

**Sunday, February 26, 2017  
Quinquagesima Sunday**



**Sun. 26 Feb. Quinquagesima Sunday, II Class**  
8:00 am †Virginia Perkins  
10:30 am Pro Populo  
1:30 pm Descendants of the O'Dell Family  
6:00 pm Claire Guernsey

**Mon. 27 Feb. St. Gabriel of Our Lady of Sorrows, Confessor, III Class**  
7:00 am Bruce Rodgers  
12:15 pm Ana & Theresa Olguin

**Tues. 28 Feb. Feria, IV Class**  
7:00 am †Robert Hodack Sr.  
6:30 pm †Mary Turchi

**Wed. 1 Mar. Ash Wednesday, I Class**  
7:00 am Intentions of Indre McCluskey  
12:15 pm Anna Gomez  
6:30 pm †Nemesio Muning

**Thurs 2 Mar. Thursday after Ash Wednesday, III Class**  
7:00 am †Annette Turchi  
6:30 pm St. Monica Sodality

**Fri. 3 Mar. Friday after Ash Wednesday, III Class**  
7:00 am †Antonia DeVito  
12:15 pm Kathy Soria  
6:30 pm Mr. & Mrs. Adolph Turchi

**Sat. 4 Mar. Saturday after Ash Wednesday, III Class**  
7:00 am Culbreath Family  
9:00 am Jean Gomez

**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

**...In Memoriam**

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

**Important Upcoming Dates**

March 1—Ash Wednesday  
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 2—Palm Sunday  
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

**With Jesus Crucified**

For the soul who aspires to union with God, penance is not only a means of subjecting the flesh to the spirit, but also a means of being assimilated to Christ Crucified, in order to reproduce and prolong His Passion in its own body. "Love makes equality and similitude": he who truly loves has a spontaneous desire to share in the sufferings of the loved one; it is the same with real lovers of the Crucified. St. Mary Magdalen dei Pazzi exclaims, "It is not fitting to be a delicate member of a Head crowned with thorns and crucified, nor the unmortified bride of a suffering Spouse." It is an honor for a wife to be able to share in the entire life of her spouse. For a soul consecrated to God, it is an honor to be able to share, even in a small way, in the Passion of Christ; such a soul glories in it. "But God forbid that I should glory, save in the Cross of our Lord Jesus Christ, by whom the world is crucified to me, and I to the world."

Although mortification of the spirit is certainly more important than that of the body, we must not forget that in order to save the world, Jesus was willing to embrace both in the most complete manner. His whole life was a cross and a martyrdom; it ended with the sacrifice of Calvary, where His spiritual and physical immolation reached its height. As for the mortification of the senses, "It is certain," says St. John of the Cross, "that He died as to sense, spiritually, during His life, besides dying naturally, at His death. For...in life He had not where to lay His head, and at His death, this was even truer... Wherefore, as it seems to me, any spirituality that would fain walk in sweetness and with ease, and flees from the imitation of Christ, is worthless."

Suffering has a supernatural value only when it is borne with Christ and for Christ. It is Jesus who sanctifies suffering; apart from Him it is worth nothing and is of no use. But if it is embraced for love of Him, it becomes precious coin, capable of redeeming and sanctifying souls; it becomes a continuation of the Passion.

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

**From the Pastor**

A good way to look at Lent is as an opportunity to make a 40 day retreat (with Sundays off). We won't be going away to a retreat house, but we can still do our best to live a more recollected life; to spend extra time in prayer and spiritual reading (and/or, listening to spiritual conferences); to work on our particular weakness(es); and, to exercise in some way the spiritual and corporal works of mercy. A retreat is always a time of grace if well lived. With God's grace and the Blessed Virgin Mary's prayer to help us, let us be determined to live this Lent well.

**Ash Wednesday**

This Wednesday, March 1, is Ash Wednesday. Besides the 7 am & 12:15 pm Mass, there will be a Solemn Mass at 6:30 pm. Ash Wednesday is a day of Fast and abstinence. See the regulations below to see to whom this applies.

**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.

**Hall Renovation Project**

Work will be beginning soon on the renovation of our parish hall. It will be closed for about two months. Please say a prayer it goes well.

**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

**Around the Parish**

~ Funeral Mass was offered Here last Thursday for Donald Strahota.  
~ A Funeral Mass will be offered for Ursula Uclaray—the 102 year old mother of Pacita Gonzalez tomorrow morning at 10:00 am.  
~ **This coming Friday & Saturday are the first of the month.**

**Confraternity of St. Peter  
2017 Pilgrimage to  
***Italy & Slovenia*****

Beginning in N. Italy, our route will take us first to the floating city of Venice, the starting point for the Battle of Lepanto! A journey over the Julian Alps to Slovenia is next, highlighting an amazing XIX century missionary who helped build the Catholic Church in America and the Slovene freedom fighters of the Communist Revolution of WWII! Crowning the pilgrimage will be three days in Rome, the Eternal City, to take part in the celebration of the tenth anniversary of Pope Emeritus Benedict XVI 2007 Apostolic Letter, *Summorum Pontificum*, on the Usus Antiquior, the "Mass of the Ages."

With Fr. James Fryar, FSSP—CSP Chaplain  
Sept. 9—18, 2017

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

**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

**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)



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

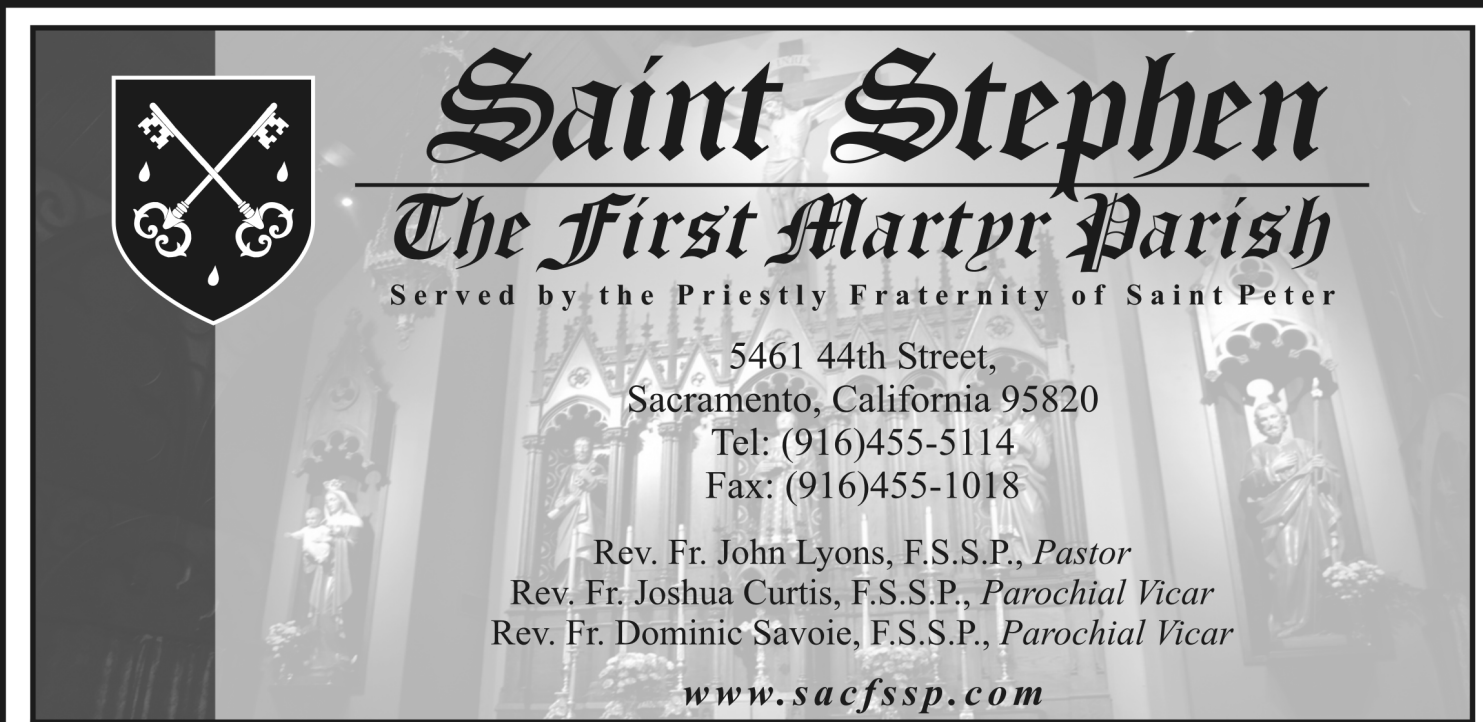
*St. Joseph, powerful patron, thank you for favors granted!*



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**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

**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.

**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

**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](http://www.sacfssp.com)

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