

Sunday, February 21, 2016
Second Sunday of Lent



Sun. 21 Feb. Second Sunday of Lent, I Class

8:30 am Anne Marie Reslock
 10:30 am Pro Populo
 1:00 pm Elaine M. Dana

3:00 pm Vespers & Benediction

Mon. 22 Feb. Chair of St. Peter, I Class

7:00 am Charles E. Dana
 12:15 pm Benjamin K. Dana
 7:00 pm FSSP

Tues. 23 Feb. Feria of Lent, III Class

7:00 am †Ernesto Virate Camaliga
 6:30 pm John A. Dana

Wed. 24 Feb. Feria of Lent, III Class

7:00 am Eleanor C. Dana
 12:15 pm Maddie Dana

Thurs. 25 Feb. St. Matthias, Apostle, II Class

7:00 am Phil Sandoval & Family
 6:30 pm Deena Arango & Family

Fri. 26 Feb. Feria of Lent, III Class

7:00 am Sofia & Nick Arango
 12:15 pm Marina Lucina & Family
 6:30 pm Paz Gonzales & Family

Sat. 27 Feb. Feria of Lent, III Class

7:00 am Dana Family Intentions
 9:00 am Stella Zapata & Family

Sun. 28 Feb. Third Sunday of Lent, I Class

8:30 am Reslock Family
 10:30 am Pro Populo
 1:00 pm Tish Gallagher & Family

3:00 pm Vespers & Benediction

...In Memoriam

†Edward Coleman, †Marilyn Goyette, †Gilbert Perry
 †Ruth Rodgers, †Concepcion Cristi, †Mary Gilbert,
 †Mary Foose, †William Munsill, †Richard Corbin,
 †Mikyla Pina Mutuc, †Joseph Michael Jaeger,
 †Justice Antonin Scalia

Important Upcoming Dates

Feb. 22—Chair of Peter The Apostle— 7:00 pm High Mass
 Feb 29-Mar 3—Parish Mission
 March 13—Confirmation
 March 19—Feast of St. Joseph
 March 20—Palm Sunday
 March 25—Good Friday
 March 27—Easter Sunday
 April 4—Annunciation of the BVM (transferred)
 May 7—First Holy Communion
 May 14—Procession to the Cathedral of the Bl. Sacrament
 May 28—Graduation Mass 1:30 pm
 June 19-25—Camp Sacred Heart
 July 10—14—Silent Retreat

Humility and Confidence

Christian humility does not lower, it elevates; it does not cast down, but gives courage, for the more it reveals to the soul its nothingness and abjection, the more it moves it toward God with confidence and abandonment. The very fact that in everything—in essence as in act, in the natural as in the supernatural order—we depend on Him, and that we can do nothing without Him, shows us that God wants to sustain us continually by His help and His grace. Consequently, the relations of a humble soul with God will be those of a child who confidently expects everything from its father.

This is the lesson that Jesus wished to give His Apostles when they asked Him who would be the greatest in the kingdom of heaven: “Amen, I say to you, unless you be converted and become as little children, you shall not enter into the kingdom of heaven. Whosoever therefore shall humble himself as this little child, he is the greater in the kingdom of heaven.” “To remain little,” explains St. Thérèse of the Child Jesus, “is to acknowledge one’s nothingness and to expect everything from the good God, as the child expects everything from its father. . . . Even among the poor, a child, while he is very little, is given everything that is necessary, but when he has grown, his father no longer wants to support him, and says ‘Go to work now! You can rely on yourself.’ It is that I might never hear those words that I never wanted to grow up, because I felt incapable of earning my own living: *eternal life*.”

To the soul who humbly acknowledges its poverty and turns toward God with complete confidence, He is a very tender Father who delights in showering His gifts upon it and in doing for it what it cannot accomplish by itself. Then the smallest soul—that is, the one most thoroughly convinced of its own nothingness—becomes the greatest, since it has the greatness of God Himself at its command.

(taken from *Divine Intimacy*, written by Fr. Gabriel of St. Mary Magdalen, O.C.D.)

St. Stephen, the First Martyr

Parish Mission

February 29th, March 1st, 2nd & 3rd

Our Lenten Parish Mission will include various guest speakers. Each evening Holy Mass will be celebrated at 6:30 pm, followed by a conference, and concluded with exposition of the Blessed Eucharist and Benediction. Participation in a Parish Mission is a great way to help stimulate one’s faith, and to better sanctify this holy time of Lent. Please invite others to come with you. The speakers will be:

- 1) Monday, Feb. 29: Fr. John Lyons, FSSP
- 2) Tuesday, March 1: Fr. Joseph Illo
- 3) Wednesday, March 2: Fr. Blaise Berg
- 4) Thursday, March 3: Fr. Jeremy Leatherby

"Lent stimulates us to let the Word of God penetrate our life and in this way to know the fundamental truth: who we are, where we come from, where we must go, what path we must take in life..."
 - Pope Benedict XVI

High School Graduation Mass

May 28th @ 1:30 pm

The Graduation Mass is for all 2016 high school graduates of St. Stephen parishioners. Please contact Liz Hernandez by **February 29** if you have a student who will participate. She can be reached by calling (916) 362-5285, or by emailing at petenliz@sbcglobal.net.

The Touch

“Jesus came and touched them, and said to them: Arise, and fear not.” how like Him! Even in this moment; when He might well for a brief moment forget earth and all its troubles, and stay listening to that Voice, which to *Him* was so full of consolation, He thinks of His poor, terrified Apostles, who did not dare to raise their faces from the ground for fear of what they might see. He came and *touched* them, to let them see that it was He Himself, the same as ever. *Arise*, there is nothing to be afraid of. It was only My natural state which I allowed to be seen for a little moment, to strengthen you for all that lies before you. It is all over now; the Heavenly Visitors are gone; the Voice has said what it had to say. And “*looking about*” as if to assure themselves that all was natural again, “they saw no man, but Jesus only.”

It is Jesus Who comes to touch me, too, in my Communion, in my Meditations, in my Confessions and Absolutions. Happy is it for me when I can see Jesus *only* in them. In my dealings with others too—in the sick I am nursing, in the poor I am visiting, in the children I am teaching, in the ignorant I am instructing, in the disagreeable people that I meet, in the uncongenial ones that I may have to live with—in all these my faith ought to be strong enough to recognize the touch of Jesus. What a help it would be, if when I *look about* on all these I could see no *man*, but Jesus *only*! Yet it could be so, for it is not only into visions of *glory* that Jesus transfigures Himself, but also into vision of sickness and suffering and poverty—yea, even the sinner may be a vision of Him.
 (*Passio Christi* by Mother St. Paul)



St. Joseph’s Feast Day

On Saturday, March 19, there will be a 10:30 Solemn High Mass to celebrate St. Joseph’s Feast Day. After Mass, we’ll be gathering in the hall for the traditional St. Joseph’s Table (“La Tavola di San Giuseppe”). Food and beverages will be provided, but, we ask that you help out by bringing a dessert treat such as cookies, biscotti, or cannoli. Help is also needed with baking bread to adorn the St. Joseph’s Table altar. Sign up sheets are in the vestibule.

We also need help the day before, on Friday, March 18, with set up. If you are interested, please contact Larry White at 916-296-2088 or email at: lwhite@mcn.org

Five Lessons in Spiritual Combat

Preached by Fr. Simon Harkins, FSSP
 July 10-14

The concept of intentionally spending an extended period of time in silence and prayer is almost unimaginable to a loud and busy world, but silent retreats are, and always have been, an important part of Catholic prayer life.

Five Lessons in Spiritual Combat will be held at Christ the King Retreat Center. Each retreatant will have a private room and bath. Space is limited, so hold your place as soon as possible with a deposit. Forms are now available in the office or bookstore. The retreat is open to men and women age 18 and over. For more information call: 916-223-3112

SPRING “40 DAYS FOR LIFE”

When: Ash Wednesday, February 10th through March 20th

Where: 1442 Ethan Way, Sacramento (park at Theatre on Arden or on Hallmark Drive)

What time: 7am to 7pm, Monday thru Friday (Sat. optional) Sign up for hours at:

<https://40daysforlife.com/local-campaigns/sacramento/>

Annual Catholic Appeal

Thank you to those who have already pledged to the 2016 Annual Catholic Appeal! The Appeal is our annual tradition that connects us to thousands of people who need our help every day. If you have not yet made a donation, envelopes are available in the pews or contact the parish office. Your gift truly makes a difference in the lives of others. 25% comes back to our parish to serve our local needs.

Please Keep in Your Prayers ...

Mike Hayes, Jim Carlson, Mike McGrath,
 Barbara Graichen, Sue McGrath, Lorraine Peterson,
 John Reyes, Patricia Becker, Paulette Brady, James Reslock,
 Sandy Sneary, Barbara Jeong, Eleanor Roberts, Fr. Carota,
 Beverly Longtin, Mary Daley, Ramon Daley, Jerry Risse

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Mother of Perpetual Help! Thank you for all the Blessings for our Family!

Saint Stephen the First Martyr Parish

Served by the Priestly Fraternity of Saint Peter

Fr. John Lyons, F.S.S.P., *Pastor*
Fr. Ashley Perry, *Parochial Vicar*
Fr. Zachary Akers, 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@yahoogroups.com

Mass Schedule
Traditional Roman Rite

- Sunday:** 8:30 a.m. Low Mass
10:30 a.m. High Mass
1:00 p.m. Low Mass
3:00 p.m. Vespers and Benediction
- 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., 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

Confessions

One half hour before all Masses, and Saturdays 8:30 a.m. to 10:00 a.m.

Exposition and Benediction of 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. Mass 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: 8:00 a.m. & 10:00 a.m., after the 1p.m. Mass and five minutes after many weekday Masses
- Holy Face Novena:** 5:30 p.m. every Tuesday
- St. Monica Novena:** First Thursday of every month, after 6:30 p.m. Mass
- Our Lady of Perpetual Help Novena:** after 6:30 p.m. Mass every Tuesday
- Fatima Procession:** 13th of the month May to October

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.

Parish Swap

Do you have items you no longer need? List them by contacting Rose-Mary at ParishSwap@gmail.com
View available items by clicking on the "links" button on the front page of www.sacfssp.com