

**Sunday, May 31, 2015
Trinity Sunday**



Sun. 31 May	Trinity Sunday, I Class
8:30 am	Brenda Phelan
10:30 am	Pro Populo
1:00 pm	Jackie Smith
3:00 pm	Vespers & Benediction
Mon. 1 June	St. Angela Merici, Virgin, III Class
7:00 am	Cecilia Dugyon
12:15 pm	Justin Dugyon
Tues. 2 June	SS. Marcellinus, Peter, & Erasmus, Martyrs, IV Class
7:00 am	†Ernestine Kleinsmith
6:30 pm	Irene & Elaine Danis
Wed. 3 June	Feria, IV Class
7:00 am	Archbishop Coerdileone
12:15 pm	Mr. & Mrs. Charles Cuny & Family
Thurs. 4 June	Corpus Christi, I Class
7:00 am	Beatriz Dichoso
6:30 pm	St. Monica Sodality
Fri. 5 June	St. Boniface, Bishop & Martyr, III Class
7:00 am	†Mr. John Parkhurst
12:15 pm	Fr. Akers, FSSP
6:30 pm	Debbie MacDonald
Sat. 6 June	St. Norbert, Bishop & Confessor, III Class
7:00 am	†Mr. Angelo Picciolo
9:00 am	Gary Aranas
Sun. 7 June	External Solemnity of Corpus Christi, II Class
8:30 am	†Denise Greco Bethel
10:30 am	Pro Populo
1:00 pm	Andrew Burns Family
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 4—Corpus Christi
June 12—Sacred Heart of Jesus
June 13—Fatima Procession
June 21-27—Camp Sacred Heart
July 19—23—**Spiritual Exercises** - Annual Parish Retreat
June 29—Sts. Peter & Paul, Apostles
July 1—Feast of the Precious Blood
Aug. 2—Finding of the Relics of St. Stephen—Pig Roast & Square Dance
Oct. 3—G.K.Chesterton: Live w/Dale Ahlquist & Chuck Chalberg

The Sacrament of God's Goodness

It is certain that the Eucharist gives to the soul that worthily receives It an experience of happiness, of delights found nowhere but in that Sacrament.

Why does God so greatly desire to communicate His sweetness to us? Because there is only one thing that can attach us to Him, and that is His goodness. There is sympathy of feeling only between equals; the powerful meet envy on every side; kings have no friends unless they stoop to seek them. As for us, we tremble before the power of God, and even His sanctity does not bespeak our affection; it is for His goodness we love Him. We know that He wishes to save us, that He descends even to our lowliness. The mysteries of our Lord's life which make us love Him most are those in which He shows us the most tender and lavish goodness. Only God's goodness can make us love Him steadfastly.

When do we see our Lord most lovingly adored in His earthly life? The Wise Men adored Him as He lay in the manger because He was so lovable there. The man born blind was so touched by the love Jesus had shown Him that he wanted to follow Him. When Magdalen heard that her sins were forgiven her, a fire was kindled in her heart which would never be extinguished; our Lord had shown her such goodness! Yes, truly, we are captivated only by goodness. Therefore the Church, who understands divine things so well, says in one of her prayers: *Deus cujus natura bonitas.* —“O God, Whose nature is goodness.” But are not all the other attributes of God equally of His essence? He is perfect in all, and all are equal, doubtless; but here below, for us humans, the nature of God is goodness: *Deus cujus natura bonitas.*

This being so, it follows that we must love our Lord most in the greatest manifestation of His goodness. And is not His goodness most strikingly manifested in the Holy Eucharist, in Communion? Says the Council of Trent: “In this Sacrament God has poured forth bountifully the riches of His love.” —*Divitias divini sui erga homines amoris velut effudit.* It is the very culmination of His love. God can give us no greater gift than Himself. By means of Communion we receive Jesus Christ as God and as Man, together with the merits of His mortal life and all its states, with the Redemption and all its fruits, even the pledge of future glory. We receive the greatest sum of happiness God can give on earth.

And we feel this happiness. It is necessary that we should enjoy it. Without the sweetness of union with God, it is very difficult, generally speaking, to remain in the state of grace.

The Sacrament of Penance restores the life of grace in us, heals us. But it is a violent remedy, a victory dearly bought, which leaves us weary with battle. And though this sacrament restores life to the soul, it will be insufficient to maintain that life for long; if we go no further, we shall be no more than convalescents.

(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

Prayer to the Trinity

O my God, Trinity whom I adore, help me to be utterly forgetful of self so as to be rooted in you, as changeless and calm as if I were already in eternity. May nothing disturb my peace or draw me out of you, my unchangeable One, but at every moment may I penetrate ever more deeply into the depths of your mysteries: Make me peaceful, make me your heaven, a home that you love and the place where you can be at rest; may I never leave you there alone, but be there entirely absorbed, in living faith, wholly adoring, freely given up to your creative action.

O my Christ whom I love, crucified by love, I long to be the bride of your heart; I long to cover you with glory and love you...until I die of love. But I realize how weak I am and I beg you to clothe me with yourself, to identify my soul with the movements of your soul. Immerse yourself in me, possess me, substitute yourself for me, that my life becomes but a reflection of your life. Enter into me as Adorer, Restorer and Savior.

Eternal Word, Utterance of my God, I want to spend my life listening to you. I want to make myself completely open to learn everything from you. Through all the nights, through every privation and weakness I want to be with you always, living beneath your blazing light, beloved Star; so fascinate me that I can no longer stray from your radiance.

Consuming Fire, Spirit of Love, come down upon me and make me as it were an incarnation of the Word; may I be another humanity in which he lives out once more his mystery. And you, Father, bend down to your poor little creature, cover her with your shadow and see in her only the Well-Beloved in whom you were well pleased.

O my “Three,” my All, my Bliss, infinite Solitude, Immensity in which I lose myself, I give myself up to you as your prey; immerse yourself in me that I may be immersed in you until I go to gaze forever, in your light, on the boundless depths of your greatness.

(*He is My Heaven, The Life of Elizabeth of the Trinity* by Jennifer Moorcroft)

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.

“First Mass” Fr. Timothy O’Brien, FSSP

Fr. Timothy O’Brien, ordained May 30th for the Priestly Fraternity of St. Peter, will offer a First Mass at St. Stephens on June 7th. Father will also give first blessings after all the Masses.

Fr. O’Brien has helped out numerous times at St. Stephen’s over his seminary years including work at Camp Sacred Heart.

~ 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.

Christ's Universal Charity

Contemplating the face of Christ at the Lord's Supper and at every celebration of the Mass, we contemplate His love, the incarnation of Divine Mercy which “knows no measure.” When Christ instituted the Holy Eucharist, He declared the bread to be His Body *given for us* and the wine to be His Blood *poured out for us*. The Holy Eucharist is not simply a partaking in the Body and Blood of Christ, not simply a banquet, but is always, at the same time, a sharing in Christ's sacrifice. The Heavenly Bread, which is the Holy Eucharist, is essentially sacrificial: it is the Body and Blood of Christ, offered and poured out for us as He gave up His life for us on the Cross. The sacrifice of the Cross is perpetuated at every celebration of the Mass. Communion with the Body and Blood of Christ is always participation in Christ's Suffering and Dying. It is important to understand that the sacrifice of Christ is one. “The Eucharist thus applies to men and women today the reconciliation won once for all by Christ for mankind in every age.” This is the great wonder and treasure of the Holy Mass. The Mass is not an additional sacrifice to Calvary. It is not a constant multiplication of the one sacrifice of Calvary. It is the sacrifice of Calvary, it is Calvary's “commemorative representation,” which, by the universal charity of Christ, makes his “one, definitive redemptive sacrifice always present in time.”

In the Sacrifice of Calvary, Christ offered Himself completely to God the Father. God the Father, in response to the total obedience of His Son, gave Christ eternal life by raising Him from the dead. In the Eucharistic Sacrifice, Christ makes present in an unbloody manner the Sacrifice of Calvary. We, the Church, sharing in Christ's sacrifice, are called to offer ourselves in union with Christ. We are called to share in His universal charity, which knows no measure. Through the Holy Eucharist, God the Father responds to our sacrifice with the gift of eternal life. (*Divine Love Made Flesh* by Raymond Cardinal Burke)

Prayer to St. Joseph

V. He made him lord of his house.
R. And prince over all his possessions.

Let us pray:

O God, in Thy marvelous providence, Thou hast deigned to choose St. Joseph to be the spouse of Thy most holy Mother. We ask Thee to grant that we may deserve to have him for our intercessor in heaven, whom on earth we venerate as our protector; who livest and reignest forever and ever. Amen.

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