

Sunday, November 2, 2014
21st Sunday after Pentecost



Sun. 2 Nov. 21st Sunday after Pentecost, II Class

8:30 am †James R. Sheldon
 10:30 am Pro Populo
 1:00 pm †Daryl Stephens

3:00 pm Vespers & Benediction

Mon. 3 Nov. Commemoration of All Souls, I Class

6:30 am All Souls Novena
 7:05 am Holy Father's Intentions
 7:45 am All the Faithful Departed
 11:40 am All Souls Novena
 12:15 am Holy Father's Intentions
 12:50 am All the Faithful Departed
 5:15 pm All Souls Novena
 5:55 pm Holy Father's Intentions
 7:00 pm All the Faithful Departed

Tues. 4 Nov. St. Charles Borromeo, Bishop & Confessor, III Class

7:00 am †Rose Adams
 12:15 pm All Souls Novena
 6:30 pm All Souls Novena

Wed. 5 Nov. Feria, IV Class

7:00 am Jared Aranas
 12:15 pm †Charlie Burns
 6:30 pm All Souls Novena

Thurs. 6 Nov. Feria, IV Class

7:00 am †Nancy Dittmer & Dittmer family
 12:15 pm All Souls Novena
 6:30 pm St. Monica Sodality

Fri. 7 Nov. Feria, IV Class

7:00 am †Father Kozina
 12:15 pm Amy Rutschow
 6:30 pm Father Joseph Terra

Sat. 8 Nov. Feria, IV Class

7:00 am †Bernard & Loretta Trainor
 9:00 am †Francis J. Covy

Sun. 9 Nov. Dedication of the Archbasilica of Our Holy Savior, II Class

8:30 am Raymond Alatorre & family
 10:30 am Pro Populo
 1:00 pm †John & Nancy Yetto

3:00 pm Vespers & Benediction

Sick Calls

If anyone is in need of the Sacrament (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?

Please stop by the office or bookstore and pick up a registration form. It is very helpful for us to have contact information for your family, even if you cannot come to St. Stephen's every week.

If you do not have envelopes and would like them you can pick up a box in the bookstore. The use of envelopes is very helpful for our bookkeeping system.

Important Upcoming Dates

November 3—Commemoration of All Souls
 November 30—First Sunday of Advent
 December 8—Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary
 December 12—Feast of Our Lady of Guadalupe
 January 24—11th Annual Walk For Life
 April 13—Confirmation at 6:30 pm
 May 2—May Procession & Solemn Mass
 May 30—FSSP Priestly Ordinations

Apostolic Hope

In his work the apostle needs to be sustained by a strong hope. The moments of enthusiasm are brief, success is quickly followed by failure, difficulties are numerous, the struggle waged by enemy forces is sharp and incessant, and if the apostle is not firmly anchored in God by solid theological hope, he will end, sooner or later, by giving up the enterprise in discouragement. "I have overcome the world," Jesus declared, and sending the apostles to continue His victorious mission, He assured them, "I am with you all days, even to the consummation of the world." The foundation of apostolic hope is the victory of Christ and His continual help. If we had to rely upon our own resources, our ability, our works, we should have every reason to give up in despair; this, however, is not the case. We hope and we are certain in our hope, because God is omnipotent, because He wills all men to be saved, because Christ has redeemed us with His Precious Blood, and because He has died for us and for us has risen again; and finally, because His promises—the promises of a God—are infallible: "Heaven and earth shall pass, but My words shall not pass."

Relying on the salvific will of God, on His infinite power, and on the redemption of Christ, the apostle should nourish the certain hope that grace will triumph in the end. But at the same time, he should have no delusions; he should realize that he will not attain victory except by passing through Calvary. "Neither is the apostle greater than He that sent him." If Jesus reached the triumph of the Resurrection only after His Passion and most painful death, the apostle cannot seek another way. For him also, there will necessarily come hours of darkness, but rather than being a sign of defeat, they will be the prelude to victory; rather than being a sign of abandonment on the part of God, they will be a proof that God is with him, precisely because He is leading him by the very same way along which He led His divine Son.

By means of persecutions, humiliations and failures, the apostle will learn not to trust in his own strength; he will consider himself a useless servant even after he has labored much; he will be convinced of his own insufficiency and of the insufficiency of all human means; hence, he will place all his hope in God. He will learn to work solely for the love of God, without seeking the consolation of success, renouncing even the legitimate satisfaction of seeing the results of his labors. He will learn to be detached from the opinions and judgments of men, to act independently of their approval or disapproval, and to look only to the judgment and approval of God. The contradictions and troubles that the apostle encounters in his work constitute his dark night, comparable to that of contemplatives, a night that is painful but very precious, because its purpose is to purify the soul of every remnant of self-love, of egoism, of vanity, of attachment to creatures and to their esteem. This night, if generously accepted, will gradually lead to an ever greater interior purity, and therefore, to an ever closer union with God. The apostle should remain steadfast in hope, notwithstanding struggles, difficulties, and failures. He should be assured of success, not only where the salvation of the souls entrusted to him is concerned, but also in relation to his own personal sanctification. Even if God should permit his success to remain hidden and all his work to end, as did that of Jesus, in apparent failure, the apostle will find strength in the wounds and Blood of the divine Crucified to persevere in hope, and to hope against all hope. (*Divine Intimacy* by Fr. Gabriel of St. Mary Magdalen, OCD)

Purgatory

The Nature of Its Joys and Sorrows

St. Catherine of Genoa, shortly before the Reformation which rejected the belief in purgatory with scorn, wrote on purgatory the most sublime treatise we possess. In this treatise she wrote:

"Apart from the happiness of the saints in heaven, I think there is no joy comparable to that of the souls in purgatory. An incessant communication with God renders their happiness daily more intense, and this union with God grows more and more intimate, according as the impediments to that union, which exist in the soul, are consumed. These obstacles are the rust and the remains, as it were, of sin; and the fire continues to consume them, and thus the soul gradually expands under the divine influence. Thus, according as the rust diminishes and the soul is laid bare to the divine rays, happiness is augmented. The one grows and the other wanes until the time of trial is elapsed. Yet the pain is not lessened, it is only the time of suffering which decreases. With regard to the will of these souls, they can never say that these pains are pains, so great is their contentment with the ordinance of God, with which their wills are united in perfect charity."

So far St. Catherine. Her words need but little explanation. The state of the Holy Souls can be summed up in the words: an intense unsatisfied desire to see God. Now all desire, while it remains unsatisfied, constitutes pain of some kind and brings some sort of sadness. Desire with certainty of never being satisfied is intense torture. Its pain is in proportion to the realization of the greatness of the good ultimately lost and our responsibility in having lost it.

Desire without certainty of ever being satisfied is pain mixed with the sweetness of hope.

Desire with the absolute certainty of being satisfied is both joy and pain. Both pain and joy increase equally in proportion to the realization of the good to be attained and of our own responsibility in having merited both its ultimate attainment and its present delay.

The Holy Souls are inexpressibly happy and inexpressibly sad. They are happy because by God's grace and their own free will they have secured the certainty of seeing and enjoying Him, whom they supremely love. They are sad because through their own fault they are deprived of the blissful vision of His glory.

Saint Francis Xavier Mission Trip
3 Trips for 2015:

1. Guadalajara, Mexico—Holy Week / Easter Week 2015 March 28—April 11. Cost \$900.00 plus airfare. Ages 16 and up. Or families (see website for more details)
2. Piura, Peru—July 28—Aug. 10 Cost \$2,300. (ages 16—21)
3. Piura, Peru—Aug. 14—24 Cost \$2,100. (ages 21 and up)

www.sfxmission.com
 SFXMission@gmail.com

Led by Fr. Heenan, FSSP & Fr. Lillard, FSSP
 Application deadline—December 19, 2014

Sacred Heart Families

If you are interested in joining the parish e-loop, let us know. It is a moderated loop set up to send out news on parish events and announcements. It is also for sending out prayer requests. All posts are read by moderators before they are put through to the loop. Members are asked to reply privately to prayer requests and other comments which are not meant for the entire group. It's a great way to stay informed!

...In Memoriam

†Charles Cantoni, †Manuel Nino, †Margaret Correa,
 †Cindy Yumoto, †Fr. Vladimir Kozina, †Philip Rutschow,
 †Jennie Tomasi

Parish Computer Maintenance Help Needed

We are looking for someone who is skilled in computer maintenance and would be willing to help the parish out once in a while. We have some issues with pop ups and perhaps spy ware that we can't seem to resolve. If you can help us, stop in the bookstore or call 916-455-5114.

Prayer for Priestly and Religious Vocations

Priest: Let us pray for priestly and religious vocations.

All: O God, we earnestly beseech Thee to bless the Church with many priests, brothers, and sisters, who will love Thee with their whole hearts, be faithful to their vocations, and gladly spend their entire lives to teach Thy truths, serve Thy Church, and to make Thee known and loved.

Priest: Bless our families, bless our children.

All: Choose from our homes those who are needed for Thy work.

Priest: O Mary, Queen of priestly and religious vocations:

All: Pray for us. Pray for our priests, seminarians and religious. Obtain for us the grace of many more. Amen.

(Please offer your reception of Holy Communion on the first Sunday of the month for vocations)

Prayer of Parents for Priestly and Religious Vocations

O God, grant that at least one of our sons may become a priest or religious brother, and one of our daughters a religious sister. We ourselves want to live as good Christians, and to guide our children always to do what is right, so that we may receive the grace, O God, to be allowed to give Thee a holy priest, brother, or sister! Amen.

(Conclude with an Our Father, Hail Mary and Glory Be)
 (based on a prayer recited by the parents of Lu Monferrato, Italy)

Sunday Vespers/Benediction

Sunday Vespers takes place **every Sunday at 3:00pm** followed by Benediction. Pamphlets are available in the church entrance. "All should come to our churches and there sing the praises of God, and be enriched with Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament" - Pope Pius XII, Mediator Dei

Special Collection for the Archdiocese for the Military Services: Next Weekend

Next week our parish will take up the Collection for the Archdiocese for the Military Services. The guiding mission of the AMS is to provide the sacraments—and the re-affirming Word of Christ—to the men and women serving in our armed forces, patients in VA Medical Centers, civilians working for the federal government beyond U.S. borders, and the families of these populations. To provide these services they need your help—the AMS receives no federal funding.

Prayer to St. Joseph

V. He made him lord of his house.
R. And prince over all his possessions.

Let us pray:

O God, in Thy marvelous providence, Thou hast deigned to choose St. Joseph to be the spouse of Thy most holy Mother. We ask Thee to grant that we may deserve to have him for our intercessor in heaven, whom on earth we venerate as our protector; who livest and reignest forever and ever. Amen.

Please Keep in Your Prayers ...

Mike Hayes, Jim Carlson, Kaehler Family, Mike McGrath, Barbara Graichen, Munsill Family, John Reyes, Carlos Aldana, Liliana, Luz & Ceasar Morales, Richard Corbin, Renee Burns, Sue McGrath, Ron Carlon, Michael Cuellar, Heather Cuellar, Msgr. Kavanaugh, Anaidel Perez Aravelo, Joan Blackburn, Luis Salazar, Bill Sneeringer