

September 12, 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

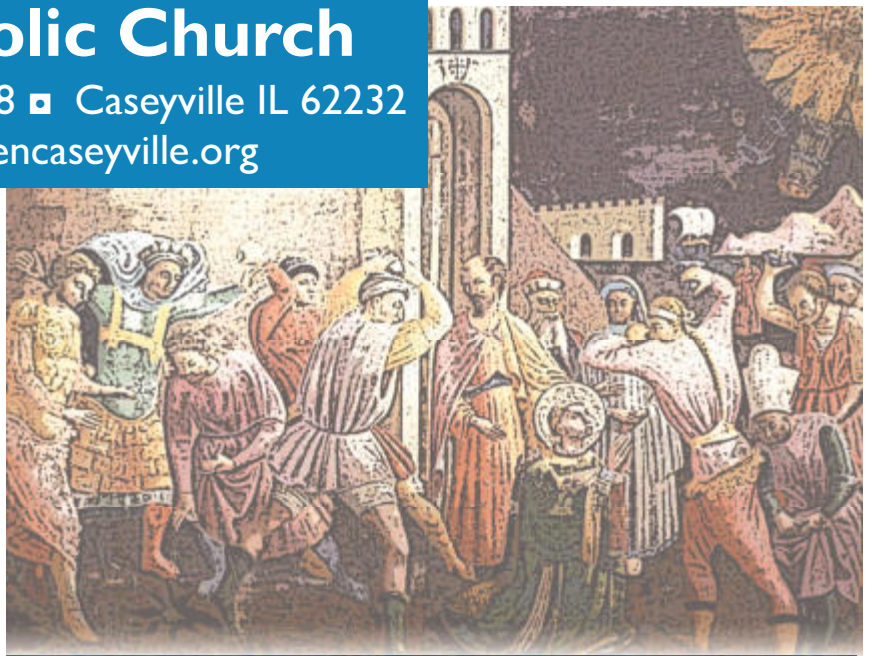
Sunday's
8:00-8:30 am

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,

Reverend Harold Fisher, OMI

fisherharold47@gmail.com

Deacon Art Hampton

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Deacon Tom Powers

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Youth Faith Formation

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Parish Secretary, Carol Donahue

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Parish Bookkeeper, Stacy Griffin

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24TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

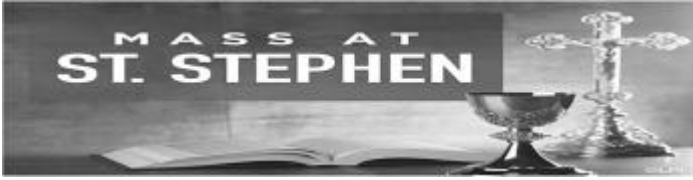


He summoned the crowd with his disciples and said to them, "Whoever wishes to come after me must deny himself, take up his cross, and follow me. For whoever wishes to save his life will lose it, but whoever loses his life for my sake and that of the gospel will save it." - Mk 8:34-35

Excerpts from the Lectionary for Mass ©2001, 1998, 1970 CCD

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



SEPTEMBER 12 SUNDAY 24TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME 9 AM MASS

August Werner

SPANISH MASS 12:00 PM

SEPTEMBER 13 MONDAY 8 AM MASS

Dustin Gurdermuth

SEPTEMBER 14 TUESDAY 8 AM MASS

Hilde Mamino

SEPTEMBER 15 WEDNESDAY 6:30 PM MASS

Vernon Reiniger

SEPTEMBER 16 THURSDAY 8 AM MASS

Dolores Koskie-Green

SEPTEMBER 19 SUNDAY 25TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME 9 AM MASS

Kay Benson

SPANISH MASS 12:00 PM

IN LOVING
MEMORY



September 12
Let us celebrate the wonderful gift of our grandparents!

Prayer for Intercession of Blessed Stanley Francis Rother

O faithful shepherd, Blessed Stanly Rother, as priest and missionary, you tilled the soil with your hands and invited Christ Jesus to till the soil of your soul.

You became a sign of love of Christ the Good Shepherd for your People, and blessed their lives by your ministry. You stood firm and did not run from danger, bringing glory to God and his Church in your martyrdom.

*Blessed Stanley, obtain from the heart of Jesus for healing of **Fr. Joe Rascher**, and pray for me, that I too may be a sign of Christ's love among His people.*

Teach me to faithfully till the soil of his life in the reality given to me by our Farther, unafraid to stay with those God has given me, no matter the cost.

Through Jesus Christ Our Lord. Amen



Again, we welcome Fr. Harold Fisher. We are grateful for his dedication to the ministerial priesthood and sharing in the ministry of St. Stephen parish.

September 12, 2021
24th Sunday in Ordinary Time

We need to get our bearings straight and properly lay life's cornerstone. Otherwise, the rest of our journey will be skewed, and our judgment clouded. We can recall Jesus' famous rebuke of Peter, "You are thinking not as God does, but as human beings do." Even he, as one of Jesus' closest friends struggles with understanding things and grasping the big picture. Pierre Teilhard de Chardin (1881-1955) a renowned and learned French Jesuit priest often has these words attributed to him: "We are not human beings having a spiritual experience. We are spiritual beings having a human experience." Whether they were actually from his lips, they certainly mimic his thought. These wise words orient us and capture the essence of who we really are.

Many people consider spirituality an option. It is no wonder that they come to this conclusion when they predominantly define themselves using human terms and concepts. Immersed in this world view, they struggle finding any semblance of God because God does not work according to human expectations! This is especially true when suffering and death enter life's picture. If we are only human beings having a spiritual experience, then we wrongly expect our spirituality to serve us as we desire. The human expectation is that my spiritual life is something that is useful in avoiding pain, hardship, and death, not something that gives the courage to live through it!

So, when we protest and get upset with God because our journey is becoming difficult, painful, treacherous, disappointing, and even pointing us toward death, Jesus rebukes us as he did Peter and gently reminds us how to see. It is God who inspires and opens hearts to see truth and beauty. In God, the true meaning of things is understood, and we receive a depth of insight and understanding that is not found following purely human paths. It is not our task to understand God, as God is beyond human understanding. Ours is the joyful privilege of simply resting in God's presence simply because God is God and we are who we are. As spiritual beings having an exciting and adventurous human experience, it is in our DNA to do so. Through prayer we can let go and let be. This is how we lose our lives but then save them.

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**



ATTENTION: CAKE BAKERS AND BUYERS....Please consider donating a cake or two or more :) Homemade or store-bought cakes can be dropped off in the meeting room on Thursday, Friday, and Saturday, late afternoon/evening, September 9-11th. As always, I am incredibly grateful to our parish family for supplying cakes to make this booth successful. **THANK YOU** for your generosity! Looking forward to our amazing festival next weekend! ~Anita Swartz, 618-520-0585



Prayer to Saint Rocco Patron Saint against plagues and infectious diseases

O Great St. Rocco, deliver us, we beseech thee, from the scourges of God; through thy intercession, preserve our bodies from contagious diseases, and our souls from the contagion of sin. Obtain for us salubrious air; but, above all, purity of heart. Assist us to make good use of health, to bear suffering with patience; and, after thy example, to live in the practice of penance and charity, that we may one day enjoy the happiness which thou has merited by thy virtues. St. Rocco, pray for us. (Pray three times)

Faith and works go hand and hand. It is important to find ways to put our faith into action. For some, it is getting involved in various ministries and being the hands and feet of Christ in a way that is evident to others. Sometimes, putting faith into action involves the details that no one is aware of. It is important to remember that any action that is Christ like, big or small, is a blessing and indication of Christ's love in the world. He works in and through us. Take time to reflect on how God is using you as a witness of your faith, by who you are and what you do.
 Jeanne Adamske

VOCATION CORNER

In St. James letter, he asks “What good is it... if someone says he has faith but does not have works?” In today’s Gospel, Jesus gives us instruction on how to get to heaven – “Whoever wishes to come after me must deny himself, take up his cross, and follow me.” Those are emphatic words underlining our call in life. What is your cross to take up? What is your vocation? Should you be asking someone about considering a call to the religious life? Should you be considering that call?

24th SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME



Many thanks to all the helping hands for the parish festival. We appreciate everyone working together to keep this a safe and awesome event.

From the Belleville Diocesan Council of Catholic Women:

Please join us on October 13th at Camp Ondessonk for the **2021 BDCCW Annual Convention!** We will spend the day at Camp Ondessonk in Ozark IL, surrounded by the natural beauty of God’s great gift to us, and reflect on “Caring for our Common Home”... as we care for one another. Our guest speakers will be Sheila Hopkins, former president of the National CCW, and Nolan Hurst, Camping Services Director at Camp Ondessonk. Come gather with your sisters in Christ from throughout the diocese as we celebrate Mass with Bishop McGovern, share our faith, and learn ways to care for each other and our common home. **RSVP by Sept 27th for a special discount on your registration fee.** Forms are available in the gathering space in church, and on the website at <https://dps.diobelle.org/dps/bdccw/home> Just click on the Convention 2021 banner to get to the registration form. Complete and print the form, and mail in with your payment. Bring all your friends!

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