: 9-18 Mt 4: 18-22  
Fri - Weekday  
Dn 7: 2-14 Lk 21: 29-33  
Sat - Weekday  
Dn 7: 15-27 Lk 21: 34-36  
Sun - First Sunday of Advent  
Is 63: 16b-17, 19b: 64: 2-7 1 Cor 1: 3-9  
Mk 13: 33-37

Attendance 76

St. Edward News

**Advent Bags** – We will be wrapping Advent gifts for the shut-ins on Wednesday, November 30 at 5:00 PM.

**Food Pantry** – Due to big changes at Midwest Food Bank, we will have a meeting after mass on Sunday, December 3 to discuss how this will impact our food pantry and ways to move forward. Everyone involved in food pantry is encouraged to attend.

**Christmas Eve Choir** – We will again be having a choir on Christmas Eve, more information will be coming soon.

**Little Blue Books for Advent**- The Little Blue Books for Advent are available on the table in the hall. They are an excellent resource for extra prayer during the Advent season.

**Adoration/Benediction** – There will be Eucharistic Adoration and Benediction immediately after mass today. Everyone is welcome to attend.

Upcoming Events –

**Parish Council – Thursday, Nov 30 after 6:00 PM Mass**  
**Finance Council – Thursday, Dec 7 after 6:00 PM Mass**

**Feast of Immaculate Conception Masses:**  
**St. Edward, Friday December 8 – 8:00 AM**  
**St. Stephen, Friday, December 8 – 6:00 PM**

**Food Pantry – Set up December 8 after 8:00 AM mass**  
**Distribution December 9, 7:00 AM**

**Parish Christmas Brunch – Sunday, Dec 10 after mass.**

**Penance Service – Sunday, December 17, 6:00 PM**

St. Stephen News

**Bulletin Announcements:** Please submit all bulletin announcements in writing via email, exactly as you would like them to appear in the bulletin. This will ensure accurate announcements and streamline the process of printing the bulletin. Email all announcements to Laura (laura.whitehead.91@gmail.com) by Wednesdays at noon. Thank you!

**The Cookie Walk/ Basket Raffle** is coming up: Saturday, December 2, 2023! Basket Raffle tickets are available in the social room after Mass this weekend.

**Little Books** for Advent are available on the tables at each entrance.

**Parish School of Religion:** Sunday, November 26 – No Class Sunday, December 3 – Class

**Tree of Joy:** The Tree of Joy is up and flush with little angels. We have nearly double the number of needy children this year. We pray we can provide for all of them. Just choose your angels from the tree, purchase the indicated items, and follow the instructions on the back of the angels. May God bless all for your spirit of Christmas giving.

**Lector Workbooks:** Lectors, please pick up your 2024 workbooks from the sacristy. They will begin with next Sunday, the first Sunday of Advent.

**Poinsettias:** If you are interested in donating towards the Christmas flowers, there are envelopes at both entrances. Flowers can be donated in a family members name. No amount is too small. Thank you for your generosity. Questions call Beth Fancher, 618-676-4292.

**Penny Wars:** Three PSR Classes (2<sup>nd</sup> Grade, 3<sup>rd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup> Grade, 5<sup>th</sup> & 6<sup>th</sup> Grade) will have a penny war competition now until Christmas. The money raised will go to Guadalupe Project. Please send your extra change and the class that raises the most money wins. That class will then have an ice cream party. The jars will be kept outside the social room. Thank you.

**In keeping with the Eucharistic Revival** that is currently taking place in the Catholic Church, there will be Exposition and Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament immediately following Mass on each Sunday that PSR is in session. All students and teachers are asked to come to the front pews immediately following the final song. If students are not at Mass on Sunday, please come to the church as soon as you arrive. All parishioners are welcome and encouraged to stay.

**The next rotating chairmen** are Berenice Mary Brown & Donna Myers.

**2023 Side by Side Raffle:** This year, St. Stephen and Guadalupe Project will be giving away a 2023 CF Moto UForce 1000. are \$20 each or 6/\$100. The drawing will take place on Saturday, December 16. Please plan to help sell tickets and make the 4<sup>th</sup> Annual Side by Side Raffle the best one yet!

**Donations** are being accepted for the purchase of a clavinova for music ministry. This purchase will help ensure music when an organist is not available.

**Mark your calendars...**

There will be no Eucharistic Adoration on the following dates:  
Tuesday, December 26, and Friday, December 29.

Saturday, December 2: Cookie Walk & Basket Raffle  
Saturday, December 16: Side by Side Raffle Drawing  
Sunday, December 17: Help needed after Mass decorating for Christmas  
*(In addition to decorating, there are quite a few heavy Christmas decorations, so if you can help lift heavy things, your help would be greatly appreciated!)*

# St. Stephen News

**SCRIP cards are for sale in the social room after Mass.** Please see the updated list below for what we have on hand. We have added several businesses. St. Anne’s is also in the process of contacting local businesses to participate in this program and have added Los Tres Caminos. Please watch as more become available.

## SCRIP CARDS ON HAND

Ace Hardware	\$25	Panera	\$10, \$25, \$50
Aeropostale	\$25	Phillips 66	\$25
Amazon	\$10, \$25, \$50, \$100	Pizza Hut	\$10
American Eagle	\$25	Sears	\$25
Bath and Body Works	\$25	Staples	\$25
Buffalo Wild Wings	\$10, \$25	Starbucks	\$5, \$10, \$25
Casey’s	\$25, \$50	Subway	\$10, \$50
CVS	\$25	Taco Bell	\$10, \$25
Dairy Queen	\$10	Target	\$10, \$25, \$50
Great Harvest	\$25	VISA	\$25, \$50, \$100
Kohls	\$25, \$100	Walgreens	\$100
Los Tres Caminos	\$25, \$50	Walmart	\$10
McDonalds	\$10, \$25	Walmart/Sam’s	\$25, \$50, \$100
Menards	\$25, \$100		
Old Navy	\$25		

## From Administrator’s Desk:

Today, the church celebrates the thirty- third Sunday in ordinary time of the year A. As we come closer to the end of this liturgical year A, the Church encourages us to remain faithful and dedicated to Christ our head. As good servants, we must be devoted to Him. Also, we must be ready to render full account of our talents to Him.

In today’s Gospel, Jesus uses the parable of the talent to remind us that we must be ready to render a good account of our talents. God has endowed each one of us with different talents. Each, according to our various capacities. So, as faithful servants, he expects to render a good account of the’ talents’ we have received.

Jesus challenges us to be prudent and productive with our talents. Most importantly, he admonishes us to live in anticipation of His inevitable return. We must not wait for this return in idleness. Rather, we must be active and industrious with the talents we have received. So, we must use our talents to the glory of God.

As trust worthy servants, we should avoid indifference, apathy, licentious, sloth, complacency towards our mission. If we are faithful and productive with the talents we have received, Christ will say to us ‘well done, good and faithful servant’.

Peace be with you all and happy Sunday!

- Fr. Charles Anyaoku

## Holy Days and Special Events November & December 2023

**Friday, December 8: Feast of the Immaculate Conception (Holy Day of Obligation)**  
St. Edward: 8:00am                      St. Stephen: 6:00pm

**Christmas Party:**  
St. Edward: December 10  
St. Stephen: December 10 (Meal at 5:30pm, Program at 7:00pm)

**Penance Service:**  
St. Edward: December 17 at 6:00pm  
St. Stephen: December 18 at 6:00pm

**Sunday, December 24: 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Advent**  
St. Stephen: Saturday (Dec 23) at 4:30pm and Sunday (Dec 24) at 8:30am  
St. Edward: 10:30am

**CHRISTMAS (Holy Day of Obligation)**  
Christmas Eve, December 24:  
St. Edward: 5:00pm  
St. Stephen: 10:30pm (Carols)                      11:00pm (Mass)

**Monday, December 25: Christmas Day**  
St. Stephen: 8:30am                      St. Edward: 10:30am

**Tuesday, December 26: Feast of St. Stephen**                      St. Stephen: 8:00am  
**Wednesday, December 27: St. John**                      St. Stephen: 8:00am  
**Thursday, December 28: Holy Innocents**                      St. Stephen: 8:00am

**Sunday, December 31: The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary, and Joseph**  
St. Stephen: Saturday (Dec 30) at 4:30pm and Sunday (Dec 31) at 8:30am  
St. Edward: 10:30am

**SOLEMNITY OF MARY, MOTHER OF GOD (Holy Day of Obligation)**  
**Sunday, December 31: Eve of Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God**  
St. Stephen: 6:00pm  
**Monday, January 1: Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God**  
St. Stephen: 8:30am                      St. Edward: 10:30am

# THIS WEEK ON FORMED

Week of November 26, 2023



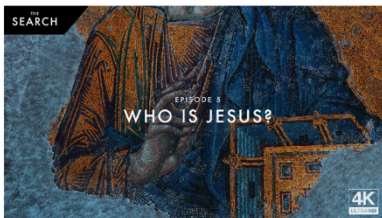
## Sacred Art: Christ the King

Sit down with Dr. Ben Akers and Taylor Kemp as they explore Catholic theology through the lens of Sacred Art. In this episode, they discuss the Solemnity of Jesus Christ, King of the Universe.



## Who is Jesus Christ? w/ Sr. Bethany Madonna | SEEK23

Sr. Bethany Madonna from the Sisters of Life dives into the truth about who Jesus Christ is. Discover the love of Jesus for yourself and listen to Sr. Bethany Madonna!



## Who is Jesus? | The Search | Episode 5

The most beautiful part of this story is this: we can know God's love, personally. This is the person of Jesus. But how did this seemingly insignificant carpenter born into poverty in a dusty corner of the Roman Empire become the most pivotal figure in all of history?

Our parish has a FORMED subscription.  
Visit [signup.formed.org](https://signup.formed.org) and select our parish name.

An offering from the AUGUSTINE INSTITUTE and gratias press



**Would you like to help advertise the upcoming Walk/Raffle? Well, you can very easily! Just share the following information with your friends, use e-mail and Facebook too!**

## **CHRISTMAS COOKIE WALK & BASKET RAFFLE**

**DECEMBER 2, 2023**

**9:00 A.M. TO 12:00 P.M.**

**ST. STEPHEN CATHOLIC CHURCH**

**812 N. MAIN STREET – FLORA**

**Homemade holiday cookies and candy! \$11 a pound. You'll have the opportunity to take the "walk" and pick your own cookies and candy!**

**Cookies of all kinds – Christmas candies – Specialty items**

**The perfect time to pick up special holiday treats and participate in the basket raffle.**

**Come in and select your own cookies or call 662-8121 to place an order Saturday from 9:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.**

**1/3 of all proceeds from the sale of cookies/candies will go to the Clay County Ministerial Alliance Food Pantry. A portion of the proceeds from the basket raffle will be donated to Guadalupe Project.**