

Sunday, October 14, 2012
20th Sunday after Pentecost



Sun. 14 October, 20th Sunday after Pentecost, II Class

8:30 am Rose Wedinsky
 10:30 am Pro Populo
 1:00 pm Solari Family

3:00 pm Vespers & Benediction

Mon. 15 October, St. Teresa of Avila, Virgin, III Class

7:00 am Natsha Altorre
 12:15 pm Errol & Cathy Kissinger

Tues. 16 October, St. Hedwig, Widow, III Class

7:00 am †Fr. Daniel Johnson
 6:30 pm Jean Hawn & Family

Wed. 17 October, St. Margaret Mary Alacoque, Virgin, III Class

7:00 am Judy Boyd
 12:15 pm Pregnancy Cuonseling Center

Thurs. 18 October, St. Luke, Evangelist, II Class

24th Anniversary of the FSSP
 7:00 am Dennis & Wendy Sonnenburg
 6:30 pm Confraternity of St. Peter

Fri. 19 October, St. Peter of Alcantara, Confessor, III Class

7:00 am Jennifer Rego
 12:15 pm †Felice Johnson
 6:30 pm Gisele Ferguson

Sat. 20 October, St. John Cantius, Confessor, III Class

7:00 am John & Noreen Garber
 9:00 am Rose Nino

Sun. 21 October, 21th Sunday after Pentecost, II Class

8:30 am Gary & Janice Aranas & Family
 10:30 am Pro Populo
 1:00 pm Tom Rance

3:00 pm Vespers & Benediction

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

9th Annual Walk for Life

Bus tickets are on sale after all the Masses in October. See Mike or Kathleen DeSantis for more information.

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.

...In Memoriam

†Mark Trachera; †Fr. Lawrence Ryan (Sacramento Diocese); †Joseph Cortese; †Frank Farinha; †Cesar Chaves;
 †Msgr. Gerard Schons; †Rodolfo Servande; †Felice Johnson;
 †Jim Chun; †Aida Apaza; †Bessie Perez; †Robert Perez;
 †Richard Becker; †George Phillips

Important Upcoming Dates

Oct. 16—Chesterton Society Meeting
 Oct. 18—24th Anniversary of the Priestly Fraternity of St. Peter
 Oct. 18—CSP Evening of Recollection
 Oct 18 - Knight's Social Mixer
 Oct. 21—Rosa Mystica Girls Society Bake Sale
 Oct. 23—“Year of Faith” Class
 Oct. 27—Confirmation Class
 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
 Nov. 22—Thanksgiving Day
 April 14—Confirmation

Self-Forgetfulness and Abnegation

Another condition necessary for making our activity holy is “generous forgetfulness and abnegation of self;” what is more, without forgetfulness of self, it would be impossible to have rectitude of intention. Many secondary intentions steal into our actions precisely because we are so wrapped up in ourselves, so occupied and preoccupied with our *ego*, our interests, our conveniences, so anxious to be admired and to win applause and esteem. “We must go forth from ourselves and from creatures,” says St. John of the Cross, go forth especially from this creature whom we love more than every other, *ourselves*. If the Saint indicates to us the way of “the nothing” with a view to the contemplative ideal of union with God, we may assert that the apostolic life does not require less; it too exacts total abnegation of self which can only be brought about by constantly reminding ourselves: nothing, nothing, nothing.

To realize his vocation, the missionary must leave his homeland, his parents, his friends; he must give up the language, habits, and customs of his country in order to conform to those of his adopted land; likewise, due proportion being made, every apostle must renounce many things, even when working in home surroundings, his place of employment, or among his neighbors. Tastes, habits, personal demands of culture, education, sensibility must be generously put aside, that the apostle may adapt himself to the mentality and to the demands of other; quiet, rest, relaxation, must yield their place to the service of souls. The apostle should not go about seeking interesting conversations, consoling friendships, pleasant occupation, satisfying results. Occasionally it may happen that he will meet these things on his way, but even then, he may not stop to enjoy them selfishly, but must use them as means for the apostolate; in any case, they may never and must never rule his activity. The apostle is sent to “give” and not to “receive,” to sow and not to reap; therefore, he ought to know how to give his time, his work, his energies, and his very self, even in situations which offer nothing consoling, and even to those souls from whom he receives neither satisfaction nor gratitude.

St. Paul teaches that the priest “is ordained for men,” and the same can be said of every apostle. The apostle does not exist for himself, for his career, for his own advantage, but for souls, for the advantage of others and for all that concerns their spiritual good. Even if the apostolate confers on him some authority, some dignity, it is not for his honor, for his utility, but only for the service of his fellow men. The only personal advantage that he can and should derive from the exercise of his apostolate is his own sanctification. Such is the only right that the apostle is entitled to, the sole benefit he can seek for himself; all the rest must be generously sacrificed for God and for souls.

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

Knight's Social Mixer

Thursday Oct 18th, 6:30 to 8:30pm (5961 Newman Court, 95819)

Council 953 cordially invites all Catholic Gentlemen and wives to our autumn mixer. Learn how our Brother Knights support your community. Discover the rich history of the Knights of Columbus, plus the eternal/earthly rewards that membership brings. More Info: Contact Lewis Munoz membership@kofc953.org or leave a message at 916-736-0953.

Dear Parishioners,

After nearly four years of serving as Parochial Administrator, effective September 1 of this year Bishop Soto named me Pastor of St. Stephens.

I am honored by the confidence that both he and my superiors in the FSSP have shown in me. Yet far more than that am I grateful to Our Good Lord for the many graces he has showered on me personally and our parish during these years. I am also eternally grateful for the many prayers that all of you have offered up on behalf of me and the other priests...please keep them coming!

Bishop Soto has kindly offered to come to St. Stephens at 4pm on Sunday, October 21 for the Ceremony of Installation of a Pastor followed by Vespers and benediction. I would like to invite one and all to come join us in welcoming our bishop again to St. Stephens and praying with him.

May God bless you all,
 Fr. Matthew McNeely, FSSP

All Saints Eve at St. Stephens

Many great booths are being planned along with the parade of Saints, pumpkin carving contest, campfire stories, and lots of yummy things to eat.

Candy and Donations are Needed!

Please drop these off at the parish office or bookstore.

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

Don’t forget to sign-up for the “Parade of Saints” and the “Pumpkin Carving Contest.”

Chesterton Society

The Chesterton Society will now meet on the 3rd Tuesday of each month. Our next meeting is October 16th after the 6:30 pm Mass, in one of the classrooms. All are invited to attend.

Conversation with Christ

By Peter Thomas Rohrback

“In mental prayer the soul is purified from its sins, nourished with charity, confirmed in faith, and strengthened in hope; the mind expands, the affections dilate, the heart is purified, truth becomes evident; temptation is conquered, sadness dispelled; the senses are renovated; drooping powers revive; tepidity ceases; the rust of vices disappears. Out of mental prayer issues forth, like living sparks, those desires of heaven which the soul conceives when inflamed with the fire of divine love. Sublime is the excellence of mental prayer, great are its privileges; to mental prayer heaven is opened; to mental prayer heavenly secrets are manifested and the ear of God ever attentive.”

~ St. Peter of Alcantara, Spiritual Director of St. Teresa

“What St. Teresa has done so brilliantly is to describe precisely how a person can indeed contact God through prayer. Despite her reputation as a soaring Spanish mystic, she was an eminently practical person, and that practicality shines through her teachings about prayer: she is an instructor who shows, in step-by-step fashion, how the individual can contact God and then sustain that relationship.

~ Peter Thomas Rohrback

(available at St. Stephen’s Bookstore)

Please Keep in Your Prayers ...

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

Year of Faith news

Pope Benedict XVI has established the Year of Faith, dedicated particularly to the profession of the Faith and its correct interpretation. The will of the Pope is to give to every Catholic the possibility of reviewing their knowledge; or, better, to go deeper into their faith.

How can we do that?

The Supreme Pontiff wants to invite all of us to follow him, the Universal Pastor, behind the banner of Our Lord.

As we said, we are living in a time that is not favorable to the truth. It is our duty to be a part of the “New Evangelization” beginning with studies, readings, and meditating on our faith.

Here, at Saint Stephen we have chosen to participate in this universal event, giving us the possibility of deepening our faith. As a reminder, we will have throughout this year a talk, twice a month, which is the intention of the Pope.

Gift of His Holiness

The Holy See announced Oct. 5 that Pope Benedict XVI has granted a plenary indulgence for the Year of Faith, which will last from Oct. 11, 2012 to Nov. 24, 2013.

The decree announcing the indulgence was signed Sept. 14 by Cardinal Manuel de Castro, Major Penitentiary, and Bishop Kryzstof Nykiel, Regent, of the Apostolic Penitentiary. The penitentiary is the part of the Roman Curia responsible for indulgences and governing the sacrament of confession.

One plenary indulgence per day may be gained by an individual, which they can use for themselves or apply to a soul in purgatory. The indulgence remits the temporal punishment due to sins whose guilt has already been forgiven.

During the Year of Faith, there are four means of gaining an indulgence.

First, by attending at least three sermons “during the Holy Missions” or reading at least three lessons from the documents of the Second Vatican Council or the Catechism of the Catholic Church.

The second way is by making a pilgrimage to a basilica, catacomb, cathedral, or location designated by the local bishop for the Year of Faith, and either participating there in a sacred celebration, praying or meditating. The act of prayer should finish with an Our Father, a recitation of the Creed and a prayer to the Blessed Virgin Mary.

The third method of gaining an indulgence is by participating in Mass or the Liturgy of the Hours on a day chosen by the local ordinary, and reciting the Creed.

Finally, people can visit their place of baptism and renew their baptismal promises there.

Those who cannot attend such celebrations for serious reasons may still obtain the indulgence if they pray an Our Father and a Creed and other prayers that agree with the objectives of the Year of Faith.

A plenary indulgence also requires that the individual be in the state of grace, have complete detachment from sin, and pray for the Pope’s intentions. The person must also sacramentally confess his sins and receive Communion up to about 20 days before or after completing the other acts.

The Year of Faith is meant to “recall the precious gift of faith” and “its correct interpretation.” It marks the 50th anniversary of the opening of the Second Vatican Council. Its opening also coincides with a general synod of bishops on the New Evangelization, which is taking place Oct. 7—28 at the Vatican.

Great opportunity

On this occasion, given to all of us, the Pope is granting us a gift, which is in all ways, profitable to our souls and the departed souls, as well as an expression of his holy service to us and the love of Our Lord toward us.

Let us not refuse this invitation.

Rosa Mystica Girls Society Annual Fall Bake Sale

Sunday, October 21, 2012

In the gym after all the Masses

Homemade goodies, deli sandwiches, drinks chips, and more!