

April 4, 2021

# St. Stephen Catholic Church

901 S Main Street ■ PO Box 458 ■ Caseyville IL 62232

Web-Site [www.ststephencaseyville.org](http://www.ststephencaseyville.org)

## Parish Mass Times

### Temporary Schedules

#### St. Stephen

Tuesday 8:00 am

Thursday 8:00 am

Sunday 9:00 am

Reconciliation Sun.

by appointment

#### Holy Trinity

Wednesday 8:10 am

Friday 8:10 am

Saturday 4:00 pm

Sunday 7:30 am

10:30 am

Reconciliation Sat.

by appointment



## Parish Staff

### Pastor,

**Very Reverend John C. Iffert, V.G.**

[jiffert@diobelle.org](mailto:jiffert@diobelle.org)

### Deacon Art Hampton

[deaconart@holytrinityil.org](mailto:deaconart@holytrinityil.org)

### Deacon Tom Powers

[4sssster@gmail.com](mailto:4sssster@gmail.com)

### Pastoral Associate,

**Jeanne Adamske**

[jeanne@ststephencaseyville.org](mailto:jeanne@ststephencaseyville.org)

### Youth Faith Formation

**Carrie Rose**

[faithform@ststephencaseyville.org](mailto:faithform@ststephencaseyville.org)

### Parish Secretary, Carol Donahue

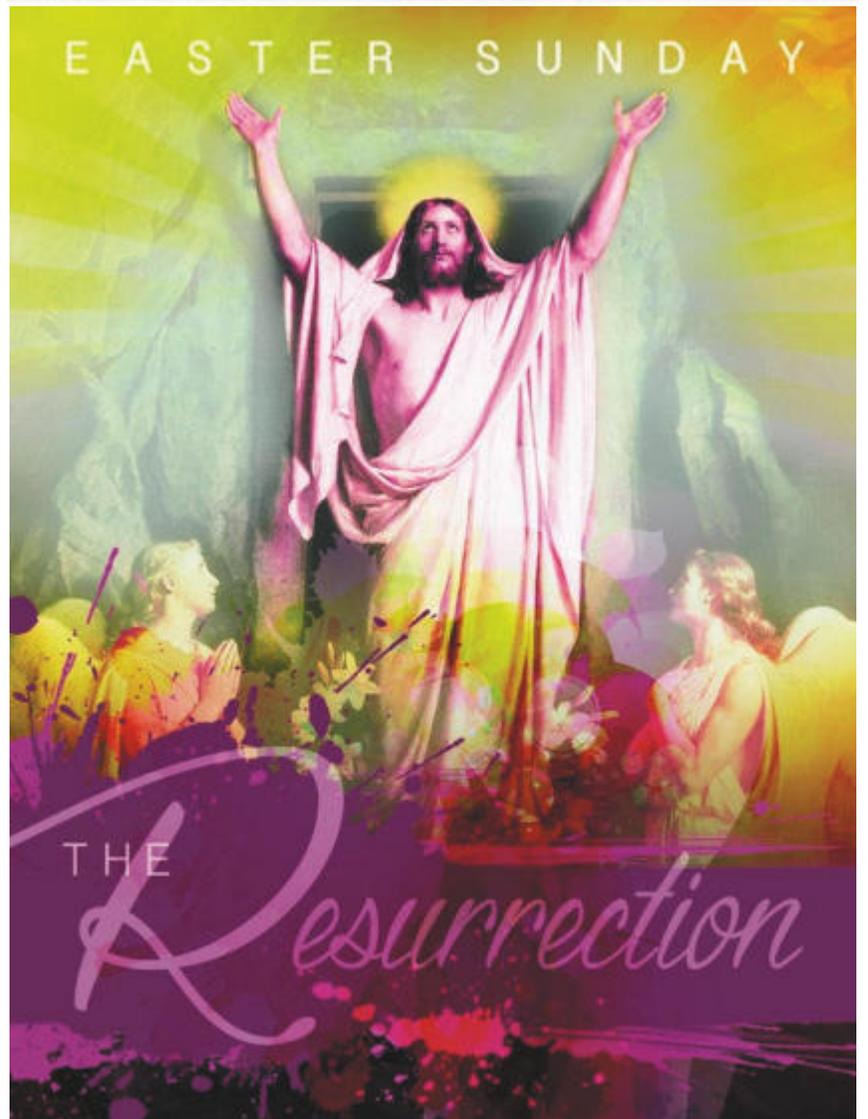
[office@ststephencaseyville.org](mailto:office@ststephencaseyville.org)

### Parish Bookkeeper, Stacy Griffin

[books@ststephencaseyville.org](mailto:books@ststephencaseyville.org)

## Parish Mission Statement

We the members of St. Stephen Catholic Church of Caseyville, IL do strive to **KNOW** our faith, **SHARE** our time, talents, and treasure, **TEACH** by example, **LIVE** by truth and love.



## Mass Schedule and Intentions

**APRIL 4, SUNDAY EASTER SUNDAY OF THE RESURRECTION OF THE LORD 9:00 A.M. MASS**

MARY ELLEN TRACY

**SPANISH MASS 12:00 P.M.**

**APRIL 5, MONDAY 8:00 A.M. MASS**

CHUCK FRANKE

**APRIL 6 TUESDAY 8:00 A.M. MASS**

DOLORES KOSKIE-GREEN

**APRIL 8 THURSDAY 8:00 A.M. MASS**

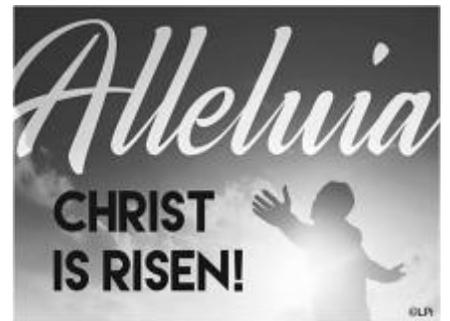
HILDE MAMINO

**APRIL 11, SUNDAY DIVINE MERCY 9:00 A.M. MASS**

VICTOR SUPPON

**SPANISH MASS 12:00 P.M.**

Reservations are required  
for Mass



**April 4, 2021**

### ***Easter Sunday of the Resurrection of the Lord***

*Who are you? This question was most assuredly asked of Jesus on the day of resurrection and it is a question asked of each of us. Our identities can be described in so many ways. We can start with our gifts and our talents, expertise and unique personality expressions. We can describe things we like and things we prefer to set aside. As descriptive and captivating as these can be, none come close to our essence, our real and true self. While accurate in their own right, the self who lives and interacts with the world is the self we want others to see, the one we project. But there is much more to us just as there is much more to Jesus.*

*Jesus could describe himself based on all of the same criteria we use for ourselves. After all, Jesus is totally human. With all that people witnessed and all that Jesus knew about his physical human self, his divinity also shined forth. There was so much more to know about him. Whereas once Jesus was transfigured on top of a mountain before his disciples' eyes, so today he is transfigured before our eyes as he reveals his resurrected self as the Christ. Alleluia, Christ is risen! His glorified presence stands before us showing us that we are all much more than we see ourselves to be and show to others. We have a depth, purpose, and essence that go way beyond the superficial treasures of our existence to the very core of who we are.*

*Within each one of us is a spark of Divine Love where creature and Creator meet, and we are known uniquely by the name God whispers to us. It is not the earthly name that was given to us but the one that flows from Divine Power and claims us as one who is special and chosen in God's eyes. This is the self that will rise one day with the eternal Christ of God and live eternally as God provides. This is the self that when free from all superficial constraints layered upon it in this life can discover and know freedom in a way never possible before. This is love lifting us up and transforming us into who we really are, not who we want or need ourselves to be. Who are you? A special, unique child of God who has been fashioned in God's image, sustained by the power of God's love and kept eternally with the Blessed Trinity in heaven. Get to know this deeper, truer self as it is who you really are.*

### ***Easter Sunday of the Resurrection of the Lord At the Mass during the Day – Sunday, 04 April 2021***

*Acts 10:34a, 37-43. Psalm 118:1-2, 16-17, 22-23. Colossians 3:1-4. OR 1 Corinthians 5:6b-8. Sequence – Christians, to the Paschal Victim. John 20:1-9. OR Luke 24:13-35.*

**“Clear Out the Old Yeast.”** *St. Paul speaks these words to us today. Get rid of old yeast to make a fresh batch of dough. Shed, he says, the old yeast of malice and wickedness and use, he says, the new yeast of sincerity and truth. For Christ is risen.*

- *What do I need to shed?*
- *What truth will I tell – kindly yet boldly?*
- *My new yeast will be \_\_\_\_\_?*



### ***2nd Sunday of Easter (Divine Mercy Sunday)/April 11, 2021***

#### ***First Reading:***

*With great power the apostles bore witness to the resurrection of the Lord Jesus, and great favor was accorded them all. (Acts 4:33)*

#### ***Psalm:***

*Give thanks to the Lord, for his is good, his love is everlasting. (Ps 118)*

*Or Alleluia.*

#### ***Second Reading:***

*Everyone who believe that Jesus is the Christ is begotten by God,*

*and everyone who loves the Father loves also the one begotten by him. (1 Jn 1:1a)*

#### ***Gospel:***

*Jesus said to them again, “Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, so I send you.” (Jn 20:21)*

**Sunday:** *Acts 4:32-35/Ps 118:2-4, 13-15, 22-24 [1]/1 Jn 5:1-6/Jn 20:19-3*

# Welcome

TO ST. STEPHEN



*Easter Reflection*

*Hallelujah! Jesus is risen! We are grateful for the gift of God's love and compassion for all of us! Each year, we remember that God is abundantly loving us through the journey of life, constantly walking with us and standing beside us. If we choose, we can tap into the love and light of Christ, and be that for others. We can continue the joy and love of the Easter season throughout the year.*

*What a blessing! Take time for yourself and Jesus. The Easter miracle is a gift for you so that you might grow in understanding the unending love He has for you!*

*Jeanne Adamske*

**Life is a True Blessing from God ~ Choose Life**

**Respect Life Corner-** *"To Him all the prophets bear witness, that everyone who believes in Him, will receive forgiveness of sins through His name,"* In the First Reading from Acts of the Apostles 10:37-43, know that if you believe in Jesus, your sins will be forgiven. We seek forgiveness through the Sacrament of Reconciliation, an important part of Project Rachel Ministry. The tragedy of an abortion causes a woman to bury it deep within their soul. Many are in denial until too many triggers in their lives force them to come to grips with the loss of their unborn son or daughter. **Learn, Act, Connect and Pray-**We must always speak with a compassionate heart to anyone who has suffered a loss, such as a loss of a child through abortion. A calm demeanor and a gentle smile convey to those who are hurting that you are there to walk with them on their journey of hope, healing and forgiveness. Let them know that they are not alone. Christ is here and hope in His love can begin now. Project Rachel Ministry Diocese of Belleville (618) 722-5068.

**VOCATION CORNER**

**Hallelujah!!** He is Risen! All our souls have been redeemed. What a wonderful legacy! We need to share this Redemption story with others – our Calling as Catholics. This is what we commemorate through each celebration of the Eucharist which allows us to receive our Lord in Holy Communion. We need to witness to this fact through our daily lives – talking with our classmates, taking care of our spouses and children, engaging with our friends and family, with our co-workers – in all we do! This is our vocation - a Call to Holiness.

**"If you have questions about vocations, please contact your Parish Vocation Coordinator, Andy (grandpa) Martignoni, Jr." Have a good day. Andy**

Prayer is a beautiful conversation with the Creator. It is an invitation to creatively enter into a friendship for life. To journey with God and know there is a sacred space to be exactly who you are even when you are challenged by your circumstances. Take your burdens and your joys to the Cross. Jesus wants to journey with you.

**Baby Bottle Drive**

The collection of coins for the baby bottle drive continues through Father's Day. Bottles can be returned before then. Collected donations will support pregnancy care center.

**Reflection from John Michael Talbot**

We live in a time where there is so much bad news. It's great to hear the good news of the gospel in Jesus Christ! So many of us need encouragement to face the many setbacks that could easily become opportunities for discouragement and even despair. This Easter remember that the Lord is risen! All things are possible with God! Good news always overcomes bad news in the end when viewed with the eyes of faith, hope and love in Christ.



**Year of St. Joseph**

Thank you for the abundance of gifts/donations for mothers and their children, for food for those in need, as we model the care, compassion and love of St. Joseph for his family. St. Joseph is a wonderful model to all of us. He loved and cared for Mary and Jesus in a beautiful way. Let us continue to honor relationships, our Christian family and friends, so that we can bring love to God's people.

Collected items will be distributed this week. If you forgot to bring in your donation, please contact the office to arrange to drop off your donation this week.

**Did you know you can support St. Stephen Catholic Church through your trust or will?**

**Festival income**

Thank you for the generosity of your prayers and financial support. For the 2020 festival the parish raised \$21,000.00 . Thank you for all you have done and continue to do

Due to early submission of the Bulletin for Easter total contributions for March will be in the April 11th Bulletin. Thank you for your understanding.

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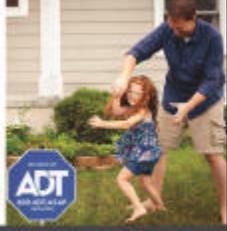
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