

# Pastor's Letter

February 2, 2025—The Presentation of the Lord

Dear Church Family,

We just took down the Christmas decorations and now the stores are filled with hearts and flowers for Valentine's Day. Cards and gifts are nice ways to show love for someone, but they're not the only ways. We also show love by affirming the ones we love and making positive statements about them. Sometimes, however, it's necessary, if we really love someone, to say difficult things to them; pointing out dangerous behavior or bad decisions that could take them down a destructive path. The ones who love us most don't let us hurt ourselves, even if it means speaking uncomfortable truths. Good parents know about this kind of love, love expressed as discipline, love that sometimes says no.

In our first reading, God says that he is sending someone to purify his people so that they can participate in the life of his holy kingdom. He uses the image of metal being refined and melted down in fire so that the impurities can be removed. It's not an easy thing to go through, for God or for us, but only those who have left sin behind can enter the presence of God, so he disciplines us.

Today we celebrate the Feast of the Presentation of the Lord. We remember how Mary and Joseph presented Jesus in the temple in Jerusalem so that he could be dedicated to the Lord and made one of God's chosen people. His life and message will be a challenge to all who see and hear him. He will call them, as he calls all of us, to greater dedication to God, to deeper love and service, and to a more complete rejection our attachment to sin and selfishness. He comes to purify us from all those things in us that are not of God. His sinless life is a sign to us of what we can be when we allow the fire of God's love to melt us down and reshape us according to his plan for us. May God give us the courage to pass through that fire so that we might shine with the brilliance of that love and reflect his image to the world.

Blessings,

Fr. Scott

## Coordinator of Religious Education Needed

We are in search of a new Coordinator of Religious Education for St. Brigid and St. Joseph parishes. Duties include managing all aspects of our Parish School of Religion and sacramental preparations. This is a part time paid position. For more information contact Fr. Scott at 217-645-3444 or [ssnider0528@gmail.com](mailto:ssnider0528@gmail.com)



## 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!

## Calendar

### Saturday, February 1

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

4:30 p.m.—Mass @ St. Brigid

### Sunday, February 2

7:30 a.m. Mass @ St. Brigid

9:00 a.m. Mass @ St. Joseph

9:15 a.m.—10:15 am PSR (5-8) @ St. Edward

10 am—11:15 a.m. PSR @ St. Joseph

10:30 a.m. Mass @ St. Edward

### Monday, February 3

6:30 p.m. Mass @ St. Brigid

### Tuesday, February 4

7:15 a.m.—7:45 a.m. Reconciliation @ St. Edward

8:00 a.m. Mass @ St. Edward

### Wednesday, February 5

7:15 a.m.—7:45 a.m. Reconciliation @ St. Joseph

8:00 a.m. Mass @ St. Joseph

3:10 p.m.—4:30 p.m. PSR (K-4) @ St. Edward

6:30 p.m.—7:45 p.m. PSR @ St. Brigid

### Friday, February 7—First Friday

8:00 a.m. Mass @ St. Edward

Adoration to follow Mass

### Saturday, February 8

3:45 p.m.—4:15 p.m. Reconciliation @ St. Brigid

4:30 p.m.—Mass @ St. Brigid

6:00 p.m.—Feast of St. Brigid Dinner

### Sunday, February 9

7:30 a.m. Mass @ St. Brigid

7:30 a.m.—St. Edward Whole Hog Breakfast until 12 p.m.

9:00 a.m. Mass @ St. Joseph , Donut Social to follow

9:15 a.m.—10:15 a.m. PSR (5-8) @ St. Edward

10 a.m.—11:15 a.m. PSR @ St. Joseph

10:30 a.m. Mass @ St. Edward

### Monday, February 10

6:30 p.m. Mass @ St. Brigid

### Tuesday, February 11

7:15 a.m.—7:45 a.m. Reconciliation @ St. Edward

8:00 a.m. Mass @ St. Edward

### Wednesday, February 12

7:15 a.m.—7:45 a.m. Reconciliation @ St. Joseph

8:00 a.m. Mass @ St. Joseph

3:10 p.m.—4:30 p.m. PSR (K-4) @ St. Edward

6:30 p.m.—7:45 p.m. PSR @ St. Brigid

6:30 p.m.—St. Joseph Holy Name Meeting

### Thursday, February 13

6:30 p.m.—St. Joseph Altar Society Meeting

### Friday, February 14

8:00 a.m. Mass @ St. Brigid

## Mass Intentions

### SATURDAY FEBRUARY 1

4:30 p.m.—St. Brigid: +*Mary Ann Loos, Glenn Loos & Jackie Taylor.*

### SUNDAY FEBRUARY 2

7:30 a.m.—St. Brigid: +*George Schneider*

9:00 a.m.—St. Joseph: +*Leo Bauer*

10:30 a.m.—St. Edward: *For the People of Our Parishes*

### MONDAY FEBRUARY 3

6:30 p.m.—St. Brigid: +*Beau Avery Barry*

### TUESDAY FEBRUARY 4

8:00 a.m.—St. Edward: +*Alvenia Richmiller*

### WEDNESDAY FEBRUARY 5

8:00 a.m.—St. Joseph: +*Kenneth Wiewel*

### FRIDAY FEBRUARY 7—First Friday

8:00 a.m.—St. Edward: +*Leonard Niekamp*

### SATURDAY FEBRUARY 8

4:30 p.m.—St. Brigid: +*Herman & Rita Huber*

### SUNDAY FEBRUARY 9

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

9:00 a.m.—St. Joseph: +*Kenneth Wiewel*

+*Carl & Dorothy Mast*

10:30 a.m.—St. Edward: +*Janet Hilgenbrink*

## **Parish Support: January 26**

St. Brigid \$ 3,610.00

St. Edward \$ 1,736.00

St. Joseph \$ 2,235.00

*Thank you for your generous support!*

*All Collections included in total this week*

## **QCES Mass Attendance Cards**

Mass attendance cards are available at the back of church.

## **St. Joseph Holy Name Meeting Change**

St. Joseph Holy Name meeting is moved to Wednesday, February 12 at 6:30 p.m.

## **Thank You**

Thank you to all who contributed to the Pennies for Life Campaign. \$218.28 in contributions.

## **Bulletin Deadline**

All information must be submitted by noon on Tuesday. Submit to: [church@stsbej.org](mailto:church@stsbej.org)

**Feast of**  
*St. Brigid*  
**Appreciation Dinner  
for our parishioners**

**Saturday, Feb. 8  
6 pm in St. Brigid Hall**

RSVP extended to Feb. 2. Sign up in back of church.

**2024 Contribution Statements**

\*\*If you have received your statement you will probably notice Jan-Feb. contributions are missing.. That is due to our database switch this year. If you are needing the missing months please call the office.

It is time for us to send out your annual contribution statement for your tax purposes. If you have received them in the past, we will be sending them to you in January. If you have not requested in the past, please let the offices know you would like one.

**TEC (Teens Encounter Christ!)**

In the three-day weekend of TEC, you can experience being part of a vibrant, loving, and supportive faith community in which the friendship of Jesus Christ becomes a real possibility that makes sense. For more information go to [greatrivertec.org](http://greatrivertec.org)  
TEC weekends are held at the Franciscan Retreat Center of Quincy University, 18th & Seminary Road, Quincy, IL 62301. The weekend begins Saturday morning at 9:30 a.m. and ends Monday evening 6:00-6:30 p.m. Candidates ages 16-21 --there is a fee for this retreat, but St. Brigid, St. Edward, and St. Joseph have funds available to cover this cost! Please contact Emily Wellman at 217-257-3536 if you are wanting to go on a weekend, and our awesome churches will pay for you to go!

**Other TEC Dates for 2024: March 9-10**

**St. Joseph  
DONUT  
Social**

Please join us after Mass  
**February 9, 2025**

for our Donut Social in the Church Hall.  
Come visit with other parishioners  
and enjoy a donut!

~ St. Joseph  
Altar Society

**ST. EDWARD CHURCH**  
214 S. State Rd.  
Mendon, IL

**FEB. 9, 2025**  
*Annual Whole Hog*  
Sausage & Pancake Day and  
Biscuits & Gravy

**ALL YOU CAN EAT!!**  
7:30 am - 12 pm

Sponsored by St. Edward Men's Club

Adults \$12.00  
10 and under \$6.00

**TO ORDER BY FEB. 5  
BY 4 PM**

To place a meat order please  
call: Lindsey 430-7437 or  
email to:  
[stewardsmeatorders@gmail.com](mailto:stewardsmeatorders@gmail.com)

**SATURDAY PICKUP**  
2:00PM to 4:00PM

**PORK FOR SALE**

Sausage Links and Bulk 3lbs package	\$12
Ribs 3lb package	\$10
Pork Chops 3 lb package	\$15
Backbones 3 lb package	\$10
Head Cheese per stick	\$8

**RAFFLE TO BENEFIT ST. EDWARD CEMETERY**

## THEOLOGY ON TAP



### THE FOUR HS OF THE HUMAN HEART: HUNGER, HOPE, HAPPINESS, AND HEAVEN:

Join Father Dominic Rankin  
as he teaches us  
how the longing of the human heart  
leads to the Kingdom of God.

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 4, 2025  
DRINKS BEGIN AT 6:00 PM  
TALK BEGINS AT 6:35 PM

THE FUZZY BUBBLER  
111 JAIL ALLEY, QUINCY, ILLINOIS



WHERE FAITH MEETS FUN

## St. Brigid Church

Hwy. 104, Liberty, IL

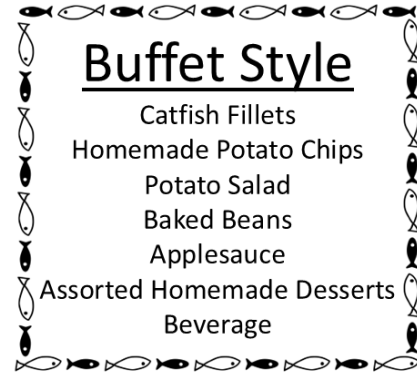
# Fish Fry

Friday, March 14, 2025

5:00 – 7:30 PM

Adults-\$12 • Ages 6-12-\$8 • 5 & under-Free

**All you can eat**



Carryouts Available • Wheelchair Accessible

## 2025

### Catholic Women's Prayer Breakfast

Saturday, March 22, 2025



Looking for a good way to enhance your Lenten Season? Attend the Catholic Women Prayer Breakfast Are you looking to grow in holiness during Lent? Are you wanting to spend time with the Lord and receive Him in holy Communion? What about becoming more inspired to becoming an authentic disciple of Christ? Then women, we have an experience for you. You are invited to attend the Catholic Women's Prayer Breakfast on Saturday, March 22 at St. Paul Catholic Church in Highland, IL (1411 Main St.). Adoration begins at 7 a.m., then praying of the *Rosary* at 7:30 a.m., then Mass at 8 a.m. with breakfast afterward, and then a talk by Bishop Thomas John Paprocki. Pre-registration is required for the breakfast meal. The cost is \$30. Register before March 1 to reserve your spot and meal ticket. Proceeds benefit our seminarians. Register online at [stpaulhighland.org]stpaulhighland.org. Scan the QR Code to go directly to the online form. For more information email: [womensbreakfast2025@gmail.com](mailto:womensbreakfast2025@gmail.com)

or text Rose Wascher at 847-274-3916.

## St. Joseph COOK-OFF Soup Contest

Are you a "souper" cook?  
Do you love to cook for others?  
Would you like to support a great cause?  
We are seeking 15 individuals or teams to create a crockpot (6-8 qt) of their favorite soup to serve at our Cook-Off Soup Contest.

Our parishioners and guests will be our judges by sampling all the soups and voting for the best Homemade Comfy Soup!

Are you ready for the challenge?

**Saturday, March 22, 2025**

All proceeds go toward a St. Joseph Kitchen Make-over

**Mass at 4 pm**

**Serving & Sampling start at 5 pm**  
**Winner announced at 7:45 pm**

In addition desserts, drinks and grilled cheese sandwiches will be available.  
**All for a FREE WILL offering.**

APPLICATION ON BACK SIDE

# Ministry Schedules

ST. BRIGID CHURCH						
February 8 & 9	Altar Server	Communion Minister	Usher	Lector	Greeter /Hospitality	Gift Bearer
<b>Saturday 4:30 p.m.</b>	*Kade Klauser Jenna Obert Jonah Obert	Stacy Clark Debbie Maas Mike Maas	Dan Kramer Laura Maas Mike Maas	Angela Obert	Jeff & Jody Obert	Theresa Neisen
<b>Sunday 7:30 a.m.</b>	Dylan Hocking Mason Hocking *Kruz Klauser	Nancy Obert Dot Smith	David Dodd Mike Hummel Kyle Leonard	Justin Mewes	Mark & Carol Heidbreder	Glen & Sara Obert

ST. JOSEPH CHURCH						
February 9	Altar Server	Communion Minister	Usher	Lector	Greeter /Hospitality	Gift Bearer
<b>9:00 a.m.</b>	Jack Luaders Isabella Neisen Quinn Luaders	Barb Frese Need 1 Brenda Siebers	Mark Bockhold Andrew Rangel	Ben Hugen-berg		Bockhold/Rangel Families

ST. EDWARD CHURCH						
February 9	Altar Server	Communion Minister	Rosary	Lector	Greeter /Hospitality	Gift Bearer
<b>10:30 a.m.</b>	Jillian Shaffer Merideth Shaffer Olivia Shaffer	Tracy Cornwell Phil Hildebrand Jr. Lori Hildebrand	Cindy Betz	Julie Logan	Felde Family	Ray Voss Family
<b>* Please continue passing the basket for collection.</b>						

## Please Remember to Pray For:

Daran Knuffman	Joe Rice	John Blickhan
Zoey Obert	Linda Windoffer	Ryan Wiemelt
Julia Winfield	Monica Mast	Scottie Bastert
Haddlei Burnett	Bonnie Johnson	Bernice Dittmer
Jim Steinkamp	Elizabeth Leonard	Linda Howe
Kayle Sheely	Ben Venvertloh	Joann Walton
John Kroner	Ripken Rangel	Kent Hilgenbrinck
Marvin Meyer	Maurie Koch	Alicia Blewett
Carl Schisler	Tony Peters	Jim Wilson
Rachel Cramsey	Joy Huebotter	Connie Dietrich
Ginny Brinkman	Raleigh Bess	Virginia Berhorst
Denny Meyer	Karen Woodworth	
Rosie Miller	Doug Woodworth	

## Stewardship Reflection

“Because he himself was tested through what he suffered, he is able to help those who are being tested.” – Hebrews 2:18

When we join a support group, there is comfort in sharing our pain with people who have experienced the same thing; they understand what we are going through. The next time you experience suffering, talk to Jesus. He has experienced more suffering than most of us, He understands. Plus, Jesus knows us better than we know ourselves. Only He can fill the hole you feel in your heart.

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



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



## PSR DATES TO REMEMBER:

**February 9**— St. Edward, NO PSR  
**February 19**—Reminder: PSR K-4, 2-4:30 p.m.  
**March 5**—ASH WEDNESDAY, NO PSR  
**March 18**— 2nd Graders, 1st Reconciliation Mtg at St. Joseph  
**For PSR Newsletters go to: stsbej.org**

## **ALL PSR SECOND GRADERS**

First Reconciliation is on Tuesday, March 18th at St. Joseph at 6PM. There will be an ice cream party to follow!

## **ALL PSR THIRD GRADERS**

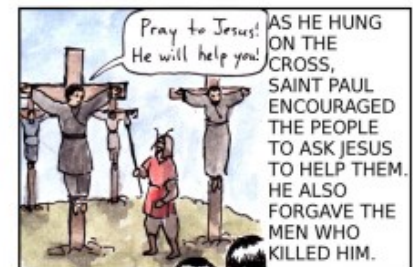
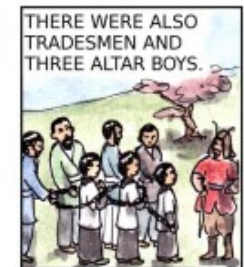
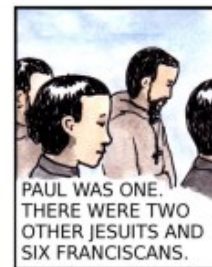
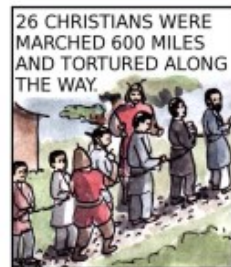
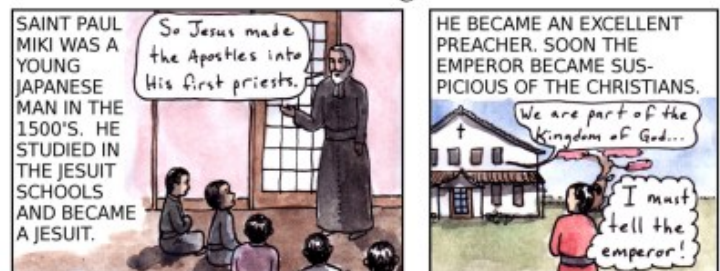
If you missed the deadline for turning in your Questionnaire for the Bishop, please turn it in ASAP! Also, make sure you are working on your service project which is due April 8th!. Finally, please contact your sponsor and make sure they have all of their documents ready for April 8th!



## Sunday, February 2 Readings - FOR YOUTH!

Today we celebrate the feast of the Presentation of Baby Jesus in the temple. God's people were supposed to offer their firstborn sons to the service of God, or make an offering of animals instead. Mary and Joseph were poor, so they followed the law offering a pair of turtledoves. Did you know that you can offer yourself to God too? You can use your life to do good and please God. A good way to start is to pray a "morning offering" every day. Tell God that you love Him and offer Him all your prayers, work, joys, and sufferings of the day. When you do everything for God you will be cooperating with Jesus in making the world a better and happier place!

## Saint Paul Miki and Companions February 6



WHEN CHRISTIAN MISSIONARIES CAME TO JAPAN AGAIN IN THE 1800'S, AT FIRST THEY THOUGHT THERE WERE NO CHRISTIANS THERE, BUT THEN THEY FOUND THEM PRACTICING THEIR FAITH SECRETLY. OUR LORD USES THE SACRIFICE OF THE MARTYRS TO STRENGTHEN THE FAITH OF OTHER CHRISTIANS.