

Sunday, April 19, 2015
Second Sunday After Easter
(Good Shepherd Sunday)



Sun. 19 Apr. Second Sunday after Easter, (Good Shepherd Sunday), II Class

8:30 am Sierra Butcher
 10:30 am Pro Populo
 1:00 pm Fr. Lyons

3:00 pm Vespers & Benediction

Mon. 20 Apr. Feria in Paschaltide, IV Class

7:00 am Tish Gallagher
 12:15 pm Thanksgiving to St. Jude

Tues. 21 Apr. St. Anselm, Bishop, Confessor & Doctor, III Class

7:00 am Kathleen & Mike DeSantis
 6:30 pm Ted Sandoval

Wed. 22 Apr. SS. Soter & Caius, Popes & Martyrs, III Class

7:00 am †John Mack Parlett
 12:15 pm Erskine Family

Thurs. 23 Apr. St. George, Martyr, IV Class

7:00 am †Guillermina Tapia
 6:30 pm †Dennise Eugene Boeder

Fri. 24 Apr. St. Fidelis of Sigmaringen, Martyr, III Class

7:00 am Confraternity of St. Peter
 12:15 pm Solorio Family
 6:30 pm †Mary Julian Sullevan

Sat. 25 Apr. St. Mark, Evangelist, II Class

7:00 am Africa Medal
 9:00 am †Denise Greco Bethel

Sun. 26 Apr. Third Sunday after Easter, II Class

8:30 am Fr. John Berg, FSSP
 10:30 am Pro Populo
 1:00 pm †Martha Robison

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

April 21—Chesterton Society Meeting
 April 23—CSP Evening of Reflection
 April 24—High School Youth Group
 May 2—May Procession & Solemn Mass
 May 9—First Holy Communion
 May 14—Ascension of Our Lord
 May 30—FSSP Priestly Ordinations
 June 21-27—Camp Sacred Heart
 July 19—23—**Spiritual Exercises** - Annual Parish Retreat
 Aug. 2—Finding of the Relics of St. Stephen—Pig Roast & Square Dance
 Oct. 3—G.K.Chesterton: Live w/Dale Ahlquist & Chuck Chalberg

Manna of the Elect

Furthermore, Holy Communion is happiness. What is happiness if not the possession of an infinite good, the real and permanent possession of God? Well, such is the divine fruit of Communion.

Communion is also peace. Jesus is the God of peace. "Peace I leave with you, My peace I give unto you," He said to His Apostles after He had given them Communion; not the troubled and stormy peace of the world, but the peace of God, so sweet that it passes all understanding. With one word Jesus quiets the tempest; with one glance He scatters and lays low our enemies.

Holy Communion, again, is sweetness. It is the true manna which satisfies all our desires, because it possesses all sweetness. It is the celestial fragrance of the fair Lily of the Valley, which enraptures us in God.

The humble and recollected soul feels in the depths a certain joyous tremor caused by the presence of Jesus Christ; it feels itself unfolding beneath the warmth of this Sun of love; it experiences a well-being, an alertness, a sweetness, a force of union, of adhesion to God, which come not from itself; it is aware of Jesus in all its being and looks upon itself as a paradise inhabited by God where, as in another heavenly court, it may repeat all the praises, thanksgivings, and benedictions sung by the angels and saints to God in glory.

O happy moment of Communion, which makes us forget our exile and its miseries!

O sweet repose of the soul on the very Heart of Jesus!

This good Master knew very well that we needed to taste the sweetness of love now and then!

One cannot be always on the Calvary of suffering, nor in the thick of the battle.

The child needs the mother's bosom; the Christian, the Heart of Jesus.

Yes, virtue without Communion is like the strength of the lion; it is the result of combat, of violence; it is hard. If it is to have the gentleness of the lamb, we must drink the Blood of the spotless Lamb, we must eat this honey of the desert.

After all, happiness begets love; we love only that which gives happiness. Seek no farther then. The Savior has placed this divine happiness neither in the different virtues nor in His other mysteries, but solely within Himself; to taste His joy to the full, we must receive Him as our Food. "Taste and see how sweet is the Lord," said the prophet. And our Lord Himself said: "He who eateth My Flesh and drinketh My Blood hath life everlasting." And that life everlasting is heaven, it is sanctity beatified in Jesus Christ.

Thus the Savior's virtues, the different mysteries of His life, and even of His Passion, are but so many roads whose destination is the Eucharistic Cenacle. There only has Jesus made Himself a lasting abode on earth. There we must dwell, there live and die.

(Excerpt from *Holy Communion* by Saint Peter Julian Eymard - available in the St. Stephen Book Store.)

...In Memoriam

†Joan Blackburn, †Thomas Joseph Greco, †Bruce Perry

The Witness of Jesus' Friends

To men living so intimately with him, especially to those with whom he dwelt habitually, at whose board he ate, by whose side he slept in their cottages upon the floors, whom he kept with him in all his journeys, it was inevitable that, as man, he should be well known. What, then, is the account they give of him? We are often told, "No man is a hero to his valet," and by that we are given to understand that familiarity discovers weaknesses even in a hero. Yet what do we learn from the intimates of Jesus Christ?

From the day when the sinless John the Baptist acknowledges him to be far more sinless than himself, and pointed him out to all as the spotless Lamb of God, who would take away the sin of the world, there is never the slightest deviation. Simon, a year later, shows the impression that has deepened in him when he cries, "Depart from me, for I am a sinful man, O Lord." And on that occasion, as on so many others, he spoke for the handful of men who had reason to know him best. He chose them apart from all others, and they clung closely to him; he gave them himself as an example, and as such, they studied him in every detail; he called them his brothers and sisters, and they were beside themselves with joy. They do his work for him; they are tested concerning their fidelity; others may abandon him, but again Simon sums up the impression of them all: "Lord, to whom shall we go? Thou hast the words of eternal life."

A little later, and it has grown deeper; once more Simon speaks for his companions. "Thou art the Christ, the Son of the living God." It is the height of their confession of faith, but it is founded on their knowledge of the perfection of the man of whom they spoke. And there were deeper things to follow; from henceforth they studied him more closely as the model for their lives. "Come to me" had now grown to "Learn of me," and they felt the justice of the claim. They saw his infinite forgiveness and asked how many times they were to forgive. They watched him often in prayer and asked that they might be taught to do the same. He told them to forgive as they themselves would wish to be forgiven; by word he taught them that which he could not teach them by example.

The nearer he comes to the end, the more are they compelled to remark on the two striking features of his life: on the one hand, his bold condemnation of evildoers; on the other, his never-ceasing sympathy for the weak, the sinful, the downtrodden, and the condemned. They say very little; after the confession of Peter at Caesarea, less than others do the Apostles express their feelings and beliefs; but the impression is unmistakable: their Master is the Master indeed, who had the word of God, was the beloved of God, and taught more by example than by precept, and who, by his utter truth, won all to himself. He was wholly true, he was wholly to be trusted, he was wholly worthy to be loved: "Lord, thou knowest that I love thee."

But if the Apostles said little, there were others about them both more voluble and more demonstrative, and the Evangelists quote their words and describe their actions with evident approval and delight. In every case, it is the homage paid to the utter genuineness of their Master that delights them. The learned Pharisee Nicodemus knew to whom he was speaking when he said, "Rabbi, we know that thou art come a teacher from God." No less did that poor woman of Samaria, a little later, a creature at the opposite extreme, who, after one conversation, could go away and say, "Is not this the Christ?" The Roman soldier in Capernaum had learned much of this Jew before he could submit to pray, "Lord, I am not worthy that thou shouldst enter under my roof," as well as the woman, the sinner in the city, before, without any conditions, she could lay at his feet the whole of her miserable burden. When the multitude cried out with enthusiasm, "He hath done all things well," clearly they spoke of more than miracles; it was more than miracles that made the common people of Jerusalem say to one another in the streets, "He is a good man" and use this as an answer to his enemies, who tried to seduce them.

(Excerpt from *The Good Galilean* by Alban Goodier)

7th Annual Great Marian Procession
Saturday—May 2

7:30 am—Arrive East Lawn Cemetery, 4300 Folsom Blvd.
 8:15 am—Terry Barber, keynote speaker
 8:30 am—Procession leaves cemetery
 11:00 am—Mary's Crowning & Solemn Mass—Cathedral
 Don't miss out on this spectacular day honoring our glorious Mother Mary! Find all information & video on the site:
www.BringMary.com

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*

Reminder— Chesterton Society Meeting:
April 21st at 7:30pm

We are starting a new book: *Heretics*
 Read Chapters 3 & 4
 Also: Fr. Brown: "The Ghost of Gideon Wise"
 Go to: <http://www.sacfssp.com/>
 For online book and Fr. Brown stories
 All are welcome!

Spiritual Exercises of St. Ignatius

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

Be sure to sign up for this retreat ASAP as only a few spaces are left! 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.

Confraternity of St. Peter 2015 Pilgrimage

Historic pilgrimage to Spain & the Rock of Gibraltar, in the quincentenary year of St. Teresa of Avila's birth! By traveling back to the days of the great Spanish mystics—Sts. Teresa of Avila and John of the Cross, Catholic monarchs—King St. Fernando III & Queen Isabella (Servant of God), and the wondrous events of the consecration of Europe to Our Lady on the Rock of Gibraltar, may we travel forward with the faith and courage of Spain's holy "Defender's of Christendom"!

Join Fr. James Fryar, FSSP, Chaplain of the Confraternity of St. Peter on September 14—September 24, 2015. For more information call Tish at 916-223-3112 or visit the website www.syversentouring.com/confraternity.

Please Keep in Your Prayers ...

Mike Hayes, Jim Carlson, Mike McGrath, Barbara Graichen, Munsill Family, Carlos Aldana, Liliana, Luz & Cesar 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, John Patrick Corr, Augustine Guzman