

How do I adore?

It is important to remember that feelings of love, fervor, and devotion are not essential for adoration. Adoration is not a sentiment. Fr. John Hardon, in his Modern Catholic Dictionary defines adoration as “the act of religion by which God is recognized as alone worthy of supreme honor because He is infinitely perfect, has supreme dominion over humans, and the right of human total dependence on the Creator. It is at once an act of mind and will, expressing itself in appropriate prayers, postures of praise, and acts of reverence and sacrifice.

Adoration, therefore, begins when we walk in the door of the church or adoration chapel. When we genuflect before the Blessed Sacrament, kneel in the pew, and show Him our respect by giving Him our full attention, we adore Him. When we turn off our cell phone and maintain a reverent silence in the chapel, we adore Him. When we make simple acts of faith in His Real Presence, we adore Him. When we place ourselves before Him as empty vessels to be filled with His love, we adore Him.

In our self-centered culture and classic American emphasis on work, we often feel we must accomplish something during our times of prayer before the Blessed Sacrament. We rate our experience by how “good” our prayer was, how heartfelt our devotion was, or how focused we could remain. Yet prayer and contemplation are fundamentally God’s work, in which we are invited to participate.

We need only to give Him the opening, and He will do the rest. By coming to adoration, we are handing Him the key to our hearts, allowing the rays of His love and grace to bathe our souls in the light of His Presence, as the rays of the sun bathe our bodies in light. If we can take the time to pull away from the busyness and distractions of life and just sit at His feet, He will lead us.

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: 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, 4/28 at St. Stephen.

St. Edward and St. Stephen Catholic Churches

Twenty-Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time

September 24, 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-Fifth Week in Ordinary Time

Saturday, September 23:	4:00pm	Confession
	4:30pm	Mass + <i>Jerry Kohrmann</i>
Sunday, September 24:	8:00am	Rosary
	8:00am	Confession
	8:30am	Mass <i>For the living &amp; deceased of the parish</i>
Tuesday, September 26:	6:00pm	Rosary
	6:30pm	Mass + <i>Kenny, Evelyn, &amp; Connie Myers</i>
	7:00pm	Adoration until midnight
Wednesday, September 27:	7:30am	Rosary
	8:00am	Mass + <i>Dominic &amp; Mary Talmant</i>
Thursday, September 28:	7:30am	Rosary
	8:00am	Mass <i>Special Intention</i>
Friday, September 29:	8:30am	Adoration until 3:15pm
	12:00noon	Servite Rosary
	3:00pm	Chaplet of Divine Mercy
Saturday, September 30:	4:00pm	Confession
	4:30pm	Mass + <i>Betty &amp; Ranard Greenwood</i>
Sunday, October 1:	8:00am	Rosary
	8:00am	Confession
	8:30am	Mass <i>For the living &amp; deceased of the parish</i>

Weekly Contribution: 9-17-23

Envelope:	\$1,510.00
Loose:	\$ 228.00
TOTAL:	\$1,738.00

Weekly Budget \$2,270.00 (New 2023-2024 Budget)

Attendance: 9-17-23

Saturday:	40
Sunday:	57
Total:	97

Ministers for October

Saturday, September 30:

Lectors: Jim Fehrenbacher	Commentator: Volunteer
Eucharistic Ministers: Krista Weidner, Pat Ridgeway, volunteer	
Servers: Allison & Austin Cartright	Ushers: Mark Winka & Kurt Holkenbrink

Sunday, October 1:

Lector: Justin Fleener	Commentator: Phil Fancher
Eucharistic Ministers: Deb Zimmerman, Ted Whitehead, Beth Fancher	
Servers: Wyatt & Waylon Harvey	Ushers: Cory Anderson & Ted Zimmerman

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 Repogle, 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, Asher Stevens, & nursing home residents. Please let the parish office know if names can be added or removed.

St. Edward Mass Intentions for the Week

Sunday, September 24, 2023 10:30 am- Kate Hoover+  
Thursday, September 28, 2023, 6:00 pm –Jerry Zurliene +  
Friday, September 29, 2023, 8:00 am – Ruth Cavanaugh+  
Sunday, October 1, 2023 10:30 am – Richard & Sharon Reyling +

Weekly Contributions

9/17/2023	
Envelopes	\$2115
Loose	\$127
Total	\$2242
We Need	\$2032
Mass Stipends	\$65
Building Fund	\$332
Food Pantry	\$0
Candles	\$25
Assumption of Mary	\$10
Belleville Retired Clergy	\$50

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,  
Let the office know if names need to be added or removed from our prayer list.

Our Scripture Readings

Sun - Twentieth-Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time  
Is 55:6-9 Phil 1:20c-24, 27a  
Mt 20:1-16a  
Mon - Weekday  
Ezr 1:1-6 Lk 8:16-18  
Tues - Saints Cosmas & Damian, Martyrs  
Ezr 6:7-8, 12b, 14-20 Lk 8: 19-21  
Wed - Saint Vincent de Paul, Priest  
Ezr 9: 5-9 Mt 9: 35-38  
Thurs- Weekday  
Hg1: 1-8 Lk 9: 7-9  
Fri - Saints Michael, Gabriel & Raphael, Archangels  
Dn 7: 9-10, 13-14 Jn 1:47-51  
Sat - Saint Jerome, Priest, Doctor of the Church  
Zec 2: 5-9, 14-15a Lk 9:43b-45  
Sun - Twenty-Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time  
Ez 18: 25-28 Phil 2: 1-11  
Mt 21: 28-32

Attendance 96

## St. Edward News

**Maintenance** – We have a number of projects we would like to share with you. We will soon begin work on the long awaited bathroom renovations. We have also had to replace the Rectory roof. Lastly, as you already heard and seen we had to replace our old organ. We have had generous \$5100 donations from the Men’s Club, Altar Sodality and an individual parishioner.

The balance for these three projects is approximately \$34,500. Fortunately, we have the funds for these undertakings thanks impart to the generous bequest of Patricia Brunell. We would however like to replenish these dollars spent, therefore, if you can afford any extra contributions to the Building Fund it would be greatly appreciated.

**Thank You** - Ken and Theresa Nordmann and family would like to express their gratitude to all parishioners of St. Edward that brought food, sent cards, sent messages, stopped in to visit and sent up extra prayers during this most difficult time. We felt your love and support.

**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.

**Book Study** – Book study will meet this afternoon from 2 – 4 pm at St. Edward Hall.

**Parish Council Meeting** – The parish council will meet Thursday, September 28 after the 6:00 pm mass. The minutes for the meeting are on the bulletin board.

**St. Edward Feast Day** – Feast day celebration has been set for Sunday, October 15 after 10:30 mass.

**Veteran’s Day Breakfast** – St. Edward will again host the Veteran’s Day Breakfast before the parade. Parade is set for Saturday, November 4.

**Food Pantry Dates:** October 13 set up and October 14 distribution  
November 10 set up and November 11 distribution

## St. Stephen News

**Sympathy is extended** to Kelly Quinn and her family on the recent death of her mother, Mary McPeak. Mary’s celebration of life was at the McGriff Funeral home in Louisville and her burial was at the Toliver Cemetery, Louisville. May she rest in peace.

**Convocation:** Father Charles will be attending the yearly convocation with all the priests of the diocese from October 2-5. There will be no weekday masses on these days.

**Prayer Chain:** A new list for St. Stephen’s prayer chain is being compiled. Please send Trudi Herdes your name, phone number, and email address if you wish to be on the prayer chain. Also, please contact Trudi with any prayer requests. Trudi can be reached at 618-838-2720 or [dtherdes@bspeedy.com](mailto:dtherdes@bspeedy.com). Thank you!

**Parish School of Religion:** Class on Sunday, September 24. No Class on Sunday, October 1.

**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.

**Altar Society Rotating Chairmen** may pick up their new folders from the shelf next to the mailboxes in the copy room.

**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.

**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.

- Ticket money can be turned in to Ted Whitehead or Cory Anderson or to the silver box outside the social room.
- 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.
- Sign up on the sheet outside the social room to help the weekend of the BBQ.

**Planning Ahead:** The holidays are fast approaching and soon it will be time for the Cookie Walk and Basket Raffle! This year, we would like to have all of the baskets ready for display by October 22 so that we can sell tickets at some different events throughout the month of November. Please start planning what basket or items you will be donating. Proceeds from the Basket Raffle benefit St. Anne’s Altar Society and Guadalupe Project. Baskets & items can be placed in the social room any time. Thank you!

**The first week** of the book study on “Jesus and the Jewish Roots of the Eucharist” is this Sunday, September 24 at St. Edward in Fairfield, beginning at 2:00pm.



## St. Stephen News Continued

**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.

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

**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.

**Guadalupe Project has moved!** Guadalupe Project opened this weekend at its new location, 213 East North Avenue in Flora. The previous building was being converted back to office space by the landlords, making the move necessary. A grand re-opening celebration will be held on **October 15 from 1:00-3:00pm**, and all are invited to come see the new location and celebrate the milestone. While at the previous location, Guadalupe Project served 422 different families, 793 children, and 83 expectant mothers. Thank you all for your continued support!

As we move into the winter months, Guadalupe Project’s current needs include winter clothes sized 24 month or larger, formula, and ointment. These items are harder to come by and many families need them. The move has also brought about some unexpected expenses as well as an increase in the monthly rent over what was previously covered by donors. If you would like to support Guadalupe Project in any way, donations can be left in the baskets by either entrance or monetary donations can be placed in the weekly collection and marked for Guadalupe Project. Thank you so much!

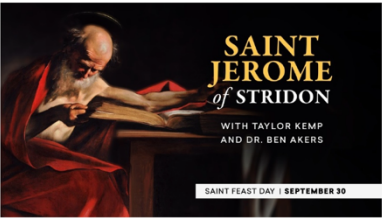


## Week of September 24, 2023



### Who Are the Angels?

Dr. Ben Akers sits down with Dr. Mark Miravalle, Saint John Paul II Chair of Mariology at Franciscan University of Steubenville, to discuss the angels. What is an angel? What are the choirs of angels? How do we engage with our guardian angels?



### St. Jerome | Catholic Saints

An early Church Father from the 4th century, St. Jerome translated the Bible into Latin with the desire to make Scripture more accessible. St. Jerome is the patron of biblical scholars, translators, and archivists and famously said, "Ignorance of Scripture is ignorance of Christ."



### Who Are the Archangels?

Dr. Ben Akers and Dr. Elizabeth Klein discuss archangels and what role they have in our lives.

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