

Sunday, February 4, 2018
Sexagesima Sunday



- Sun. 4 Feb.** **Sexagesima Sunday, II Class**
 8:00 am Katie Roundtree
 10:30 am Pro Populo
 1:30 pm †Alexandra Hardin
 6:00 pm Alejandra Holdener
- Mon 5 Feb.** **St. Agatha, Virgin & Martyr, III Class**
 7:00 am Francis Masao
 12:15 pm Simona & Sylvestre Guerrero
- Tues. 6 Feb.** **St. Titus, Bishop & Confessor, III Class**
 7:00 am †Manuel & †Melencita Bacani
 6:30 pm †Veronica M. Taylor
- Wed. 7 Feb.** **St. Romuald, Abbot, III Class**
 7:00 am †Christopherson Cortes
 12:15 pm James & Jill Sherk & Family
- Thurs. 8 Feb.** **St. John of Matha, Confessor, III Class**
 7:00 am Maria L. & Jesus Romero
 6:30 pm Mark Gallagher
- Fri. 9 Feb.** **St. Cyril of Alexandria, Bishop, Confessor & Doctor, III Class**
 7:00 am Holy Souls in Purgatory
 12:15 pm †Fatima Moitoso
 6:30 pm Richard Bowan
- Sat. 10 Feb.** **St. Scholastica, Virgin, III Class**
 7:00 am Christine & Charlie Watts & Family
 9:00 am Jean Haun
- Sun. 11 Feb.** **Quinquagesima Sunday, II Class**
 8:00 am Barbara Ryan
 10:30 am Pro Populo
 1:30 pm †Theresa
 6:00 pm †José Rafael & Family, & Tereza

...In Memoriam

†Fatima Moitoso, †George Lane

Important Upcoming Dates

Feb. 14—Ash Wednesday
 Feb. 22—Chair of St. Peter
 March 19—Feast of St. Joseph
 March 20—Confirmation 6:00 pm
 March 30—Good Friday
 April 1—Easter Sunday
 May 5—First Holy Communion 10:30 am

The Spirit of Poverty

“Opening His mouth, He taught them, saying: Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven” (Mt 5,2,3). Thus begins the Sermon on the Mount; then Jesus explained several times how this poverty of spirit is to be understood. “Lay not up to yourselves treasures on earth: where the rust and moth consume, and where thieves break through and steal. But lay up to yourselves treasures in heaven: where neither the rust nor moth doth consume, and where thieves do not break through nor steal. For where thy treasure is, there is thy heart also” (ibid., 6, 19-21).

Consider that Jesus addressed these words not only to the Apostles, but also to His disciples and the crowds that followed Him, proving that although everyone is not called to make the vow of poverty—family life does not permit this—the practice of the “spirit of poverty” is incumbent upon all, namely, that affective detachment from the goods of earth, which enables one to use these goods with moderation and detachment. Those who, like fathers and mothers of families, have the obligation to administer goods and to increase them by honest work, must do so rightly, taking care that these material affairs do not make them neglect their own spiritual good and their duties to God. “What doth it profit a man if he gain the whole world, and suffer the loss of his own soul” (ibid., 16,26)? The spirit of poverty also demands that they who have few possessions and live in material want accept their condition serenely and patiently, seeing in it an invitation to imitate Jesus’ life of poverty more closely.

Consider furthermore that when the divine Master said, “Sell what thou hast and give it to the poor,” He joined the exercise of charity to that of poverty. If we detach our hearts from earthly goods, the spirit of poverty will make us generous toward the needy. “Be not solicitous for your life, what you shall eat, nor . . . what you shall put on. Is not the life more than the meat: and the body more than the raiment? Behold the birds of the air, for they neither sow, nor do they reap, nor gather into barns; and your heavenly Father feedeth them. . . . And for raiment, why are you solicitous? Consider the lilies of the field, how they grow. . . . And if the grass of the field, which is today, and tomorrow is cast into the oven, God doth so clothe: how much more you, O ye of little faith?” (Mt 6, 25-30). Jesus does not forbid our providing for the morrow; on the contrary, He says through His Apostle, “If any man will not work, neither let him eat” (2 Thes 3,10). But Jesus does not wish the solicitude which would engulf us entirely in temporal affairs; this would indicate not only an excessive attachment to earthly things, but also a lack of confidence in divine Providence. (Divine Intimacy Fr. Gabriel of St. Mary Magdalen)

The Annual Catholic Appeal

Next Sunday, Feb. 11, the collection for the Annual Catholic Appeal will be taken up. Appeal pledges will be available to fill out. You may have already received an appeal pledge in the mail. If you choose to send it in, please make sure that St. Stephen’s is listed as your parish as 25% of funds collected are returned to the parish. The rest goes to fund nearly 100 programs that serve the mentally ill; homeless; elderly; working families; teens at risk; pregnant women; infants; single parent families; the hungry with emergency food; shelter and clothing; permanent and transitional housing; counseling; job training; pregnancy counseling; post and pre-natal care; independent living skills; mentoring; parenting skills; information and referral; after-school care and other life-sustaining services. This is one of the ways in which our parish is able to assist the needy in our diocese.

Marian Consecration

Preparation will begin on Tuesday, Feb. 20, for those who would like to consecrate themselves (or, to renew their consecration) to Jesus through Mary according to the method of St. Louis de Montfort. A sermon will be preached on some aspect of the consecration every Tuesday at the 6:30 p.m. Mass until the consecration is made on Palm Sunday, March 25. Why March 25th? March 25th is the feast of the Annunciation, the day God entrusted Himself to the care of the Blessed Virgin Mary. However, because it falls on Palm Sunday this year, it won’t be celebrated liturgically until after Easter.

Extra Confession Times During Lent

Throughout Lent, beginning Feb. 15, the priests of St. Stephen’s will make themselves available to hear confessions from 6 p.m. to 7:30 p.m., Monday through Saturday. Please spread the word to those who do not come regularly to St. Stephen’s, but would like to go to confession.

Envelope Use—Important, Please Read

Please use only the envelopes marked **2018**. If envelopes are not picked up after a year, the number is given to a new parishioner. If you use an old envelope or envelope number, there is a risk that your donation credit will be given to another parishioner.

Please do not use your envelopes until you turn in your registration form, as we do not know who to give credit to. It is also helpful to us if you write the amount of your donation on the outside of the envelope.

Thank you for your generous support!

Chesterton Society Meeting
February 13th at 7:30pm

We will meet in one of the classrooms right after the 6:30 pm Mass.

We will discuss “Saint Francis of Assisi chapter 5: “Le Jongleur de Dieu”.

Around the Parish

Pilgrim Virgin Statue - If you would like to have our Blessed Mother’s image spend a week with you in your home, sign up in the book store. First come, first served! You may pickup the statue on one Sunday and return it the next. By taking the image you’re agreeing to pray a family Rosary daily for the duration of the visit.

Study Sacred Scripture with Fr. Savoie

Thursdays in February @ 7:30 pm Classroom 2
The Book of Job
Part 1 : Into the Dark

Sacramento Life Center Baby Bottle Project

This Lent our parish will participate in the Sacramento Life Center’s Baby Bottle Project. On Sunday, February 11, the Rosa Mystica Girls’ Society will be distributing baby bottles in the vestibule for the purpose of collecting funds throughout the Lenten season of almsgiving. This is a wonderful way children can give back to their community and help others in need. Families are asked to fill the baby bottles with paper money, checks or coins throughout the first 4 weeks of Lent. This fundraiser supports the mission of the Sacramento Life Center, which is to offer compassion, support and free medical services to women and men facing unplanned or unsupported pregnancies in the greater Sacramento area.

Knights of Columbus Fundraiser

The St. Stephen Knights of Columbus Council wishes to thank all who supported their Breakfast Burrito Fundraiser last Sunday. Your wonderful generosity enabled them to raise \$550.00 for the Our Lady of Guadalupe FSSP Seminary in Denton, Nebraska. They also apologize for running short on burritos - it was their first time sponsoring such an event and they pledge not make that mistake next time! Again, thanks to all who were a part of this special fundraiser. Of special note, when the seminary was contacted regarding the donation, they suggested that the money be earmarked to support our very own seminarians from St. Stephens, and the Knights heartily agreed!

A final note of congratulations to Mike Solton who won the Our Lady of Lourdes Statue Shrine Raffle! Thanks to everyone who purchased tickets.

Please Keep in Your Prayers ...

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,
 William (Pat) Cummings, Lorraine Peterson,
 John Testa, Mike Trainor, Michael Cuellar,
 Alice Smith, Patricia Quinn, William Eckerman,
 Mitzi Vandenburg, Richard Cummings



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 Peter Nazarkewich Insurance Agency
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 Folsom, CA 95630
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 Fax 916.238.1679
 pnazarkewich@farmersagent.com
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 Rev. Fr. Dominic Savoie, F.S.S.P., *Parochial Vicar*

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If you wish to receive official notifications from the parish, subscribe to email: ststephenfssp-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

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.

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

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.