

June 13, 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@holyltrinityil.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

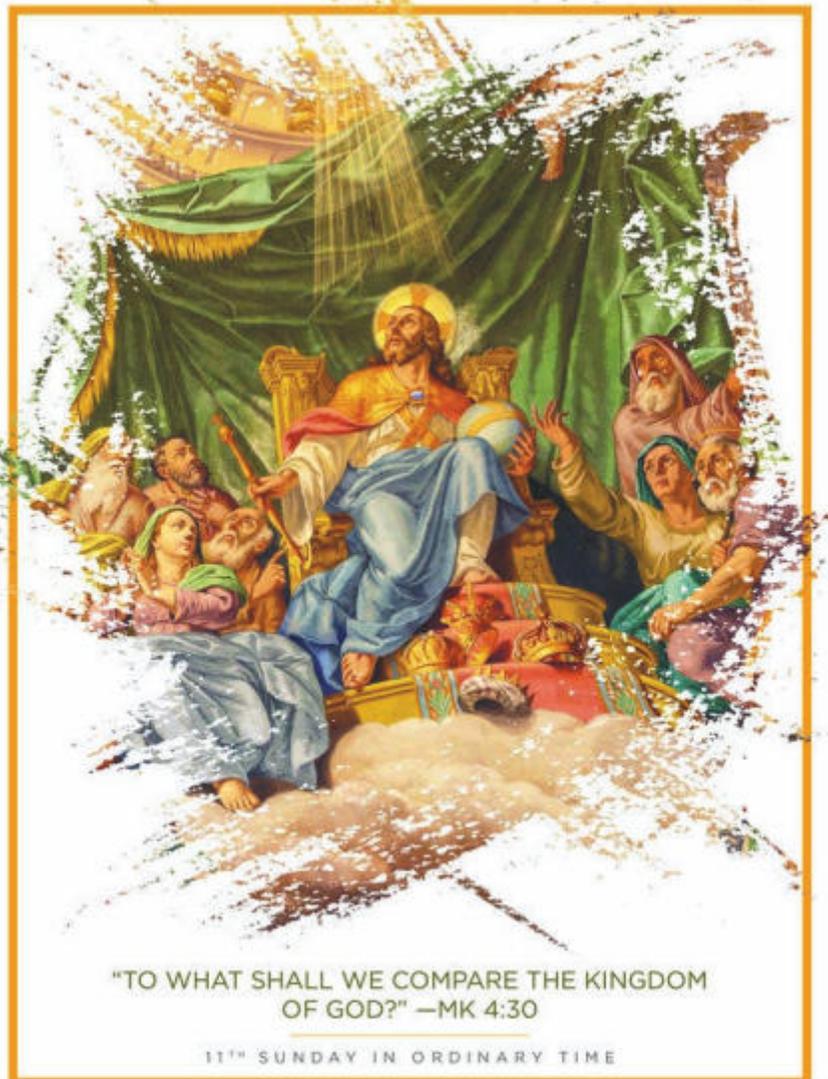
office@ststephencaseyville.org

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.



"TO WHAT SHALL WE COMPARE THE KINGDOM OF GOD?" —MK 4:30

11th SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

EXCERPTS FROM THE LECTIONARY FOR MASS: 12001, 1896, 1870 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



Our Parish extends prayerful sympathy to the family of **Dawn E. Roush**. We ask God to grant eternal life and give strength and consolation to her family.

JUNE 13, SUNDAY 11TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME 9 AM MASS

Kay Benson

SPANISH MASS 12:00 PM

JUNE 14 MONDAY 8 AM MASS

Dolores Koskie-Green

JUNE 15 TUESDAY 8 AM MASS

Reverend Urban Figge

JUNE 16 WEDNESDAY 6:30 PM MASS

Hilde Mamino

JUNE 17 THURSDAY 8 AM MASS

Cleo Dudas

JUNE 20, SUNDAY 12TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME 9 AM MASS

Mrs. Cleo Krebs

SPANISH MASS 12:00 PM

Eleventh Sunday in Ordinary Time – 13 June 2021

Ezekiel 17:22-24. Psalm 92:2-3, 13-14, 15-16. 2

Corinthians 5:6-10. Mark 4:26-34.

This Is How It Is. Two parables about seeds today. The first one is about the secret growing from seed to harvest. The second is about the smaller seeds growing large. This is how it is with God's kingdom, God's rule. It is growing among us now. It is present with us today. But it is not yet finished. God still has much to do. So do we.

- What is my part today, this week, to build up God's kingdom, God's rule?
- What little thing can I do – think like Saint Thérèse of Lisieux – that will benefit someone else in a (surprisingly?) big way?
- How can I care for the earth so seeds and plants can prosper?

Greetings all! I pray this message finds you well. My name is Robby Dodson and I am the seminarian assigned to St. Stephen parish for the summer. I have had the pleasure of meeting several of you and look forward to at least saying hello to everyone by the time I depart in August. Fr. Iffert wants me to take a few moments and introduce myself, and so here it goes.

To start, I am what is called a second-career vocation. Traditionally, a man will enter a seminary and begin studies for the priesthood in his 20's. Well, I was in my 20's twenty years ago! No worries about this, however, as I will be able to bring many valuable life experiences to the Church and still have 25 plus years to serve the Belleville Diocese after my ordination. As things stand currently, I have four years of seminary studies and formation left before being ordained as a priest. I currently attend Sacred Heart Seminary and School of Theology in Hales Corners, WI, which is just outside of Milwaukee. I have already completed two years of pre-theology coursework at the school and look forward to completing my M.Div./M.A. in 2025.

So, let me say a bit about my family. My parents currently live in O'Fallon, IL, and attend St. Nicholas parish. My father was stationed at Scott AFB beginning in 1996, which resulted in my entire family moving to Southern Illinois. Dad then retired from the U.S. Air Force and he and mom decided to remain in the area. I am the oldest of five siblings. My brother and three sisters are scattered across the country from Jacksonville, IL to Seattle, WA. I am also the proud uncle of 12 nephews and nieces.

I attended high school and college down in the state of Georgia. Shortly after graduating from the University of Georgia, I obtained a job working in St. Louis to be closer to my family. Over the years, I held various management positions in the retail and financial services sectors. I was also a member of the U.S. Army Reserves, serving as a psychological operations soldier. I was deployed to forward positions in both Iraq and Afghanistan. My nickname was "tank."

I am an avid sports fan. I enjoy cooking. And I love reading theology and philosophy books. The 2019 Stanley Cup run by the St. Louis Blues and the 2011 World Series Championship won by the St. Louis Cardinals are two sports seasons I will never forget! I also love to follow the Georgia Bulldogs college football team. But, for me, even more fulfilling than sharing in the victories of my beloved sports teams, eating a great meal, or reading an interesting book is the peace and joy that comes from growing in our Catholic faith. I thought that maybe I would share all of these joys with a family of my own, however, a marriage never seemed to be in the cards. But I am quite thankful that the Good Lord Jesus has led me to follow more closely in his footsteps. You see, Christ's bride is Holy Mother the Church, and his family is made up of all the faithful. Maybe one day I will be able to say the same thing.

In closing, I would like to invite you to join me Sunday mornings this summer to meet and discuss a teaching series called **SEARCH**. It is a program intended for all Catholics aged 16 to 96 who want to find greater meaning and happiness in this life and the next. We will gather between the 9 A.M. and 12 noon Masses to watch a short movie and briefly discuss topics related to our powerful and beautiful Catholic faith. The sessions will last no more than an hour. I hope you can come! Have a blessed, holy, and happy week.

Ad Jesum per Mariam, Robby

Respect Life Corner- “for we walk by faith, not by sight.” In the Second Reading from 2 Corinthians 5:6-10, Paul exhorts the early Church community in Corinth to have courage on their faith journey with the same goal in mind: to desire to always please Christ as we remain aware of our final judgment and eternal reward. While suffering is to be expected at times in life, we must be mindful of the life that God calls each one of us to live out. We must live in **just relationship** with each other, as equals. God does not call us to be “door mats.” National statistics reveal that 1 in 3 women and 1 in 4 men in the US experience rape, physical violence, and/or stalking by an intimate partner, or spouse. These numbers are staggering. **Learn, Act, Connect and Pray-**Refamiliarize yourself with behaviors that are abusive by reading www.foryourmarriage.org/domestic-violence/. The U.S. Catholic Bishops have made it clear that “violence against women, inside or outside the home, is never justified. Violence in any form- physical, sexual, psychological, or verbal is sinful; often it is a crime as well.” (When I Call for Help: A Pastoral Response to Domestic Violence Against Women). For abused persons, you may find help with the National Domestic Violence Hotline that refers to local sources of help in all 50 states. Call 1-800-799-SAFE (7233). For those who abuse, admit that the abuse is your problem and not your partner/spouse’s. Call the National Domestic Violence Hotline at 1-800-799-7233 for information on where to find help. Abuse is cyclical. Stopping it in its tracks or removing yourself from an unsafe living environment benefits not only you, but those who love you.

The parable of the mustard seed is well known. People desire to have just enough faith, the size of a mustard seed, well, hopefully more, so that they can move mountains. It can be discouraging. I am not sure about you however I have not moved any mountains as of yet. It can feel a bit discouraging and seem like, maybe I just don’t have enough faith. This week, I read this parable differently. I thought about the opportunity to sew seeds of faith and make a difference in the world. Small simple gestures can turn into beautiful opportunities that are bigger than we realize. Just like a mustard seed is small, it eventually, over time and with care, grows into a place of shelter for birds and other creatures. Our small gestures of faith can make a big impact on others. We may not see the impact right away or at all but it is more important that we do our part to nurture our life of faith and sew seeds so that others might experience God in a unique way.
Jeanne Adamske

VOCATION CORNER

Today’s parable of the sower invokes an image of how parents can “plant the seed” of a vocation in their own family. We are all called as the Church to spread the Word of God through our “sowing” the seed of our faith and sharing it with others. Hopefully, our personal mustard seed with blossom into the “largest of plants” as we live out our own vocations – Priest, sister, parent, single person.

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

Hot Weather Is Just Around the Corner and St. Vincent de Paul Needs Your Help Again!

The Belleville Council Society of St. Vincent de Paul again this year needs donations of:

- bottled water
- Gatorade (individual bottles)
- Capri Sun (individual pouches) or similar drinks
- individually packaged snacks, such as crackers, meat sticks, cookies, fruit cups/puddings, etc.
- new t-shirts

Items distributed to the poor and homeless during the next few months of hot summer weather. Please drop off at:

St. Vincent de Paul Offices
8800 West Main Street
Belleville, Illinois 62223

(across from Blessed Sacrament Church)

or call 618-394-0126 for additional information.

Joe Hubbard and Pat Hogrebe thank you for any help you can give!

Parish Support

May 30, 2021	\$ 2773.60
June 6, 2021	\$ 2030.56
Mailed in	\$ 5736.50



Church collection and donations mailed to the office.

National Shrine of Our Lady of the Snows – Guild Center

In Search of St. Paul

Presenter: Mark Etling, Ph.D.

Saturdays, June 12, July 10 and August 21, 10 am - Noon

It’s not a certainty that all the letters bearing Paul’s name were actually written by him. There are historical, literary and theological indicators that distinguish Paul’s genuine letters from the others. In this series we will look at three distinct phases or “faces” of the message of Paul, as we attempt to arrive at the message of the “real” Paul. In so doing we will see the consistencies between “real” Paul and the message of Jesus.

Cost: \$30 for series; \$10 per session,
For more information, call 618-394-6281.

Register online at <https://snows.org/scripture-study-mark-etling/>

Caseyville Food Pantry needs for current month:

- | | |
|--------------------|---------------------------|
| Food needs; | Household cleaning |
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| Tuna Helper meals | bathroom cleaner |
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| Canned Chili | bar soap |
| Boxed Potatoes | |



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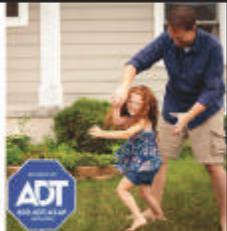
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