

Pastor's Letter

5th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Dear Church Family,

Many of you are aware of the changes that are taking place in the staffing of our parishes. Ava Fessler and Jo Whewell are retiring as our parish secretaries at the end of February after many years of dedicated service. Ava will transition to a new position as our part-time bookkeeper for all three parishes and Jo has accepted a position as an office assistant two days a week at St. Mary's parish in Pittsfield. We are very grateful for the professional way in which they have carried out their official duties and also for their generosity in going above and beyond in the many hours they have given unofficially to many ministries in our parishes. We will be expressing our gratitude more formally later this month.

On January 2, our new secretary, Misty Cramsey, came on board. Misty brings with her a wealth of experience, energy, ideas, and skills that will serve our parishes well. She has already begun to make her mark on how we communicate all the good things that are happening at St. Brigid's, St. Edward's, and St. Joseph's. She has revamped our Facebook page where new items will be posted every day offering inspiration and news about parish events. It's called Tri-Parish Catholic Churches of Adams County, IL. Check it out, like, and follow us.

We also have a new website. Websites are terrific way to look up information anytime. NO waiting until the office is open to make a call or send an email and wait for a reply. It will be updated weekly with the latest bulletin, my letter, calendar items, PSR news/announcements, ministry schedules and lots more. I encourage you to check out the new website: www.stsbej.org.

We also have new emails for all the church staff. This will help to streamline our communications with you and make sure that your questions and needs are directed to the right person to help you. These are the new emails:

church@stsbej.org – this is for all bulletin submissions and a broad questions mailbox

office@stsbej.org – the secretary email (contact Misty here)

bookkeeper@stsbej.org – all financial inquiries (contact Ava here)

cre@stsbej.org – for our Associate Pastoral Assistant (contact Emily here)

pastor@stsbej.org – to contact me

Please take note and save these new emails. The old ones will be deleted after some time.

Lastly, our new bulletin design. You may have noticed that Misty has redesigned the bulletin to include more items. PAM Printers will be printing our bulletins from now on. The deadline to get items in the bulletin is still Tuesday by noon, but since we are sending it out to be printed, we will have to be more careful to meet that deadline.

These are some exciting changes that I think will be very helpful. It will take some getting used to, but, with time and patience, we will be better equipped to share the good news of what God is doing in our Church Family.

Blessings,
Fr. Scott