

## The Most Powerful Time

The most powerful thing we can do on this earth with our time is to spend it in Eucharistic adoration. Nothing can do more to change the world, to bring about peace, to convert hearts, to make reparation for the many evils committed. Spending time in prayer may seem, on the outside, to be a passive thing; however, it is anything but that! Our world is in desperate need of hope, of renewal, of a “turning back” to the things of God. By visiting Our Lord in the Blessed Sacrament, we take the best weapon for the battles of our age and contribute to the healing of our culture. Cultivating a Eucharistic life of adoration also bears tremendous fruit in our own hearts and lives. We cannot spend time in the rays of His Eucharistic Presence without receiving His grace, His love, His mercy, His peace. As we gaze upon Him Face to face, we are transformed little by little into a closer reflection of His divine image.

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



### 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 eight month book study of *“Jesus and the Jewish Roots of the Eucharist”* by Brant Pitre leading up to Easter next March 2024. Critics acclaimed Pitre, *“Inspiring and informative, this groundbreaking work illuminates one of the greatest mysteries of the Christian faith: the mystery of Jesus’ presence in “the breaking of the bread.”*

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. There are eight chapters in Pitre’s book and here’s the proposed schedule: 9/24 at St. Edward, 10/29 at St. Stephen, 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, and 4/28 at St. Stephen.

Light refreshments will be served and Deacon Mills will facilitate a focused conversation from established study guides with the participants in a small group format. Results from the focused conversations about Pitre’s book will be documented and shared.

Pitre’s book was gifted to parishioners a couple of years ago, so copies should be readily available. If you are willing to donate your copy for the use of this book study please drop them off at your parish office.

In order to plan for both refreshments and books, Deacon Mills is asking for parishioners to RSVP by Sunday, 9/10 by contacting him directly via phone or email: 618-599-4683 or [dm.doc.mills@gmail.com](mailto:dm.doc.mills@gmail.com). Please include your name, parish, mobile phone number, email address, and whether or not you need Pitre’s book in all messages. A message thread will be created from information gathered to keep our book club informed and on the same page moving forward.

## St. Edward and St. Stephen Catholic Churches

Twenty-Third Sunday in Ordinary Time

September 10, 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)

### 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

Twenty-Third Week in Ordinary Time

Saturday, September 9:	4:00pm	Confession
	4:30pm	Mass <i>For the living &amp; deceased of the parish</i>
Sunday, September 10:	8:00am	Rosary
	8:00am	Confession
	8:30am	Mass <i>+Al Winka</i>
Tuesday, September 12:	6:00pm	Rosary
	6:30pm	Mass <i>+Bill &amp; Mary Handley</i>
	7:00pm	Adoration until midnight
Wednesday, September 13:	7:30am	Rosary
	8:00am	Mass <i>Catholic Extension Donors</i>
Thursday, September 14:	7:30am	Rosary
	8:00am	Mass <i>+Jim, Marilyn, &amp; Nancy Staples</i>
Friday, September 15:	8:30am	Adoration until 3:15pm
	12:00noon	Servite Rosary
	3:00pm	Chaplet of Divine Mercy
Saturday, September 16:	4:00pm	Confession
	4:30pm	Mass <i>+Kenny, Evelyn, &amp; Connie Myers</i>
Sunday, September 17:	8:00am	Rosary
	8:00am	Confession
	8:30am	Mass <i>For the living &amp; deceased of the parish</i>

Weekly Contribution: 9-3-23		Attendance: 9-3-23	
Envelope:	\$2,280.00	Food Pantry:	\$452.00
Loose:	\$ 197.00	Rib Sale Income:	\$190.00
TOTAL:	\$2,477.00		
Weekly Budget \$2,270.00		(New 2023-2024 Budget)	

Ministers for September

<u>Saturday, September 16:</u>			
Lectors:	MaryBeth Lancaster	Eucharistic Ministers:	Cheryl McCarty, Jim Fehrenbacher, Volunteer
Servers:	Allison & Austin Cartright	Ushers:	Jerry Price & Mark Winka
<u>Sunday, September 17:</u>			
Lector:	Deb Zimmerman	Commentator:	Ted Zimmerman
Eucharistic Ministers:		Justin Fleener, Jonathan Akers, Trudi Herdes	
Servers:	Kehlin & Kiara Crawford, Landon Thompson	Ushers:	Cory Anderson & Jerod Fleener

Happy Birthday:

Andrew Vahling: September 1	Diane Becker: September 21	Steve Fleener: September 23	Kole Greenwood: September 25
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Happy Anniversary:

Diane & Wayne Becker – September 5	Kaleb & Heather Greenwood – September 8
Jesse & Alison Harvey: September 10	Pat & Tom Greenwood – September 19

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, Pat Ridgeway, Asher Stevens, & nursing home residents.  
*Please let the parish office know if names can be added or removed from this list.*

St. Edward Mass Intentions for the Week

Sunday, September 10, 2023 10:30 am- Vincent & Doris Meisner+  
Thursday, September 14, 2023, 6:00 pm – Shirley Clark+  
Friday, September 15, 2023, 8:00 am – Peggy Garrison+  
Sunday, September 17, 2023 10:30 am - Sam Ochs +

Weekly Contributions

9/3/2023	
Envelopes	\$1852
Loose	\$98
Total	\$1950
We Need	\$1,873
Mass Stipends	\$10
Building Fund	\$155
Food Pantry	\$491
Candles	\$0

Belleville Retired Clergy \$10

Attendance 70

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, Ken and Theresa Nordmann family, Dick Hibbetts, Mary Murphy  
**Let the office know if names need to be added or removed from our prayer list.**

Our Scripture Readings

Sun - Twentieth-Third Sunday in Ordinary Time  
Ez 33:7-9 Rom 13:8-10 Mt 18:15-20  
Mon - Weekday  
Col 1:24 – 2:3 Lk 6:6-11  
Tues - Weekday  
Col 2:6-15 Lk 6:12-19  
Wed - St. John Chrysostom, Bishop, Doctor of Church  
Col 3: 1-11 Lk 6:20-26  
Thurs- The Exaltation of the Holy Cross  
Nm 21:4b-9 Jn 3: 13-17  
Fri - Our Lady of Sorrows  
1 Tm 1:1-2, 12-14 Jn 19:25-27  
Sat - Saints Cornelius, Pope & Cyprian, Bishop, Martyrs  
1 Tm 1:15-17 Lk 6:43-49  
Sun - Twenty-Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time  
Sir 27:30 – 28:7 Rom 14: 7-9  
Mt 18: 21-35

# St. Stephen News

**Parish School of Religion:** PSR will begin this Sunday, September 10.

**New Confession Times:** Father Charles will be available before each weekend Mass for Confession – Saturdays at 4:00pm and Sundays at 8:00am.

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

**St. Stephen Parish Picnic** will be Sunday, September 17. Mass will be at 8:30am as usual that morning. There will be an inflatable slide and yard games for the kids. Help will be needed after Mass to set up tables and chairs for the picnic. Lunch will be served at 12:00noon. Meat & drinks will be provided, please bring a side dish or dessert. Please plan to attend.

**St. Stephen** will be hosting the Flora Wolves Football Team on October 12. Set up will begin at 4:00pm with food being served at 5:00pm. All are welcome to help with setup and cleanup. Thank you!

**Mark your calendars** for a joint celebration with our sister parish St. Edward in Fairfield. All members of St. Stephen and St. Edward Parishes are invited to join together on Sunday, October 15 at the 10:30 Mass at St. Edward. It will be followed by a luncheon for all parishioners of both parishes. Please plan to attend.

**Summer Cash Raffle:** Week 15 Grand Prize Winners are Linda Etchison (\$500) and Berenice Mary Brown (\$1,000). Congrats to all of our winners, and thank you for your support!

**A new bulletin for children** will now be available at St. Stephen Parish! Be sure your child picks up a copy. Each week, there will be a few activities and lessons based on the Scripture readings from that week.

**In keeping with the Eucharistic Revival** that is currently taking place in the Catholic Church, beginning on Sunday, September 24, 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. All parishioners are welcome and encouraged to stay.

**St. Stephen Parish & Knights of Columbus Chicken BBQ** will be held October 1, 2023. Please pick up your tickets from the table at the back of church. Ticket money can be turned in to Ted Whitehead or Cory Anderson. Yard signs are also available – please pick one up and put in your yard to help advertise the BBQ. Again this year, we will be drawing for a \$100 WalMart Gift Card – be sure to enter your name once for every ten tickets you sell! Ladies, please plan to bring two desserts for the BBQ. Thanks to everyone who made last year’s BBQ such a success – we are looking forward to another great year!

**Last Call For Book Club:** We’ve got ten people committed to our sister parish Book Club study of “Jesus and the Jewish Roots of the Eucharist.” We’ve got room for more and ordered additional books. Please RSVP to Deacon David by September 10 by sending message to [dm.doc.mills@gmail.com](mailto:dm.doc.mills@gmail.com) or 618-599-4683. See the back of the bulletin for more details.

**Anonymous Angels:** St. Anne’s Altar Society is inviting members of the parish to join in caring for the needs of our parish by becoming an “Anonymous Angel of the Altar.” A parish member can become an angel simply by making a yearly donation to St. Anne’s to help with the charitable projects for which we are responsible. St. Anne’s Altar Society purchases altar breads, altar cloths and flowers for the altar, as well as supplying the votive candles. They also provide the funeral dinners for families of the parish or families of those buried at St. Stephen’s Cemetery. In addition to this they provide supplies for the kitchen and contribute to the purchase of gifts for First Communion, Confirmation, and Graduation classes and for new mothers and the newly married from our parish. If you decide to become an Anonymous Angel of the Altar, you may do so by putting your donation into an envelope labeled “Angel of the Altar” and dropping it into the collection basket or mailing it to St. Stephen’s (Checks made out to St. Anne’s Altar Society). If you wish to have a receipt, please indicate and one will be provided for you. The members of St. Anne’s Altar Society will keep their Anonymous Angels of the Altar and their intentions in their prayers.

# St. Edward News

**Mass for Young Adults** – Bishop McGovern is hosting a mass for young adults on Sunday, **Today** at the Cathedral of St. Peter at 5 pm. See the flyer on the bulletin board for more information.

**Fr. Mark Reyling 25<sup>th</sup> Jubilee Celebration** – Father Mark Reyling will be our celebrant next Sunday to celebrate his 25<sup>th</sup> Jubilee. We will celebrate his jubilee with a meal following mass. The church will provide fried chicken and hash brown casserole. Please bring covered dishes and/or desserts.

**Mass of the Holy Spirit** – Bishop McGovern will offer a mass of the Holy Spirit for the Synod at the Cathedral of St. Peter on Tuesday, Sept 26 at 6:30 pm. Pope Francis is convening clergy and laity from around the world for this synod in October in Rome. Please join us in praying for the Holy Spirit’s help for Pope Francis and all participating in the Synod. More details are available on the diocesan website at [www.diobelle.org](http://www.diobelle.org).

**Annual Blessing of the Harvest** – Bishop McGovern will the annual Blessing of the Harvest in support of farmers and all those engaged in agriculture. It will be held on Tuesday, Sept 26 at 1:00 pm at the Thole Farm, 8606 tank Road, New Baden. For more information see flyer on the bulletin board.

**Catechetical Sunday** – Catechetical Sunday is next weekend, September 17. We appreciate the services of our Catechists, director of PSR and teachers. May God continue to bless you.

**Last Call For Book Club** – We’ve got ten people committed to our sister parish Book Club study of “Jesus and the Jewish Roots of the Eucharist.” We’ve got room for more and ordered additional books. Please RSVP to Deacon David by **September 10** by sending message to [dm.doc.mills@gmail.com](mailto:dm.doc.mills@gmail.com) or 618-599-4683. See the back of the bulletin for more details.

## Upcoming Events

Sunday, Sept. 17 – Celebration Dinner for Fr. Mark Reyling Silver Jubilee  
Sunday, September 24 – Deacon David’s book study 2 – 4 pm in St. Edward Hall.  
Thursday, September 28 – Parish Council Meeting after 6:00 pm mass.

**Thank You** – Thank you to our musicians: Linda Keck, Lisa Konopasek, Jeff Zurliene and Donna Lawler for all the extra time they have been spending preparing the music for mass since we have got the new organ.



## St. Stephen News Continued

**Vicariate Meeting:** St. Stephen Parish will be hosting all priests and deacons on September 27.

**Young Adults Invited:** Bishop Michael McGovern invites young Catholic adults, ages 18-35, to join him at a Reception on Sunday, Sep 10, at 6:00 PM, in the Undercroft of the Cathedral of St. Peter, 200 W. Harrison Street, Belleville, IL. All are invited to attend the regularly scheduled 5:00 PM Mass in the Cathedral church.

**Bishop Michael McGovern** invites all families that home school children to celebrate Mass together on Wednesday, September 13, at 11:00 AM at St. Clare Church, O'Fallon, IL. Lunch will be available afterward.

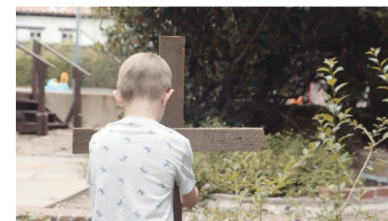
**All are Invited** to join Bishop McGovern for the **Diocesan Fall Blessing of the Harvest**, which will be held on Tuesday, September 26, 2023, at 1:00 P.M. at the Lavern and Terry Thole Farm. The Thole Farm is located at 8606 Tank Road; New Baden, IL 62265. One heads EAST out of New Baden on IL-161 approximately 2 miles (past IL-160) and turns left (North) onto Tank Road; go 1 mile and farm will be on your right. The "Farm Blessing" signs will guide you, too. Those attending are invited to bring harvested grain, fruit and vegetables and garden produce in sealed, marked containers along with animals and farm machinery to be blessed. *You are encouraged to bring non-perishable food items to be donated to the local food pantry. We look forward to having you join us!*

### The 2023 Catholic Service and Ministry Appeal

***The one who does justice will live in the presence of the Lord - Psalm 15***

The Messenger, our diocesan newspaper, brings local, national and international news of our Catholic faith right into your home through its print and online editions. Your gift to The Catholic Service and Ministry Appeal helps to support The Messenger. If you haven't done so, subscribe to The Messenger today and also make your gift to The Appeal! Thank you for your generosity.

## Week of September 10, 2023



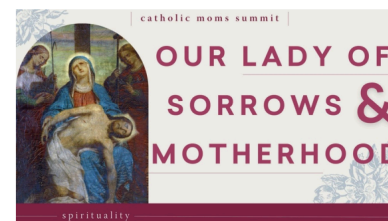
### Fun with Exalting the Holy Cross | Catholic All Year w/ Kendra Tierney

In honor of the Feast of the Exaltation of the Holy Cross on September 14, let's talk about . . . talking to kids about Jesus' suffering. Plus a family-friendly at-home Veneration of the Cross, and our favorite feast day foods.



### Drawing Strength from Our Lady of Sorrows by Kimberly Hahn

Speaker and author Kimberly Hahn, is a convert to the Catholic Faith. Although honoring Mary was difficult for her to understand initially, she began to encounter Mary's loving guidance in little ways on a daily basis. In this presentation, Kimberly reflects on the joys and sorrows that Mary prayerfully experienced during her time on earth, and shares how her example leads us closer to Christ.



### Our Lady of Sorrows and the Power of Prayer

Discover the value of redemptive motherhood by tuning in to Anna Mitchell, co-host of EWTN's "The Son Rise Morning Show." Anna shares the story of her five-year-old's serious illness along with the miraculous intercession of a fourth-century martyr.

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