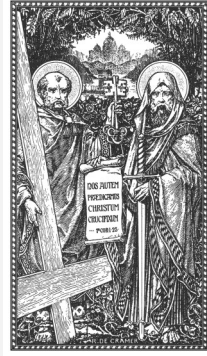


Sunday, June 28, 2015
5th Sunday after Pentecost



Sun. 28 June	5th Sunday after Pentecost, II Class
8:30 am	Fr. Perry
10:30 am	Pro Populo
1:00 pm	Joseph & Alice Ternes
3:00 pm	Vespers & Benediction
Mon. 29 June	SS. Peter & Paul, Apostles, I Class
7:00 am	Stephanie Chu
12:15 pm	Ciana, Avery, Jeremy, Becker
Tues. 30 June	Commemoration of St. Paul, Apostle, III Class
7:00 am	Gary & Janice Aranas
6:30 pm	Jason & Jennifer Lopez
Wed. 1 July	The Precious Blood of Our Lord Jesus Christ, I Class
7:00 am	Holy Souls
12:15 pm	Tamara Greco
Thurs. 2 July	Visitation of the Blessed Virgin Mary, II Class
7:00 am	†Denise Greco Bethel
6:30 pm	St. Monica Sodality
Fri. 3 July	St. Irenaeus, Bishop & Martyr, III Class
7:00 am	Dennis Bettencourt
12:15 pm	Sam Roundtree
6:30 pm	†Michael Anderson
Sat. 4 July	Immaculate Heart of Mary, III Class
7:00 am	Joseph & Alice Ternes
9:00 am	Vivien Family Living & Deceased
Sun. 5 July	6th Sunday after Pentecost, II Class
8:30 am	Angela Nicolini
10:30 am	Pro Populo
1:00 pm	†Catalina Owen
3:00 pm	Vespers & Benediction

Sick Calls

If anyone is in need of the Sacrament (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?

Please stop by the office or bookstore and pick up a registration form. It is very helpful for us to have contact information for your family, even if you cannot come to St. Stephen's every week. If you do not have envelopes and would like them you can pick up a box in the bookstore. The use of envelopes is very helpful for our bookkeeping system.

Important Upcoming Dates

June 29—Ss. Peter and Paul, Apostles
 July 19—23—**Spiritual Exercises** - Annual Parish Retreat
 June 29—Sts. Peter & Paul, Apostles
 July 1—Feast of the Precious Blood
 July 5—Chesterton Society Fundraiser
 July 13—Fatima Procession
 Aug. 2—Finding of the Relics of St. Stephen—Pig Roast & Square Dance
 Oct. 3—G.K.Chesterton: Live w/Dale Ahlquist & Chuck Chalberg

Rehabilitation By Communion

Baptism will purify the child of Adam; the virtues of Jesus Christ will adorn him; the Eucharist will sanctify him. Surrounded by so many honors, man will feel his dignity increase.

And in fact, Jesus Christ clothes the priest anew in His Body, as Tertullian said: *De suo vertiens...sacerdotes, Deo Patri suo fecit.* The priest is another Christ; he lives on Christ; our Lord's will is his; he is our Lord living still. And all the faithful who receive Communion share in this privilege; this body, which has received Communion, which has been united to Jesus Christ, is unspeakably venerable; indeed, one might even be tempted to cast oneself down in adoration before the communicant! Why does the Church venerate so devoutly the relics of the saints if not because those saints received Jesus Christ, because their members were incorporated in Jesus Christ, were His own members? I will go even further and affirm that by Communion we are raised above the angels, if not in nature, at least in honor. In receiving our Lord, do we not become His brethren, other Christs? The angels are only His ministers; when we have received Him in Communion, oh, with what veneration they gather round us, what honor they show us! In this respect, Communion enhances our worth even beyond what we should have possessed without original sin. Innocent, we should have been forever below the angels; regenerated and become, through the Eucharist, of the same blood with Jesus Christ, we are given the right to occupy a higher throne in heaven than the celestial spirits. And the more we receive Communion, the more resplendent will be our heavenly glory; each Communion will increase the splendor of our crown.

But, humanly speaking, why is it that certain persons, priests, for instance, inspire in us at first sight a kind of religious respect? Ah, why, but that we recognize Jesus Christ in them; why, but that Jesus Christ is exhaled from the depths of their heart and from all their person, as the fragrance of a violet pervades the air about it! Even more; it seems to me that if our Lord did not set bounds to His glory in His communicants, they would shine like the sun. In order to preserve their humility, He hides His splendor; enough of it still gleams through. The proximity of a saint calms us and does us good.

And now, consider this: every soul has the mission to save other souls on this earth; but to fulfill this duty a certain authority is necessary, an authority commensurate with the end in view. The one source of this moral authority is Communion; no one can resist a person in whom Jesus Christ dwells and who by his words and actions makes us aware of this divine presence. Though a priest who only infrequently celebrates Mass has this mission like other priests, he will never possess the authority that belongs to his mission. The ascendancy over hearts which attracts and converts them comes only from God. It is not hard to obey the saints because they come nearer to being a true likeness of Jesus Christ; the very animals obey them. If the saints converted entire kingdoms and peoples, it was not by their own strength but by our Lord Whom they had received and Who broke from their hearts like an ardent flame. Ah, but the saints knew how to receive Jesus, how to keep Him, and use him for the glory of His Father!
 (Excerpt from *Holy Communion* by Saint Peter Julian Eymard - available in the St. Stephen Book Store.)

...In Memoriam

†Joan Blackburn, †Thomas Joseph Greco, †Bruce Perry,
 †Catherine Owen, †Gregory Nicholas

With Dyed Garments

It is an indisputable article of Faith, that in order to be cleansed from sin, original or actual, we need the application of the Precious Blood of Jesus Christ, in which alone we are justified and freed from the anger of God. "Almost all things, according to the law, are cleansed with blood: and without shedding of blood there is no remission." "Christ died for us; much more therefore, being now justified by his blood, shall we be saved from wrath through him."

Although the merits of the Precious Blood have been applied to our souls in the holy sacrament of Baptism, by which we were washed from the stain of original sin in the lustral water which derives its efficacy solely from the Blood of Christ, still our inordinate concupiscences and evil inclinations remain for us. It is necessary, therefore, for us to have recourse to the laver of Christ's Precious Blood again and again to be cleansed from our actual sins and our daily faults, and to be healed more and more from the effects of sin and from dangerous attachments and baneful tendencies. Hence St. Fulgentius, one of the Fathers of the Church, says that the application of the Precious Blood to every Christian is indispensable, from the time of his birth to old age—that is, until death.

Another undeniable truth that shows forth the necessity of applying the Precious Blood to our souls, is the doctrine that nothing defiled can enter the Kingdom of Heaven. Since the fall of Adam, man is a vessel of defilement and must be washed in the Blood of the Lamb before the gates of Heaven will be opened to him. No one will become a citizen of the abode of the elect unless he be marked by the Blood of Christ. "Blessed are they that wash their robes in the blood of the lamb; that they may have a right to the tree of life, and may enter in by the gates into the city." The Abbot Rupert expresses this doctrine of the Apostle in these words: "Nobody will see God unless He is sprinkled with the Blood of Christ."

For this reason Our Lord has left us in His Church many means by which His Precious Blood is applied to our souls. The Holy Eucharist is, as a sacrifice and as a sacrament, the heart of the activity of the Precious Blood, but the other sacraments are the vessels, the veins through which this life-giving stream of grace is conducted from the Heart of Jesus into the souls of men for their sanctification. The sacraments are a continuation of the earthly life of our Divine High-priest. They are wonderful inventions and dispensations of His divine love and mercy, disclosing the supernatural in natural forms, as they are visible signs of the invisible graces of the Precious Blood. "In that day there shall be a fountain open to the house of David, and to the inhabitants of Jerusalem, for the washing of the sinner."

What would happen to us without the constant activity of the Precious Blood in the Church? The tyranny of sin would become intolerable; there would be no striving after "the things that are above," and we should relapse into the worst forms of heathenism. But the Precious Blood exercises a constant warfare against evil and raises a mighty bulwark against the inroads of sin. It is to us a source of light and warmth and strength in our daily trials and combats. In death, when all other lights go out, the Precious Blood offers to the anxious soul its only light and hope and courage.
 (Excerpt from *Glories of the Precious Blood* by Rev. Max F. Walz, C.P.P.S.)

New E-Group for Priests Announcements

Please subscribe to a new e-group used only for official announcements from the priests of St. Stephens by placing the following address into your web browser:
ststephenfssp-subscribe@yahoogroups.com
 The previous one which is still on the front of the bulletin is no longer in use.
 If you need help joining, send an e-mail to:
Stephenproto@yahoo.com

Rosary For World Peace

Every Monday at 7 pm at St. Stephen First Martyr
 Please join at <http://www.meetup.com/Rosary-For-World-Peace>.
 You don't have to come every Monday to join!

Peter's Pence Collection

There is a second collection today to support Pope Francis in his charitable works. The Peter's Pence Collection is taken up worldwide to support the most disadvantaged: victims of war, oppression, and natural disasters. This is an opportunity to join with our Holy Father, Pope Francis, and be a witness of charity to our suffering brothers and sisters. Please be generous in today's collection.

**Chesterton Society Fundraiser
 Sunday, July 5th**

Cornish pasties and beverages will be served
 after all three Masses!
 Proceeds will help pay for
 the live Chesterton event in October

Spiritual Exercises of St. Ignatius

Preached by Fr. John Lyons, FSSP
 July 19-23

Be sure to sign up for this retreat ASAP as registrations are 90% full! The Spiritual Exercises of St. Ignatius retreat will be held at Christ the King Retreat Center. Forms are now available in the office or bookstore, or you may print them from the parish web site.

The retreat is open to men and women age 18 and over. It will be particularly helpful to those discerning a vocation or other decision in their lives.

Remember: space is limited and filling up fast, so hold your place as soon as possible.

Confraternity of St. Peter 2015 Pilgrimage

Historic pilgrimage to Spain & the Rock of Gibraltar, in the quincentenary year of St. Teresa of Avila's birth! By traveling back to the days of the great Spanish mystics—Sts. Teresa of Avila and John of the Cross, Catholic monarchs—King St. Fernando III & Queen Isabella (Servant of God), and the wondrous events of the consecration of Europe to Our Lady on the Rock of Gibraltar, may we travel forward with the faith and courage of Spain's holy "Defender's of Christendom"!

Join Fr. James Fryar, FSSP, Chaplain of the Confraternity of St. Peter on September 14—September 24, 2015. For more information call Tish at 916-223-3112 or visit the website www.syversentouring.com/confraternity.

~ 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.

Please Keep in Your Prayers ...

Mike Hayes, Jim Carlson, Mike McGrath, Barbara Graichen,
 Richard Corbin, Renee Burns, Sue McGrath, Norman Sayles,
 Lorraine Peterson, Sandy Sneary, Di Giovanni Family,
 John Reyes, John Patrick Corr, Augustine Guzman,
 Patricia Becker, Dr. George Alexeeff, Luis Salazar,
 Marilyn Goyette