

**Sunday, March 1, 2015  
Second Sunday of Lent**



**Sun. 1 Mar. Second Sunday of Lent, I Class**

8:30 am Bill Salierno  
10:30 am Pro Populo  
1:00 pm Isabella Burns

3:00 pm Vespers & Benediction

**Mon. 2 Mar. Feria of Lent, III Class**

7:00 am Catherine Kaehler  
12:15 pm Erskine Family  
6:30 pm Military Men & Women serving in Kabul & West Africa

**Tues. 3 Mar. Feria of Lent, III Class**

7:00 am Loretta Cantoni  
12:15 pm Barbara Graichen  
6:30 pm Lily Pilegaard

**Wed. 4 Mar. Feria of Lent, III Class**

7:00 am †Christopher Bardet  
12:15 pm Isabella Burns  
6:30 pm Thomas Brennan

**Thurs. 5 Mar. Feria of Lent, III Class**

7:00 am Quintero Family  
12:15 pm Mike & Margaret Lordge & Children  
6:30 pm St. Monica Sodality

**Fri. 6 Mar. Feria of Lent, III Class**

7:00 am Edward Joseph Pierini III  
12:15 pm Victor A. Cabral  
6:30 pm Edie Granby

**Sat. 7 Mar. St. Thomas Aquinas, Confessor & Doctor; Patron, II Class**

7:00 am Kind Benefactor  
9:00 am Rob & Teresa Hall-Matthews & children

**Sun. 8 Mar. Third Sunday of Lent, I Class**

8:30 am Isabella Burns  
10:30 am Pro Populo  
1:00 pm Anthony Long

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**

March 1—The Explorer Promise after the 10:30 Mass  
March 2-5—Lenten Mission—Fr. Anthony Mastroeni  
March 6-7—Traveling Statue of Our Lady of Fatima  
March 6—Stations of the Cross after 12:15 & 6:30 Masses  
March 13—Lenten Fish Fry sponsored by Youth Group  
March 22—Production of “Therese”  
April 3—Good Friday  
April 5—Easter Sunday  
April 13—Confirmation at 6:30 pm  
May 2—May Procession & Solemn Mass  
May 9—First Holy Communion  
May 30—FSSP Priestly Ordinations  
June 21-27—Camp Sacred Heart  
July 19—23—**Spiritual Exercises** - Annual Parish Retreat  
Oct. 3—G.K.Chesterton: Live w/Dale Ahlquist & Chuck Chalberg

**Method of Hearing Mass by  
Meditation on the  
Seven Words Upon the Cross**

At the *Introit*.—Jesus prays for His executioners: *Father, forgive them, for they know not what they do.*

Ask Jesus to forgive you all your sins, for you are more guilty than His executioners, having crucified Him even though you knew Him better.

At the *Prayers*.—The good thief says to Jesus: *Lord, remember me when Thou shalt come into Thy kingdom.* And Jesus answers him: *Amen I say to thee, this day thou shalt be with Me in Paradise.*

The good thief, in his gratitude, unites his suffering to the suffering of Jesus. Repeat his prayer for yourself for the hour of your death and for this present moment.

At the *Offertory*.—Jesus gives Saint John to Mary for her son: *Woman, behold thy son.*

John is thus to take the place of Jesus as her son, and with him all mankind receives Mary for a Mother. Thank our Lord for having given her to you; pray this good Mother to give you her tender love and to guide you in all things to the service of Jesus.

At the *Preface*.—*Behold thy Mother.*

With these words Jesus gives His Mother to be our mother. Thank your loving Savior for the beautiful title of Child of Mary, which gives you a claim to her mother-love and to all her goods and possessions.

At the *Elevation*.—*I thirst.*

Adore Jesus Who, prays His Father that He may suffer still more for love of mankind, and cries out to Him: “I thirst! I thirst for hearts, thirst for Thy glory.”

Slake this burning thirst of Jesus for suffering, for the world's salvation, for reparation to the deeply offended Majesty of God, by suffering yourself and making reparation with Him.

At the *Pater noster*.—*My God, my God, why hast Thou forsaken Me? Eli, Eli, lamma sabachthani?*

Adore the holy and unspeakable desolation of the Savior, suffered by Him to expiate your own criminal abandonment of God and His holy law; promise Him that you will never again forsake Him.

At the *Communion*.—*It is consummated. . . . Father, into Thy hands I commend my spirit.* With these words, Jesus dies.

Adore Him as, in this Holy Communion, He delivers into the hands of men His Body and Blood, Soul and Divinity, all that He is. Unite yourself with the priest and adore Jesus taken down from the Cross and given into the arms of His holy Mother. Do you also receive Him and press Him to your heart; never let Him leave you. (Excerpt from *Holy Communion* by Saint Peter Julian Eymard)

**...In Memoriam**

†Joan Blackburn.

**In the Footsteps of Jesus**

Saint Athanasius says, “Fit your footsteps to his.” How do you fit your footsteps to someone else's? I think one element is that you have to trust the person. You don't want to follow the footsteps or “fit” your footsteps to those of someone you do not completely trust. Here we are talking about the footsteps of the God-Man. A child has the instinct to know that there is something very wonderful about setting its little steps in the footprint of a father. We did this as little children. I know I did. I have seen children walking in the snow, trying to fit their little feet into the footprints of their father and walk in those same steps. I think this is a very deep spiritual instinct expressed by them in a child's way, hopefully to be expressed more and more by us in a spousal way. Where do we want to go except where he is going? We know where he is going. He is always going to do the will of his Father. How strange if we would want to go another way.

He is always going forward to save us. How strange if we were not that eager to be saved in the little events of every day. His footsteps were on the way to the Father. They were unflagging. He always kept going. His footsteps were always unswerving. They went straight ahead in the will of the Father. He knew where he was going.

For ourselves, we know that our steps are quite often flagging. We lag. We sit down. We get tired. What are we to do when our footsteps are flagging? There is a simple answer. We get up. Sometimes we become discouraged in a prideful way and we think, “Well, what is the use?” What we are really saying is, “I don't want to make the effort to get up.” For us to have unflagging steps fitted to his, we have to be always getting up, because of our weakness, our sinfulness. It could be a wonderful thing indeed never to fall, never to flag, but it is a wonderful thing to get up. This can be a true aspiration for the poor sinners we are: that our footsteps become more unflagging according to how often and how quickly we have gotten up.

Then the second consideration: he was unswerving, he went straight on. At this time of the Church year, we are more acutely aware that we often swerve off a path that is too straight for us, too narrow. The very word is almost onomatopoeic: swerve, go off to the side. Either because of illness or because of overindulgence, persons swerve in their walk. We know we swerve sometimes. So what do we do then? We return to the straight path. We realize by God's enlightenment that we have swerved off the path of our resolve, we have swerved off the way of charity and love, we have swerved off the way of fidelity, and with God's grace, we come back.

The third point is related to both of these: how do we become unflagging? It is by penance. That is the only way. We have to make reparation. If we have been flagging by sitting down to rest by the roadside instead of going on, we have to use effort to get up. It can seem very inviting just to sit there or to continue swerving. With God's grace, we have to accept penance and inflict penance on ourselves so that we can return, and can fit our footsteps to his. (Excerpt from *A Time of Renewal* by Mother Mary Francis, PCC)

**Parish Swap**

View available items by clicking on the “links” button on the front page of [www.sacfssp.com](http://www.sacfssp.com). Contact Rose-Mary at [ParishSwap@gmail.com](mailto:ParishSwap@gmail.com) if you have items to list!

**“Therese” St. Luke Productions  
March 22, 2015 at 4:30 pm**

The live production of “Therese” will come to St. Stephens on Sunday, March 22. Space will be limited, so hold your place early. Free will offerings will be greatly appreciated to defer the cost, please be generous.

Rosa Mystica Girls Society will have sandwiches and sodas available for purchase that day so that people don't have to go home after Mass or Vespers.

You may hold you place for the performance and order your sandwiches through the parish office or bookstore.

**Lenten Parish Mission  
March 2nd—5th**

It's a “**Must Do**” and starts this week!! Fr. Anthony Mastroeni, Diocese of Paterson, NJ, will preach our Lenten mission each evening beginning with the 6:30 Mass. **Bring your family, neighbors, and friends to come with you. All will benefit!**

Father Mastroeni has been chaplain for Christendom College and Franciscan University of Steubenville. He was also a professor of the University of San Francisco Ignatius Institute. He will preach on “Challenges to Living the Faith in an Aggressively Secularized Culture.” **Not to be missed!!**

**The Explorer Promise**

On March 1st, after the 10:30 Mass, the Explorer candidates will be making this promise: “On my honor, with God's grace, I promise to do my best, to serve God, my Church, my country, to help others at all times, and to obey the explorer law.” In addition, the explorer promises to do the daily good turn, and to live by the three main virtues, frankness, devotedness, purity, and the explorer principles which include: 1. The explorer's duty starts at home, 2. The explorer is faithful to his country, 3. As a son of Christendom, an explorer is proud of his faith—he labors to establish the reign of Christ in all his life and in the world around him.

Please join us for this special ceremony, and most importantly please pray for our Explorer candidates as they prepare to make their promises.

**Lenten Soup Supper**

*Calling All Cooks!* Each Friday evening during Lent we will have soup and bread in the gym following Stations of the Cross. We need several people to bring soup and bread each Friday evening. For more information call the parish office.

March 13 we will also have a *Fish Fry!* Watch for details!!

**Traveling Statue of Our Lady of Fatima**

On the First Friday and Saturday of March, we will be blessed to have the International Pilgrim Virgin of Fatima visit us. She will arrive before the 7:00 am Mass on Friday March 6th and stay until 2:30 pm on March 7th. There will be a talk given on the message of Fatima on Saturday morning.

**40 Days for Life—Please Sign up!**

*Ash Wednesday, February 18th—April 3rd*  
Prayerfully join us at 1442 Ethan Way, Sacramento (across the street from Cal Expo), Monday through Friday 7 am—7 pm.

**Spiritual Exercises of St. Ignatius**

Preached by Fr. John Lyons, FSSP  
July 19-23

Be sure to sign up for this retreat ASAP as registrations are almost **half full!** The Spiritual Exercises of St. Ignatius retreat will be held at Christ the King Retreat Center. Forms are now available in the office or bookstore, or you may print them from the parish web site. The retreat is open to men and women age 18 and over. It will be particularly helpful to those discerning a vocation or other decision in their lives. Remember: space is limited and filling up fast, so hold your place as soon as possible.

**Please Keep in Your Prayers ...**

Mike Hayes, Jim Carlson, Mike McGrath, Barbara Graichen, Munsill Family, Carlos Aldana, Liliana, Luz & Ceasar Morales, Richard Corbin, Renee Burns, Sue McGrath, Ron Carlon, Michael Cuellar, Heather Cuellar, Luis Salazar, Norman Sayles, Lorraine Peterson, Sandy Sneary, Jeannemarie Crabtree, Michelle Di Giovanni & Children, Africa Medal, Frank Fegurur, Teresa Nevarez, John Reyes