

HOLY SACRIFICE OF THE MASS

CHURCH OF SS. SIMON & JUDE

Saturday, December 06

4:00 p.m. Betty Borgini
(C. Reid)

Sunday, December 07

11:00 a.m. Cameron Tucker
(MM Tucker))

Monday, December 08: Immaculate Conception

8:00 a.m. Martha Boston
(MM Newman)

Tuesday, December 09

8:00 a.m. Marjorie Brummer
(MM Brummer)

Wednesday, December 10

8:00 a.m. Attend Mass in Benld

Thursday, December 11

Friday, December 12

10:00 a.m. Mass at Morse Farms in Carlinville
For the wellbeing of the residents

Saturday, December 13

4:00 p.m. Charles Altieri
(MM Preston)

Sunday, December 14

11:00 a.m. Ed Kalvin (would have been 100th B-Day)
(Fr. Chuck Edwards)

LITURGICAL ROLES

Saturday, December 13

Lector Mary Newman
E. Min. Roger Niehaus
Server Mitchell Clark
Greeter Harold & Mary Newman

Sunday, December 14

Lector Rhonda Heyen
E. Min. Kristine Jarden
Servers Maria Jarden & Harper Thackrey
Greeter Dennis Janssen & Kim Bertino

If you are scheduled at an inconvenient time, please call someone to replace you.

Confessions 3:00-3:45pm on Saturdays with 4pm Mass

COLLECTIONS:

Gillespie	Benld
Env: \$1,325.00	Env: \$700.00
Loose: \$89.00	Loose: \$154.00
PSR: \$55.00	Building: \$0.00
Nov. Centennial Camp.: \$5,625.00	PSR: \$0.00
Christmas & Cemetery: \$170.00	Capital Campaign/AC: \$794.00
\$7,264.00	\$1,648.00

CHURCH OF ST. JOSEPH

Sunday, December 07

7:45 a.m. Rose Marie Tebbe
(M. Kalvin)

Monday, December 08: Immaculate Conception

8:00 a.m. Attend Mass in Gillespie

Tuesday, December 09

8:00 a.m. Attend Mass in Gillespie

Wednesday, December 10

8:00 a.m. Janet Seketa
(MM Garbin & Family)

Thursday, December 11

Friday, December 12

10:00 a.m. Mass at Morse Farms in Carlinville
For the wellbeing of the residents

Saturday, December 13: No Mass

Sunday, December 14

7:45 a.m. Virginia Greff
(C. Greff)

LITURGICAL ROLES

Saturday, December 13: No Mass

Sunday, December 14

Greeters	Mr. & Mrs. Mike Byots
Lector	Joe Dopuch
E. Min.	N. Balzraine, G. Link, J. Kelly
Servers	Lucca Kapp
Off. Fam.	Bill Gill Family

Pastor: Rev. Joe Koyickal, SAC (jkoyickal@dio.org)

DRE: Donette Clark (gillespiedre@gmail.com)

Gillespie Office Hours: Tuesdays 9:00am-Noon

Bulletin Submissions: send to secretaryssmjc@gmail.com

Ss. Simon & Jude Mass Schedule:

Daily Mass: 8:00am on Tuesdays (and all first Fridays)

Saturday: 4:00pm. & Sunday: 11:00am

St. Joseph Mass Schedule:

Daily Mass: 8:00am on Wednesdays

Sunday: 7:45am

Parish office: 304 N. Macoupin Gillespie, IL 62033

Phone (217) 839-3456 Email: simonjude3456@gmail.com

Website: www.3parishes1faith.com

Facebook Pages:

SS Simon & Jude - Gillespie

St. Joseph's - Benld

Diocese Victim Assistance Coordinator & liaison between the Diocese & anyone with an allegation of sexual abuse of a minor (217) 321-1155.

PRAYERLINE: Tonya Koller, Cindy Alepra, Michael McCullough, Matt Orr, Brian Orr, Peggy Geurin, Denny Skeldon, Meredith Heyen, Mike Marcacci, Deacon Denny Baker, Adrienne Devlin, Paul Madden, Virginia Gruenenfelder, Dr. Stephen McCullough, Jerri Bayse, Carol Chesus, Ed Saracco, Mary Cavanaugh, Blake Sloan, Terry Crites, Matthew Alepra, Bev Marasti, Sid Stauffer, Camden Massie, Barb Kirkwood, Joey Bertetto

PSR / HS Youth Group Corner**PSR Class:** Sundays from 9:45am-10:45am at SSSJ School**Youth Group:** Sundays from 6pm-7pm at SSSJ School**Upcoming Dates:**

Dec 14, Dec 21 (No Class), Dec 28 (No Class)

3rd Grade students must attend PSR & Mass in order to be eligible for their sacraments.

PSR CHRISTMAS PLAY will be Saturday, December 20 after 4pm mass. Please join us for the play as the PSR students showcase their many talents!

Student practices for the Christmas Play will be held at 9am in the church prior to PSR on Sunday 12/7 & 12/14. Practice attendance is preferred but not mandatory.

Donette Clark, DRE GillespieDRE@gmail.com

Important Dates & Information

Sunday, December 7: Christmas Caroling Mark your calendars! Benld & Gillespie parishes plan to go Christmas caroling the afternoon of Sun, Dec 7. We will meet at Ss. Simon & Jude parking lot at 1pm. If any residents are interested in having carolers visit their home or if you have any questions please contact Roger at 217-839-4036.

Now until Sunday, December 7: Christmas Ornaments

Honor a loved one this Christmas with an ornament to be placed on the trees at Ss. Simon & Jude Church. Each ornament will have the name of the person you wish to remember. Proceeds will be given to the Alton Catholic Children's Home. Ornaments at \$5 each or 3 for \$10. One intention per ornament. Please return your information in an envelope marked *Ornament* via the collection basket no later than Dec 7. Please make checks payable to the Altar Society.

Mon, Dec 8: Immaculate Conception-Holy Day of Obligation

8:00am: Ss. Simon & Jude

6:00pm: Ss. Mary & Joseph

Sat, Dec 13: Cursillo Dinner

There will be a Cursillo Dinner on Sat, Dec 13 after the 5:30pm Mass. Please contact Dan Kallal if you have any questions.

Advent Confession & Adoration

Tues, Dec 16: 6pm-7:30pm at Ss. Simon & Jude in Gillespie

Wed, Dec 17: 8:30am-9:30am at St. Joseph in Benld

Wed, Dec 17: 6pm-7:30pm at Ss. Mary & Joseph in Carlinville

Saturday, December 20

Children's Christmas Program in Gillespie after 4:00pm Mass

Sunday, December 21: CANCELED

Children's Christmas Program in C'ville after 9:30am Mass.

Mon, December 22: Salvation Army Bell Ringers Needed

I'm looking for volunteers who would ring bells on Monday, December 22 at Wal-Mart in Carlinville. The schedule starts at 9:00 AM and ends at 6:00PM. I need 2 people per shift since 2 kettles will be set up at the entrance. I am setting up 30-minute shifts instead of 1 hour, unless you're willing to do it for 1 hour! It would be great to have college students who are home on break, families or youth groups participate. Last year, nearly \$14,455 was collected through bell ringing. Carlinville keeps 80% of these funds. 10-15 different families are helped each month with utility costs through this campaign. Thanks for your support! Contact Kathy O'Brien 314-873-7399 (call or text).

"Repent, for the Kingdom of Heaven is at hand." As we enter the second Sunday of Advent, we hear the strong & familiar voice of John the Baptist calling out in the wilderness: "Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand." His words may sound challenging, but at their heart they are words of hope. John is not scolding us; he is waking us up from our spiritual slumber as I mentioned last Sunday. John is reminding us that God is closer to us than we imagine, ready to renew our lives and our world provided we are open to Him.

Advent is the season when the Church lovingly invites us to pause, breathe, & look honestly at our hearts. John's message is not about dwelling on our failures but about rediscovering the beauty of God's mercy. To repent simply means to turn back, to realign our steps with the One who walks with us, to open the door for God's grace to enter & heal. It is about making room for Him in our hearts as we reflected last Sunday.

For us as a parish family, this call takes on special meaning today. In a world often filled with hurried schedules, heavy news, & growing divisions, repentance becomes an act of courage & hope. It means:

- ⇒ Turning toward God in the middle of our daily busyness & allowing His peace to settle our hearts. Can we spend 5-10 minutes daily quietly in His presence?
- ⇒ Choosing forgiveness & understanding, especially in our homes, families, & community. Often, we are too quick to judge & condemn.
- ⇒ Letting go of what burdens us—old hurts, unhelpful habits, harsh words, or anything that dims the light of Christ within us.
- ⇒ Becoming signs of the Kingdom in little ways, through our kindness, patience, generosity, & small acts of love that brighten the lives of others. We are His messengers!

The good news is this: God is already near. The Kingdom is already unfolding in every act of goodness, every moment of grace, every sincere step we take toward Him. Advent reminds us that God meets us in our real, ordinary lives & gently leads us into something new.

As we light the second candle of the Advent wreath, may its growing flame remind us that Christ comes not only to the world, but to each of us personally. This week, may we hear John's voice not as a warning, but as an invitation, a call to make room for the Lord who desires to bring healing, joy, & renewal to our hearts, our homes, & our parish community. Blessings of Peace and Joy Always! *Fr. Joe*

Upcoming Holiday Mass Schedule**Wed, Dec 24 Christmas Eve**

4pm: Ss. Mary & Joseph

4pm: Ss. Simon & Jude with Fr. Don Goergen

6pm: St. Joseph

**Thurs, Dec 25 Christmas Day**

9:30am: Ss. Mary & Joseph

11am: Ss. Simon & Jude

Dec 27/28: Normal Weekend Schedule**Wed, Dec 31 Solemnity of Mary - Holy Day of Obligation**

4pm: Ss. Mary & Joseph

6pm: Ss. Simon & Jude

Thurs, Jan 1 Solemnity of Mary - Holy Day of Obligation

8am: St. Joseph