

Pastor's Letter

July 20, 2025—16th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Dear Church Family

In our readings for today, we have two stories about hospitality. In our first reading from Genesis we have the story of Abraham who welcomes three mysterious strangers (the Lord? Angels? It's unclear) to his home. He lavishly provides for their comfort and is rewarded with a revelation of God's plan for him and his family. His wife, Sarah will have a son. By extending hospitality to strangers, Abraham receives a visit from God.

In our Gospel reading Martha and Mary also welcome a divine visitor in their home. Jesus comes to their house. Martha prepares a meal while Mary sits at Jesus feet listening to him. While Jesus says that Mary has chosen the better part, both are doing what is necessary to extend hospitality.

These stories of welcoming others give us a clue as to what Paul means when he says in our second reading, "Brothers and sisters: Now I rejoice in my sufferings for your sake, and in my flesh I am filling up what is lacking in the afflictions of Christ on behalf of his body, which is the church, of which I am a minister in accordance with God's stewardship given to me to bring to completion for you the word of God." What could possibly be missing from the work that Christ accomplished on the cross? Wasn't Jesus' sacrifice enough? Yes, it was, but, there still remains one thing to be done: that sacrifice needs to be lived out in the world today by the body of Christ, the church.

By our welcoming of strangers, by our giving of ourselves in service to others, we make the sacrifice of Christ on the cross present in our own time and place. When we reach out in love and service, we are the hands of Christ. When we go out to help those in need, we are the feet of Christ. When we speak words of comfort to the suffering, we are the voice of Christ. The love of God is not just an abstract idea. It is concrete. It is person to person. It is Jesus using us to wrap his arms around the people he loves who need him.

Brothers and sisters, we live in a society that seems to be forgetting how to show hospitality. We are turning our backs on the strangers who need our help. By doing so, we are turning our backs on Jesus. Mother Teresa once said that the poor are Jesus coming to us in a distressing disguise. Every time we help someone, whether we know them personally or not, we are helping Christ. Every time we turn away we miss an opportunity to serve our Lord. May Christ's sacrifice be fulfilled in us as we open our hearts and our hands to others.

Blessings,

Fr. Scott

Funeral Meal Changes—St. Brigid

Starting July 1, 2025— We will be requiring the families to order and pay for the meat only for the funeral meal. The church will continue to provide all sides, desserts, drinks, tableware and condiments. Our volunteers enjoy providing this service to our families during their time of bereavement.



Calendar

Saturday, July 19

3:45 pm—4:15 pm Reconciliation @ St. Brigid

4:30 pm Mass @ St. Brigid

Sunday, July 20

7:30 am Mass @ St. Brigid

9:00 am Mass @ St. Joseph

10:30 am Mass @ St. Edward

Monday, July 21

6:30 pm Mass @ St. Brigid

Tuesday, July 22

7:15 am—7:45 am Reconciliation @ St. Edward

8:00 am Mass @ St. Edward

7:00 pm Pastoral/Finance Mtg @ St. Joseph

Wednesday, July 23

7:15 am—7:45 am Reconciliation @ St. Joseph

8:00 am Mass @ St. Joseph

Friday, July 25

8:00 am Mass @ St. Brigid

Saturday, July 26

3:45 pm—4:15 pm Reconciliation @ St. Brigid

4:30 pm Mass @ St. Brigid

Sunday, July 27

7:30 am Mass @ St. Brigid

9:00 am Mass @ St. Joseph

10:30 am Mass @ St. Edward

Monday, July 28

6:30 pm Mass @ St. Brigid

Tuesday, July 29

7:15 am—7:45 am Reconciliation @ St. Edward

8:00 am Mass @ St. Edward

Wednesday, July 29

7:15 am—7:45 am Reconciliation @ St. Joseph

8:00 am Mass @ St. Joseph

Friday, July 25

8:00 am Mass @ St. Brigid

Mass Intentions

SAT. JULY 19

4:30 pm—St. Brigid: +Rose Mary Howell

+Buzzy & Shirley McLaughlin

SUN. JULY 20

7:30 am—St. Brigid: +Roger Hummel

+Dorothy Rossmiller

+George Barry

9:00 am—St. Joseph: For the People of Our Parishes

10:30 am—St. Edward: +Edward Blickhan

+James Windoffer

MON. JULY 21

6:30 PM—St. Brigid: +Herman & Rita Huber

+Bob Obert

TUES. JULY 22

8:00 am—St. Edward: +John Blickhan

+Leroy & Bertha Richmiller

WED JULY 23

8:00 am—St. Joseph: +Ro Wiewel

+Katie, Dan, Bob & Rosie Hugenberg

FRI. JULY 25

8:00 am—St. Brigid: +Roger Hummel

+Patty Lieurance

SAT. JULY 26

4:30 pm—St. Brigid: +Robert Richmiller

+Evelyn Dietrich

SUN. JULY 27

7:30 am—St. Brigid: For the People of Our Parishes

9:00 am—St. Joseph: +Linda Leasman

+Dale, Rose, Mary & Bruce Zanger

10:30 am—St. Edward: +Janet & William Hilgenbrinck

Victims Assistance & Child Abuse Reporting

To report Child Sexual Abuse by Church Personnel or to inquire about the Safe Environment Program in the Diocese of Springfield in Illinois, please call 217-321-1155.



Going on Vacation???

Don't forget to attend Mass. Check out MassTimes.org to find a church near you while traveling.

Parish Collection: July 13 Will be published next week

St. Brigid \$ —

St. Edward \$ —

St. Joseph \$ —

Thank you for your generous support!

All Collections included in total this week

Bulletin Deadline

All information must be submitted by noon on Tuesday. Submit to: church@stsbej.org

Ministry Schedules

ST. BRIGID CHURCH						
July 26 & 27	Altar Server	Communion Minister	Usher	Lector	Greeter /Hospitality	Gift Bearer
SATURDAY 4:30 pm	Bryce Mixer Miles Mixer	Theresa Neisen Angela Obert Kristin Obert	Randy Maas Laura Maas Dave Obert	Katie Ippensen	Stan & Marilyn Obert	John & Cathy Zanger
SUNDAY 7:30 am	Kruz Klauser Karlee Obert	Nancy Obert Dot Smith	Ron Cramsey NEED 1 Mike Hummel	Justin Mewes	Greg & Nancy Obert	Glen & Sara Obert

ST. JOSEPH CHURCH						
July 27	Altar Server	Communion Minister	Usher	Lector	Greeter /Hospitality	Gift Bearer
SUNDAY 9:00 AM	James Bockhold Caleb Bockhold	T. Mast Pat Genenbacher Billie Huebotter	Zachary Hailey Henry Bockhold	Florence Die- trich		Hailey/Bockhold Families

ST. EDWARD CHURCH						
July 20	Altar Server	Communion Minister	Rosary	Lector	Greeter /Hospitality	Gift Bearer
SUNDAY 10:30 AM	Henry Bealor Ben Bealor Braylee Brackensick	Lindsey Cornwell Phil Hildebrand Jr. Lori Hildebrand	Margie Kendrick	Dax Klusmeyer	Judy Heming	Phil & Lori Hildebrand
* Please continue passing the basket for collection.						

Please Remember to Pray For:

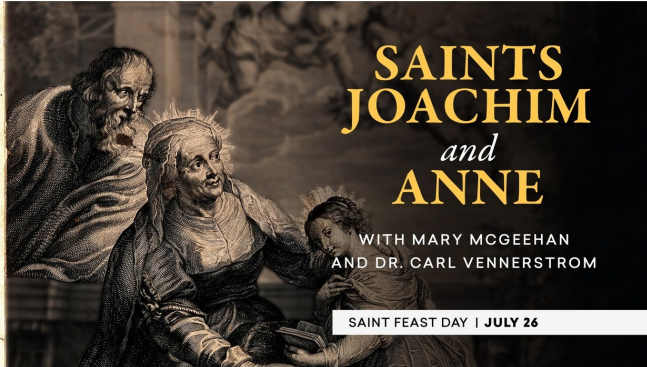
Daran Knuffman	Linda Windoffer	Bernice Dittmer
Zoey Obert	Monica Mast	Joann Walton
Julia Winfield	Bonnie Johnson	Kent Hilgenbrinck
Haddlei Burnett	Elizabeth Leonard	Jim Wilson
Jim Steinkamp	Ben Venvertloh	Connie Dietrich
Kayle Sheely	Ripken Rangel	Virginia Berhorst
John Kroner	Maurie Koch	Corey Sheurman
Marvin Meyer	Tony Peters	Lisa Bohan
Carl Schisler	Joy Huebotter	Rinley Barry
Rachel Cramsey	Raleigh Bess	Glen Walton
Ginny Brinkman	Karen Woodworth	Norma Emery
Denny Meyer	Doug Woodworth	Bill Hilgenbrinck
Rosie Miller	Ryan Wiemelt	Lily Jean Roberts
Joe Rice	Scottie Bastert	

Please contact us if we need to remove your name from our prayer list.

Stewardship Reflection

"...I am a minister in accordance with God's stewardship given to me to bring to completion for you the word of God." colossians 1:25

We are all called to evangelize – to convert individuals and society by the divine power of the Gospel. Our faith is more attractive to others by our actions than by our words alone. We may not be called to evangelize like St. Paul, but we should look for opportunities to share our faith through our actions and words, especially with those closest to us, like our family, friends, and neighbors. Pray for the courage to joyfully express your faith the next time the opportunity arises.



Sts. Joachim and Anne | Catholic Saints

Though they never appear in canonical Scripture, Sts. Joachim and Anne—the grandparents of Jesus—hold a place of great importance in the Church's tradition. Discover more about the parents of the Blessed Virgin Mary in this episode of Catholic Saints with Mary McGeehan and Augustine Institute professor Dr. Carl Vennerstrom.

Our parish has a Formed subscription.
Visit formed.org/signup and select our parish.
Scan the QR code to download the Formed app to your phone.



An offering from the  AUGUSTINE INSTITUTE

St. Brigid Parish New Ministry

Neighbor Helping Neighbor

We all have our own talents...things that we are good at...and what better way to be the person that God wants us to be than to share those talents with each other.

A few of us were brainstorming to see what talents people would be willing to share and what others might need. Here's what we came up with – please feel free to add to it with a talent(s) you would be willing to use or know that someone needs.

Need a ride to ...
a doctor's appointment
church
get groceries



Yard work..
mowing
raking leaves



Sewing to fix a garment...
button
zipper
alter



Washing windows
Cleaning gutters



All of us, at some time or other, need help. Whether we're giving or receiving help, each one of us has something valuable to bring to this world. That's one of the things that connects us as neighbors – in our own way, each one of us is a giver and a receiver. – Fred Rogers

Talents and Needs

Can you think of any talents you could share, or needs that you have – or see a need for in our area?

Talents to Share

Needs in our Area

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This is a pilot program. We are trying to see if there is a need for this kind of ministry in our area.
Please fill out and put in the collection at church.

PARISH PICNICS

Mark Your Calendars

~~June 7 - JuneFest~~
@ St. Dominic School grounds
~~June 21 - St. Francis Solanus Picnic~~
~~July 13 - St. Joseph Ice Cream Social~~
~~July 19 - St. Anthony Picnic~~
August 17 - St. Thomas Ice Cream Social
August 23 - St. Peter Picnic
Sept. 6 - Septemberfest
@ Blessed Sacrament

Thanks, Advertisers

Please be sure to patronize the businesses that advertise in our Parish Bulletin. When you're considering purchasing products or services, be sure to look first at our ads in the Bulletin. We thank them for providing our weekly Bulletin.



Mercy Tree Adventures

A Ministry of Faith, Nature & Transformation

Have you ever heard of Mercy Tree Adventures?

Mercy Tree Adventures is a ministry in our diocese, led by Carlos and Elena Tejada, devoted to drawing people closer to Christ through scripture, prayer, and interaction with nature.

This gathering is a chance to:

- * Learn more about the mission and heart behind Mercy Tree Adventures
- * Connect with fellow believers
- * Consider how you can support this ministry

Saturday, September 6

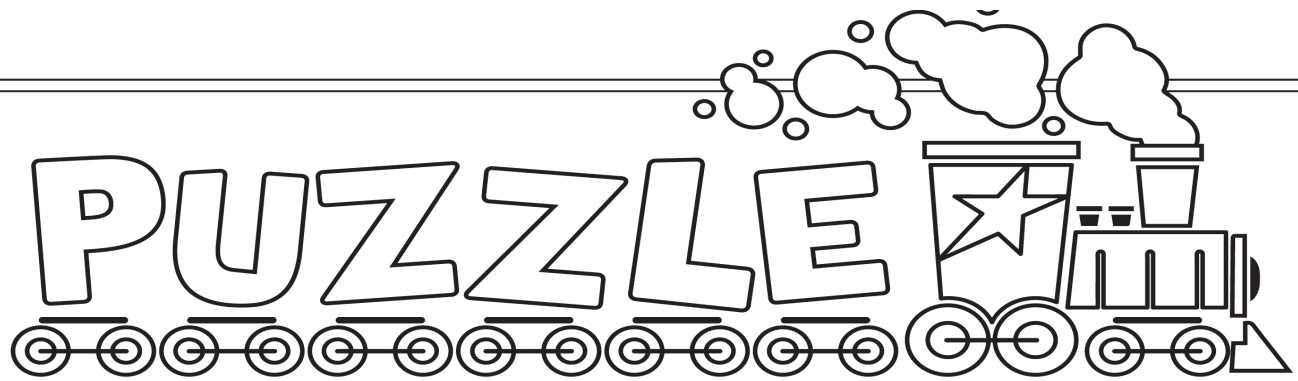
Starting at 2:00 PM — until we wrap up!

669 E 1900th St. | Liberty, IL 62347

Hosted by Kyle & Elizabeth Leonard

We're excited to help more people discover and support this incredible ministry!

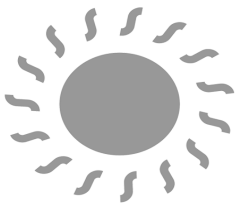
- Please RSVP or reach out with questions:
Elizabeth Leonard – 217-440-4823
- Bring a chair, drink, friend, and come as you are!



BY THE SEASHORE

The sea and its creatures are evidence of God's intention and purpose in creation.

Directions: Unscramble the words. Then copy the circled letters in order below to complete Psalm 104:24-25, NIV.



DASN

LHSELS

USN

ESEDAIS

BHECA

LALUBMER

WRTEA

FRUS

VWSEA



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How many are your works, LORD!

In wisdom you made them ___;

the earth is full of your creatures.

There is the ___, vast and spacious,

teeming with ___ beyond number —

living things both large and small.

Psalm 104:24-25, NIV



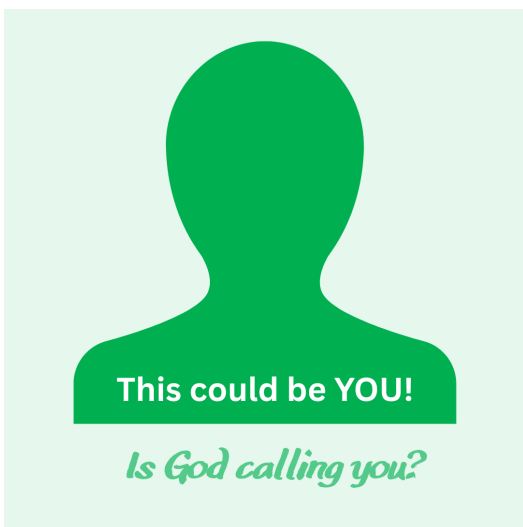
Connie Bealor, 4th Grade, St Edward

"I teach 4th grade PSR to share my love of God and faith with our youth."



Cathy Zanger, 3rd Grade, St Brigid

"The kids, I enjoy teaching them about Jesus and how to pray and how to have respect in church. I love to encourage them to be a part of Mass and to always know God is with them wherever they are."



Is God calling you to fill this spot next year? We need a teacher for 4th Grade at St Joseph.



Jolin Tripp, 3rd Grade, St Joseph

I enjoyed sharing with and teaching our youth about the Eucharist