

**Sunday, March 5, 2017
First Sunday in Lent**



Sun. 5 Mar. 1st Sunday of Lent, I Class
8:00 am Amy Culbreath
10:30 am Pro Populo
1:30 pm Benjamin Garcia, Sr.
6:00 pm Rosa Mystica Confirmandi

Mon. 6 Mar. Feria of Lent, III Class
7:00 am Rosie Nunes
12:15 pm Ann Ball

Tues. 7 Mar. St. Thomas Aquinas, Confessor & Doctor, II Class
7:00 am †Jo Petrucci
6:30 pm Hans Wilfried Huch

Wed. 8 Mar. Ember Wednesday, II Class
7:00 am Intentions of Indre McCluskey
12:15 pm Emilie Gross Hanten

Thurs 9 Mar. Feria of Lent, III Class
7:00 am Isabella Gomez
6:30 pm Margarete Kubis

Fri. 10 Mar. Ember Friday, II Class
7:00 am †Mr. Peart
12:15 pm FSSP
6:30 pm Margaret Northam

Sat. 11 Mar. Ember Saturday, II Class
7:00 am Gertrude Huch
9:00 am FSSP

Sun. 12 Mar. 2nd Sunday of Lent, I Class
8:00 am Amy Culbreath
10:30 am Pro Populo
1:30 pm Monique Rance
6:00 pm Confraternity of St. Peter

...In Memoriam

†Maria Lopresti, †George Klopff, †Nell Keim, †John Reyes,
†Margaret Melusky, †Robert O’Kane, †Savino Salierno,
†Beverly Longtin, †Donald Strahota, †Ursula Uclaray,
†Marina Servande

Important Upcoming Dates

March 3—Stations of the Cross after Masses—7am & 6:30 pm
March 10—Youth Group
March 11—Confirmation
March 15—Men’s Holy League
March 17—St. Patrick’s Day
March 20—Feast of St. Joseph (*transferred*)
March 20—24 - Lenten Mission—Fr. Buckley
April 13—Holy Thursday
April 16—Easter Sunday
April 23—Live Performance of “Faustina”
May 6—First Holy Communion
June 18—24 Camp Sacred Heart
July 23—27—Annual Retreat

Venial Sin

Venial sin, like mortal sin, goes counter to God’s will, although with less serious deviation. While it does not destroy charity, it is opposed to it and therefore diminishes its fervor and vigor, hindering its development. This is the disastrous effect of deliberate venial sin committed with the realization that it is displeasing to God.

Once venial sins of this kind become habitual, they decrease the soul’s tendency toward God, and increase, on the other hand, its leaning toward self-satisfaction and creatures. Thus, little by little the soul loses its fervor, its sense of sin, and falls into tepidity, which is characterized by a certain indifference to venial sin. This puts it in danger of offending God in serious matters also. In this sense, venial sin may be compared to a disease of insidious languor, a kind of spiritual tuberculosis, which undermines the organism slowly but fatally. It is not unusual to meet souls who having at first surrendered themselves to God with sincere fervor, afterwards let themselves fall into continual carelessness, indifference, voluntary omissions, and laziness, because they have given in to selfishness and sought their own comfort. They become incapable of making the generous efforts required to advance on the way they have started. Their spiritual life is reduced to a kind of lethargy which is not yet death, but which has none of the freshness and vigor of a strong, healthy life. It lacks the fervor of charity, for this is continually being lessened by deliberate concessions to venial sin.

To put us on our guard against such a state, St. Teresa of Jesus declares, “Always be fearful if you do not feel sorry for the faults you commit, for even venial sin ought to fill you with sorrow to the very depths of your soul. . . For the love of God, take care not to commit any deliberate venial sin, even the smallest. . . And can anything be small if it offends God?”

“May His Majesty be pleased to make us fear Him whom we ought to fear and understand that one venial sin can do us greater harm than all the forces of hell combined.”

(*Divine Intimacy* by Fr. Gabriel of St. Mary Magdalen, OCD.

From the Pastor

I would like to thank everyone for the prayers, cards, and gifts that I received on the occasion of my permanent incorporation into the Priestly Fraternity of St. Peter (FSSP) on March 22nd. Thanks also to all those who organized and participated in the reception that followed the Mass and the oath of incorporation. It was very nice. All are remembered in my prayers.

Lenten Mission

Mark your calendars for the Lenten Mission—March 20—24. Fr. James Buckley, FSSP, will be preaching the mission. There will be a 6:30 pm Mass each day of the mission. Fr. Buckley will be available to hear confessions during Mass, and will return to the confessional after his talk. Father's conferences will immediately follow the Mass.

Special Collection

Next Sunday, March 12th, a second collection will be taken up for the FSSP seminary. Your donations help to ensure that Fraternity priests will not be lacking here at St. Stephen’s, and elsewhere, in the future.

BIBLE STUDY, SECOND SERIES

Thursday after 6:30 pm Mass
Following the Footsteps of a Patriarch
Abraham: Genesis 14—25

Rules For Fasting And Abstinence

Ash Wednesday and Good Friday are obligatory days of universal fast and abstinence. Fasting is obligatory for all from ages 18 to the completion of their 59th birthday. Fasting allows a person to eat one full meal. Two smaller meals may be taken, not to equal one full meal. Abstinence (from meat) is obligatory for all persons 14 years and older. Every Friday in Lent is an obligatory day of abstinence.

Other forms of “fasting,” especially regarding alcoholic drink, needless television, video games, internet use and social entertainment - are of true spiritual value and are strongly encouraged.

In order to deepen one’s love for Christ, Catholics are urged to spend time in spiritual reading (especially Sacred Scripture), to study the catechism, to participate in devotions offered by the parish, and to pray more fervently. The faithful are exhorted to pray the rosary, to make private visits to the Blessed Sacrament, and to pray especially for vocations to the priesthood and the religious life.

Stations of the Cross

Stations of the Cross devotions are scheduled for all Fridays during Lent after the 12:15 and 6:30 pm Masses.

Friday Evening Soup Suppers

Friday soup suppers during Lent are organized by Mike & Kathleen De Santis. For more information call: 916-335-4553 or 916-204-9125

Around the Parish

~ **Congratulations** to Jesse Jimenez who received the sacraments of Baptism, Confirmation, and Holy Communion at St. Stephen’s on February 25th!

St. Joseph’s Table

You are invited to join us on Sunday, March 19, after the 8:00, 10:30, and 1:00 Masses for a traditional **St. Joseph’s Table, “La Tavola di San Giuseppe.”** St. Joseph’s Table is an age-old Italian tradition giving thanks to and honoring St. Joseph, protector of the family.

Some food and beverage will be provided, but we invite you to help out by bringing a dessert treat, i.e. cookies, biscotti, cannoli, etc.—these can be delivered anytime on Saturday, March 18 or bring them to the event.

We also need help with set up on Saturday, March 18 and with baking bread to adorn the St. Joseph’s Table altar. If you are interested in assisting, contact Larry White at: 916-296-2088 or lwhite@mcn.org Additionally, there’s a sign-up sheet in the vestibule.

Please note that St. Joseph’s feast day has been transferred to Monday, March 20, because the 19th is a Sunday in Lent.

Chesterton Society Meeting:

March 14th at 7:30pm

We are continuing with the book: *The Everlasting Man* Chapter 6 of Part II, “*The Five Deaths of the Faith*” .
The Ballad of the White Horse - Prefatory Note and Dedication and intro to *The Ballad of the White Horse* by Dale Ahlquist

All are welcome!

40 Days for Life * March 1—April 9

Please help us save lives by prayer, fasting and peaceful vigils. Vigil hours are 7 am to 7 pm, Monday through Friday. (Afternoon hours are the hardest to fill, so please consider this.)

Abortion site location: 1442 Ethan Way, Sacramento.

For more information call Susan Money at 530-320-1614 or e-mail her at susanlive@gmail.com

Confraternity of St. Peter

2017 Pilgrimage to

Italy & Slovenia

With Fr. James Fryar, FSSP—CSP Chaplain

Sept. 9—18, 2017

For more info—brochures available in the bookstore or call 800-334-5425

Please Keep in Your Prayers ...

Mike McGrath, Renee Burns, Barbara Graichen, Sue McGrath, Paulette Brady, Sandy Sneary, Barbara Jeong, John Newaz, Marne Merino, Jim Carlson, Darryl Gallagher, Fr. Goodwin, Margaret Northan, Jean Haun, Sandra De Monaco, Mary & Ramon Daley, Mitzi Vandenburg, Gerald Foy, Pamela Lewis, Strahota Family



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Your message here



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Your Greeting Here

Mother of Perpetual Help! Thank you for all the Blessings for our Family!

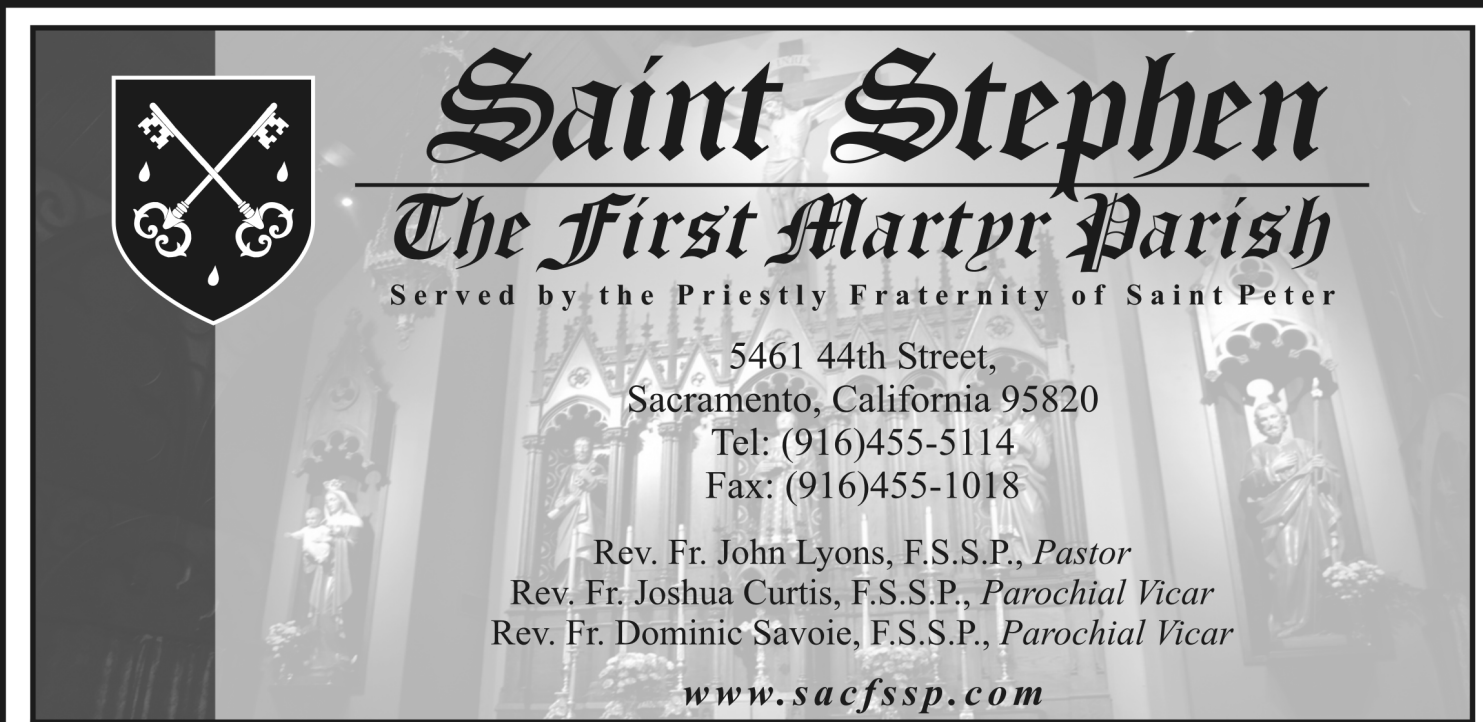
St. Joseph, powerful patron, thank you for favors granted!



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Rev. Fr. John Lyons, F.S.S.P., *Pastor*
 Rev. Fr. Joshua Curtis, F.S.S.P., *Parochial Vicar*
 Rev. Fr. Dominic Savoie, F.S.S.P., *Parochial Vicar*

www.sacfssp.com

If you wish to receive official notifications from the parish, subscribe to email: ststephenssp-subscribe@yahoo.com

MASS SCHEDULE
TRADITIONAL ROMAN RITE

Sunday: 8:00 a.m. Low Mass
 10:30 a.m. High Mass
 1:30 p.m. Low Mass
 6:00 p.m. Low Mass

Monday: 7:00 a.m. and 12:15 p.m.
Tuesday: 7:00 a.m. and 6:30 p.m.
Wednesday: 7:00 a.m. and 12:15 p.m.
Thursday: 7:00 a.m. and 6:30 p.m.
Friday: 7:00 a.m. and 12:15 p.m. and 6:30 p.m.
Saturday: 7:00 a.m. and 9:00 a.m.
Holy Days: Please call the office or consult the bulletin or website

DEVOTIONS

Rosary:

- Sunday: 7:30 a.m., 10:00 a.m., and after the 1:30 p.m. Mass
- Following the 12:15 p.m. Mass on weekdays

Holy Face Novena: 5:30 p.m. every Tuesday

St. Monica Novena: First Thursday of every month, following the 6:30 p.m. Mass

Our Lady of Perpetual Help Novena: after 6:30 p.m. Mass every Tuesday

Fatima Procession: 13th of every month- May to October - following the 6:30 p.m. Mass on weekdays, the 9:00 a.m. Mass on Saturdays, and the 1 p.m. Mass on Sundays

Men's Holy League: 3rd Wednesday of each month. Holy Hour 7pm—8 pm

CONFESSION

- One half hour before all Masses
- Saturdays 8:30 a.m. to 10:00 a.m.

EXPOSITION AND BENEDICTION
THE MOST BLESSED SACRAMENT

Thursday: 3:00 p.m. to 6:15 p.m.
Friday: After 6:30 p.m. Mass
Saturday: After 7:00 a.m. to 8:45 a.m. (Holy Hour for Vocations)
First Friday: Benediction after 12:15 p.m. Mass

SICK CALLS

If anyone is in need of the Sacraments (i.e. homebound) please call the parish office. If it is an **emergency**, outside of office hours, dial (916) 455-5114, then press 1, and the priest-on-call will be paged immediately.

NEW TO ST. STEPHEN'S?

Registration forms are available in the Parish Office or Bookstore.

ENVELOPES AND ON-LINE GIVING

Envelopes are very helpful for our bookkeeping. PLEASE pick them up in the Parish Office or Bookstore.

For on-line giving go to the parish website:
www.sacfssp.com

St. Bernadette Fund – to aid parishioners in need!
 Donations may be made on-line.