

Sunday, March 4, 2018
Third Sunday of Lent



Sun. 4 Mar.	Third Sunday of Lent, I Class FSSP Priests & Seminarians Pro Populo FSSP Priests & Seminarians O'Reba Travao
Mon. 5 Mar.	Feria of Lent, III Class †Sonja Cutts Brennan Family
Tues. 6 Mar.	Feria of Lent, III Class Mariner Family Alexander McCluskey
Wed. 7 Mar.	St. Thomas Aquinas, II Class Holy Souls in Purgatory Holy Souls in Purgatory Solorio Family
Thurs. 8 Mar.	Feria of Lent, III Class Dina Dailey †John H. Michaelson
Fri. 9 Mar.	Feria of Lent, III Class Isabella Gomez Michael Schiele, Jr. Suffering Souls in Purgatory
Sat. 10 Mar.	Feria of Lent, III Class Claire Guernsey MD Program Speakers & Their Families
Sun. 11 Mar.	Fourth Sunday of Lent, I Class O'Reba Travao Pro Populo Norman LeClair Tim McGlathery

...In Memoriam

†Fatima Moitoso, †George Lane

Important Upcoming Dates	
March 7-10	Parish Mission
March 17	St. Patrick co-patron of the diocese
March 19	Feast of St. Joseph
March 20	Confirmation 6:00 pm
March 25	Marian Consecration
April 1	Easter Sunday
May 5	First Communion
May 12	Marian Procession
July 8-12	Annual Parish Retreat

Not Excusing Oneself

In any failure, fault, or personal error, our ego instinctively tries to excuse itself. It is the tactic of pride—which is not willing to admit its mistakes and schemes—to hide them under more or less false pretexts, always finding some way to blame them on other people or on circumstances. Adam and Eve acted in this way after their sin; it is also the instinct of anyone who commits a fault. Herein lies great danger for the soul, because it is impossible for us to correct our faults if we are not willing to acknowledge them. It requires great courage to tear down these ingenious but inconsistent constructions of self-love, to expose our failings and look them squarely in the face, just as they are, without blaming them on anyone but ourselves. “When we commit a fault,” said St. Thérèse of the Child Jesus, “we must not attribute it to a physical cause, such as illness or the weather, but we must attribute it to our own lack of perfection. . . . Occasions do not make man weak, but they do show what he is” (C).

Excusing our faults may satisfy our pride; but in reality, it is voluntarily blinding oneself and making oneself incapable of seeing the true situation. Thus our poor soul is not only unable to advance, but it is condemned to grope in the dark with no possibility of escape. On the other hand, if we sincerely recognize our faults, we have already taken the first step toward correcting them. Yet it is not enough to avoid excusing ourselves interiorly; we must also guard against exonerating ourselves before others. In other words, after acknowledging our failings before God, we must also confess them before men, accept a correction humbly, and repair the bad example we may have given. At the same time, it would be of little value to receive an accusation or a reproach silently, if the soul—even at the cost of great struggle and effort—did not also avoid excusing itself interiorly.

Rebukes very often annoy us because we think they are not entirely in proportion to our faults and failings. We do not realize that this is one of the inevitable consequences of human limitations; only God who reads our hearts can judge our acts with perfect justice. Men see but the exterior, and therefore, even when it is their duty to correct us, they do not always evaluate correctly, but may often make mistakes either by excess or by deficiency. If we are willing to accept only the observations which perfectly correspond to our faults, we will very often be in danger of making excuses, protesting, giving explanations, and if we cannot do this outwardly, we shall do it at least interiorly. Thus we will lose the benefit we could have derived from the corrections, had we received them with humility of heart.
(Divine Intimacy Fr. Gabriel of St. Mary Magdalen)

From the Pastor

Are you promoting sex trafficking? You could very well be if you view online pornography. A recent article on sex trafficking found in the Knights of Columbus *Columbia* magazine states: “Videos of sex trafficked persons can be uploaded to mainstream pornography websites . . . While people assume everything they see in pornography is pure fantasy, anyone watching may be vicariously participating in, and even enjoying, another person’s living nightmare. Nobody who watches pornography can be certain that they have not watched trafficked persons’ abuse. Further, pornography creates and drives the demand for trafficked women and children.” Those who watch pornography not only risk destroying their own lives, but are helping to destroy the lives of others - one more reason why no one should ever view pornography! Besides putting one’s soul in jeopardy of being lost, pornography is addictive, it takes away one’s joy, it prevents one from forming and/or maintaining healthy relationships, it makes it impossible to have a truly happy marriage, religious vocations are destroyed. Those who have developed the vice of viewing pornography must do all they can to overcome it – even if it means giving up internet and TV access. Better to go to heaven without those things, than to go to hell with them. Everyone must be assiduous in protecting himself from pornography; as well as protecting those for whom he has responsibility. Parents must make sure that adequate controls are placed on all the electronic devices that their children have access to – computers, cell phones, video games, televisions. Pornography is ruining us as individuals and as nations. We must do what we can to ensure that pornography is banned – period! It is an intrinsic evil, which means it’s always wrong – 100% of the time. For those who wish to avoid getting caught in the snares of pornography, pray the Rosary. For those who are caught, pray the Rosary. If you’re already praying the Rosary daily, pray two Rosaries; if you’re praying two Rosaries, pray three! There’s no moral problem that cannot be overcome by the devout, persevering praying of the Rosary.

Our Lady of the Rosary, pray for us!

Ushers, Safety Team, Medical—Sign-up

We are in need of ushers, safety personnel, and people with medical experience. Please stop by the Security Team table out in the courtyard today.

St. Vincent de Paul Society

We're planning to begin a St. Vincent de Paul Society group here at St. Stephen's. Members involve themselves in helping the poor and needy. If you're interested in joining there will be an introductory meeting on Sunday, March 4, at 3 p.m. in one of the classrooms.

Study Sacred Scripture with Fr. Savoie

Thursdays in February @ 7:30 pm Classroom 2

The Book of Job

Part 1 : Into the Dark

Parish Mission — “Understanding Holy Week”

Wed, March 7:

6:30 pm - Mass, conference on Palm Sunday

Thurs, March 8:

6:30 pm - Mass, conference on Holy Thursday

Fri, March 9:

5:45 pm - Stations of the Cross

6:30 pm - Mass, followed by instruction on Good Friday

Sat, March 10:

9:00 am - Mass, conference on the Easter Vigil

Fridays During Lent

- **Stations of the Cross** - After the 12:15 Mass and 6:30 pm Mass (March 9th Stations at **5:45 pm**)
- **Soup Supper** - after evening Stations of the Cross. For more information or how to help out, call the Strandhagens at 425-919-6572.

St. Joseph's Feast Day

On Monday, March 19, there will be a 6:30 p.m. High Mass to celebrate St. Joseph's feast day. After Mass, you are invited to the hall for a traditional **St. Joseph's Table**, **“La Tavola di San Giuseppe.”** Some food and beverage will be provided, but we invite you to help out by bringing a simple dessert treat, i.e. cookies, biscotti, cannoli, etc. - these can be delivered anytime after noon on Sunday, Mar. 18, the day before, or before the evening Mass on Monday, Mar. 19.

We will also need help baking bread to adorn the St. Joseph's Table altar as well as with set up the day before and on the feast day itself. If you are interested, please contact Larry White at 916-296-2088 or email at: lwhite@mcn.org.

Chesterton Society Meeting

March 13th at 7:30pm -

We meet in one of the classroom after the 6:30 Mass. We will discuss “Saint Francis of Assisi chapter VI: “The Little Poor Man.”

Marian Consecration

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.

Extra Confession Times During Lent

Throughout Lent, 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.

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, Helen DiCarlo, Barbara Cogan, Ramon and Robert Daley, Liz Nicolini, William (Pat) Cummings, Lorraine Peterson, John Testa, Michael Cuellar, Alice Smith, Patricia Quinn, William Eckerman, Mitzi Vandenburg, Richard Cummings, Nellie Reyes, Gretchen Medel, Dario Gonzalez, Rick Rabenau



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**Membership: Greg Bronson
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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: ststephenfssp-subscribe@yahoogroups.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

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.



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.

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.**