

Thirty-Second Sunday in Ordinary Time
November 08, 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

Fr. Joe Koyickal, SAC jkoyickal@dio.org

Keep Your Lamps Burning!

The Gospel this weekend presents us with one of Jesus' most meaningful parables about readiness, vigilance, and our preparation for the coming of God's Kingdom.

Jesus tells the story of ten virgins who take their lamps and go out to meet the bridegroom. Five are wise and take extra oil with them, and five are foolish and did not bring extra oil. When the bridegroom is delayed, they all become tired and fall asleep. When the bridegroom finally arrives, only those who have extra oil and are ready are able to enter the wedding feast!

Through this parable Jesus teaches us two important points. First, we do not know the hour of our Lord's coming. Therefore, we need to be always prepared and ready by doing our best to live lives of holiness, love, justice and peace. We cannot wait until tomorrow to do the work we are called to do today.

Secondly, Jesus reminds us that some things in our spiritual life cannot be borrowed at the last minute. The wise virgins could not give their oil to the foolish ones. Nobody can live our faith for us. Our parents may have given us the gift of faith, our priests or teachers may guide us, and our fellow Christians may encourage us, but each of us must personally develop and nurture our relationship with Jesus. We cannot depend only on the faith of our parents, grandparents, or others. We must make our faith our own and nurture and nourish it.

Christian life is not just about beginning our journey of faith; it is about remaining faithful and nurturing and keeping our faith alive every day. The lamps represent our Christian faith, and the oil reminds us of the spiritual nourishment we need to sustain it. We keep our lamps burning through prayer, participation in the Eucharist, reading God's Word, acts of forgiveness, kindness, and loving service to others.

Sometimes we can become so busy with work, family, farming, financial concerns, and other daily activities that prayer, Sunday Mass, and our relationship with God slowly take a back seat. This is the danger Jesus is pointing out in this Gospel. We may have our lamps, but do we have enough oil to keep them burning?

Three Take-Away Messages:

1. **Keep your faith alive:** Do not allow the busyness and distractions of daily life to weaken your relationship with God. Make time for prayer, the Eucharist, and God's Word.
2. **Do not postpone what matters:** Do not put off forgiveness, reconciliation, kindness, or making peace with others. Begin today!
3. **Live each day prepared:** The best way to prepare to meet Jesus is to live faithfully today – loving God, caring for our families, serving others, and showing compassion to those in need. Let us ask ourselves: Is my lamp burning brightly or is it slowly running out of oil? Let us keep alive our flame of faith.

Just want to let you know that I will be away this week from Monday to Friday.

Blessings of peace and Joy Always!



PARISH NEWS



Now until Sun, Dec 13: Ornaments The Altar Society is offering poinsettia ornaments for $5 to adorn our Christmas trees. Proceeds will be donated to the Alton Catholic Children's Home. The names of those being remembered will be displayed in the church vestibule. After the Christmas decorations are taken down, you may take home one of the ornaments as a keepsake. Order forms are available in the bulletin and on the counter in the vestibule. Please make checks out to Ss Simon and Jude Altar Society. Questions please call Mary Newman at 217-825-9171. All names should be submitted by December 13.

Sun, Nov 8: Pre-Thanksgiving Dinner St. Joseph parish will be hosting its annual pre-Thanksgiving dinner on Sun, Nov 8, beginning at 5:00pm. Turkey, pork roast, dressing, & rolls will be provided. Everyone in the tri-parish community is invited to attend. Sign-up sheets will be in the vestibules of both St. Joseph & Ss Simon & Jude. Anyone from Ss Mary & Joseph wishing to attend should contact Cindy Saracco at 217-835-2623 or at esaracco4@gmail.com. The price of admission is a side dish &/or a dessert. Bring your family & join us for some great food and fellowship.

Weekend of November 14/15: Caring Center Collection The Caring Center has reached out to us for assistance in providing support to families in our community. To help with this effort, we will be taking up a second collection next weekend. If you would like to contribute, your generosity would be greatly appreciated. Please make checks payable to **The Caring Center.**

Sun, Nov 22: Cursillo Ultreya Brunch will be held at Ss. Mary & Jopseph Parish Hall after 10am Mass. This is open to anyone from the Tri-Parish community whether you have attended a Cursillo weekend or not. This is an excellent opportunity to discover why more than 30 parishioners from SSMJ have taken the time to attend a Cursillo Weekend in Quincy. Breakfast brunch and fellowship after Mass followed by some spiritual reflection. For more information or to RSVP please call/text Dan Kallal at 217-473-3734.

Mon, Dec 7: Altar Societies Christmas Party The Altar Societies of St. Joseph & Ss Simon & Jude invite you to their Christmas Party on Mon, Dec 7, at Lumpy's in Gillespie starting at 5:30pm with social time. Enjoy a buffet dinner & entertainment. Dinner will include fried chicken, pasta, a vegetable, salad, dessert, tea &coffee. Cost is $30 per person. A cash bar will be available. Reservations are due by Sunday, November 22. Please place your reservation in the collection basket in an envelope marked "Party" on the outside. Include the names of everyone attending. Checks should be made payable to Altar Society. Questions? Please contact Cindy or Mary.

Sun, Dec 13: Christmas Caroling Mark your calendars! Benld & Gillespie parishes plan to go Christmas caroling the afternoon of Sun, Dec 13 and all from the Tri-Parish Family are welcome to join in the fun! We will meet at Ss. Simon & Jude parking lot at 1pm. If any Benld or Gillespie residents are interested in having carolers visit their home, contact Roger at 217-839-4036. Please provide your name, physical address and phone number. Time constraints limit us to visiting just a few homes in Benld and Gillespie, as well as the nursing home.

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 quetions if an event is happening, please contact the head of that committee/group.

Mon 09	Tue 10	Wed 11	Thu 12	Fri 13	Sat 14	Sun 15
	Communion Service at 8am (No Daily Mass) Ss. Simon & Jude Altar Society Mtg after Comm. Ser.	**Communion Service at 8am (No Daily Mass)** KC Mtg at St. Joseph at 6:30pm VETERANS DAY			Eucharistic Adoration in Gillespie 3-4pm	Praying Rosary in Benld at 7:30am **PSR 9:30-10:30am** **YG 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
Nov 15, Nov 22, Nov 29 (No Class Thanksgiving Break)

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

Upcoming Youth Group
Nov 15, Nov 22, Nov 29 (No Class Thanksgiving Break)



Christmas Program: If your child is able to participate in this year's Christmas Program, Sat, Dec 19 after 4pm Mass, please let Donette know (if you have not responded already). There will be a few practices in the weeks prior before PSR class, but practices are not mandatory. Thank you!

Dear Padre

November 8, 2026

What happens to the sacred treasures in a deconsecrated Catholic church?

When a diocesan bishop deconsecrates a church, he issues a decree that removes a church's dedication and relegates it to "profane but not sordid use" when it "cannot be used in any way for divine worship and there is no possibility of repairing it" (*Code of Canon Law*, 1222). The impossibility of repairing a badly damaged church doesn't mean only an architectural impossibility. Inadequate finances to maintain the church properly, an insufficient number of parishioners to foster ecclesiastical vitality, and a shortage of priests are also grave causes for a church's closure. Decorative appointments and sacred treasures in these relegated churches often find new homes in other churches and religious institutions.

This traditional custom of dissemination is a sign of solidarity with the broader Church and in continuity with its rich heritage. It honors the faith and sacrifices of the charter members when the church was built and the generations that followed. Remaining religious items in a relegated church, such as an unmovable altar, "lose their dedication or blessing if they have been destroyed in large part, or have been turned over permanently to profane use by decree of the competent ordinary or in fact" (*CCL* 1238). Stained glass windows, mosaics, and other sacred art that remain in a repurposed church don't lose their aesthetic beauty and evocative power, however. "A thing of beauty is a joy for ever," wrote the poet John Keats. ●

Fr. Byron Miller, CSsR / DearPadre.org

A Journey in Faith
OCIA
Order of Christian Initiation
(formerly known as RCIA)

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.

<u>Classes will be held in the Ss. Mary & Joseph Conference Room at 7pm</u>
We will be taking a break in December. Next class will be in January.

SS. SIMON & JUDE CHURCH

MASS INTENTIONS

Saturday, November 07
4:00pm Vigil **Franklin & Mary T. Orr +**
(L. Orr)

Tuesday, November 10
8:00am Communion Service

Saturday, November 14
4:00pm Vigil Thomas W. Alpi / Lucille Marinacci +
(T. Wasylenko / J. Reid)

STEWARDSHIP
MANAGING GOD'S GIFTS TO US

Weekend Envelopes, Checks & Cash
$3,329.00

PSR & Building Fund
$135.00

Holy Day: All Souls & All Saints
$337.00

Special: World Mission & V. Candles
$202.00

Total: $4,003.00

Thank you for your continued generosity!

ST. JOSEPH CHURCH

MASS INTENTIONS

Sunday, November 08
8:00am **Darlene Koniak +**
(G. Koniak)

Wednesday, November 11
8:00am Communion Service

Sunday, November 15
8:00am Rose Marie Tebbe +
(Tebbe Family)

STEWARDSHIP
MANAGING GOD'S GIFTS TO US

Weekend Envelopes, Checks & Cash
$1,576.00

Building Fund & PSR
$20.00

Holy Day: All Saints Day
$64.00

Special: World Mission
$200.00

Total: $1,860.00

Thank you for your continued generosity!

PARISH LITURGICAL MINISTRY SCHEDULE

Saturday, November 14, 2026 at 4:00pm

Greeters:	Mike & Debbie Rossetto
Lector:	Gayla Crites
Euch. Ministers:	T. Crites, H. Newman, T. Duncan
Gift Bearers:	Jeff & Lee Ross
Altar Servers:	Volunteers Needed

Sunday, November 15, 2026 at 8:00am

Greeters:	Mr. & Mrs. Dennis Janssen
Lector:	Janice Burns
Euch. Ministers:	N. Balzraine, G. Link, J. Kally
Gift Bearers:	Daron Kapp 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, Adrianne Devlin, Dave Bedinger, Joe Chiarodo, Carol Bangert, Bella Kennedy, Hazel Bono, Kelly Favre, Clark Jillson

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.

MARK YOUR CALENDARS!

Mass Changes for November

- Week of November 7: Communion Services all week at all parishes
- Tues, November 24 at Ss. Simon & Jude: No 8 am Daily Mass; Thanksgiving Family Mass will be at 6pm

Upcoming Holiday Mass Schedule

Wed, November 18 (Thanksgiving Family Mass)
5:15pm: Ss. Mary & Joseph

Tues, November 24 (Thanksgiving Family Mass)
6:00pm: Ss. Simon & Jude

Wed, November 25 (Thanksgiving Family Mass)
8:00am: St. Joseph

Tues, December 8 (Immaculate Conception - Holy Day of Obligation)
8:00am: Ss. Simon & Jude
6:00pm: Ss. Mary & Joseph

Confession & Adoration During Advent
Wed, Dec 9: Ss. Mary & Joseph - PSR Confessions 4-5pm. First Reconciliation for our 3rd Graders at 5:15pm
Tue, Dec 15: Ss. Simon & Jude - Confessions for the PSR kids and adults from 6:00pm-7:30pm
Wed, Dec 16: St. Joseph - Confessions for the adults from 8:30am-9:30am
Wed, Dec 16: Ss. Mary & Joseph - PSR Mass at 5:15pm (all are welcome to attend)
Ss. Mary & Joseph - Confessions for the adults from 6:00pm-7:30pm

Thurs, December 24 (Christmas Eve)
4:00pm: Ss. Mary & Joseph
4:00pm: Ss. Simon & Jude with Fr. Don Goergen
6:00pm: St. Joseph (5:30pm Christmas Carol Singing)



Fri, December 25 (Christmas Day)
8:00am: Ss. Simon & Jude
10:00am: Ss. Mary & Joseph

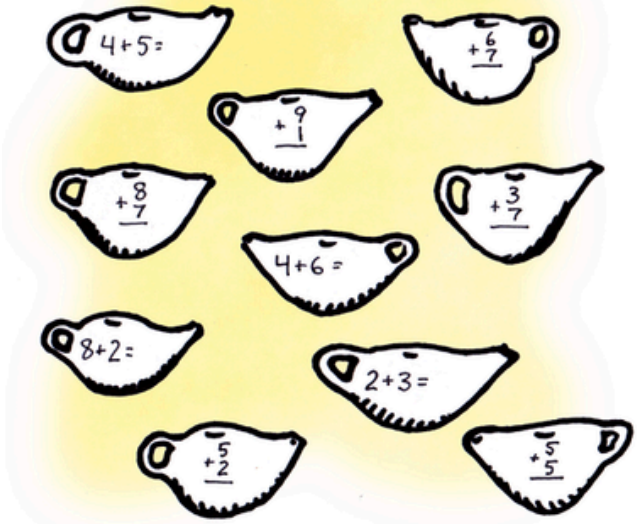
December 26 / December 27: Normal Weekend Schedule

Thurs, December 31 (Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God – Holy Day of Obligation)
4:00pm: Ss. Mary & Joseph
6:00pm: Ss. Simon & Jude

Fri, January 1, 2027 (Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God – Holy Day of Obligation)
8:00am: St. Joseph

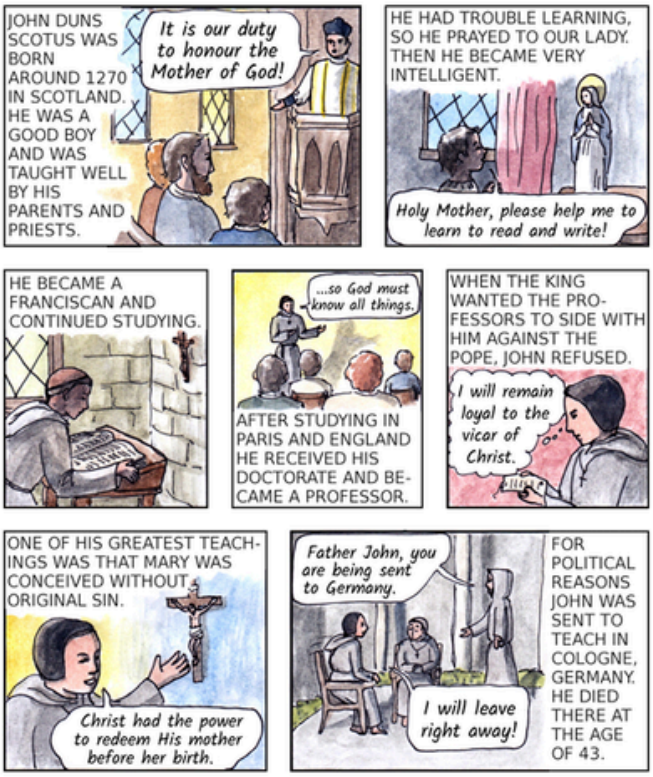
The Kids' Bulletin

32nd Sunday in Ordinary Time
November 8th, 2026



In today's parable, ten bridesmaids are waiting with their lamps. How many of them brought extra oil? Figure out the problems on each lamp. Colour in the ones that equal 10 to find out the answer!

Blessed John Duns Scotus
November 8



BLESSED JOHN KNEW THAT THERE IS NOTHING MORE IMPORTANT THAN KNOWING, LOVING, AND SERVING GOD. HE HAD A GREAT THIRST TO UNDERSTAND HIM BETTER SO HE STUDIED HARD. THE MORE HE UNDERSTOOD ABOUT GOD THE MORE HE COULD TEACH OTHERS ABOUT HIM. WE SHOULD PRAY FOR GOOD TEACHERS.

Always be Ready



Have you ever thought to yourself that it would be better to have fun and be bad now, and then be good later? That's what some of the bridesmaids in today's parable were like. They only brought enough oil for their lamps, and didn't bother to bring any extra. But the other bridesmaids had been wise and took along extra flasks to refill their lamps when it got late. When the bridegroom came, those who hadn't brought extra oil were gone, getting more oil, and missed the feast!



Sometimes people say that they have lots of time to change from their evil ways, so they don't repent right away. This parable shows us that it is very foolish to leave important things until later. Nobody knows when they will die, so we should always be ready.

The oil of the bridesmaids is like the grace in our souls. We need to make sure that our soul always has sanctifying grace, which we need to get into Heaven. We lose that grace when we do a serious sin. That is why if we ever commit a serious sin, we should go to confession as soon as we can so that we will always have grace and be ready for when we die.



Answer to front puzzle: 5 had extra oil. Answer to Word-find: My soul thirsts for Thee.

www.thekidsbulletin.com

Psalm 63 Word-Find

See if you can find all the words in CAPITALS in this part of today's Psalm. The leftover letters will spell out a little prayer to God when you write them in the blanks at the end.



P A R C H E D P O W E R
M W Y S B A N Q U E T W
O I T H I R S T S U L I
S L I P S T O W A R D T
A L T H P H U F L E S H
N A M E I G L O R Y I O
C A L L N O I R S T W U
T G A Z E D V S F O A T
U B L E S S E M O U T H
A L I F E H A N D S E R
R I C H E S G O O D R T
Y H E E K I N D N E S S

O GOD, you are my God whom I SEEK;
for you my FLESH PINES and my soul THIRSTS
like the EARTH, PARCHED and WITHOUT WATER.

Thus have I GAZED TOWARD you in the SANCTUARY
to see your POWER and your GLORY,
for your KINDNESS is a greater GOOD than LIFE;
my lips shall glorify you.

Thus WILL I BLESS you while I LIVE;
lifting up my HANDS, I will CALL upon your NAME.
As with the RICHES of a BANQUET shall my SOUL be satisfied,
and with exultant LIPS my MOUTH shall praise you.

__ _____ _____ ___ _____!

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.