

April 25, 2021

St. Stephen Catholic Church

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

Web-Site www.ststephencaseyville.org

Parish Mass Times

Temporary Schedules

St. Stephen

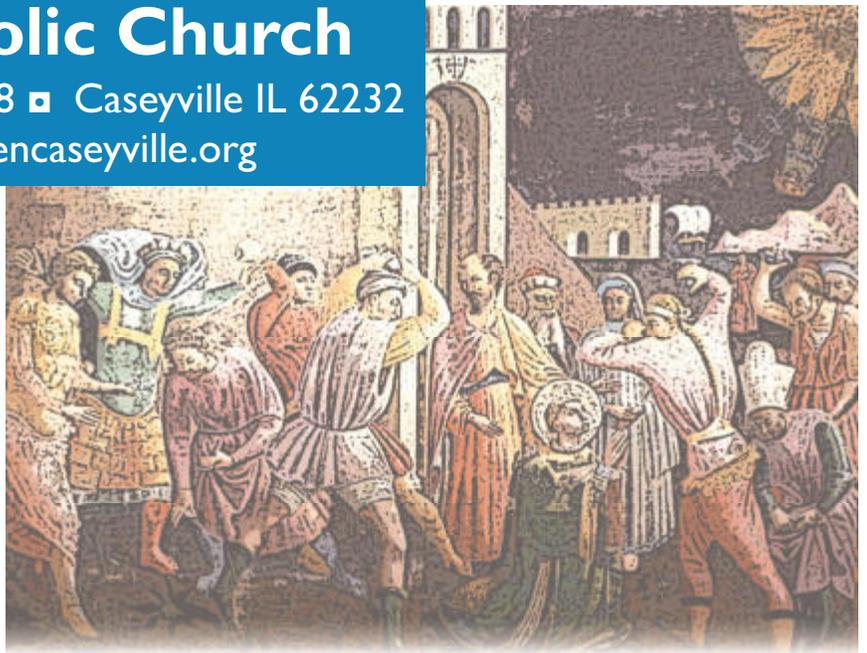
Monday 8:00 am
Tuesday 8:00 am
Wednesday 6:30 pm
Thursday 8:00 am
Sunday 9:00 am

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

Deacon Art Hampton

deaconart@holytrinityil.org

Deacon Tom Powers

4sssster@gmail.com

Pastoral Associate,

Jeanne Adamske

jeanne@ststephencaseyville.org

Youth Faith Formation

Carrie Rose

faithform@ststephencaseyville.org

Parish Secretary, Carol Donahue

office@ststephencaseyville.org

Parish Bookkeeper, Stacy Griffin

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.



EXCERPTS FROM THE LECTONARY FOR MASS ©2001, 1998, 1970 CCD. ©LRI

Parish Offices 618-397-0666 or 618-397-8531 ■ Fax 618-397-4430 ■ Voigt (Parish) Hall 618-398-9928

Mass Schedule and Intentions

APRIL 25, SUNDAY 4TH SUNDAY OF EASTER/WORLD DAY OF PRAYER FOR VOCATIONS 9:00 A.M. MASS FOR THE PEOPLE

SPANISH MASS 12:00 P.M.

APRIL 26, MONDAY 8:00 A.M. MASS

RICHARD MAMINO

APRIL 27 TUESDAY 8:00 A.M. MASS

REVEREND RICHARD J. WEIDERT

APRIL 28 WEDNESDAY 6:30 P.M. MASS

BETTY RUDIS

APRIL 29 THURSDAY 8:00 A.M. MASS

JOHN MORLOCK

MAY 2, SUNDAY 5TH SUNDAY OF EASTER 9:00 A.M. MASS

KAY BENSON

SPANISH MASS 12:00 P.M.

Reservations are required for Mass 397-0666 or office@ststephencaseyville.org



April 25, 2021 4th Sunday of Easter

Any builder worth his or her salt knows the value and importance of a cornerstone. Properly laying and securing this primary unit determines how the rest of the project unfolds and its success. Cornerstones are necessary elements not only of buildings but of lives as well. Many human beings conduct the business of their lives paying little attention to a grounding reference or starting point. Hence, what unfolds is a tapestry of relativism, with few anchors or guideposts and many impulsive choices. Some consider love to be their cornerstone. While this may sound attractive and useful, the pursuit of love without a simultaneous pursuit of its source can be shallow and self-focused.

Jesus is the true and authentic cornerstone and shepherd. It is only in following the Risen One as the way, the truth, and the life that we can move from being well grounded ethical people to properly focused moral ones. Proper conduct, a true sense of justice, wisdom, virtue, moral principles, faith, hope, and love will be difficult to find unless we listen to the right Voice. It is when we learn to listen to the voice of God that we begin our journey on the road to salvation. It is only the Good Shepherd, the authentic and solid cornerstone, who can guide us through life's questions and challenges and bring us to the safe and proper pasture.

A person's life only has meaning when the cornerstone is properly selected and set. Understanding themselves only as random acts of creation, existing without intent or purpose, will color their choices and influence their decisions. The foundation of their lives will be simply a matter of preference and choice, leaving benchmarks of growth and higher ideals optional to pursue. Whereas people who believe that they are fashioned and loved into existence by a God who purposely made them, have this incredible unconditional relationship at their source which has tremendous significance. Their allegiance is not to themselves but to their Creator. Life, then, is an adventure in search of this Creator God and a journey of self-discovery that seeks to unite their will to His. There is a cost. We have to give up our life in order to gain our life. As ironic as that sounds, it is true. It is only when we finally figure this out that the true cornerstone of our lives will be properly laid and we can, with God's help, get about the business of properly constructing a temple that endures.

Fourth Sunday of Easter – 25 April 2021

Acts 4:8-12. Psalm 118:1, 8-9, 21-23, 26, 28, 29. 1 John 3:1-2. John 10:11-18.

Being Good. *Jesus is good. He is the best of shepherds. He knows and protects, leads and loves. He offers himself as a pattern for our own living.*

- Who needs my guidance?
- Who needs my love and protection?
- How will I be good today, this week, this Easter Time?

Respect Life Corner—"I am the good shepherd. A good shepherd lays down his life for the sheep." *In John's Gospel Chapter 10, Jesus, the Good Shepherd, shows that sacrificial love is the truest definition of love. While love can include heartwarming moments with others, love is primarily about sacrifice, willing the good of the other. (Agape Love) Think about two images of the Good Shepherd. First, the tender, gentle Lord who welcomes us and cares for us in a holy, compassionate way. Second, ponder and pray over the Crucifixion. Our Good Shepherd sacrificed His life for each of us, so that we could have life in Him. **Learn, Act, Connect and Pray**—How do we recognize the voice of the Shepherd calling us? In what ways can we live a life of sacrificial love in the world around us? Every human life has value, worthy of our love. Once we see that, we will change the world.*

5th Sunday of Easter /May 2, 2021

First Reading:

When Saul arrived in Jerusalem he tried to join the disciples, but they were all afraid of him, not believing that he was a disciple. (Acts 9:26)

Psalm:

I will praise you, Lord, in the assembly of your people. (Ps 22) Or Alleluia.

Second Reading:

And his commandment is this: we should believe in the name of his Son, Jesus Christ, and love one another just as he commanded us. (1 Jn 3:23)

Gospel:

"I am the vine, you are the branches.

Whoever remains in me and I in him will bear much fruit, because without me you can do nothing." (Jn 15:5)

Sunday: Acts 9:26-31/Ps 22:26-27, 28, 30, 31-32 [26a]/1 Jn 3:18-24/Jn 15:1-8

Welcome
TO ST. STEPHEN
CONFIRMATION

Confirmandi

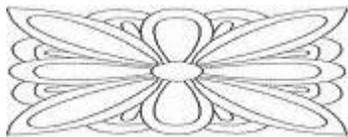
As a family of faith, let us pray for those preparing to receive the gift of Confirmation this May. Pray for the Confirmandi, their parents, and sponsors.

- | | |
|----------------------------|----------------------------|
| Christian Carranza | Kayla Leanos |
| Lisette Cervantes | Josalyn Lopez |
| Carlos Gaspar | Lesly Lopez |
| Katia Guerrero | Adrian Martinez |
| Alina Hernandez | Miguel Murillo |
| Diana Hernandez | Kevin Prado-Salgado |
| Jaqueline Hernandez | Yoslin Ramirez |
| Jessie Hernandez | Christian Rodriguez |
| | Leslie Rojero |

Parish Festival

The question has been asked if there will be a parish festival for 2021. The answer is yes and it will most likely be a little different than in previous years. Here is what we know. With the current situation, the parish is looking to have a festival that will include safe and enjoyable opportunity for the parish and community to gather and enjoy those things that make sense. At this time, it will be permissible to have a chicken dinner in carry out style, possibly Bingo outside, a beer garden with music entertainment, and a silent auction. All these aspects of the festival seem to be workable even if the current restrictions from the State are in place. Please pray for an end to the pandemic and be patient and understanding as the festival committee may have to change or modify what the festival opportunity will look like. Thank you in advance for your support.

Quilters are meeting in the Annex room 3, every Tuesday 9 am to 12 pm and Wednesday 10 am to 2 pm. Please call the office (397-0666) if you would like to join this ministry. You must wear a mask and follow safety guidelines.



The 2021 Catholic Service and Ministry Appeal
Whoever believes in me will do the works that I do... -John 14:12

“With confidence in the Lord, I am turning to you today asking for your support of this year’s Catholic Service and Ministry Appeal. My hope is that your generous response will help our ministries grow and the compassion of Jesus will be experienced more profoundly in our communities.” -Bishop Michael McGovern
Please consider making your gift today!

Jesus is the good shepherd. He knows and cares for each of us. The beauty in this gift is overwhelming. To be called by the Lord and loved just as we are is a gift. In receiving this gift we are called to gratitude. Gratitude is a thankfulness that moves us to acknowledge the gift and then, in love, continue the blessing by sharing the gift in some unique way. How are you sharing the love of God with your family and friends? What particular ways, detailed ways, are you inviting others to experience the love of Jesus? Take time to reflect on the abundance that God has shared with you. Make a mental or physical note of that list and continue to build on the ways you can impact the world with the love of Jesus Christ given to you every day.
Jeanne Adamske

VOCATION CORNER

Today we acknowledge the World Day of Prayer for Vocations. We implore our Blessed Mother to intercede for us, asking the Lord to grant us more men and women who answer the call to a religious vocation. To quote Pope Francis, “Each one of us is called – whether to the lay life in marriage, to the priestly life in the ordained ministry, or to a life of special consecration – in order to become a witness of the Lord, here and now.”

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



Readers Schedule for May and June

- | | |
|----------------------|-----------------------|
| May 2 Jeanne Adamske | June 6 Carrie Rose |
| May 9 Tim Massey | June 13 Tim Massey |
| May 16 Alan Reiniger | June 20 Alan Reiniger |
| May 23 Julie Britsch | June 27 Julie Britsch |
| May 30 Charla Finn | |

The Mother of Perpetual Help Men's Booster Club will host the 8th Annual Chuck Bakken Memorial Golf Tournament on Saturday, June 5th at Oak Brook Golf Club in Edwardsville with an 8:30 AM shotgun start. Enjoy 18 holes of golf, breakfast pastries, lunch, door prizes and awards...all for \$90 per player! Sponsorships are also available. Contact Larry Powell at 618-345-8099 or writelarry@msn.com or any MPH Booster Club member for more information.

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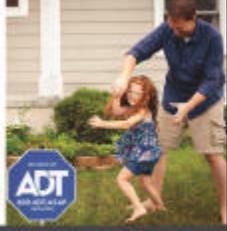
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