

Pastor's Letter

August 24, 2025—21st Sunday in Ordinary Time

Dear Church Family,

In our Gospel lesson for today we read about someone knocking on God's door asking to be let in. Two weeks ago we heard a similar story, but with a very different conclusion. That story was a teaching about prayer. If you go to your friend when you are in need, even in the middle of the night, your friend will help you if you keep asking persistently. Likewise, God will answer our prayers if we keep asking.

Our reading for today is a story about the final judgment. One day, the door to the kingdom of heaven will be closed and locked and many will be knocking and asking for entrance, but the Lord will refuse to open to them saying, "I do not know where you are from."

Why the different reaction from God? The difference is that in the first parable, it's a friend that is doing the knocking and seeking help. There is a relationship already established that allows the one in need to come with confidence to God in prayer. In the second parable, there is no such relationship with God. The ones left outside say, "We met at a dinner party once and we heard you talking in the street when you passed through our town," but that's not a real friendship.

Jesus tells us that we must strive to enter the kingdom of God "through the narrow gate." That gate is friendship with God through faith in Jesus Christ. If we want to enjoy the blessings of God now and in the life to come, we have to do more than just tip our hats to God every once in awhile by going to Mass occasionally or tossing up a prayer when we think of it or doing a good deed every now and then. Friendship with God requires the same kind of attention as any other important relationship in our lives. We spend time with him in prayer and worship. We receive the gifts of grace he gives in the sacraments and we offer him the gift of ourselves in love and service. If we live in the presence of God now, we can have hope for the future and for eternity. God always opens the door for his friends.

Blessings,

Fr. Scott



Fr. Scott will once again be offering the Journey of Faith class on Mondays at 7pm in the parish hall at St. Brigid's. This class is for anyone who would like to learn more about the teachings of the Catholic Church. If you are thinking about becoming Catholic, or know someone who is, this is the way to do it. If you have been Catholic all your life, but want to know more about the faith, this class is for you. Have questions? Great! Come find some answers. Classes will begin on Monday, September 8 and run through the end of May 4.



Liberty Lions Club
78th Annual



Fall Festival

September 5, 6 & 7, 2025

Liberty Park, Liberty, IL

Chicken Dinner - Saturday - Serving begins at 5:00 p.m.

Adults- \$11.00 at the door • Advanced tickets- \$10.00 • Children (under 12)- \$6.00
Advanced Tickets May Be Purchased From Any Lion Member

Fall Festival Parade

St Brigid Parishioners - The Parade Float Committee would appreciate cash donations for the purchase of candy to be thrown from the float. A marked container is in the vestibule for your contributions. Thank you! The parade is on September 6th.

Calendar

Saturday, August 23

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

4:30 pm Mass @ St. Brigid

Sunday, August 24

7:30 am Mass @ St. Brigid

9:00 am Mass @ St. Joseph

10:30 am Mass @ St. Edward

Monday, August 25

6:30 pm Mass @ St. Brigid

Tuesday, August 26

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

8:00 am Mass @ St. Edward

7:00 pm—Finance/Pastoral Council @ St. Brigid

Wednesday, August 27

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

8:00 am Mass @ St. Joseph

Friday, August 29

8:00 am Mass @ St. Brigid

Saturday, August 30

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

4:30 pm Mass @ St. Brigid

Sunday, August 31

7:30 am Mass @ St. Brigid

9:00 am Mass @ St. Joseph

10:30 am Mass @ St. Edward

Monday, September 1

6:30 pm Mass @ St. Brigid

Tuesday, September 2

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

8:00 am Mass @ St. Edward

Wednesday, September 3

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

8:00 am Mass @ St. Joseph

Thursday, September 4

6:30 pm—Holy Name mtg @ St. Joseph

Friday, September 5

8:00 am Mass @ St. Brigid



Food Pantry Donations

Collection of nonperishable items are being donated to Quincy Catholic Charities and Liberty Food Pantry.

You may drop your items in the church vestibule.

Items will be taken every month.

Thank You for your generosity!

Mass Intentions

SAT. AUGUST 23

4:30 pm—St. Brigid: +Trina Logan

+Jackie Taylor

+Glenn & Mary Loos

SUN. AUGUST 24

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

9:00 am—St. Joseph: +Rose Mary Howell

+Arlene Goehl

+Kenneth Neisen

10:30 am—St. Edward: +Michael Heming

+Jason Kasparie

+Mary Ellen Woodworth

MON. AUGUST 25

6:30 pm—St. Brigid: +Roger Hummel

+Betty Maas

TUES. AUGUST 26

8:00 am—St. Edward: +John Blickhan

+Bob McCleary

WED AUGUST 27

8:00 am—St. Joseph: +Bob & Rosella Neisen

+Jim & Betty Brinkman

FRI. AUGUST 29

8:00 am—St. Brigid: +Herman & Rita Huber

SAT. AUGUST 30

4:30 pm—St. Brigid: +Don Heberlein

+Bernie Heberlein

+Leo Heberlein

SUN. AUGUST 31

7:30 am—St. Brigid: +Paul Barry

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

10:30 am—St. Edward: +Barb Blickhan

+Leona Shaffer

Parish Collection: August 17

St. Brigid \$ 4,541.50

St. Edward \$ 2,065.89

St. Joseph \$ 3,233.25

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						
August 30 & 31	Altar Server	Communion Minister	Usher	Lector	Greeter /Hospitality	Gift Bearer
SATURDAY 4:30 pm	Hannah Buss Kade Klauser	Norma Neisen Theresa Neisen Angela Obert	John Zanger Eric Barry Ron Barry	Cheryl Schutte	Randy & Laura Maas	Norma Neisen
SUNDAY 7:30 am	Kruz Klauser Karlee Obert	Brandy Hocking Vickie Cramsey	Greg Obert Michael Obert Barb Obert	Greg Obert	Michael & Barb Obert	Lance & Renee Family

ST. JOSEPH CHURCH						
August 31	Altar Server	Communion Minister	Usher	Lector	Greeter /Hospitality	Gift Bearer
SUNDAY 9:00 AM	Andrea Moore Riggins Mock	Greg White Krista White Jeanne Cramsey	Kevin Walker Kenny Mock	Ben Hugenberg		Walker/Mock Families

ST. EDWARD CHURCH						
August 31	Altar Server	Communion Minister	Rosary	Lector	Greeter /Hospitality	Gift Bearer
SUNDAY 10:30 AM	Olivia Shaffer Willow Shaffer Devin Shupe	Phil Hildebrand Jr. Lori Hildebrand Jeannie Hildebrand	Margie Kendrick	Andra Schaffnit	Josh Venvertloh Family	Curtis Shaffer Family
* Please continue passing the basket for collection.						

Please Remember to Pray For:

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

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

Stewardship Reflection

“For behold, some are last who will be first and some are first who will be last.” Luke 13:30

Our cultural standards are different from God’s standards. We often rank people by what they have, how powerful they are, or how successful they are. Jesus reminds us that God will not judge us by the same earthly standards. When God asks you, “What have you done with the gifts I have given you?” How will you respond?

Septemberfest

Saturday, September 6, @ Blessed Sacrament 5-11 pm



Baptism

Charlotte Louella Brink
Daughter of Albert & Callie Brink

Springfield Diocesan Council of Catholic Women 2025 Convention

All women are invited to the Springfield Diocesan Council of Catholic Women's annual convention on Wednesday, October 1, at St. Paul's Church and Trinity Hall, 1411 Main St., Highland, IL. The day begins with registration and refreshments from 8:00–9:00 a.m., followed by the convention from 9:00 a.m.–3:30 p.m., including Mass at 11:00 a.m. with Bishop Thomas John Paprocki. This year's theme is *"Let Yourself Be Loved"* and will feature speaker Claire Dwyer, author of *This Present Paradise: A Spiritual Journey with St. Elizabeth of the Trinity*. Hosted by the Alton Deanery Council of Catholic Women. Registration forms are available at the parish office or dio.org/events and are due by September 14. For more information, email sdccwinil@gmail.com or call SDCCW President Janet Zimmerman at 217-494-4743.

Birthright Thanks you

On behalf of Birthright, I'd like to send you our sincerest thanks for making sure our information was in your bulletins regarding our stand at the KC BBQ! Our bake sale was a huge success, and a big part of that is due to your partnership in getting the information out to your parish families.

We greatly appreciate your help with our mission of helping mothers and babies in our community. Thank you again!!

2025 ADAMS COUNTY FLU CLINICS



24 SEPT, 2025	URSA FARMERS COOPERATIVE 730-930AM 2397 IL-96 URSA	28 SEPT, 2025	DRIVE THRU JOHN WOOD COMMUNITY COLLEGE 11AM-1PM 1301 S. 48 th , QUINCY
1 OCT, 2025	LIBERTY HIGH SCHOOL 3-5PM 505 N PARK, LIBERTY	15 OCT, 2025	MENDON ELEMENTARY SCHOOL 330-530PM 136 W WASHINGTON, MENDON
29 OCT, 2025	PAYSON ELEMENTARY SCHOOL 330-530PM 404 W STATE, PAYSON	30 OCT, 2025	CENTRAL HIGH SCHOOL 3-530PM 2110 STATE HWY 94 CAMP POINT

PRE REGISTRATION AVAILABLE!

**SCAN QR CODE
OR CALL 217-222-8440
TO PRE REGISTER**



PLEASE BRING INSURANCE CARDS AND PHOTO ID



CALLING ALL STUDENTS IN 7th GRADE AND UP!

We are going to Catholic Heart Workcamp next summer. Please come to an informational meeting to learn more details at 1:00 on Sunday, Sept 7 at St Joseph Church. Registration and a \$100 deposit is due before Sept 24. **There is money available to help youth of our parishes attend. Adult chaperones will be needed too. Any adults interested in going along are encouraged to come to the informational meeting also!

Quest #105



September 12-13, 2025 (6p-6p)
Ages 13-15y.o. Great River QUEST
QU North Campus
Directors: The Heldts

Inviting all 13-15 year olds! Great River Quest has a retreat coming up September 12-13, 2025(6p-6p). It's a fast paced 24 hour retreat aimed at helping youth to examine their relationship to God, self, and others in their lives. You get to make new friends and get to know the ones you come with better, all while having lots of fun! Please contact Caroline Wiewel 217-430-6086/questcoordinator@greatrivertec.org for questions or fill out an app online at www.greatrivertec.org/quest

BLESSING OF THE BACKPACKS



St. Joseph & St. Edward—Blessing of the Backpacks last Sunday! We hope everyone had a wonderful first week back at school! Parents/Guardians, don't forget to turn in your PSR registration forms- they are due TODAY, August 24th!

NOT ALL
Heroes
WEAR
CAPIES



Kim Mealiff - 7th & 8th at St Edward
Carrie Potter - 1st Grade at St Brigid
Kayla Derhake - 1st Grade at St Brigid
Angie Obert - 6th Grade at St Brigid
Lucy Mewes - 7th & 8th at St Brigid
Joyce Bockhold - 4th Grade at St Joseph



We are thankful for these 6 women and their commitment to the children of our parishes. Welcome the new PSR teachers!

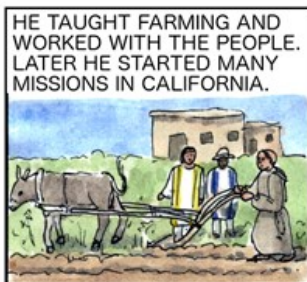
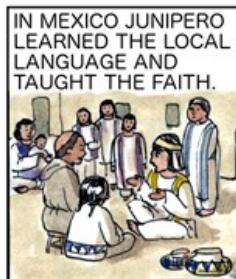
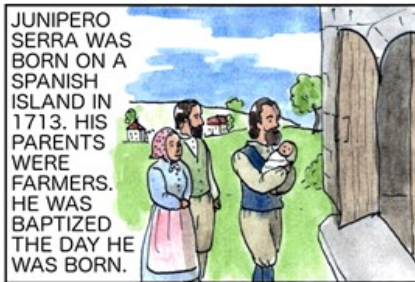
ST. BRIGID – ST. EDWARD – ST. JOSEPH PARISH SCHOOL OF RELIGION (PSR)



DATES TO KNOW

- August 24: Registration DUE
- September 3: St. Edward K-4 first day of PSR
- September 7: St. Edward 5-8 & St. Joseph first day PSR
- September 10: St. Brigid first day PSR

Saint Junipero Serra August 28



SAINT JUNIPERO KNEW THAT GOD CARES FOR ALL PEOPLE - FOR THEIR SOULS AND THEIR BODIES. THAT'S WHY HE TAUGHT THE NATIVES NOT ONLY THE FAITH BUT ALSO FARMING AND OTHER SKILLS THAT WOULD HELP THEM HAVE BETTER LIVES. HOW CAN YOU SHARE YOUR SKILLS TO HELP OTHERS?

BACK TO SCHOOL BLESSING

"God of wisdom and might, we praise you for the wonder of our being, for mind, body, and spirit. Be with our children as they begin a new school year. Bless them and their teachers and staff. Give them the strength and grace as their bodies grow; wisdom and knowledge to their minds as they search for understanding; and peace and zeal to their hearts. We ask this through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen."



<https://www.catholiccompany.com/magazine/prayers-for-children-new-school-year-6316>

Being Punished...

In today's second reading, Saint Paul wrote to the Hebrews about being disciplined by God. When we are young God wants our parents to make sure we behave well. When we don't behave He wants them to discipline us so that we will learn to be good. Our parents don't punish us just because they are angry at us; they do it because they really love us and want us to learn to be better. Saint Paul says that the Lord disciplines the people that He loves. Being punished is a painful thing, but we will be happy once we have learned our lesson and become a better person. Saint Paul says, "make straight path for your feet, so that what is lame may not be put out of joint but rather be healed." He means that when you are punished, you should stop doing the wrong thing so that you won't be hurt worse from the punishment, but will get better instead. So next time you are disciplined or punished, remember that God is allowing it to help you become a better person. If you can, even thank God for giving you the chance to make up for your sin and learn a good lesson!