



It is something far beyond our comprehension, but it is true. Not only are we able to receive Jesus in Holy Communion at each Mass as baptized Catholics in the state of grace, but we also have Him available in another very intimate way. He remains with us so that we may come to Him and gaze upon Him, “Face to face,” in the Most Blessed Sacrament, solemnly exposed for adoration.

St. Paul wrote about the transforming power of gazing upon Our Lord: “And we all, with unveiled face beholding the glory of the Lord, are being changed into His likeness from one degree of glory to another” To spend time with Him is to become more like Him.

We may find it difficult to believe that God has a vested interest in us, but He certainly does! He loves us so much that He died for us. Yet after His resurrection and His glorious ascension to the right hand of the Father, He did not want to leave us as orphans. He has gone before us to prepare a place for us.

Even so, He desires at the same time to be intimately present to us. He desires to show us that He is interested in every detail of our lives. How does He do this? He waits for a visit from us wherever He is present in the Holy Sacrament throughout the world.

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: 3/24 at St. Edward, 4/28 at St. Stephen.

St. Edward and St. Stephen Catholic Churches

Fifth Sunday of Lent

March 17, 2024

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 5th Street

Fairfield, IL 62837

Phone: 618-847-7931

stedwardcatholicchurch01@frontier.com

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

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, Secretary

618-599-6786 (cell) or 618-662-8121 (office)

laura.whitehead.91@gmail.com or ststephen_flora@yahoo.com

Submit bulletin information in email by Wednesday at noon.

Wednesday:

10:15am-12:15pm

Thursday:

9:00am-12:00 noon

Hours are either in parish office or remote.

Contact via cell or email if you need to visit office.

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

Fifth Week of Lent

Saturday, March 16:	4:00pm	Confession
	4:30pm	Mass <i>For the living & deceased of the parish</i>
Sunday, March 17:	8:00am	Rosary & Confession
	8:30am	Mass <i>+Laverne Ruckman</i>
Tuesday, March 19:	6:00pm	Rosary
	6:30pm	Mass <i>For the members & intentions of the St. Monica Society & the St. Monica Club & Support Group</i>
	7:00pm	Adoration until midnight
Wednesday, March 20:	7:30am	Rosary
	8:00am	Mass <i>+Dominic & Mary Talmant</i>
Thursday, March 21:	7:30am	Rosary
	8:00am	Mass <i>+Al Winka</i>
Friday, March 22:	8:30am	Adoration until 3:15pm
	12:00noon	Servite Rosary
	3:00pm	Chaplet of Divine Mercy
	6:00pm	Stations of the Cross
Saturday, March 23:	4:00pm	Confession
	4:30pm	Mass <i>+Betty & Ranard Greenwood</i>
Sunday, March 24: PALM SUNDAY	8:00am	Rosary & Confession
	8:30am	Mass <i>+John Rudolphi</i>

Weekly Contribution: 3-10-24			Attendance: 3-10-24	
Envelope:	\$1,853.00	<i>Catholic Relief Services: \$90</i>	Saturday:	58
Loose:	\$ 153.00	<i>Black & Indian Mission: \$10</i>	Sunday:	51
Online:	\$ 150.00		Total:	109
TOTAL:	\$2,156.00	<i>Weekly Budget \$2,270.00</i>		

Ministers for March

Thank you for signing up to help during Holy Week!

Happy Birthday:

Alison Harvey: March 7	Pat Quinn: March 17
Jean Quinn: March 12	Heather Greenwood: March 22

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, Rodney Keck, Michael Persinger, Linda Martin, Sierra Roberts, Bill Casolari, Wayne Deaton, & nursing home residents. *Please let the parish office know if names can be added or removed.*

St. Edward Mass Intentions for the Week
Sunday, March 17, 10:30 AM – Andrea Erickson+
Thursday, March 21, 6:00 PM – Sam Ochs+
Friday, March 22 , 8:00 – Phyllis Ragain+
Sunday, March 24, 10:30 AM – Kate Hoover+

Weekly Contributions
3/10/2024

Envelopes	\$ 1910
Loose	\$ 205
Total	\$ 2115
We Need	\$ 2032
Mass Stipends	\$ 20
Building Fund	\$ 217
CRS	\$240
Candles	\$ 2
Easter Flowers	\$ 20

Attendance-
Sunday 10:30 AM 85

Prayer Intentions

Kim Buchanan, Lanora Neavill, Robyn Meagher, Donna Turner, Marilyn Butler , CeCe Coorapi, , Margaret Thompson, Richard Rennie, Lee Bouldin, Fr. Ray, Marty Hawkins, Spencer Meagher, Judy Maguire, Dick Hibbetts, Donna Williams, Teresa Keyser, Shirley Miller, Glory Almon, Teresa Walker, Tony Evans, Norah Pickens, H.G. French
Let the office know if names need to be added or removed from our prayer list.

Our Scripture Readings

Sun – Fifth Sunday of Lent
Jer 31: 31-34 Heb 5: 7-9 Jn 12: 20-33
Mon – Lenten Weekday
Dn 13: 1-9, 15-17, 19-30, 33-62 Jn 8: 1-11
Tues – Saint Joseph, Spouse of the Blessed Virgin Mary
2 Sm 7: 4-5a, 12-14a, 16
Rom 4: 13, 16-18, 22 Mt 1: 16, 18-21, 24a
Wed – Lenten Weekday
Dn 3: 14-20, 91-92, 95 Jn 8: 31-42
Thurs – Lenten Weekday
Gn 17: 3-9 Jn 8: 51-59
Fri – Lenten Weekday
Jer 20: 10-13 Jn 10: 31-42
Sat – Lenten Weekday
Ez 37: 21-28 Jn 11: 45-56
Sun – Palm Sunday of the Passion of the Lord
Mk 11: 1-10 Is 50: 4-7 Phil 2: 6-11
Mk 14: 1 – 15: 47

St. Edward News

Parish Council Meeting – There will be a parish council meeting after the 6:00 Pm mass on Thursday, March 21. The agendas are on the bulletin board.

St Patrick’s Day Dinner – Thank you to everyone that helped with the Saint Patrick’s day dinner, especially Scott Merkle for preparing the meal and Nori Nessa for decorating the hall.

Stations of the Cross – Stations of the Cross will be held every Friday at 6:00 PM during Lent.

Food Pantry – Thank you to everyone that helped with the food pantry this weekend.

Save the Date - The St. Edward Men’s Club will be having the annual Sausage Dinner on Sunday, April 14th. This will be carryout only from 11:00 a.m.-1:00 p.m. All help will be appreciated and if you are able to help provide a dessert or two. Also there will be a Saturday evening Mass that weekend on April 13th at 6:15 p.m. so that workers will be able to attend Mass.

Palm Sunday – Reminder, we will begin mass in the hall on this day.

Easter Egg Hunt – The Saint Edward Easter Egg Hunt will be on Sunday, March 31 at 9:45 AM. There will be no PSR on this day (Easter Sunday).

CSMA – We are currently at 83% of our \$6180 goal for the Catholic Services and Ministry Appeal. Twenty-one families have pledged \$5145. If you did not receive a donation card in the mail, there are envelopes in the hall. No amount is too small, please make every effort to donate. Thank you for your generosity.

Holy Land Collection – Pope Francis has asked our parish to support the Pontifical Holy Land Collection which will be held on Good Friday. Your support helps the Church minister in parishes, provide Catholic schools and offer religious education to our brothers and sisters in the Holy Land. The collection also helps to preserve the sacred shrines. In times of crisis, the Pontifical Holy Land Collection also provides humanitarian aid to refugees. When you contribute to the collection, you become an instrument of peace and join with Catholics around the world in solidarity with the Church in the Holy Land. Please be generous.

Lent, Holy Week and Easter Schedule is on the back of this bulletin.

St. Stephen News

Welcome and congratulations to our newly baptized! Last week Kristin Sue-Ellen Roberts, Ian Martin Anthony Young, and Collin Robert Wayne Price were baptized into the Catholic Faith. May God bless you always!

This weekend all members of the parish, 18 years of age and older, may vote for two (2) candidates on the Pastoral Council election ballot. The candidates selected by members of the parish, for the Pastoral Council Election, are: Jessica Crawford, Jonathon Akers, Laura Anderson, Robin Lipka

March 16 & 17 – Vote for two (2) of the candidates at Masses

March 23 & 24 – Newly elected members announced/posted

Repair Update: ServPro has completed all the work necessary to restore the kitchen to working order – the ceiling is completed, the water stains have been removed and the walls repainted, and everything has been cleaned. The only thing that remains is the installation of the new flooring which will be completed as soon as the flooring is delivered. The same flooring as the rest of the social room has been ordered. For now, the old floor is cleaned and can be walked on. The plumbing will be reconnected this week. This progress completes the repair of the kitchen, and the kitchen is ready for the contents to be returned. The final insurance claim for this project is \$28,462.87 with a deductible of \$5,000. Thanks to everyone for their patience.

CSMA: Thank you to the 26 households that have already pledged their financial support of The Catholic Service and Ministry Appeal. So far \$4,368.44 has been pledged by our parish members. Our parish goal is \$7,339. If you have not yet responded, please make every effort to do so. Thank you for your generosity!

Rummage Sale: Please start gathering clean, gently used items for the annual rummage sale on April 19 and 20. Drop off times will be announced closer to the date. If you would like to help or have questions please contact Alison Harvey at 618-676-7750. Thank you.

We are scheduled to deliver Meals on Wheels in March. Delivering meals is in Flora on Monday thru Friday, and only takes about an hour. Please consider helping with this wonderful ministry, by signing up on the sheet outside the Social Room. Most times there is a team of two people. Please call Beth Fancher, 618-676-4292, if you have questions about delivering meals or would like information about the program. Thank you for your support. Our church delivers meals in March and in September.

Choir Practice for Holy Week is each Monday at 7pm. All are welcome to join.

MINISTERS – Please sign up for Holy Week and Easter liturgies at the table outside the social room.

Envelopes for the Easter flower offering in memory of your loved ones are located at both doors. Thanks.

Parish School of Religion: Sunday, March 17 – Class

Sunday, March 24 – NO Class

Mark your calendars: The St. Stephen Parish Easter Egg Hunt and Meal will be Sunday, April 7. The Easter egg hunt will be at 5:00pm, with the potluck at 5:30. Meat and drinks will be provided, please bring a side dish or dessert. Please mark your calendars and plan to attend!

If any high school student has an interest in participating in the Catholic Youth Organization please contact Alison Harvey at 618-676-7750.

The next rotating chairmen for St. Anne’s Altar Society are Berenice Mary Brown, Beth Fancher/Janet Fehrenbacher, Mary Beth Lancaster/Susan Schroeder.

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 following Mass on each Sunday that PSR is in session. All students and teachers are asked to come to the front following the final song. If students are not at Mass, please come to the church as soon as you arrive. All parishioners are welcome and encouraged to stay.

A fun way to support Guadalupe Project – March Madness Squares! If you enjoyed the Super Bowl Square fundraiser, you will love March Madness Squares! Our board of squares will be filled at random and numbers will be assigned once the board is filled. The board will be used for each game of the NCAA Men’s Tournament beginning with the Sweet 16. The prizes will be: Sweet 16 - \$50, Elite 8 - \$100, Final 4 - \$500, and Championship - \$1,000. Squares are \$50 each. See Ted Whitehead or Cory Anderson to purchase a square. All proceeds will be donated to Guadalupe Project.

SCRIP: We will be placing a large scrip order on Monday March 18. Look ahead to Easter, Mother’s Day, graduations, and other spring celebrations and let Karen or Linda know by noon this Monday what cards you will be wanting. Remember these cards are great for everyday purchases as well! SCRIP is available after most weekend Masses and by contacting Linda Etchison (618 214 6768) or Karen Whitehead (618 572 8206) Remember using SCRIP for your everyday purchases is a great way to support St. Anne’s Altar Society. The complete list of cards available is on each bulletin board.

SCRIP CARDS ON HAND

Aeropostale	\$25	Phillips 66	\$25
Amazon	\$10, \$25, \$50, \$100	Pizza Hut	\$10
American Eagle	\$25	Sears	\$25
Buffalo Wild Wings	\$10, \$25	Staples	\$25
Casey's	\$25, \$50	Starbucks	\$5, \$10, 25
CVS	\$25	Subway	\$10, \$50
Dairy Queen	\$10, \$25	Taco Bell	\$10, \$25
Los Tres Caminos	\$25, \$50	Target	\$10, \$25, \$50
McDonalds	\$10, \$25	VISA	\$25, \$50, \$100
Menards	\$25, \$100	Walgreens	\$100
Old Navy	\$25	Walmart	\$10
Panera	\$10, \$25, \$50	Walmart/Sams	\$25, \$50, \$100

2024 Lent, Holy Week, & Easter Season Schedule

Stations of the Cross every Friday of Lent at 6:00pm

Palm Sunday:

St. Stephen	Saturday, March 23	4:30pm
	Sunday, March 24	8:30am
St. Edward	Sunday, March 24	10:30am

Chrism Mass

Belleville	Tuesday, March 26	11:30am
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Holy Thursday

St. Stephen	Thursday, March 28	6:00pm – Mass 7:30pm – Midnight: Adoration
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Good Friday

St. Edward:	Friday, March 29	4:00pm – Stations of the Cross 5:00pm – Good Friday Service
St. Stephen:	Friday, March 29	3:00pm – Stations of the Cross 7:15pm – Good Friday Service

Holy Saturday

St. Stephen:	Saturday, March 30	8:00pm – Easter Vigil
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Easter Sunday

St. Stephen	Sunday, March 31	8:30am
St. Edward	Sunday, March 31	10:30am

Divine Mercy Sunday - St. Stephen

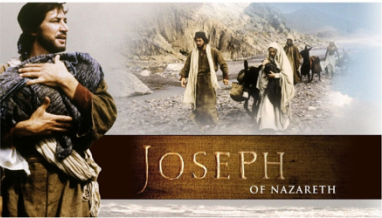
Confession:	Saturday, April 6	10am-11am
Adoration in Church	Sunday, April 7	After Mass – 4pm with Chaplet at 3pm

First Communion

St. Stephen	Sunday, May 5	8:30am
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Week of March 17, 2024



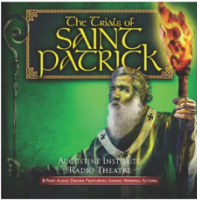
Joseph of Nazareth: The Story of the Man Closest to Christ

Celebrate the feast of Christ's foster father with even more joy and respect this year by watching a movie about him! Enter into the life of this great saint through the movie Joseph of Nazareth!



An Encounter with Mercy

We are not defined by our mistakes. In Confession, Jesus invites us to encounter his mercy and be healed by his love. When he tells us "Go and sin no more," he also gives us the grace to do so.



The Trials of Saint Patrick

The Trials of Saint Patrick, a powerful journey through hardship, loss, mercy, and forgiveness. With skilled actors and cinematic elements, this captivating story comes to life, stirring the imagination and sparking inspiration.

Our parish has a FORMED subscription.
Visit signup.formed.org and select our parish name.