

ST. EDMUND CHURCH

219 EAST LOCUST STREET
WATSEKA IL 60970

PASTOR: Reverend Michael Powell

Rectory: 815-432-3274 ~ Office Hours: 8 a.m.—12 p.m. M-F

Religious Education Office: 815-432-5569

Website: www.stedstjoe.org

MASSSES:

M-W-TH-F

7:30 AM

SATURDAY

5:00 PM

SUNDAY

8:00 AM

CONFESSIONS: Saturday, 4:30—4:50 PM or by appointment.

“Transforming the world in which we live by bringing the teachings of Jesus Christ to every living person.”

ST. MARY CHURCH
308 ST. CHARLES STREET
BEAVERVILLE IL 60912

ST. JOSEPH CHURCH
307 UNION STREET
CRESCENT CITY IL 60928

MASS: SUNDAY AT 4:30 PM

MASS: SUNDAY AT 9:30 AM

HOLY WEEK/EASTER SERVICES

April 2—5, 2026

ST. MARY

Holy Thursday and Good Friday Services: 4:30 p.m.

Holy Saturday Vigil Mass: 8:00 p.m.

ST. EDMUND & ST. JOSEPH

Holy Thursday and Good Friday Services: 7:00 p.m. at St. Edmund

Easter Sunday Mass Schedule:

- 7:30 a.m. at St. Edmund
- 9:00 a.m. at St. Joseph
- 10:30 a.m. at St. Edmund

RE LENTEN FOOD DRIVE

Our Religious Education Department will once again be holding a drive to collect items for the Watseka Area Food Pantry located at the Methodist Church. Parishioners of St. Edmund's are invited to donate items to this very worth cause. **We do ask that you please check the expiration dates on ALL items before donating to make sure they are not expired.**

Items may be placed in the big brown donation box in the vestibule of the Church or in the baskets in the entryway of the Parish Center (when Patti is there). Thank you!

SECOND COLLECTION AT ST. JOSEPH'S CHURCH

March 15th & 22nd, 2026

On March 15th & 22nd, St. Joseph's Church will have a second collection for *Heifer International*, a charity working to end hunger and poverty in partnership with the communities they serve. Their programs support entrepreneurs in 19 countries across 4 continents, which includes the US, creating lasting change from the ground up. Please be as generous as you feel you can. Thank you!

If there are any St. Edmund parishioners who would like to donate to this, you may put your donation (cash or check, **made payable to St. Joseph Church**, in an envelope marked *Heifer International*) and put it in our collection basket and it will be sent on to St. Joseph's.

Check them out at heifer.org

SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATIONS AVAILABLE

Applications are now available for the St. Edmund CCW Scholarship and the Robert Haas Memorial/Knights of Columbus St. Teresa of Avila Scholarship. These can be found on the table in the vestibule of the Church. **They must be returned by Wednesday, April 22nd, 2026.**

Applications are also available for the Fr. John Sebahar Scholarship, *courtesy of the Ford-Iroquois Council of Catholic Women*. These can also be found on the table in the vestibule of the Church. **These must be postmarked by April 30th, 2026. If emailed, they must be received by midnight on April 30th.**

GOOD LUCK TO ALL APPLICANTS!

Please pray for . . .

- Gary Cahoe
- Louise Bruens

CATHOLIC RELIEF SERVICES SPECIAL COLLECTION

This Weekend ~ March 14/15, 2026

SUNDAY, March 15, 2026

MASS INTENTIONS FOR March 16—22, 2026

Monday, March 16, 7:30 AM

* *Bob Donohue by Knights of Columbus Council 4391*

Tuesday, March 17: NO MASS

Wednesday, March 18: NO MASS

Thursday, March 19, 7:30 AM

* *Earl Lareau by Knights of Columbus Council 4391*

Friday, March 20, 7:30 AM

* *Dick Mayotte by Jan Dillman*

Morning Mass....what a way to start the day!

NOTE: Daily Morning Mass is held at the Parish Center. Holy Day, First Friday and Ash Wednesday Masses are held at the Church.

Saturday, March 21, 5:00 PM

* *David Stepp Birthday Remembrance by His Family*

Sunday, March 22:

8:00 AM: *Our Parish Families*

9:30 AM: * *Aaron Taylor*

4:30 PM: *Mass at St. Mary's*

St. Edmund's Weekly Target for Operation: \$ 3,200.00

Sunday Offering, March 7/8: \$ 3,229.00

Online Giving: \$ 140.00

BONUS for the Week: \$ 169.00

St. Joseph's Sunday Offering, March 8: \$ 1,688.00

LAY MINISTERS for March 21/22, 2026

SATURDAY, March 21 5:00 PM

Lector: Gene Ochs

Ushers: Sandra Harris & Jo Ann White

SUNDAY, March 22, 8:00 AM

Lector: Jennifer Dixon

Ushers: Kevin & Kim Bohlmann

Money Counters: Kendra Martin & John Tonner

Preparing for next Sunday's Petitions:

- That all who bear the name "Christian" may never hesitate to acknowledge Jesus as the Resurrection and the Life,
- That these Lenten days may lead us to freedom from sin and growth in holiness,
- That freed from the shackles of sin, those preparing for baptism and reception into the Church may be called out of darkness to new life in Christ,
- That the whole world, the work of God's creating hand, may flower in faith and increase in charity,
- That those saddened by death and those who minister to them, may find consolation in Christ, victor over death,
- That our parishioners who, like Martha, come to Christ in prayer, may be heard,
- That those who sleep in death may, like Lazarus, find life in Christ,

We pray to the Lord.

Preparing to hear next Sunday's Gospel:

5th Sunday of Lent A

John 11:1—45

"Lazarus, come out!"

- How is Jesus "the Resurrection and the life" to me today?
- How do I, like Martha did in the Gospel, approach Jesus in my need?
- What am I doing with this new life that Jesus gives me?

Prayer: As we come to this intense part of Lent, Lord Jesus, help me to enter into this sacred season and prepare my heart, my mind, my soul, and my entire self to follow you through your death to your resurrection. You are my resurrection and my life. Amen!

Continue to pray for the Catechumens from your continent!

ST. EDMUND CCW WOMAN OF THE YEAR

Congratulations to Sue Bennett, this year's St. Edmund CCW's *Woman of the Year*! Sue has been a parishioner of St. Edmund's since 2021. She lived in Kankakee most of her life, attending St. Patrick and St. Teresa grade schools, Bishop McNamara High School, KCC and GSU. She married Jerry, with whom they had 2 daughters, Jennifer and Laura. Jerry passed in 2013. Jennifer is married to Steve Scott and they have 2 sons, Ian and Cameron. Laura is married to Josh McElroy and they have a daughter, Story.

Sue worked in various clerical roles in Kankakee but the last company she worked for downsized her position, so she decided to go back to college. She earned her BA and began teaching high school English, Literature, and History in 1999 until she officially retired in 2025. In 2020, she met Mark Calvin and they got married the following year.

Since becoming a member of St. Edmund's, Sue became our CCW's secretary (4 years), 6th/7th grade RE teacher (3 years) and 8:00 a.m. Mass organist (2.5 years). It is Sue's belief that St. Edmund's is a wonderful parish filled with faith-filled people who welcomed Mark and Sue with warmth and smiles.

Sue is honored to represent St. Edmund's CCW as their *Woman of the Year* at this year's Mass on Saturday, April 25th at 1:00 p.m. at the Cathedral of St. Raymond in Joliet. Congratulations to Sue and to all her fellow CCW *Women of the Year*!

IROQUOIS MEMORIAL HOSPICE NEEDS YOU!

IMH Hospice invites you to be part of their compassionate team serving local patients and families. Hospice provides a variety of volunteer opportunities including: **Visiting Volunteers** (provide companionship, conversation, reading to others or help with projects & tasks); **Sewing & Crafting** (Assist with sewing, crafting, and special projects); **Clerical Support** (Help office staff with filing, answering phones, and greeting visitors); and **Fundraising**. Call IMH Hospice at 815-432-0185 and ask for Mallory Redeker, RN, to see how you can be a volunteer on the IMH Hospice team!