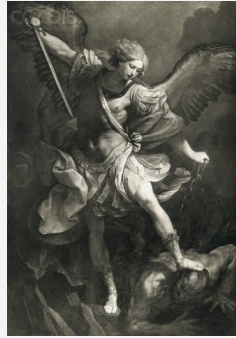


Sunday, September 24, 2017
16th Sunday After Pentecost



- Sun. 24 Sept. 16th Sunday After Pentecost, II Class**
 8:00 am †Mike McGrath
 10:30 am Pro Populo
 1:30 pm Conversion of People who Work in the Media
 6:00 pm In Thanksgiving for Oona Rose
- Mon 25 Sept. Feria, IV Class**
 7:00 am Benefactor in Thanksgiving
 12:15 pm Liz Nicolini
- Tues. 26 Sept. SS. Jean Brebeuf, Isaac Jogues & Companions, Martyrs, III Class**
 7:00 am Liz Nicolini
 6:30 pm Mary C. Kaehler
- Wed. 27 Sept. St. Cosmas & St. Damian, Martyrs, III Class**
 7:00 am Mary C. Kaehler
 12:15 pm Mary Anne Kaehler
- Thurs. 28 Sept. St. Wenceslaus, Duke & Martyr, III Class**
 7:00 am Mary Anne Kaehler
 6:30 pm Liz Nicolini & Family
- Fri. 29 Sept. Dedication of St. Michael the Archangel, I Class**
 7:00 am James Cabral & Family
 12:15 pm The Ho Family
 6:30 pm Suffering Souls in Purgatory
- Sat. 30 Sept. St. Jerome, Priest, Confessor, & Doctor, III Class**
 7:00 am Father Curtis
 9:00 am Father Savoie
- Sun. 1 Oct. 17th Sunday After Pentecost, II Class**
 8:00 am †Mary Daley
 10:30 am Pro Populo
 1:30 pm John & Elaine Testa
 6:00 pm The Ho Family

...In Memoriam

- †Maria Lopresti, †George Klopf, †Nell Keim, †John Reyes,
 †Margaret Melusky, †Robert O’Kane, †Savino Salierno,
 †Beverly Longtin, †Donald Strahota, †Ursula Uclaray,
 †Marina Servande, †Rizal Robancho, †Mike McGrath,
 †Sarah Vierra, †Mary Daley, †James Greenwell,
 †Josef Schuchmann, †Paulette Brady, †Felipa Lopez,
 †Jorge Munoz, †William J. Foy, †Patricia Becker,

Important Upcoming Dates

- Sept. 29—Feast of St. Michael—Solemn evening Mass
 Oct. 7—Our Lady of the Rosary
 Oct. 7—Girls Groups meet
 Oct. 13—Fatima Procession
 Oct. 18—29th Anniversary of Fraternity of St. Peter
 Oct. 29—Feast of Christ the King
 Nov. 11—Annual Women’s Day Retreat

The Gift of Fortitude

Under the influence of the gift of fear, the soul puts itself completely into the hands of God and has but one desire, that of never being separated from Him. The gift of fortitude comes to strengthen it so that it may be always more and more courageous in serving God. In the measure that the soul advances in the spiritual life, it should follow God’s initiative, and let itself be guided by the Holy Spirit, rather than proceed according to its own ideas; however, its activity is necessary here too, consisting as it does in a prompt, docile adherence to the promptings of the divine Paraclete, accepting and willing all that He does for it and in it. Thus this gift comes to help and to perfect the virtue of fortitude, which, in spite of our good will, is always weak and too often fails us, especially when we are faced with the rigorous demands of a more perfect spiritual life. We need courage to remain faithful to God’s law and the duties of our state—even at the cost of great sacrifice—and to endure patiently the difficulties of life. We need it even more to second the action of God in our soul, to follow faithfully the inspirations of the Holy Spirit, and not be frightened by the trials God makes us undergo. He is a kind, gentle Master, but at the same time, a very exacting one, because He cannot lead us to sanctity without asking us for *all*. And this is just where we most experience our frailty: we feel intuitively what God wants from us, perhaps we see it very clearly, and yet we are not capable, we lack the strength to do it. This is a great grief for a soul of good will, not yet fully matured. It is the condition of human weakness which actual grace and the infused virtue of fortitude can do much to relieve, but which they cannot completely cure, acting as they do by means of our limited faculties. The direct intervention of God Himself is necessary and God does intervene by putting the gift of fortitude into action.

The virtue of fortitude and the gift of fortitude have the same end, to strengthen us in the spiritual life, but they differ as to the manner in which they act. The virtue acts in us by means of our own efforts, sustained, certainly, by grace, but yet these efforts are always human efforts; hence, even though they are supernatural, they must necessarily adapt themselves to our human way of acting; consequently, they will always be affected by our limitations. On the other hand, the gift—like all the gifts of the Holy Spirit—is supernatural not only in itself, but also in its activation. In fact, instead of being put into action by us—as is the case with the virtue—it is activated by God Himself. By means of the virtue and using our good will, the little sister of grace, it is we who try to acquire fortitude to make ourselves strong; by means of the gift, however, it is the Holy Spirit who fortifies us interiorly, communicating to us something of His omnipotence, something of His infinite fortitude. (*Divine Intimacy* by Fr. Gabriel of St. Mary Magdalen)

From the Pastor

The intention for which the prayers after Mass were offered, have changed over time. They were first introduced by Pope Leo XIII in 1884. The original intention was “for the defense of the temporal sovereignty of the Holy See.” The purpose of the intention was realized when the Lateran Treaty was signed between the Holy See and Italy in 1929. Pope Pius XI then ordered that the prayers be said for the conversion of Russia. In 1965, along with various other liturgical changes, the prayers after Mass were suppressed. However, in many places where the 1962 missal is followed, the custom of saying the prayers after Mass has continued. Since there is no longer an official papal intention for the prayers I would suggest – in keeping with the last given intention and the message of Fatima – that the prayers be offered for “the conversion of the United States and for Russia through the pure and Immaculate Heart of Mary.” May our prayers hasten the triumph of the Immaculate Heart!

Feast of St. Michael

Friday, Sept. 29th is the Feast of the Dedication of St. Michael. There will be a Solemn High Mass at 6:30 pm.

New Hymnals!

Thanks to a generous benefactor we have new hymnals in the pews! Please treat them like gold so that they will last us a long time.

Hurricane Irma Relief

If you would like to make an online contribution to Hurricane Irma relief efforts visit www.catholiccharities.org or call 1-800-919-9338.

Fr. Savoie’s Bible Study Class
Thursdays—September 7, 14, 21, 28

The Exile of a Beloved Son
The Joseph Narrative
 Genesis 37—50

~ **Summer Dress Code** ~

Please recall that everyone is expected to dress with modesty and in a way befitting the house of God. Our choice of clothing is an expression of our worship; it may also affect the ability of others to worship. Dress should conceal rather than reveal. There is a sign in the vestibule that gives more details regarding proper dress. It is further expected that modesty in dress be maintained on the church grounds at all times.

We do request that the correction of visitors in this matter be left to the priests or their delegates.

Around the Parish

Congratulations to Brandon & Krista Williams on the birth of their 7th child, Gemma Philomena Dolorosa! Gemma was baptized at St. Stephen’s on September 17th.

Save the Date. Saturday, January 27, 2018.
14th Walk-for-Life West Coast.

Once again, we will be offering sandwiches and drinks after all 8:00am, 10:30am and 1:30pm Sunday Masses in October. Funds raised will help secure St. Stephens’s bus for the Walk and reduce the cost per ticket. Help is needed in all areas. Please contact Mike (916-335-4553) or Kathleen (916-204-9125) to volunteer. Sign-up sheet in the vestibule beginning this weekend.

Brown Bag Lunch Project

Please help us fill our food closet:

- Below is a list of the food needed.
Must be non-perishable
 Tuna, chicken, salmon, other easy-to-open, single portion meats, or lunchables
 Apple sauce cups or other fruit cups
 Healthy snacks like fruit rolls, breakfast bars, soft granola bars
 Crackers or chips
 Deserts like cookies
 Bottles of water
 Plastic utensils, packages of lunch bags, and napkins
 Jars of peanut butter, jelly/preserves

Cash donations also welcome at the office or bookstore

Catholica Summer Program

The 2018 sessions feature daily Mass in St. Peter’s Basilica, classes in Church History, Latin and Apologetics, tours throughout the city of Rome, day trips throughout Italy, lots of sports, hiking and swimming, music and camaraderie, and much, much more.

In 2018 we’re also offering a program for young women, Bella Vita Summer Program! Bella Vita is a three-week program in Italy for girls ages 14—17 that features daily Mass, classes in Art History, Italian language and cooking, a weekend excursion to Florence, day trips throughout Italy and so much more.

All pertinent information can be found at www.prorome.com or simply by calling me directly at 570-309-1346.

Joe Long
 Director, ProRome

Please Keep in Your Prayers ...

- Renee Burns, Barbara Graichen, Sue McGrath, Sandy Sneary, Barbara Jeong, John Newaz, Jim Carlson, Darryl Gallagher, Fr. Goodwin, Margaret Northan, Jean Haun, Sandra De Monaco, Pamela Lewis, Helen DiCarlo, Barbara Cogan, Ramon and Robert Daley, Liz Nicolini, Julie Jeong, William (Pat) Cummings, Lorraine Peterson, John Testa



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Rev. Fr. John Lyons, F.S.S.P., *Pastor*
Rev. Fr. Joshua Curtis, F.S.S.P., *Parochial Vicar*
Rev. Fr. Dominic Savoie, F.S.S.P., *Parochial Vicar*

www.sacfssp.com

If you wish to receive official notifications from the parish, subscribe to email: ststephenssp-subscribe@yahoo.com

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

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

Knights of Columbus: 3rd Wednesday of each month, 6 pm

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.

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

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

PREGNANT? NEED HELP? - Call 1-800-712-HELP

HURTING AFTER ABORTION? - CALL 1-877-HOPE4ME