

August 29, 2021

St. Stephen Catholic Church

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

Web-Site www.ststephencaseyville.org

Parish Mass Times

St. Stephen

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

Reconciliation

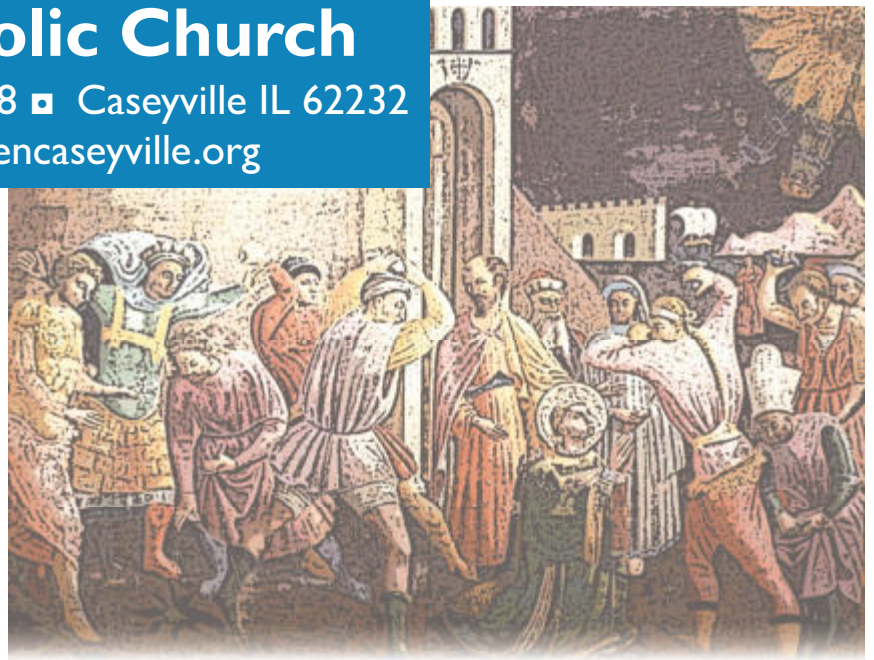
Sunday's
8:00-8:30 am

Holy Trinity

Wednesday 8:10 am
Friday 8:10 am
Saturday 4:00 pm
Sunday 7:30 am
10:30 am

Reconciliation

Saturday's
3:00-3:30 pm



Parish Staff

Pastor,

The Most 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

faithform@ststephencaseyville.org

Parish Secretary, Carol Donahue

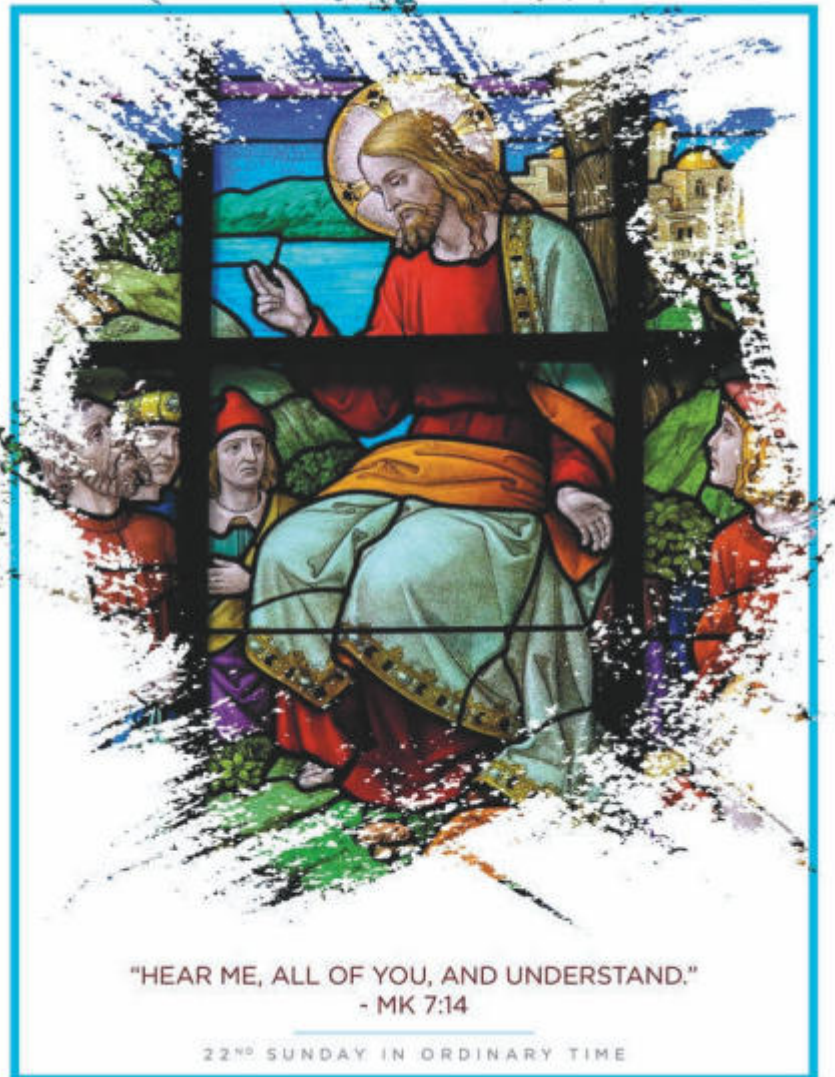
office@ststephencaseyville.org

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.



MASS SCHEDULE

AUGUST 29 SUNDAY 22ND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME 9 AM MASS
John Morlock

Gathering after the 9am Mass on August 29th for Fr. John to wish him well as Bishop of Covington.

SPANISH MASS 12:00 PM
AUGUST 30 MONDAY 8 AM MASS
Faye Krause

AUGUST 31 TUESDAY 8 AM COMMUNION SERVICE


SEPTEMBER 1 WEDNESDAY 6:30 PM COMMUNION SERVICE

SEPTEMBER 2 THURSDAY 8 AM COMMUNION SERVICE

SEPTEMBER 5 SUNDAY 23RD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME 9 AM MASS
Robert Haug
Faye Krause

SPANISH MASS 12:00 PM

IN LOVING MEMORY



Our Parish extends prayerful sympathy to the family of **Laura J. Bigham** mother of Alicia Bigham. We ask God to grant eternal life and give strength and consolation to her family.
 June 12, 1954-August 14, 2021



22nd Sunday in Ordinary Time – 29 August 2021
 Deuteronomy 4:1-2, 6-8. Psalm 15:2-3, 3-4, 4-5. James 1:17-18, 21b-22, 27. Mark 7:1-8, 14-15, 21-23.

Call to Holiness. Sometimes law and custom can be so onerous, so heavy that we can lose focus on right behavior. That is part of the conversation today as we return to the Gospel of Mark. Observing traditions is good and right. But avoiding oppressing thoughts, words, and deeds is better. In the Second Reading, Saint James says: “Be doers of the word and not hearers only.” In short, be holy.

- What unholy words and deeds can I avoid?
- What holy words and deeds shall I do this week?
- Whom can I invite to holy behavior with me?

August 29, 2021
22nd Sunday in Ordinary Time
 Albert Einstein said that the “true measure of intelligence is not knowledge but imagination.” Being a disciple of Jesus Christ requires a great deal of imagination. It is not enough to simply attend to facts, rules and rituals and consider the job done. Quite contrarily, the Gospels demands creativity, of trying to discern how to put flesh on the Beatitudes and properly serve God’s children. Jesus never doled out a top down agenda. Not once did he ever demand conformity over conversion or sacrifice over mercy. The Gospel is always about putting people in touch with their compassionate, forgiving, and unconditionally loving God and meeting them where they are.

For Jesus, it often meant breaking a few rules. Well respected and time-honored traditions had to be set aside in order to attend to what really mattered. God’s compassion, mercy and true conversion were always the trump cards. The story of the Good Samaritan, healing on the Sabbath, and bypassing of purification rituals all display this theme. Human beings can get too hung up on protocol and tradition. This is so much so that often preserving all of these things is of greater concern than the beggar knocking on our door or the sinner looking for mercy. It is no wonder, then, that we can easily become hypocritical. Many can see us on our knees in prayer while our true heart and actions, rooted in judgment and self-preservation, are hidden from others. It is a trap into which we can easily fall. Who cares how we live our lives as long as our hands are properly washed!

Here enters the need for imagination and the distinction of truly being a wise and intelligent person. It takes a good measure of creativity and a lot of guts to really be a doer of God’s word and not merely a hearer. Being a person who doesn’t just tell people about God but shows people God requires courage and ingenuity. That’s why people like St. Francis of Assisi and St. Teresa of Calcutta are timeless. Their genuineness speaks volumes generation to generation. It’s risky business taking the step to allow God into our hearts. Permitting God to release us from the grip of our evil thoughts, infidelity, greed, malice, sexual improprieties, licentiousness, envy, arrogance, folly, and the like takes courage. That’s why we prefer to spend our energy rearranging the future rather than take measures to secure a foundation that is most certainly crumbling.



Upcoming Events at St. Stephen



“Not your average St. Stephen Festival”
Join us September 10th and 11th for a
Throwback Festival to simpler times!
 Put a smile on your face and a song in your heart!
 Join us for the Virtual Silent Auction,
 Bingo, Food, Drinks and more!!!



Please consider what time you can give, the more help the better! Workers are needed to set up before festival and tear down after festival.

Picnic
 donations are needed. Please consider giving to the Barrel of booze, soda and water, cakes for the cake booth and desserts to the dessert booth



St. Anne’s meetings will begin in October. October 14th at 1pm will be the first meeting. All ladies of the parish 18 years and older are welcome to join.

Area Parish Festival Guide 2021

St. James’ Fall Quilt/Cash Bingo

Sunday, September 12, 2021
 Parish Center 405 W. Madison St. Millstadt, IL 62260
 Doors open at 10:30AM Bingo starts at 1:00PM
 Beautiful Handmade Quilts, Basket Boutique
 Fried Chicken Dinner & Refreshments
 Donate one (1) canned good item & receive one (1) free card per Tally. **Bring your own covers.
 website at www.stjamesmillstadt.com for updates.

Immaculate Conception Parish Picnic
411 Palmer Road, Columbia, Illinois

Sept. 3-Band 6 pm-9 pm & Food Truck Event
 Sept.4 Bingo 11 am-4 pm GLO Bingo 7 pm-10 pm (A/C)
 Sept. 6 Chicken Dinner & Picnic 11 am-7 pm
 For more information go to icpicnic.org

Reflecting on the word of God allows us to see things in a different way, in a way it sheds light on life’s moments and brings a new awareness. This weekend’s gospel is a little perplexing if we do not take time to peel the layers of the onion so to speak. The unclean or sinful things around us do not make us unclean or sinful. The choice to let that in our hearts and then act in sinful ways is where the problem lies. I think it is important to clarify, at least something to consider, I don’t believe Jesus is saying to immerse ourselves in situations where the unclean or sinful ways are prominent. It is more of an invitation to choose the good. Do not let your heart and soul be changed by the evil. Place yourself in situations that empower you to live a God centered life . The more you are in life giving situations the easier it is to choose the good. If you happen to be in difficult, unclean settings , it will be easier for your heart to respond and illuminate the Christ like response.

Jeanne Adamske

VOCATION CORNER

“I was born in a small town in Michoacan, Mexico. My mother, a woman of great faith, instilled in me and my five siblings trust in God and kindness toward others. When I turned 15, my family moved to California. It was difficult to leave home, but I soon got used to the new school, friends, and culture. One afternoon, I accompanied a friend to church, more out of duty than desire, and Jesus reminded me that had been waiting for me. I realized how much I had been moving away from him, how much I needed him, and I went to confession. I later encountered the Servants of Mary, Ministers of the Sick, who were visiting the parish. I began to discern, and after high school, I entered my postulancy. I am now a professed junior sister. Sister Maritza Madrigal; Servants of Mary, Ministers to the Sick; New York City; Columbia Magazine, June 2020

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



Dr. Scott Hahn, Dr. John Bergsma,
 Dr. Mark Miravalle and Michael Gomley.
 Program starts Sept 11th at Holy Trinity
 Fairview Heights. Breakfast at 6:30am
 program at 7:am over at 8 am sharp

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