

**Sunday, September 2, 2012**  
**14th Sunday after Pentecost**



**Sun. 2 September, 14th Sunday after Pentecost, II Class**

8:30 am Patricia Patch  
10:30 am Pro Populo  
1:00 pm Angela Nicolini

3:00 pm Vespers & Benediction

**Mon. 3 September, St. Pius X, Pope & Confessor, III Class**

7:00 am †Msgr. Schons  
12:15 pm Fr. John Lyons, OMV

**Tues. 4 September, Our Lady of Consolation, IV Class**

7:00 am Fr. James Doran, OMV  
6:30 pm Louis A. Solton

**Wed. 5 September, St. Lawrence Justinian, Bishop & Confessor, III Class**

7:00 am Holy Souls in Purgatory  
12:15 pm †Cipriana Costales

**Thurs. 6 September, Feria, IV Class**

7:00 am Fr. Stinson  
6:30 pm St. Monica Sodality

**Fri. 7 September, Sacred Heart of Jesus, (First Friday), III Class**

7:00 am Mr. & Mrs. White  
12:15 pm Cassandra Coillot  
6:30 pm Alfred Nicolini

**Sat. 8 September, Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary, II Class**

7:00 am Agnes Costa  
9:00 am Hailey Donohue

**Sun. 9 September, 15th Sunday after Pentecost, II Class**

8:30 am †Glenn Riley  
10:30 am Pro Populo  
1:00 pm Maurice N. Kaehler, Sr.

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, leave a message, and the priest-on-call will be paged immediately.

**...In Memoriam**

†Mark Trachera; †Fr. Lawrence Ryan (Sacramento Diocese);  
†Joseph Cortese; †Frank Farinha; †Cesar Chaves;  
†Msgr. Gerard Schons; †Rodolfo Servande; †Felice Johnson;  
†Jim Chun

**Important Upcoming Dates**

Sept. 8—Confirmation Classes begin  
Sept. 11—Chesterton Meeting after evening Mass  
Sept. 13—Fatima Procession  
Sept. 17—27—CSP Pilgrimage to Fatima, Madeira & Spain  
Oct. 18—24th Anniversary of the Priestly Fraternity of St. Peter  
Oct. 27—*Salute to Life* Dinner & Auction  
Oct. 31—All Saints Eve Party  
Nov. 1—All Saints Day - Holy Day  
Nov. 2—All Souls Day

**The Practice of Patience**

Patience is a virtue of primary importance and daily necessity. As we need bread to live, so every day, even every moment we need patience, because every day and every moment brings with it its own trial. We become patient by making acts of patience, that is, by accustoming ourselves to accept peacefully all that contradicts us and makes us suffer. If, however, instead of accepting annoyances, we use every means possible to avoid them, we shall never acquire patience. For example, we may at our work come in contact with someone who clashes with us, or we may be given a difficult or disagreeable task; if under these or similar circumstances we do our utmost to free ourselves as soon as possible, asking for a change, we are depriving ourselves of a precious opportunity prepared for us by God Himself to make us practice the virtue of patience. In certain cases it is lawful and even a duty to represent our problems to our superiors and to ask humbly for a solution, but we should never insist on obtaining one at all costs. On the contrary, we should think that divine Providence has arranged these circumstances to help us acquire the patience we do not yet possess. St. Philip Neri once complained to Our Lord because he had to deal with an extremely insulting, disagreeable person. Our Lord replied to him interiorly, “Philip, you have asked for patience. Here is the means of acquiring it.”

God will surely give us the virtue we ask of Him, but only on condition that we make use of the means He gives us, and apply ourselves to practice that virtue with the help of His grace. Whoever wishes to become a saint will not be anxious to avoid opportunities for practicing patience, but will welcome them, recognizing in them the means offered by God for his sanctification. And how can a mere creature dare wish to make any change in what has been ordered “in measure, and number, and weight” by God’s infinite wisdom?

God can draw good out of evil; therefore, He can, and in fact does, use our faults and even our sins and the sins of others, to make us practice patience; patience with ourselves, seeing ourselves so frail, so imperfect, so prone to fall, yet humbly recognizing our faults and bearing their consequences peacefully; patience with others, being indulgent toward their frailties, compassionating the weaknesses of each one, and accepting without irritation the discomfort and sufferings caused by their faults. For example, when anyone disturbs or provokes us, we must not stop to consider his manner of behaving, for that would rouse our indignation, making it more difficult to practice patience. Instead, we should turn our gaze away from the creature to fix it upon God who permits this contradiction to make us advance in virtue. We should also avoid complaining about our sufferings to others, or even to ourselves. Complaints always make the heart bitter, rendering it ill-disposed to accept trials calmly. “To suffer and be silent for You, my God” is the motto of the patient soul who wishes to conform its conduct to that of Jesus in His Passion: “He was offered. . . and He opened not His mouth.” If we feel the need of a little help in bearing a trial, let us speak of it only to those who will encourage us to suffer for the love of God, and not to those who will give us merely human consolation and sympathy, thereby nourishing our resentment toward those who make us suffer.

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

**The Chalice**

Salome had a mother’s love and to a mother’s love there is no limit. That was why she did not hesitate to make that bold request of Jesus for her sons: “Say that these my two sons may sit one on Your right hand and the other on Your left in Your kingdom.” It was a bold request, indeed, and for a moment Jesus was silent. Then, turning to the youths, He put the question: “Can you drink the chalice that I shall drink?”

Oftentimes when the grace of God is strong upon us we find ourselves approaching the boldness of Salome and praying the prayer: Lord Jesus, make me a saint. It is a good prayer to pray, but we must be ready to answer the question addressed to the sons of the pleading mother: Can you drink the chalice?

Lord Jesus, make me a saint! No weakling’s prayer that, and if I pray it I must be ready to pay the price. To be a saint means suffering. It means treading in the bloodstained footprints of Him who has gone before bearing His Cross and crowned with thorns; choosing to be misunderstood, despised, ill-treated by my fellow men; bearing with patience, not this merely, but with joy, the cruel remark that cuts into my soul, the taunts and jeers and ridicule of those who can see only folly in a life of otherworldiness.

It means unfailing constancy in laboring at tasks that vex and gail and have no thankfulness in them, and yet are God’s good will for me. It means in sweet docility to kiss the cross my Father sends, and never to complain, though the burden be quite crushing to my frailty. All this it means to be a saint. Can I drink the Chalice?

*O Divine Light, be my Light!*  
(“Minute Meditations” by J.E. Mofatt, S.J.)

**Who Will YOU Be for All Saints Eve This Year?**

It’s time to start thinking about this! We have some big surprises in store for everyone this year...

Saturday, September 8th will be an opportunity to begin the preparation. If you have ever run a booth, if you are interested in running a booth, if you want to learn about how to set up a game booth—we need you to come! After the 10:00 am Mass we will have a round table discussion to prepare for this year’s party.

If you have been wanting to participate in something at St. Stephens—here’s your fun-filled opportunity!

**Confirmation 2013**

Registration is now open for Confirmation preparation classes. Those age 12 and up may pick up forms in the parish office or bookstore. The first class will be September 8, 2012 beginning with 9:00 am Mass. Adults who have not been confirmed should also register—they will be contacted by one of the priests.

**Theatre Classes**  
(ages 8—18)

Theatre classes, \$150.00 for 23—25 classes in St. Stephen’s auditorium (South Sutter Charter School funds accepted). Bernadette Celestin, St. Stephen’s parishioner, BA Theatre Arts. Begins October 1st—Registration: September 16th - 30th. For more information 916-637-9945 or brofmary@yahoo.com

**Salute to Life Dinner—October 27th**

If you are interested in sharing a table with St. Stephen parishioners / priests, put your name on the list in the parish office. Cost is \$125.00 per person.

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

Mike Hayes, Jim Carlson, Kaehler Family, Katy Fiori,  
Mike McGrath, Barbara Graichen, Patricia Becker, Munsill Family,  
Benny Stinson, Michael Gould; Sister Marie Jeanne, Elizabeth Pierini,  
Richard Becker; Charles Cantoni, Hayden Garcia, Mitzi Vandenburg,  
John Reyes; Lori Bates; Fred & Terry Bose; Ed Wedinsky

**The Primitive Church**

*By Rev. D.I. Lanslots, O.S.B.*

How did the Catholic Church get started? Here is recorded the exciting history of the Catholic Church, beginning with the descent of the Holy Ghost upon the Apostles on Pentecost Sunday and continuing through the death of St. John the Evangelist at the end of the first century. The author relates all the principal events in the dramatic founding of the Catholic Church:

The conversion of 3,000 when the Apostles first left the Cenacle, the stoning of St. Stephen (the first martyr), the miraculous conversion of Cornelius (the first gentile Christian), the Council of Jerusalem, the martyrdom of St. James, how the Apostles propagated the new religion, Sts. Peter and Paul in Rome, their martyrdom, the early persecutions, the destruction of Jerusalem, the writing of the New Testament, the early popes and martyrs, and the death of St. John. This book will show that the Apostles and their disciples were on fire with Christ, literally consumed themselves spreading Christianity, and testified to its truth with their blood.

**Fatima + Santiago de Compostela + Madeira Isle**

Just a little time left to sign up for our pilgrimage to Fatima, Santiago de Compostela (St. James), and Madeira Isle (Bl.Karl of Austria), Lisbon (St. Anthony).

It’s not too late, but call today or visit  
[www.http://syversentouring.com/confaternity](http://syversentouring.com/confaternity)  
More information is available in the office or bookstore or by calling 916-223-3112

**CHOIR & CHORISTERS IN RECESS UNTIL SEPTEMBER**

The Choir & Choristers have finished their Trinity Choral term as of July 1. For the rest of July, the High Masses will be sung by the cantors and volunteer choir members. The last High Masses at St Stephen's this Summer will be August 5, external solemnity of our patronal feast, the Finding of the Relics of St Stephen, and August 15, the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary. High Masses will resume on September 9.

**PIANO LESSONS AVAILABLE IN SEPTEMBER**

Mr. Morse, the Director of Music at St Stephen's, has some slots available in his schedule for piano lessons. Future or existing choristers are strongly encouraged to take piano concurrently with chorister training. Please call Mr Morse on 916.835.0841 if you have questions or would like to reserve a time slot.

**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.

**~ Summer Dress Code ~**

Please recall that all are required to dress with modesty and dignity. A sign in the vestibule gives some details for proper dress. The spirit of these rules is to produce an atmosphere befitting the house of God and the worship of Him through the Sacrifice of the Mass. Our choice of clothing becomes an expression of our worship. Therefore it is not a matter of trying to follow arbitrary rules, but doing our best for God in such a privileged place. Especially for women, this requires us to be counter-cultural. It is also important to dress well on the church grounds too.

At the same time, we request that you leave the business of making any corrections of individuals to the priests at St. Stephen’s or their delegates. It will not be helpful to have all take on the duty of policing the church.