

**Sunday, February 28, 2016  
Third Sunday of Lent**



**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

**Mon. 29 Feb. Feria of Lent, III Class**

7:00 am †Michael Keith  
12:15 pm Patrick Stefanic

**Tues. 1 Mar. Feria of Lent, III Class**

7:00 am Marcellinus Cuatto  
6:30 pm Anna & Isabella Gomez

**Wed. 2 Mar. Feria of Lent, III Class**

7:00 am Juakin & Estefania Sandoval  
12:15 pm Raymond & Natasha Alatorre

**Thurs. 3 Mar. Feria of Lent, III Class**

7:00 am Alvaro Zapata, Jr.  
6:30 pm Saint Monica Sodality

**Fri. 4 Mar. Sacred Heart of Jesus, III Class**

7:00 am †Orville Tostenson  
12:15 pm Kathy Soria  
6:30 pm Joe & Pati Obi & Children

**Sat. 5 Mar. Immaculate Heart of Mary, III Class**

7:00 am †Felipa Lopez  
9:00 am John & Virginia Perkins

**Sun. 6 Mar. Fourth Sunday of Lent, Laetare Sunday, I Class**

8:30 am Madeleine Jane Reslock  
10:30 am Pro Populo  
1:00 pm Stefania Sandoval & 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

**Important Upcoming Dates**

Feb 29-Mar 3—Parish Mission  
March 4—Stations of the Cross after 12:15 pm & 6:30 pm Masses  
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 3—5—Saints of Mercy Relics  
June 19-25—Camp Sacred Heart  
July 10—14—Silent Retreat

**The Hidden Life**

During His life on earth, Jesus chose to conceal His divinity under the veil of His humanity. Except on very rare occasions—and this is especially true during the thirty years preceding His apostolate—He never allowed His greatness, His wisdom, or His omnipotence to be manifest. Later, during the years of His public life, He willed to adapt Himself to the Apostles' imperfect way of living and acting, He who was infinitely superior to them. Jesus is truly the hidden God and teaches us by His example the value of the hidden life.

To imitate Jesus' humility perfectly, we must share in His hidden life, veiling, as He did, everything in us that might attract attention or praise from others, whatever might single us out or make us noticed, fleeing as far as we are able from every mark of distinction. Love to live unknown and reputed as nothing; by doing this we will become more like Jesus who, being God, willed to take "the form of a servant, being made in the likeness of men, and in habit found as a man." Jesus Himself has taught us how to practice the hidden life, insisting that we do our good works in secret, only to please God, and without ostentation. He tells us also to guard the secret of our interior life and our relations with Him: "When thou shalt pray, enter into thy chamber and shut the door"; to conceal our mortifications and penances: "When thou fastest, anoint thy head and wash thy face"; not to display our good works: "When thou dost give alms, let not thy left hand know what thy right hand doth", for those who do their good works before men, to be seen by them, "have received their reward" and will receive no further one from their heavenly Father.

"Work for the sole end of pleasing God, never looking for any human praise." This was the program of St. Teresa Margaret of the Heart of Jesus, the saint of the hidden life. Because she wanted to reserve for God alone the gift of her whole being, she tried to hide from the eyes of others the riches of her interior, her heroic virtues; and she succeeded in this to such an extent that her life was the perfect realization of the maxim: "To live alone with God alone." (taken from *Divine Intimacy*, written by Fr. Gabriel of St. Mary Magdalen, O.C.D.)

**From the Pastor**

Lent is passing by quickly! Next Sunday is already Laetare Sunday. This is a good time to renew our Lenten resolutions and strive to be faithful in keeping them. If we haven't made any resolutions yet, it's not too late to start. One good way to help us to live a better Lent is to participate in the Parish Mission that will take place this week here at St. Stephen's. It begins tomorrow, Monday, Feb. 29, and will conclude on Thursday, March 3. There will be a different speaker each evening. Holy Mass will be celebrated each of those evenings at 6:30 p.m. Confessions will be heard before and during the Mass. A talk that will help us to better reflect on the purpose of our lives will then follow. Each evening will conclude with exposition of the Blessed Sacrament and benediction. Please invite family members and friends to participate, as well. Let us pray, that through the intercession of Our Blessed Mother, this mission will produce much good fruit for our parish.

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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

**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](mailto:lwhite@mcn.org)

**SPRING "40 DAYS FOR LIFE"**

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

What time: 7am to 7pm, Monday thru Friday

**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](mailto:petenliz@sbcglobal.net).

**Brown Bag Lunch Program**

The Cathedral of the Blessed Sacrament and the homeless of Sacramento are grateful for the generous donations from St. Stephens this last month. On a short notice of a couple weeks, we received enough donations to make 160 lunches. For the month of March, we hope to double this number. Between now and March 6, please remember to put something in your cart for the homeless and drop it off in the vestibule.

Thank you to those of you who have signed up to be volunteers. We are in the organizing stages of this project, you will be hearing from us about how you can help!

Food and items needed for the Brown Bag Lunch Program

All food must be non-perishable and in easy to open packages, jars, or flip-top cans  
Tuna, chicken, salmon, other easy-to-open meat  
Apple sauce cups or fruit cups  
Healthy snacks like raisins  
Granola bars or crackers  
Deserts like cookies  
Bottles of water  
Plastic utensils, packages of lunch bags, and napkins.  
Jars of peanut butter, jelly/preserves

To learn more about the Brown Bag Lunch program, visit: <http://www.cathedralsacramento.org/#!/brown-bag-lunch-program/y352m>

**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

**Please Keep in Your Prayers ...**

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

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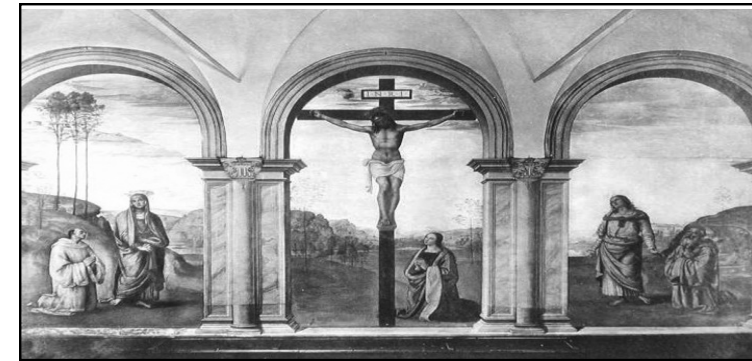
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*Mother of Perpetual Help! Thank you for all the Blessings for our Family!*

# 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@yahoo.com](mailto:ststephenfssp-subscribe@yahoo.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](http://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](mailto:ParishSwap@gmail.com)  
View available items by clicking on the "links" button on the front page of [www.sacfssp.com](http://www.sacfssp.com)