

HOLY SACRIFICE OF THE MASS

CHURCH OF SS. SIMON & JUDE

Saturday, December 13

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

Sunday, December 14

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

Monday, December 15

Tuesday, December 16

8:00 a.m. Poor Souls in Purgatory / Becky Cerkoski
(MM Preston / MM Ahrling)

Wednesday, December 17

8:00 a.m. Attend Mass in Benld

Thursday, December 18

Friday, December 19

10:00 a.m. Mass at Gillespie Health & Rehab
For the wellbeing of the residents

Saturday, December 20

4:00 p.m. Franklin Orr / Kathryn Nisavaco
(L. Orr / MM Preston)

Sunday, December 21

11:00 a.m. Jack Nisavaco / David Reiniesch
(MM Preston / D. Reiniesch)

LITURGICAL ROLES

Saturday, December 20

Lector Karla Huddlestone
E. Min. Nancy Schmidt
Server
Greeter Harold & Mary Newman

Sunday, December 21

Lector Denise Wirth
E. Min. Gayla Crites
Servers
Greeter Mary Gucciardo & Linda Ronald

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

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

HOLY HOUR:

Every Saturday afternoon from 3:00-4:00pm

COLLECTIONS:

Gillespie	Benld
Env: \$3,135.00	Env: \$840.00
Loose: \$278.00	Loose: \$150.00
Building: \$0.00	Immaculate Con: \$103.00
PSR: \$120.00	PSR: \$120.00
Immaculate Conception: \$150.00	Capital Campaign/AC: \$125.00
\$3,683.00	\$1,338.00

CHURCH OF ST. JOSEPH

Sunday, December 14

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

Monday, December 15

Tuesday, December 16
8:00 a.m. Attend Mass in Gillespie

Wednesday, December 17

8:00 a.m. Karen & Charlie Hall
(M Bertetto)

Thursday, December 18

Friday, December 19
10:00 a.m. Mass at Gillespie Health & Rehab
For the wellbeing of the residents

Saturday, December 20: No Mass

Sunday, December 21

7:45 a.m. Rose Tebbe
(Funeral)

LITURGICAL ROLES

Saturday, December 20: No Mass

Sunday, December 21

Greeters	Mr. & Mrs. Jerry Marcacci
Lector	Joe Dopuch
E. Min.	G. Link, J. Kelly, Ed Saracco
Servers	Lucca Kapp
Off. Fam.	George Link Family

Confessions 7:15-7:40am on Sundays with 7:45am Mass

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 21 (No Class), Dec 28 (No Class), Jan 4 (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 12/14. Practice attendance is preferred but not mandatory.

Donette Clark, DRE
GillespieDRE@gmail.com



Thank you to everyone who purchased an ornament for the Ss. Simon & Jude Christmas Trees! A total of 160 ornaments will be placed on our trees this year. Because of your generosity, a **\$500 donation** will be made to the Catholic Children's Home. Your support is truly appreciated!

Important Dates & Information**Saturday, December 20**

Children's Christmas Program in Gillespie after 4:00pm 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/text).

Upcoming Holiday Mass Schedule**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

Wed, Dec 24 Christmas Eve

4pm: Ss. Mary & Joseph

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

7pm: 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

Rejoice Sunday!

Today, it is "Gaudete Sunday", Rejoice Sunday! It is an invitation to pause and rejoice, even as we continue our Advent waiting. "Gaudete Sunday" is our reminder that God is near and His grace is already at work among us, often in quiet and surprising ways.

Isaiah gives us a beautiful picture in our first reading: the desert is blooming, the weak are strengthened, and those who are weary being lifted up. It is a promise that God never abandons His people. Even when life feels dry or difficult, God is preparing something new, something life-giving, something hopeful. Advent is a time to keep renewing this hope!

In the Gospel, we see John the Baptist who proclaimed Jesus with great confidence and called people to prepare for his coming confined in prison and in doubt! So, he sends a question to Jesus: "Are you the one?" Even the greatest prophet has moments of doubt, uncertainty, and waiting. Jesus responds not with explanations, but with an invitation to look at the signs of life and hope taking place: the blind see, the lame walk, the poor receive good news. In other words, "Look at what God is doing. God is at work! Hope is alive."

This Sunday reminds us that joy is not about everything being perfect, but about recognizing God's presence right in the middle of our daily struggles. One of the great twentieth Century Catholic Activist Dorothy Day speaks about how she managed to keep herself joyful while working with people in desperate and degrading situations. She reminded herself frequently of what she called "the duty of delight". "It is not easy to always be joyful, to keep in mind the duty of delight... One must will to rejoice." We overcome our sadness by growing in love, and the joy which goes with loving.

Joy grows when:

- We notice the small blessings God sends each day.
- We choose love, kindness, patience, and forgiveness.
- We keep trusting that God is working, even when we cannot yet see how.

As Christmas draws near, let us carry the spirit of Rejoice Sunday into our week. Take a moment each day to name one thing God is doing in your life, however small, and give thanks. These little acts of noticing, choosing to love and willing to rejoice, open our hearts to the deeper joy God desires for us.

Blessings of Peace and Joy always!

Fr. Joe

