



Twenty-Eighth Sunday of Ordinary Time

October 11, 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

Come to the Feast!

In this Sunday's Gospel, Jesus tells us the parable of a king who prepares a great wedding feast for his son. He sends his servants to invite the guests, but many refuse to come. Some are too busy with their own affairs; others simply ignore the invitation. Finally, the king sends his servants out into the streets to invite everyone they can find; "the bad as well as the good."

This is very comforting! God's invitation is extended to everyone not a select few or those who are perfect. God is not expecting us to have a spotless past before we come to God. We come because we need His mercy, His grace, and His love. The Lord wants each of us to have a place at His table. But we can become so pre-occupied with our own concerns, plans, possessions, work, responsibilities and interests that God's invitation becomes secondary. One thing that we notice is that most of those excuses are ordinary and even legitimate parts of life, farm, business. The problem is when good things become more important than God.

But at the same time the parable also reminds us that accepting His invitation also means allowing Him to change our hearts and lives. The wedding garment reminds us that God's grace is meant to change us. Our faith must be reflected in our actions: in our love, kindness, forgiveness, and care for others. If we truly accept Christ into our lives, our faith should gradually become visible in the way we live, in our kindness toward others, our willingness to forgive, our patience with family, our concern for someone who is struggling, our generosity, and our readiness to serve. We need to pray for this grace.

Every Sunday, we experience this invitation in a special way at the Eucharist. The Lord prepares the table and invites us to come, to listen to His Word, to receive Christ in the Eucharist, and to be nourished by His grace. We do not come because we are perfect; we come because we need Him. And after receiving Him, we are sent back into our homes and communities to live what we have received.

So, perhaps the most important question is not simply, "Have I accepted God's invitation?" but also, "Is my life becoming a reflection of the One I have received?"

We could perhaps reflect on this Week:

1. What are some things in my daily life that keep me from giving God the time and attention He deserves? busyness, distractions, worries, resentment, or other priorities?
2. What is one concrete way I can show this week, through my words or actions, that I have truly accepted Christ into my life?

Blessings of Peace and Joy Always!



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, October 18: Ss. Simon & Jude Feast Day Celebration Ss. Simon & Jude will celebrate their Feast Day on Sunday, October 18! The Feast Day Mass will be presided by Fr. Martin Smith, Dean of the Jerseyville Deanery, with Fr. Joe concelebrating. Remember the special Mass time of 4pm. After Mass, a catered dinner will be held 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.

Wed, Nov 4: Blood Drive Ss. Mary & Joseph is sponsoring a Blood Drive at the Carlinville Elks Lodge on from Noon to 5pm. To schedule your appointment, please call 1-800-747-5401. Volunteers are needed, if interested please call Reda Scanlan at 217-556-9781.

We send our condolences to the *family of Geri Schoen*, who passed away on September 22. Please keep Ron & their family in your prayers.

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 12	Tue 13	Wed 14	Thu 15	Fri 16	Sat 17	Sun 18
Praying Rosary in Benld at 8:40am 	Praying Rosary in Gillespie after Mass	Praying Rosary in Benld after Mass KC Mtg 6:30pm at St. Joseph	Praying Rosary in Benld at 8:40am	Praying Rosary in Benld at 8:40am Mass at Gillespie Health & Rehab at 10am	No 4pm Mass; please plan to attend the SSSJ Parish Feast on Sun, Oct 18 at 4pm	Praying Rosary in Benld at 7:30am Ss. Simon & Jude Feast Day Mass at 4pm Dinner after Mass <i>No PSR or YG</i>



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 18 (No PSR, please attend Ss. Simon & Jude Feast Day at 4pm), Oct 25, Nov 1, Nov 8

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

Upcoming Youth Group

Oct 18 (No Youth Group, please attend Ss. Simon & Jude Feast Day at 4pm), Oct 25, Nov 1, Nov 8

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.

Dear Padre

October 11, 2026

In the Creed, we say we believe in the resurrection of the body. So, why is it all right to be cremated?

The *Catechism of the Catholic Church* clearly states what many find confusing: "It is very commonly accepted that the life of the human person continues in a spiritual fashion after death. But how can we believe that this body, so clearly mortal, could rise to everlasting life?" (CCC 996). The *Catechism* goes on to address several questions: "What is rising? Who will rise? How? When?" (CCC 997-1001). In essence, "Christ 'will change our lowly body to be like his glorious body,' into a 'spiritual body'" (CCC 999). The disposition or condition of the physical body at death will not affect the spiritual body that is raised. Cremation, decomposition, mutilation or dismemberment by violence, or the donation of one's body to science—deemed "a noble and meritorious act...to be encouraged as an expression of generous solidarity" (CCC 2296)—does not prevent the resurrection of our glorified body. It is only when the act of cremation appears to be a public denial of faith in the resurrection or the sacredness of the body that the practice is forbidden. ●

The Redemptorists / DearPadre.org

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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: November 4

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

Saturday, October 10

4:00pm Vigil **Simon & Margaret Freidman +**
(Friedman Family)

Tuesday, October 13

8:00am Suzanne Newman / Ed Chesus +
(Clark Family / SSSJ Altar Society)

Friday, October 16

10:00am Mass at Gillespie Health & Rehab
For the wellbeing of the residents**Saturday, October 17: No 4pm Mass; please plan to
attend the SSSJ Parish Feast on Sun, Oct 18 at 4pm**

Sunday, October 18

4:00pm Cinda McCullough / Joe Niebrand +
(L. Orr / Niebrand Family)**STEWARDSHIP****MANAGING GOD'S GIFTS TO US****Weekend Envelopes, Checks & Cash**

\$2,690.00

PSR & Votive Candles

\$152.00

Holy Day

\$0.00

Special: Black & Indian Mission

\$109.00

Total: \$2,951.00*Thank you for your continued generosity!***MASS INTENTIONS**

Sunday, October 11

8:00am **Rose Marie Tebbe +**
(Tebbe Family)

Wednesday, October 14

8:00am Rita Joyce +
(S. Kochinski & G. Leone)

Friday, October 16

10:00am Mass at Gillespie Health & Rehab
For the wellbeing of the residents

Sunday, October 18

8:00am Darlene Koniak
(G. Koniak)**STEWARDSHIP****MANAGING GOD'S GIFTS TO US****Weekend Envelopes, Checks & Cash**

\$1,252.00

Building Fund & PSR

\$80.00

Holy Day

\$0.00

Special: Capital Campaign

\$770.00

Total: \$2,102.00*Thank you for your continued generosity!***PARISH LITURGICAL MINISTRY SCHEDULE****Sunday, October 18, 2026 at 4:00pm****Greeters:** Rob & Denise Wirth
Lector: Bob Tucker
Euch. Ministers: K. Jarden, B. Jillson
Gift Bearers: Mitch & Denise Heyen
Altar Servers: Mitchell Clark & Maria Jarden**Sunday, October 18, 2026 at 8:00am****Greeters:** Bill Gill & Tom Connors
Lector: John Fassero
Euch. Ministers: J. Saracco, R. Gill, R. Byots
Gift Bearers: Mike Byots 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.**

Knights of Columbus Council 2076



**Sunday, October 25
2:00pm-3:00pm
Benld City Park**

**If you are interested in
passing out treats, please
reach out to a KC Member**



The Kids' Bulletin

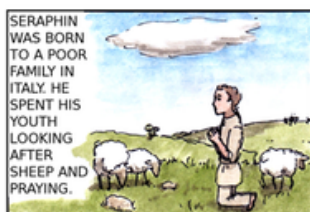
28th Sunday in Ordinary Time
October 11th, 2026



The king sent his servants to call all the people in the street to his son's wedding. Follow the road on the map from the castle's courtyard all the way to the farmland. The people in the houses next to the road you pass are invited to the wedding.

You can colour in the houses if you like.
Who was invited to the feast?

Saint Seraphin October 12



SERAPHIN WAS BORN TO A POOR FAMILY IN ITALY. HE SPENT HIS YOUTH LOOKING AFTER SHEEP AND PRAYING.



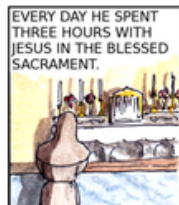
WHEN HIS PARENTS DIED, HIS OLDER BROTHER TREATED HIM BADLY.



WHEN HE TURNED 16, SERAPHIN JOINED THE FRANCISCANS.



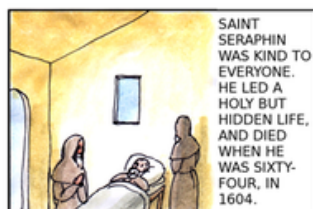
HE DID SIMPLE WORK, AND WAS DEVOTED TO OUR LADY.



EVERY DAY HE SPENT THREE HOURS WITH JESUS IN THE BLESSED SACRAMENT.



EVEN THOUGH HE HAD NEVER BEEN TO SCHOOL, IMPORTANT MEN CAME TO SERAPHIN FOR ADVICE.



SAINT SERAPHIN WAS KIND TO EVERYONE. HE LED A HOLY BUT HIDDEN LIFE, AND DIED WHEN HE WAS SIXTY-FOUR, IN 1604.

SAINT SERAPHIN NEVER DID ANYTHING GREAT OR IMPORTANT, BUT HE DID EVERYTHING WITH GREAT LOVE FOR GOD. HE TRIED TO BE LIKE SAINT FRANCIS IN HIS ZEAL AND LOVE OF THE POOR. LIKE SAINT SERAPHIN, WE CAN IMITATE THE SAINTS AND DO EVERY LITTLE THING OUT OF LOVE OF GOD.

Invitation to the Wedding Feast



I'M TOO BUSY.

Imagine that you live in a great kingdom with a king and queen and many other great people. You hear that the king's son is going to get married and there will be a great wedding feast. All the lords and ladies and rich land owners are invited. On the day of the wedding the servants go out to call the guests to the wedding, but all those important people refuse to go! They say they are too busy with other things, and can't be bothered to go!



THE KING INVITES YOU TO HIS SON'S WEDDING!

Now imagine that you are one of the children in a poor family that lives down a back street. Suddenly you hear people calling out that the king has invited your family to the feast! What excitement! Everybody puts on their best clothes and goes to the castle. In a little while the king comes in and you see him pointing to a man who isn't dressed neatly, and hasn't washed his face or brushed his hair. He sends the man out of the hall.



WHY AREN'T YOU PROPERLY DRESSED?

This is the story that Jesus told about the kingdom of Heaven. Many important people have been invited, but they have decided that they were too busy with other things. But the King has invited us too! We should rejoice and "dress" our souls by being the best we can be! Don't be a half-hearted Christian!

Answers to True or False: 1. false 2. true 3. true 4. false 5. true 6. true 7. true

www.thekidsbulletin.com

True or False: Who is Invited to the Wedding?

In today's Gospel reading, Jesus compares the kingdom of Heaven to a king giving a wedding feast for his son. What happened in the story? See if you know which of these are true statements and which are false:

1. The first time the servants went out to call those who were invited, all the guests came. True or false?
2. When the king sent out the second group of servants, some people didn't come, but went off to their farms and businesses. True or false?
3. Some people mistreated and even killed the servants. True or false?
4. The king decided that nobody else was worthy to come to his son's wedding. True or false?
5. The king decided to send his servants out into the streets to call everyone to come to the wedding. True or false?
6. When the servants called the people in the streets, they all came and filled the banquet hall. True or false?
7. When the king came in to look at his guests and found one that wasn't dressed for the wedding, he had him thrown out of the place. True or false?



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 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.