

Sunday, February 7, 2016
Quinquagesima Sunday



Sun. 7 Feb.	<u>Quinquagesima Sunday, II Class</u>
8:30 am	†Bill Munsill
10:30 am	Pro Populo
1:00 pm	Ruby Family
3:00 pm	Vespers & Benediction
Mon. 8 Feb.	<u>St. John of Matha, Confessor, III Class</u>
7:00 am	Shirley Shank
12:15 am	†Ruth Rodgers
Tues. 9 Feb.	<u>St. Cyril of Alexandria, Bishop, Confessor & Doctor, III Class</u>
7:00 am	Scott & Adrienna Alston
6:30 pm	†Mary & Deville Gilbert
Wed. 10 Feb.	<u>Ash Wednesday, I Class</u>
7:00 am	Souls in Purgatory
12:15 pm	Tod Krezman
7:00 pm	FSSP
Thurs. 11 Feb.	<u>Commemoration of Our Lady of Lourdes, III Class</u>
7:00 am	†Fr. Michael Kelly
6:30 pm	†Ernesto Virate Camaliga
Fri. 12 Feb.	<u>Friday after Ash Wednesday, III Class</u>
7:00 am	Souls in Purgatory
12:15 pm	Robert Lawrence Scarry
6:30 pm	Lacson-Reyes Family
Sat. 13 Feb.	<u>Saturday after Ash Wednesday, III Class</u>
7:00 am	†Connie Cristi
9:00 am	Thanksgiving for Wedding
Sun. 14 Feb.	<u>First Sunday of Lent, I Class</u>
8:30 am	Jean Haun
10:30 am	Pro Populo
1:00 pm	†Concepcion Cristi
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. 7—Baby Bottle Project begins
Feb. 10—Ash Wednesday
Feb. 11—Our Lady of Lourdes
Feb. 16—Chesterton Society Meeting
Feb. 18—CSP Evening of Recollection
Feb. 22—Chair of Peter The Apostle
March 13—Confirmation
March 19—St. Joseph Spouse of the BVM
March 20—Palm Sunday
March 25—Good Friday
March 27—Easter Sunday
May 7—First Holy Communion
May 14—Procession to the Cathedral of the Bl. Sacrament
June 19—25—Camp Sacred Heart
July 10—14—Silent Retreat

The Great Mortification

The spirit of mortification has more than a purely physical aspect of mortification; it also includes renunciation of the ego, the will, and the understanding. Just as in our body and in our senses we have unruly tendencies toward the enjoyment of material things, so also in our ego there are inordinate tendencies toward self-assertion. Love of self and complacency in our own excellence are often so great that, even unconsciously, we tend to make “self” the center of the universe.

The spirit of mortification is really complete when, above all, we seek to mortify self-love in all its many manifestations. The Pharisee who fasted on the appointed days, but whose heart was so puffed up with pride that his prayer amounted to nothing more than praise of himself and scorn of his neighbor, did not have the spirit of mortification and hence was not justified before God. There is little value in imposing corporal mortifications on ourselves if we then refuse to yield our opinion in order to accommodate ourselves to others, if we cannot be reconciled with our enemies, or bear an injury and a cutting word with calmness, or hold back a sharp answer.

“Why,” asks St. Teresa of Jesus, “do we shrink from interior mortification [of our ego, our will, and judgment] since this is the means by which every other kind of mortification may become much more meritorious and perfect, and may be practiced with greater tranquility and ease?” As long as mortification does not strike at our pride, it remains at the halfway mark and never reaches its goal.

The true spirit of mortification embraces, in the first place, all the occasions for physical or moral suffering permitted by divine Providence. The sufferings attendant on illness or fatigue; the efforts required by the performance of our duties or by a life of intense labor; the privations imposed by the state of poverty—all are excellent physical penances. If we sincerely desire to be guided by divine Providence in everything, we will not try to avoid them, or even to lighten them, but will accept wholeheartedly whatever God offers us. (taken from *Divine Intimacy*, written by Fr. Gabriel of St. Mary Magdalen, O.C.D.)

From the Pastor

The Annual Catholic Appeal collection will take place Sunday, February 21st. This is the most important diocesan collection of the year. 25% comes back to our parish. Please be generous!

Year of Mercy!
Healing After Abortion Retreat
March 18—20, 2016

Who is it that you know who is carrying the secret burden of shame, anger, grief and the inability to forgive themselves and others because of a past abortion(s)? Is it you? A loved one? In this Year of Mercy, we invite you to consider participating in the Rachel’s Vineyard Retreat weekend coming up, March 18—20, in Auburn, sponsored by the Diocese of Sacramento. Come experience this unique and effective healing retreat that presents the mercy, compassion and healing of God. Open to all women, men, couples, and family members touched by abortion. The cost is \$175. per person. Financial assistance is available! For more information visit our website: <http://www.scddec.org/post-abortion-care> or contact Paula Segno at 916-733-0161 or email projectrachel@scd.org All Inquiries and participation are strictly confidential.

Babysitting on St. Valentine’s Day vigil

Parents would you like to spend a few hours alone with your spouse on Saturday, February 13th? The Parish Youth Group will be offering babysitting in the gym, from 5:30-9:00 pm, as an opportunity for parents to celebrate a special evening together. Several adults will assist the teens in babysitting. Snacks will be served. Donations accepted for the Fraternity of St. Peter Mission Trips.

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/>

Baby Bottle Project

Don’t forget - the Rosa Mystica Girls’ Society will be distributing baby bottles for the support of the Sacramento Life Center. Make sure you pick yours up today!

Reminder— Chesterton Society Meeting:
February 16 at 7:30pm
We are beginning with the book: *The Everlasting Man*
Chapter 1 “The Man in the Cave”
Also: Fr. Brown— “The Chief Mourner of Marne”
Go to: <http://www.sacfssp.com/>
For online book and Fr. Brown stories

~Around the Parish~

~ **Congratulations** to Owen & Teresa Munsill on the birth of their third child, Genevieve Marie! Genevieve was baptized at St. Stephens on January 30th.

~ **Congratulations** to John & Tisha Ihrig on the birth of their eighth child, Gemma Therese! Gemma was baptized at St. Stephens on February 3rd.

~ Thank You ~

Mr. Roy Nelson has been a member of our parish for several years, but has never actually been to St. Stephen’s because of his medical condition. He recently asked that we let you know that he is grateful for the help he has received from members of the parish, and for the financial assistance he has received through the St. Bernadette Fund during an especially difficult time. He promises his prayers for all members of the parish

Rules For Fasting And Abstinence

Ash Wednesday and Good Friday are obligatory days of universal fast and abstinence. Fasting is obligatory for all from ages 18 to the completion of their 59th birthday. Fasting allows a person to eat one full meal. Two smaller meals may be taken, not to equal one full meal. Abstinence (from meat) is obligatory for all persons 14years and older. Every Friday in Lent is an obligatory day of abstinence.

Other forms of “fasting,” especially regarding alcoholic drink, needless television, video games, internet use and social entertainment - are of true spiritual value and are strongly encouraged.

In order to deepen one’s love for Christ, Catholics are urged to spend time in spiritual reading (especially Sacred Scripture), to study the catechism, to participate in devotions offered by the parish, and to pray more fervently. The faithful are exhorted to pray the rosary, to make private visits to the Blessed Sacrament, and to pray especially for vocations to the priesthood and the religious life.

Ash Wednesday Mass Schedule

7:00 am, 12:15 pm & 7:00 pm Solemn High Mass. Ashes will be distributed at all Masses.

Stations of the Cross

Stations of the Cross devotions are scheduled for all Fridays during Lent after the 12:15 and 6:30 pm Masses.

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

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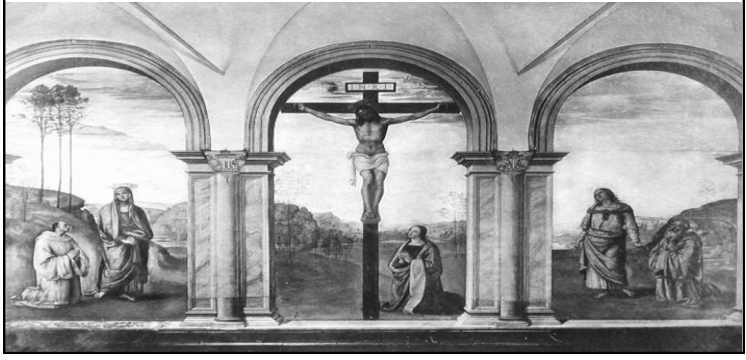
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Mother of Perpetual Help! Thank you for all the Blessings for our Family!

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@yahooogroups.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