

Sunday, February 12, 2017
Septuagesima Sunday



Sun. 12 Feb. Septuagesima Sunday, II Class

8:00 am †John Ramos
 10:30 am Pro Populo
 1:30 pm John Henry Wilson
 6:00 pm Deacon Mike Young

Mon. 13 Feb. Feria, IV Class

7:00 am Samuel Adesanya
 12:15 pm James Hilley

Tues. 14 Feb. St. Valentine, Priest & Martyr, IV Class

7:00 am Intentions of Indre McCluskey
 6:30 pm Collette McMahon

Wed. 15 Feb. Feria, IV Class

7:00 am Holy Souls
 12:15 pm Andrew Garcia

Thurs 16 Feb. Feria, IV Class

7:00 am Phil Sandoval & Family
 6:30 pm Patricia Osuna

Fri. 17 Feb. Feria, IV Class

7:00 am Mrs. Sandoval
 12:15 pm †Lee Charles
 6:30 pm †Tanya Nazarkewich-Waloch

Sat. 18 Feb. Saturday of Our Lady, IV Class

7:00 am †Maureen Nazarkewich-Batkis
 9:00 am †Proserfina Dichoso

Sun. 19 Feb. Sexagesima Sunday, II Class

8:00 am †Virginia Perkins
 10:30 am Pro Populo
 1:30 pm President Donald Trump
 6:00 pm Edward Joseph Pierini III & Family

...In Memoriam

†Maria Lopresti, †George Klopff, †Nell Keim, †John Reyes,
 †Margaret Melusky, †Robert O’Kane, †Savino Salierno,
 †Beverly Longtin

Important Upcoming Dates

Feb. 18—Altar Guild
 Feb. 22—Feast of the Chair of St. Peter
 March 1—Ash Wednesday
 March 20—Feast of St. Joseph (*transferred*)
 March 11—Confirmation
 March ?? - Lenten Mission
 April 16—Easter Sunday
 April 23—Live Performance of “Faustina”
 May 6—First Holy Communion
 June 18—24 Camp Sacred Heart
 July 23—27—Annual Retreat

The Necessity For Interior Purification

St. John of the Cross compares the soul to a glass window with a ray of sunlight shining on it. If the glass is dirty, “the ray cannot illuminate it, nor transform it completely into its light; its illumination will be in proportion to its clearness. If, on the other hand, it is absolutely clean and spotless, it will be illuminated and transformed in such a way as to appear to be the luminous ray itself, and to give the same light.” God is the divine Sun shining upon our souls, desiring to invade them and penetrate them completely transforming them into His light and love. Before He does this, however, He waits until the soul resolves to free itself from every “creature stain,” that is, the stains of sin and inordinate attachments. As soon as God finds that a soul is free from mortal sin, He immediately fills it with His grace. This precious gift is the first step in the great transformation which the Lord desires to bring about in us. The more we become purified of all sin and imperfection, and of even the slightest attachment; that is, in proportion as we conform our will to the will of God, not only in serious matters of obligation but even in the least details of perfection, the more capable we become of being entirely penetrated and transformed by divine Grace.

Grace, the gift of God which makes the soul a participant in the divine nature, is poured forth into the soul in proportion to its degree of interior purity, which always corresponds to its degree of conformity with God’s will. Therefore, the soul that wishes to be totally possessed and transformed by divine Grace, must in practice strive to conform fully to the will of God, according to the teaching of St. John of the Cross, “so that there may be nothing in the soul that is contrary to the will of God, but that in all and through all its movement may be that of the will of God alone.”

God not only illumines our soul with the rays of His divine Grace, but He Himself, Unity and Trinity, takes up His abode within us, according to the promise of Jesus: “If anyone love Me. . . We will come to him, and will make our abode with him.”

(*Divine Intimacy* by Fr. Gabriel of St. Mary Magdalen, OCD.

From the Pastor

I’m sure I’m not telling you anything new when I say that some of the things that Pope Francis has said and written have caused more than a little consternation (not to mention confusion) in the Catholic world. As faithful Catholics, how should we respond to this? Our first response should be to pray all the more for the Holy Father. Some time ago we decided to offer the Rosary that we pray during Eucharistic Exposition following the Friday evening Mass for him. I would now like to ask all of you to add it to your daily Rosary or family prayer:

Prayer for the Holy Father

V. Let us pray for Francis, our Pope.
 R. May the Lord preserve him, and give him life, and make him blessed upon the earth, and deliver him not up to the will of his enemies. [Ps 40:3]
 O God, Shepherd and Ruler of all Thy faithful people, look mercifully upon Thy servant Francis, whom Thou hast chosen as shepherd to preside over Thy Church. Grant him, we beseech Thee, that by his word and example, he may edify those over whom he hath charge, so that together with the flock committed to him, may he attain everlasting life. Through Christ our Lord. Amen.

Man Mission

Saturday, March 25—Saturday, April 1

Looking for 12 men to spend one week in Guadalajara, Mexico, working on Casa Cristo Rey, the new house of formation.

Daily Mass and spiritual talks. Fr. Saguto will preach.
 Cost: \$300.00 (Does not include airfare)
 Contact danielheenanfssp@gmail.com
 Or alrtree@hotmail.com

Men’s Retreat

All men (18 years of age and older) are invited to participate in a men’s retreat here at St. Stephen’s on Saturday, February 25th. Please spread the word.

Registration forms may be found in the church vestibule.

Feast of the Chair of St. Peter—February 22nd

Members of the Confraternity of St. Peter are able to receive a Plenary Indulgence under the usual conditions on this day.

Bible Study this Thursday 7:30 pm

FOLLOWING THE FOOTSTEPS OF A PATRIARCH
The Abraham Narrative: Genesis 12-25

Around the Parish

~ The Guides and Timberwolves of St. Jean de Brebeuf are having a bake sale after the 8am, 10:30am and 1:30pm masses today (on Feb. 12.) There will also be \$4 croissant sandwich meals available. Please help support these young people by purchasing the homemade goods they have prepared.

Thank you for your support!

Annual Catholic Appeal

The Annual Catholic Appeal for 2017 will take place on February 26th. A portion of your donations come back to St. Stephen’s Church. If you receive an appeal letter in the mail, make sure St. Stephen’s is listed as your parish if you wish to donate.

Brown Bag Lunch Program

Please don’t forget that the “Brown Bag Lunch Program” is an on-going apostolate of St. Stephens Parish. The list of items which are needed is posted in the vestibule. A monetary gift to purchase food may also be given.

Your donations are very much appreciated!

St. Francis Xavier Mission

Guadalajara, Mexico

~April 7-19 (Holy Week and Easter Week)
 ~July 19-August 1

Cost: \$950 (does not include airfare)
 For Families and individuals 16 and up. Cost slightly less for children.

Piura, Peru

~July 21-August 3
 ~August 5-18

Cost: \$2350 (includes airfare from Miami)
 For Youth 16-21

For details or more information, contact Anne Roundtree. (530)417-1671 Or go to our website www.sfxmission.com.

Chesterton Society Meeting:

Feb. 14th at 7:30pm

We are continuing with the book: *The Everlasting Man* Chapter 5 of Part II, “*The Escape from Paganism*”.

Also: Fr. Brown: “*The Donnington Affair*”

Go to: <http://www.sacfssp.com/>
 For online book and Fr. Brown stories
 All are welcome!

Please Keep in Your Prayers ...

Mike McGrath, Renee Burns, Barbara Graichen, Sue McGrath, Lorraine Peterson, Patricia Becker, Paulette Brady, James Reslock, Sandy Sneary, Barbara Jeong, John Newaz, Marne Merino, Jim Carlson, Darryl Gallagher, Fr. Goodwin, FSSP, Margaret Northan, Jean Haun, Sandra De Monaco, Mary & Ramon Daley, Mitzi Vandenburg, Gerald Foy, Pamela Lewis



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


St. Joseph, powerful patron, thank you for favors granted!



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 Rev. Fr. Joshua Curtis, F.S.S.P., *Parochial Vicar*
 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@yahoo.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

CONFESSION

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

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.

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

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.