

A Heartfelt message from Fr Felix Chukwuma

Dear beloved parish family of St. Kateri Tekakwitha Parish, Ridgway, and St. Joseph Parish, Elizabethtown, IL. Thank you so much for the kindness, prayers, and love you showed me on my 21st Priestly Ordination Anniversary. Indeed, it means a lot to me. I can proudly say that I have a home away from home. Your faith, support, and generosity strengthen my vocation every day. I am deeply grateful, and I continue to hold each of you in my prayers. May God bless and replenish you most abundantly.
Fr Felix Chukwuma

Mass of Assumption :

Friday, August 14, 2026, at St. Joseph of the Woods 6:00 p.m.

Saturday, August 15, 2026, at St. Kateri 8:00 a.m.

(The Saturday morning Mass for Assumption does not count as the Sunday Mass)

Funeral Policy: Please contact our Parish Priest before any arrangements are made with the funeral home involving the priest and the church.

18th Sunday in Ordinary Time - *“Jesus said to them, ‘There is no need for them to go away; give them some food yourselves’.”* - MATTHEW 14:16 This is what Jesus said right before he fed the five thousand men. How often do we really place our trust in Jesus when the situation looks grim? With Jesus, no gift is too small or insignificant when offered with love. But, we have to do our part. We should trust that Jesus will provide all that we need. We need to believe that Jesus has a better plan in store for us.

Seeking Volunteers for The Beatification of Archbishop Fulton J. Sheen - An historic moment for the Catholic Church in the United States that will bring together thousands of pilgrims from across the country to celebrate the life and legacy of one of America's most beloved Catholic evangelists. This extraordinary event in St. Louis, Missouri, will only happen once, and we are looking for volunteers to help make it a joyful and welcoming experience for everyone who attends. Whether you have a few hours or several days to give, there are a variety of volunteer opportunities available before and during the celebration. **Beatification Mass & Expo, Thursday, Sept. 24, The Dome at America's Center, St. Louis, MO**

To volunteer, go to. <https://www.celebratesheen.com/volunteer>

Thanks so much to everyone who said prayers, visited, sent cards, called, and brought my favorite snacks and food during my long hospital stay. Every act of kindness was greatly appreciated! You are a truly wonderful church family! David Schmitt and family.

ST. KATERI SNACKPACK PROGRAM: As we prepare for the start of another school year, we are loading up on supplies for the SnackPack program. Gallatin County School has approximately 100 students who qualify for this ministry, and that is the number of sacks we will be preparing each weekend. You can support this ministry by dropping a check into the collection made out to St. Kateri Parish with “SnackPack” on the memo line.

L. A. Lambert Knights of Columbus annual steak fry will be on Wednesday, August 5th starting at 7:00 p.m. at Ridgway Community Park. All KC members are invited to attend

Knights of Columbus golf scramble fundraiser - The Ridgway Knights of Columbus and St. Kateri will have their 13th annual golf scramble fundraiser this year on Saturday August 29 at the Saline Co. golf course in Eldorado. Tee off at 8:00 a.m. \$400.00 per team includes cart, green fee, food, drinks and prizes. Thanks to you we donated ~\$17,000 to 20 benefits last year. This year’s proceeds will help support the following benefits:

1) Gallatin County St. Kateri Church underground water drainage improvements for foundation stabilization.

2) Community area charitable organizations:

*Family assistance in Saline and Gallatin counties (food pantries/4C's)

*The Guardian Center (child advocacy 7 county area)

*Pregnancy crisis centers in the immediate area (alternatives to abortion)

*Survivor Empowerment Center (The Women's Center, domestic violence)

*St. Kateri needy fund / Help Center / Snack pack program

*St. Joseph of the Woods Church maintenance fund

*Camp Ondessonk youth camp

*The Newman Center SIU campus (Catholic youth support)

*The Laboure Society (Helping to rescue vocations)

*St. Meinrad Seminary (Educating future priests / Deacons)

*The Golden Circle senior citizens group

*Cross Catholic Outreach (humanitarian assistance)

*Hospice of Southern IL.

*WEUC Catholic radio (Morganfield, KY.) EWTN (Catholic television network)

*St. Mary Mother's Center Harrisburg (Mothers & children assistance)

If you’re not a golfer, hole sponsorship for \$100.00 with your sign on a tee box is very helpful and appreciated. Signs with your business, individual, in memory of, or family sponsorship are all welcome. **For more information you can contact a member of the Ridgway Knights of Columbus or: Rick Zirkelbach , 6870 Raben Rd., Ridgway, IL. 62979, 618-313-3130, rzirk7@gmail.com**

Your Calendar:

August 5, Wednesday: L. A. Lambert Knights of Columbus annual steak fry starting at 7:00 p.m. at Ridgway Community Park. All KC members are invited to attend

August 12, Wednesday: St. Joseph of the Woods-#3936 KofC Meeting Harrisburg 7:00 p.m.

August 14, Friday: Adoration after Mass at St. Kateri

August 14, Friday: Mass of Assumption- St. Joseph of the Woods 6:00 p.m.

August 15, Saturday: Mass of Assumption- Kateri 8:00 a.m. **(The Saturday morning Mass for Assumption does not count as the Sunday Mass)**

August 19, Wednesday: St. Kateri Finance Meeting at 5:30 p.m.

August 19, Wednesday: Knights of Columbus 4th Degree Meeting at 7:30 p.m. at the Columbus Club in Ridgway

If anyone has a person that needs a card, please text name and address to Jane Bond 618-313-1817

Care Bears with cards are available in the Narthex for those that are sick or shut in. If you visit someone at home or in the hospital, please take them a bear and note from the parish.
Compassionate Miscarriage Bundles are available for anyone in need. Please contact Emily York 618-841-9076

St. Kateri
Pray for those who are sick or in hospital: Beverly Mills, Jeff Dearmon, Charlie Wargel, Alice Duvall, Tim Duvall, Ty Hollingsworth, Gregg Drone, Kay Johnson, Tracy Russell, Brenda Raben, Theodore Kert and Tom Patton.

St. Joseph
Pray for those who are sick or in hospital: Carolyn Ellis, Susan Williams, Nathan Clark, Filii Tuliao, Steve & Sharon Robbs, Hadley Stowers, Pam & Dickie Pease, Sue Leonberger, Erin Adams, Tom Hirsch, Ronnie & Maryanne Armstrong, Deborah Smoot, Jim Patton, Ken Schimp, Becky Barnard, Erin Armstrong, Rusty Cornell, Christy Busler, Janice Downey, Pat Rochford, Dora Kay Warren, Craig Fuller, Miranda Hutchison, Rachel Martin, Tammy Parkinson, Charlie Joyner, David Helmers, Larry Brugger, Jim & Cheryl Thornton, Lori Price, Dewayne Simmons, Gary Carr, Bob Gibbs, Carol Wolf, Regina & Larry Hall, Ricky Williams, Christie Tetford, Peyton Daymon, Steve Hunt, Jerry Humm, Betty Monroe, Mike Carver, Danny Sanders, Troy Hirsch, Larry Robinson, Diane Darnell, JoAnn Jordan, Bob Winchester, Kathy Hogshead Repasky, Larry Ashford, Stacy Tolbert, Dan Block, Roger and Judy Hopkins

OUR RETURN GIFTS TO GOD LAST WEEK: Thank you for your generosity.			
St. Kateri Parish		St. Joseph Stewardship weekly budget goal	
(46 Envelopes)		(Our weekly goal \$1600.00)	
Sunday Envelopes:	\$3210.00	Sunday Envelopes:	\$1889.00
Loose Collection:	\$316.00	Loose Collection:	\$158.00
Building:	\$25.00	Weekly Sunday Envelope Total:	\$2047.00
Gym Rental:	\$150.00		
Weekend Snack Pack:	\$60.00		
Poshard Foundation-Logan College	\$1000.00		
Donation Weekend Snack Pack:			
Gym rental:	\$150.00		
St. Mary’s Cemetery:	\$35.00		
St. Joseph Equality Cemetery:	\$100.00		
St. Patrick Cemetery:	\$50.00		
St. Joseph Ridgway Cemetery:	\$130.00		
CSMA GOAL: \$14,971.00		CSMA GOAL: \$4,223.00	
CSMA Collection/Pledges		CSMA Collection	
Totals: \$10,599.00		Totals: \$3,765.00	

Liturgical Ministers Schedule:	
Saturday, August 8, 2026 - St. Kateri	Sunday, August 9, 2026 - St. Joseph
Lector: Tracy McGuire	Lector: Ashley McCuan
Eucharistic Ministers: Mike & Tracy McGuire	Eucharistic Ministers: Tamera Berger, Mike Steele
Servers: Ella Lydick, Jason Abell	Ushers: Steve Daily, Will Soward
Greeters: Pat Abell, Richard Carruba	
Sunday, August 9, 2026 – St. Kateri	
Lector: Cathy Duffy	
Eucharistic Ministers: Denzil & Debbie Hughes	
Servers: Carl Payne, Thomas McGuire	
Greeters: Denzil & Debbie Hughes	

St. Kateri Tekakwitha Parish
220 S. Combs St.
Ridgway, Illinois 62979

St. Joseph of the Woods Parish
15 St. Joseph Road
Elizabethtown, Illinois 62931



Parish Office:
PO Box 190
211 West Edwards St.
Ridgway, IL 62979
Phone: (618) 272-7059

GallatinCatholic@gmail.com
http://www.stkateri.net

Office Hours:
Monday through Friday
8:30am - 12:00pm
1:00pm - 4:00pm



Bishop Godfrey Mullen, OSB
Bishop of the Diocese of Belleville

Fr. Felix Chukwuma
Parish Administrator
812-899-2415
chibuchuma@yahoo.com

Eighteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time
August 1st, 2026 & August 2nd, 2026
Mass Schedule for this week

Saturday	Aug	1,	5:00 PM	RDWY	For Our Parish
Sunday	Aug	2,	8:00 AM	ETWN	Mitch & Ruth Mitchell
Sunday	Aug	2,	10:30 AM	RDWY	Roy & Theresa Boulds & family
Monday	Aug	3,	No Mass		
Tuesday	Aug	4,	No Mass	RDWY	
Wednesday	Aug	5,	No Mass	RDWY	
Thursday	Aug	6,	No Mass	ETWN	
Friday	Aug	7,	No Mass	RDWY	
Saturday	Aug	8,	5:00 PM	RDWY	For Our Parish
Sunday	Aug	9,	8:00 AM	ETWN	Bernie & Connie Herrmann
Sunday	Aug	9,	10:30 AM	RDWY	Michael Abell, Judy Atkins, Renee Zirkelbach