



Twenty-Seventh Sunday of Ordinary Time

October 4, 2026



SS. SIMON & JUDE CATHOLIC CHURCH

304 North Macoupin Street, Gillespie, IL 62033

ST. JOSEPH CATHOLIC CHURCH

300 West Central Street, Benld, IL 62009

Welcome to Ss. Simon & Jude / St. Joseph!

Whether you are an existing member, visiting family or new to the Parish we are happy you are here. If you are new to our parish, please call the office to register or to know more about our Parish Family. We look forward to meeting you!

Parish Office

Office Hours: Tuesdays 9:00am-Noon

Pastor

Fr. Joe Koyickal, SAC
jkoyickal@dio.org
217-839-3456

Parish Administrative Assistant

Donette Clark
simonjude3456@sssimonjudegillespie.com
Office Phone: 217-839-3456

Director of Religious Education

Donette Clark
donette.clark@sssimonjudegillespie.com

Bulletin Notices due by 9am on Wednesdays

Bulletin Submissions: amy.killam@ssmaryjosephcarlinville.com

website: www.3parishes1faith.com

Facebook @ SS Simon & Jude - Gillespie and St. Joseph's - Benld

Diocesan Website: www.dio.org

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

PRAYER & DEVOTIONS

Eucharistic Adoration

Saturdays in Gillespie 3:00-4:00pm

Reconciliation

Saturdays in Gillespie 3:00-3:45pm

Sundays in Benld 7:15-7:45am

By Appointment

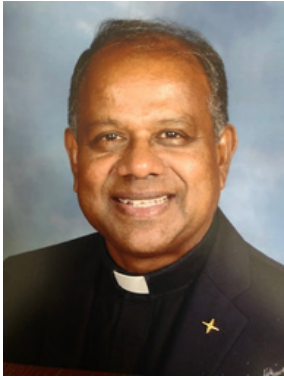
Rosary

Sundays 7:30am in Benld

MASS SCHEDULE

Changes to the schedule will be announced on Facebook

Tuesday	8:00am	Daily Mass in Gillespie
Wednesday	8:00am	Daily Mass in Benld
First Friday	8:00am	Daily Mass in Gillespie
Saturday	4:00pm	Weekend Mass in Gillespie
Sunday	8:00am	Weekend Mass in Benld



FROM THE PASTOR

The Call to be Faithful Bearing Fruit

In this Sunday's Gospel, Jesus tells us the parable of the vineyard. The landowner plants the vineyard, puts a hedge around it, digs a wine press, builds a tower, and leases it to tenants. The landowner has done everything possible and needed for the Vineyard to be a fruitful one and entrusts it to the tenants expecting them to take care and bear fruit. This imagery clearly expresses God's love, care and concern for us and reminds us also of our responsibility to bear fruit for Him.

Now the question is: **What will we do with what God has entrusted to us?**

We have received much from God: faith, family, parish community, the Eucharist, the Scriptures, our abilities, our time, and our opportunities to serve. These gifts and blessings are not given to us to keep it for ourselves, but to serve God's purpose, to bear fruit for Him. He has a plan and purpose for each one of us. As the gospel says: The landowner carefully prepares the vineyard and entrusts it to tenants. And when the time comes, he looks for the fruit that the vineyard should produce.

This parable reminds us that **God has entrusted his vineyard to us in trust that we may be His faithful stewards and bear fruit.** We are not the owners, but stewards of what has been placed in our hands. What matters, therefore, is not simply that we **belong to God's vineyard**, but that our lives **produce good fruit.**

In the light of this parable, we can ask ourselves: what are the gifts and blessings that God has blessed us with? Am I grateful for those blessings? And what kind of fruit does God find in our lives? Is there love, kindness, forgiveness, generosity, patience, compassion, and a willingness to serve? Does our faith make a difference in the way we treat our family, our neighbors, our fellow parishioners, and those who are in need? And what can I do to be a faithful steward of His blessings in my life?

As we gather as a parish family this weekend, let us remember that we are all working in the same vineyard of the Lord. Each of us has a part to play. Some may serve publicly, while others serve quietly in ways that only God sees. Every act of love, kindness and service can become good fruit for God's Kingdom. This is the way we contribute our own share in bringing about God's kingdom in our families, in our relationships, in our parish, our community and the world at large.

Let us ask the Lord to help us be faithful stewards: grateful for what we have received, generous in what we give, and fruitful in the way we live our faith.

Blessings of Peace and joy always!

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Joe Koyickal SAC".

PARISH NEWS

Month of October: First Responder Snack Collection The Altar Societies are collecting snacks for our local First Responders during October. Donation boxes will be located in the vestibules of both churches. Please donate individually wrapped, grab-and-go items such as Pop-Tarts, chips, Rice Krispy Treats, beef sticks, cookies, nuts, granola bars and candy. Thank you for supporting our local First Responders!

St. Joseph Altar & Rosary dues are now being collected. Anyone wishing to pay the \$5.00 dues may do so by giving your payment to Cindy Saracco or by mailing it to the following address. St. Joseph Altar & Rosary Society, PO Box 42, Benld, IL 62009. Thank you for your participation.

October is the Month of the Holy Rosary. We will be praying the Rosary for Peace in the World at the Blessed Mother's Statue at the following times/places during the month of October.

- Tuesdays in Gillespie after the 8am Mass
- Wednesdays in Benld after the 8am Mass
- Mondays, Thursdays & Fridays in Benld at 8:40am

All are welcomed & encouraged to attend. If you can't make it to the church please say a rosary at home.

Sun, Oct 4: Have you been married 50+ years? Time to celebrate! On October 4 at 2 p.m. at the Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception in Springfield, all couples married 50 years or more are invited to attend a special Mass honoring their marriage vocation! The Mass will be celebrated by Bishop Thomas John Paprocki. A reception will follow after Mass. Please register for the Mass by going to dio.org/events and clicking on the Oct 4 Mass. The reception will showcase all photos submitted last year. Due to the number of couples attending, please only submit photos if you did not do so last year. Any questions? Call Ruth Staab at 217-698-8500.

Sun, October 18: Ss. Simon & Jude Feast Day Celebration Ss. Simon & Jude will celebrate their Feast Day on Sunday, October 18! A special Mass time of 4pm will be celebrated, followed by a catered dinner at the Gillespie Civic Center. Everyone is invited to join us for this special celebration! The evening will include dinner, music, door prizes, & special activities for the children. Sign-up sheets for the dinner are available on the counter of SSSJ & St. Joseph's vestibule or you can call the parish office to register. Come celebrate our Feast Day with us!

Sat, Oct 31 & Sun, Nov 1: All Souls We will be remembering the lives of the loved ones we have lost this year during the weekend Masses. We ask that a family member or friend be present to come forth & light their loved one's candle.

The Week Ahead

Please note that calendar events are based on requests for reservations, and we are not always informed when events are cancelled. If you have any questions if an event is happening, please contact the head of that committee/group.

Mon 05	Tue 06	Wed 07	Thu 08	Fri 09	Sat 10	Sun 11
Praying Rosary in Benld at 8:40am	Praying Rosary in Gillespie after Mass Ss. Simon & Jude Parish Coun Mtg 6:30pm	Praying Rosary in Benld after Mass OCIA 7pm at Ss. Mary & Joseph Conference Room	Praying Rosary in Benld at 8:40am	Praying Rosary in Benld at 8:40am Mass at Morse Farms C'ville at 10am	Eucharistic Adoration in Gillespie at 3pm	Praying Rosary 7:30am in Benld PSR 9:30-10:30am Youth Group 6-7pm



Donette Clark, DRE

donette.clark@sssimonjudegillespie.com

PSR / HS YOUTH GROUP CORNER

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

PSR Class: Sundays from 9:30am-10:30am at SSSJ School

Upcoming PSR Classes

Oct 4, Oct 11, Oct 18 (No PSR, please attend Ss. Simon & Jude Feast Day at 4pm)

Youth Group: Sundays from 6-7pm at SSSJ School

Upcoming Youth Group

Oct 4, Oct 11, Oct 18 (No Youth Group, please attend Ss. Simon & Jude Feast Day at 4pm)

Meet Our Catechists

We are especially grateful for the men and women who have said “yes” to walking alongside our children this year:

Kindergarten / 1st / 2nd - Sharon Wernle

3rd Sacramental Class - Mary Newman

4th / 5th - Donette Clark

6th / 7th / 8th - Bob & Lisa Tucker

High School Youth Group - Bill Bertetto

Please pray for our catechists as they share their time, their faith, and themselves with our children this year.

Thank you for answering the call to serve!

Children that have attended Altar Server Training are eligible to begin serving Mass. Servers are listed in the bulletin as Volunteer Needed. Please contact the office if you are a new server and wish to start serving Mass. Someone will be paired with you for the first few times.



OCIA (Order of Christian Initiation of Adults) is a welcoming journey of faith for adults who want to learn more about Jesus Christ and the Catholic Church. It is a time to ask questions, explore Scripture, discover the beauty of the Catholic faith, and grow in a deeper relationship with God.

If you would like more information please contact the parish office or Don Reid.

Classes will be held in the Ss. Mary & Joseph Conference Room at 7pm

Upcoming Dates: October 7, November 4

SS. SIMON & JUDE CHURCH**ST. JOSEPH CHURCH****MASS INTENTIONS**

Saturday, October 03

4:00pm Vigil **Becky Cerkoski / Jack Plovich +**
(Cerkoski Family / Plovich Family)

Tuesday, October 06

8:00am Mary Cavanaugh +
(Bray Family)

Friday, October 09

10:00am Mass at Morse Farms, Carlinville
For the wellbeing of the residents

Saturday, October 10

4:00pm Vigil Simon & Margaret Friedman +
(Friedman Family)**STEWARDSHIP
MANAGING GOD'S GIFTS TO US****Weekend Envelopes, Checks & Cash**
\$2,079.00**PSR & Votive Candles**
\$32.00**Holy Day**
\$0.00**Special: September Capital Campaign**
\$1,300.00**Total: \$3,411.00***Thank you for your continued generosity!***MASS INTENTIONS**

Sunday, October 04

8:00am **Bill Newman +**
(M. Gucciardo)

Wednesday, October 07

8:00am George Dresch +
(G. Leone)

Friday, October 09

10:00am Mass at Morse Farms, Carlinville
For the wellbeing of the residents

Sunday, October 11

8:00am Rose Marie Tebbe
(Tebbe Family)**STEWARDSHIP
MANAGING GOD'S GIFTS TO US****Weekend Envelopes, Checks & Cash**
\$1,417.00**Building Fund & PSR**
\$170.00**Holy Day**
\$0.00**Special: Capital Campaign**
\$60.00**Total: \$1,647.00***Thank you for your continued generosity!***PARISH LITURGICAL MINISTRY SCHEDULE****Saturday, October 10, 2026 at 4:00pm Vigil****Ushers:** Rob & Denise Wirth
Lector: Denise Wirth
Euch. Ministers: R. Niehaus, T. Duncan, B. Lubrant
Gift Bearers: Pam & Dave Pickett
Altar Servers: Volunteers Needed**Sunday, October 11, 2026 at 8:00am****Greeters:** Mr. & Mrs. James Kelly
Lector: John Fassero
Euch. Ministers: B. Bertetto, J. Saracco, R. Gill
Gift Bearers: George Link Family
Altar Servers: Lucca Kapp**PLEASE REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS THE SICK AND THOSE IN NEED:**

Dennis Skeldon, Michael McCullough, Brian Orr, Matt Orr, Meredith Heyen, Kyle Billings, Peggy Geurin, Kim Stotts, Joey Bertetto, Virginia Gruenenfelder, Jerri Bayse, Stacy Stoops, Brenda Lowe, Adrienne Devlin, Dave Bedinger, Joe Chiarodo, Carol Bangert, Bella Kennedy, Hazel Bono, Kelly Favre

**SS. SIMON & JUDE / ST. JOSEPH HAS A TEAM OF PRAYER WARRIORS THAT ARE COMMITTED TO
PRAYING FOR YOUR INTENTIONS. IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO HAVE AN INTENTION INCLUDED,
PLEASE CONTACT THE PARISH OFFICE.**



OUTDOOR MASS

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 27, 2026



The outdoor Mass at the Benld City Park was well attended and was a beautiful celebration. The music was provided by the Plavi Dunav Croatian Band and Choir by Dave Dopuch and team was a special treat! A big "thank you" to them. It was nice to see some people from the neighborhood joining the celebration. The weather was great as well. A big thank you to everyone who worked hard to make it happen and who made all the set up and arrangements. The Altar set up was special and prayerful. A special thanks to the Knights of Columbus team, the parish councils of both parishes and staff for coordinating the endeavors and preparing the beautiful brochure for the Mass and the Altar Society members for preparing and taking care of the hospitality. It was a memorable event! Fr. Joe



The Kids' Bulletin

27th Sunday in Ordinary Time
October 4th, 2026



What did the bad tenants do when the owner's son came to get the produce?
Use the code below to find out.



Saint Maria Faustina Kowalska October 5



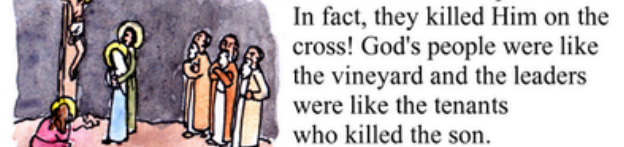
OUR LORD USED SAINT FAUSTINA, WHO HAD BEEN A SIMPLE COUNTRY GIRL, TO TEACH THE WHOLE WORLD ABOUT HIS GREAT MERCY. SHE WROTE WHAT HAPPENED IN HER VISIONS IN NOTEBOOKS. ONE OF THE GREATEST PRAYERS THAT JESUS GAVE HER WAS THE DIVINE MERCY CHAPLET.

Tenants of the Vineyard

In today's Gospel reading, Jesus tells the parable of the vineyard that was leased out to tenants. When the owner's servants came to collect the pay, the tenants beat them. When the owner sent his son, they killed the son because they thought they would be able to take the vineyard if the son was dead.



This story is about God's people. For hundreds of years God cared for His people, leaving leaders in charge. But when He sent His Son Jesus, the leaders did not respect Him.



In a way your life is like a vineyard too. God has given it to you and cared for you all your life. When God wants you to do something for Him, you have the choice of doing what He asks or being like the bad tenants and refusing. Whenever we don't do what is right, we are offending Jesus. But you don't want to be like those bad tenants, do you? Make sure that everything you do is for God!



Answer to Word-Find: They killed him.
Answer to Word-Find: God sent His Son.

www.thekidsbulletin.com

The Evil Tenants Word-Find



Find the words that are in CAPITALS in the puzzle and use the left-over letters to fill in the blanks:

DGWITOPDSON
EVINEYARDSW
AENHNPRESSI
TSEEARASETL
HEIRNOBPROL
RINITDLEVLN
EZATSUECAEE
WEGATCHTND
IDANBEATTSS
SOICOMESSNE
OWNERKILLED

Jesus told this PARABLE: There was a landowner who planted a VINEYARD and built a tower and a WINE PRESS. When he went away, he LEASED it to tenants. In time, he sent SERVANTS to get his PRODUCE, but the tenants BEAT one, killed one, and STONED another. The man sent more servants, but the TENANTS did the same thing AGAIN. Finally, he sent his SON, thinking that they would RESPECT him at least. But the tenants saw the son coming and said, "Here comes the HEIR. If we kill him we can get his INHERITANCE!" So they SEIZED him, THREW him out and KILLED him too!

Jesus asked, "What will the land OWNER do when he COMES?"

The people said, "Put the tenants to DEATH and lease the vineyard to tenants who WILL pay."

SS. SIMON & JUDE CHURCH

MISSION STATEMENT

We the faith community of Ss. Simon & Jude are called to worship as a family, to nurture and grow our faith and to be a welcoming, evangelizing and serving the community.

PARISH COMMITTEES & GROUPS

Parish Council:

Mary Newman, Matt Brown, Harry Cavanaugh, Theresa Duncan, Brenda Lubrant, Roger Niehaus, Bob Tucker, Artie Vallerius, Denise Wirth, Fr. Joe Koyickal

Finance Council:

Harold Newman, Doug Goings, Kristine Jarden, John Marciukaitis, Weye Schmidt, Fr. Joe Koyickal

Ss. Simon & Jude Altar & Rosary Society Contact:

Mary Newman

Knights of Columbus Contact:

JO Kelly

Music Ministry Contact:

Pete Bertino

ST. JOSEPH CHURCH

MISSION STATEMENT

With the Lord's kindness and guidance, we hope to keep St. Joseph Church alive and well so that we may continue to grow in faith and spirit for future generations.

PARISH COMMITTEES & GROUPS

Parish Council:

Cindy Saracco, Bill Bertetto, Donna Dopuch, John Fassero, Ruth Gill, JO Kelly, Chester Wyatt, Fr. Joe Koyickal

Finance Council:

Ed Saracco, Jerry Marcacci, Jerry Saracco, Fr. Joe Koyickal

St. Joseph Altar & Rosary Society Contact:

Cindy Saracco

Knights of Columbus Contact:

JO Kelly

Music Ministry Contact:

Sarah Williams

BAPTISMS

In order for a child to be baptized, the Church requires that the minister performing the baptism have a reasonable hope that the child will be raised in the practice of the faith. Attending Mass regularly and being a registered member of the parish provides this reasonable hope. Please contact the parish office for further details.

SACRAMENT OF FIRST RECONCILIATION, FIRST COMMUNION & CONFIRMATION

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

Contact the DRE, Donette Clark, for more information.

SACRAMENT OF MARRIAGE

A couple wishing to be married in Ss. Simon & Jude / St. Joseph Catholic churches must contact the parish office six months prior to the intended date. The couple must be registered in the parish & attend Mass regularly.

COMMUNION & ANOINTING OF THE SICK

If you are sick or homebound & would like to receive communion or be anointed, please contact the parish office.