

Sunday, November 16, 2014
23rd Sunday After Pentecost



Sun. 16 Nov.	23rd Sunday after Pentecost, II Class
8:30 am	Connie Presley & family
10:30 am	Pro Populo
1:00 pm	†Manuel Bautista
3:00 pm	Vespers & Benediction
Mon. 17 Nov.	St. Gregory the Wonderworker, Bishop & Confessor, III Class
7:00 am	†Kathleen Bealing
12:15 pm	Ann Ball
Tues. 18 Nov.	Dedication of the Basilica of SS. Peter and Paul, III Class
7:00 am	Father O’Niell, FSSP
6:30 pm	†Francis M. Burns
Wed. 19 Nov.	St. Elizabeth of Hungary, Widow, III Class
7:00 am	Angelica Aranas
12:15 pm	Jose & Carolina Dichoso
Thurs. 20 Nov.	St. Felix of Valois, Confessor, III Class
7:00 am	†Joe Howard, Sr.
6:30 pm	FSSP
Fri. 21 Nov.	Presentation of the Blessed Virgin Mary, III Class
7:00 am	Jose & Carolina Dichoso
12:15 pm	Rose Wedinsky
6:30 pm	Aranas family
Sat. 22 Nov.	St. Cecilia, Virgin & Martyr, III Class
7:00 am	Felipa Lopez
9:00 am	Federico Lopez
Sun. 23 Nov.	24th & Last Sunday After Pentecost, II Class
8:30 am	Aurova Lopez
10:30 am	Pro Populo
1:00 pm	Megan Eckerman
3:00 pm	Vespers & Benediction

9th Grade Religion Class Openings Next Semester

Fr. Perry’s Religion class is open for next semester. The class follows the “Mother of Divine Grace” syllabus. Please call the parish office if you are interested.

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.

Important Upcoming Dates

November 18—Chesterton Society Meeting
 November 20—CSP Evening of Recollection
 November 27—Thanksgiving Day
 November 21—Presentation of the Blessed Virgin Mary
 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 30—FSSP Priestly Ordinations

The Development of Love

“What shall prevent God from doing that which He will in the soul that is resigned, annihilated, and detached?” This statement of St. John of the Cross makes you understand that God has an immense desire to work in your soul, to lead you to sanctity and to union with Himself, provided you commit yourself into His hands, despoiled of every attachment, annihilated in your self-love, entirely docile, malleable, and adaptable to His action. The Lord comes to your assistance with purifying trials in order to empty you of self, to detach you from creatures, to immerse you of self, to detach you from creatures, to immerse you in true humility, but at the same time He helps you to grow in love, the strong bond which must unite you to Him. All the work which God accomplishes in your soul is done in view of making you advance in this virtue; exterior and interior trials, humiliations, powerlessness, aridity, struggles, and tempests are meant in the divine plan to extinguish the illusory fires of self-love, pride, earthly affections, and all other irregular passions, so that only one fire may burn within you, ever more intensely and strongly, the fire of charity.

The more the Lord purifies you, the more your heart will be freed from all dross and become capable of concentrating all its affection upon Him. Walk, then, in this way by accepting purification in view of a deeper love, and by orientating your whole spiritual life toward the exercise of love. What you suffer, suffer for love, that is, suffer it willingly, without rebellion or complaint, and then, in the measure that your soul is humbled, despoiled, and mortified, it will also be clothed with charity. The trials which God sends you have the purpose not only of purifying your heart, but also of dilating it in charity. They aim at deepening your capacity for love; not, certainly, a sensible love, but a powerful love of the will, which tends toward God through pure benevolence, independent of all personal consolation, its sole pursuit being His glory and good pleasure.

By means of purifying trials, “God secretly teaches the soul and instructs it in the perfection of love.” Above all, He teaches it to love independently of all happiness and joy, even depriving it of that joy, though legitimate and spontaneous, which proceeds from the consciousness of its own love. The soul that is not yet wholly purified could become attached to this joy, so God withdraws it entirely; in the thick darkness the soul feels that it no longer loves; dry aridity extinguishes all joy and sweetness, and it is constrained to go forward by a pure act of the will. Instead of taking complacency in its own love, which henceforth it no longer feels, the soul is profoundly afflicted by the tormenting doubt that it no longer knows how to love, and to combat this doubt, it can only apply itself with all its might to performing the works of love, that is, embracing generously every labor, every sacrifice that may please God. In this way, its love matures, becoming purer and stronger: purer, because it is not mixed with any personal consolation; stronger, because it urges the soul to more generous labors. In this state, the soul adheres to God by a simple act of the will, and herein the substance of love consists: it *wills good* to God solely because He is the supreme, infinitely lovable Good; it desires Him alone and serves Him alone, fulfilling all His divine will without any return on self, without seeking any joy or spiritual consolation. The soul is no longer preoccupied with enjoying His love, or with receiving; its one solicitude is to give, to give itself, to give pleasure to God.

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

Not God’s Type

Ordway, an atheist academic, was convinced that faith was superstitious nonsense. As a well-educated English professor, she saw no need for just-so-stories about God. Secure in her fortress of atheism, she was safe (or so she thought) from any assault by irrational faith.

So what happened? How did she come to “lay down her arms” in surrender to Christ and then, a few years later, enter the Catholic Church?

This is the moving account of her unusual journey. It is the story of an academic becoming convinced of the truth of Christianity on rational grounds—but also the account of God’s grace acting in and through her imagination.

It is the tale of an unfolding, developing relationship with God—told with directness and honesty—and of a painful surrender at the foot of the Cross. It is the account of a lifelong, transformative love of reading and the story of how a competitive fencer put down her sabre to pick up the sword of the Spirit.

Above all, this book is a tale of grace, acting in and through human beings but always issuing from God and leading back to him. And it is the story of a woman being brought home.

(*Not God’s Type: An Atheist Academic Lays Down Her Arms* by Holly Ordway)

Parish Swap

Do you have some items that you no longer need? Now you can list them on a page linked to our website. Just contact Rose-Mary at ParishSwap@gmail.com - give her a description of what you have, and your contact information. It is also possible to send a picture to be posted.

To view what is available, just click on the “links” button on the front page of www.sacffsp.com

For more information call the parish office.

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*

November 20, 2014

Evening of Recollection Confraternity of St. Peter

Don’t miss out on the spiritual benefits of our CSP Evening of Recollection on Thursday, November 20, beginning with Holy Mass at 6:30 pm. Each month we are given a wonderful sermon and conference along with Holy Mass and CSP prayers.

The Confraternity of St. Peter is a group of lay men and women united to the Priestly Fraternity of St. Peter.

- Conforming our lives in the Spirituality of the Holy Mass
 - Praying for the priests and seminarians of the Fraternity of St. Peter.
 - Praying for more vocations to the Holy Priesthood
- For more information visit www.confraternityofstpeter.com or call the parish office 916-455-5114.

Reminder— Chesterton Society meeting:

November 18th at 7:30pm

We will be reading :

Selection from "What’s Wrong With the World" : “Part II Imperialism, or the Mistake about Man and

Fr. Brown: "The Miracle of Moon Crescent"

All are welcome!

Calendars and Ordos

FSSP Calendars and Ordos are now available for purchase in the bookstore. Get yours early so you don’t miss out.

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

On Indulgences

In the new Handbook of indulgences there are 70 entries of prayers and good works enriched with plenary and/or partial indulgences. Worthy of special mention are the four following. Keeping in mind that only one plenary indulgence can be gained on one and the same day, here are those concessions:

1. A plenary indulgence is granted to one of the faithful who visits the Blessed Sacrament to adore the same for at least half an hour.
2. A plenary indulgence is granted to one of the faithful who spends at least half an hour in reading Sacred Scripture with the veneration due to the divine word and in the form of spiritual reading.
3. A plenary indulgence is granted to one of the faithful who performs the pious exercise of the Way of the Cross. One who is prevented from making the stations can gain the same plenary indulgence by devoting at least half an hour to spiritual reading and meditation on the Passion and death of our Lord Jesus Christ.
4. A plenary indulgence is granted to one of the faithful who recites the rosary of at least five decades with meditation on the respective mysteries in a church or a public oratory, or in a family, or in a religious community, or in some pious Association. The five decades are to be said in continuity and if said in public the respective mystery is to be announced before each decade.

In all these cases an Our Father and Hail Mary or some other prayers of one’s choice are to be said for the Pope’s intentions. For in order to gain a plenary indulgence four things are necessary: 1. The performance of the work to which the indulgence is attached. 2. Sacramental confession. 3. Eucharistic Communion. 4. Prayer for the intention of the Supreme Pontiff. In addition to this it is required that all attachment to sin, even venial sin, be absent.

(*New Regulations on Indulgences* by Fr. Winfrid Herbst, SDS)

11th Annual Walk for Life—Save the Date!

Saturday, January 24, 2015

Bus tickets are still available. For information contact Mike at 916-335-4553 or Kathleen at 916-204-9125.

Please Keep in Your Prayers ...

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

...In Memoriam

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