

**Sunday, October 28, 2012
Feast of Christ the King**



Sun. 28 October, Feast of Christ the King, I Class

8:30 am Eloisa Zapata
10:30 am Pro Populo
1:00 pm Fr. Peter Carota

3:00 pm Vespers & Benediction

Mon. 29 October, Feria, IV Class

7:00 am Chris Pope
12:15 pm Sr. Victoria San Juan

Tues. 30 October, Feria, IV Class

7:00 am Eleanor Abdallah
6:30 pm Emmanuel & Carmencita Romero

Wed. 31 October, Feria, IV Class

7:00 am Mr. Peter Katzakian & Family
12:15 pm John Pope

Thurs. 1 November, All Saints, I Class

7:00 am St. Monica Sodality
6:30 pm Pro Populo

Fri. 2 November, Commemoration of All Souls, I Class

6:30 am All the Faithful Departed
7:05 am All Souls Novena
7:45 am Holy Father's intentions
11:40 am All the Faithful Departed
12:15 pm All Souls Novena
12:50 pm Holy Father's intentions
5:15 pm All Souls Novena
5:55 pm Holy Father's intentions
7:00 pm All the Faithful Departed

Sat. 3 November, Daily Mass of the Dead, III Class

7:00 am †Msgr. Schons
9:00 am All Souls Novena

Sun. 4 November, 23rd Sunday after Pentecost, II Class

8:30 am All Souls Novena
10:30 am Pro Populo
1:00 pm Holy Souls in Purgatory

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, leave a message, and the priest-on-call will be paged immediately.

...In Memoriam

†Mark Trachera; †Fr. Lawrence Ryan (Sacramento Diocese);
†Joseph Cortese; †Frank Farinha; †Cesar Chaves;
†Msgr. Gerard Schons; †Rodolfo Servande; †Felice Johnson;
†Jim Chun; †Aida Apaza; †Bessie Perez; †Robert Perez;
†Richard Becker; †George Phillips

Important Upcoming Dates

Oct. 31—All Saints Eve Party
Nov. 1—All Saints Day - Holy Day
Nov. 2—All Souls Day
Nov. 10—Confirmation Class
Nov. 13—"Year of Faith" Class
Nov. 22—Thanksgiving Day
Dec. 1—Divine Mercy Talk/Devotion
Dec. 6—St. Nicholas (High Mass)
Dec. 8—Immaculate Conception (High Mass)
Dec 12—Our Lady of Guadalupe (High Mass)
Dec. 15—Rorate Mass
April 14—Confirmation
May 11—First Holy Communion

Our Lord Jesus Christ the King

The liturgy today is truly a triumphant hymn celebrating the Kingship of Christ. From the First Vespers of the Feast, the figure of Jesus is majestically portrayed, seated on a royal throne and dominating the entire world; "His Kingdom is an everlasting Kingdom, and all kings shall serve and obey Him... He shall sit and rule and shall speak peace unto the nations."

The Mass opens with the apocalyptic vision of this extraordinary King whose majesty is intimately linked to His immolation for the salvation of souls... "The Lamb that was slain is worthy to receive power and divinity and wisdom and strength and honor. To Him belong glory and power forever and ever."

In the Epistle St. Paul enumerates the titles which make Christ the King of all kings: He is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn of every creature; for in Him were all things created in heaven and on earth, visible and invisible." These titles belong to Jesus Christ inasmuch as He is God, perfect image of the Father, exemplary cause of all earthly and heavenly creatures and, at the same time, Creator, together with the Father and the Holy Spirit, for all that exists, for nothing has existence without Him, but "all things were created by Him and in Him..."

Then come His titles to Kingship as Man: "He is the Head of the Mystical Body, the Church... Through Him reconciled all things unto Himself, making peace through the Blood of His Cross." He, who is already our King by reason of His divinity, is also King through His incarnation, which has constituted Him the Head of all humanity and through His Passion, by which at the price of His Blood He has regained our souls, which already belonged to Him as His creatures.

Jesus is our King in the full sense of the word: He has created us, redeemed us, vivified us by His grace, He nourishes us with His Flesh and Blood, He governs us with His love. And by love He draws us to Himself. In the face of such considerations, the cry of St. Paul rises spontaneously from our heart: "Giving thanks to God the Father... Who hath delivered us from the power of darkness, and hath translated us into the kingdom of the Son of His love, in whom we have redemption... The remission of sins."

...Pilate explicitly questioned Him on the subject: "Art Thou the King of the Jews?" Jesus did not reply directly to this first question; actually He is not King of any one determined nation; His Kingdom has nothing to do with the kingdoms of earth. But to Pilate's second and more precise question, "Art Thou a King then?" Jesus replied unhesitatingly: "Thou sayest it, I am a King." He proclaims His Kingship in the most formal manner before the highest civil authority in Palestine; He proclaims it, not in the midst of an enthusiastic crowd, nor in the triumph of His miracles, but bound with chains, before him who is about to condemn Him to death, before a crowd thirsting for His Blood, a few moments before being dragged to Calvary where, from the heights of the Cross, above His thorn-crowned head, will appear for the first time of His royalty: "Jesus of Nazareth, the King of the Jews."

...We should go to meet this divine King with all the yearning of our soul. He presents Himself to us... so loving, so welcoming, stretching out His arms on the Cross to invite us all to come to Him, showing us the wound in His side as the symbol of His love. ("Divine Intimacy" by Fr. Gabriel of St. Mary Magdalen, OCD)

On The Threshold of Eternity

My Last Wishes

I hope God will grant me the grace of a last illness before he brings my life in this world to an end. If he decides otherwise, may His adorable Will be done. I accept it with love and submission, and I ask him in compensation to give me a presentiment of my last end.

If God sees well to grant me the grace of a last illness, for the love of God, this is what I ask of my brethren:

1. That they are to have no fear of warning me without delay of my approaching end; that they do so very simply, and in clear terms, without any ambiguity, without deceiving me with feeble hopes of a possible recovery, while everyone thinks the contrary, and speaks differently behind my back.
2. That they announce my coming death not as a misfortune, nor as a piece of bad news, but as an excellent and joyful communication. For to me, like St. Paul, "To live is Christ: and to die is gain." I have no fear whatever of death, and I have no desire to live any longer when once God has made known His Will to me and my home is in sight; that occasions of offending God, of losing him are finished for ever, and that the trials of this life are over. May God be praised! I shall die soon, what joy! Thus, I shall soon see God, and love Him with my whole heart, and enjoy Him. I go to receive the reward of my small services and begin the true life, a happy and eternal one. For these reasons, why should I be sad? Ah! No: "I rejoiced at the things that were said to me: We shall go into the house of the Lord."
3. I ask to be kept informed of the progress of my illness, and that they do not try to console me with "a prospect of recovery," nor to make me cling to life, nor to induce me to withdraw my sacrifice.
4. I ask those brethren who have the charity to visit me, in order to console and distract me, to have no fear of speaking to me about the salvation of my soul, and to help me loyally to repentance by thoughts and expressions of contrition; but above all, may they exhort me to a greater confidence in the merits of Jesus and in the prayers of my Mother Mary; furthermore, may they help me to increase my love for God by acts of conformity to His Holy Will, and in union with Jesus Crucified.
5. I ask the priest and those caring for me to remind me of the spirit and sufferings of Jesus on the Cross, especially if I am obstinate, exacting, impatient, and prone to human weakness. Likewise, if my pains are acute, or continuous, I ask that they do not give me morphine merely for the sake of relieving the pain, but only if my superiors wish it.
6. As long as I shall be able to profit by it, I wish them to help me to make the exercises of religious life, especially the Meditation, Night Prayers, and visits to the Blessed Sacrament.
7. When my last moments seem to be at hand, I urgently request that I am never left alone, but that a brother priest will always be near me to suggest ejaculatory prayers and to inflame me with divine love. I know well I do not deserve so much attention, and I can imagine all the worry, fatigue, and sacrifices such requests may impose on my brethren; but let them do it in obedience to the Rule, and let them also do it for love of Jesus Christ, who will then regard me with greater love than ever. If, however, God ordains that I die alone, may His Holy Will be done. I accept this heavy trial in union with Jesus suffering and abandoned on the Cross.
8. If I am in a state of torpor, may the Brother Infirmarian have no fear of arousing me to the Presence of God: I shall rest in the grave.

(Composed by Fr. Emile Bauduin for his own preparation for death.)

All Saints Eve at St. Stephens

Many great booths are being planned along with the parade of Saints, pumpkin carving contest, campfire stories, and lots of yummy things to eat.

Candy and Donations are Needed!

Please drop these off at the parish office or bookstore.

If you have been wanting to participate in something at St. Stephens—here's your fun-filled opportunity! We need your help!

Don't forget to sign-up for the "Parade of Saints" and the "Pumpkin Carving Contest."

Autobiography of a Hunted Priest

By Fr. John Gerard, S.J.

The gripping autobiography of a Catholic priest in the time of Elizabeth I

The standard account of the Tudor period of English history paints the English Reformation as a much needed and desired change to the religious landscape. Supposedly, it was welcomed by the people with very little resistance during the golden age, the reign of "Good Queen Bess," or Elizabeth I.

However, a closer examination of the historical facts—the memory of which was kept alive by Catholics for centuries—suggests otherwise: namely, Catholicism was the popular religion whose passing was lamented by the ordinary people. Some of them who chose to resist, helped and hid English priests ordained abroad, entering England knowing the likely result would be a hideous death.

This book has particular appeal being an eyewitness account. As such it raises a question uncomfortable to many: if the Church of England were the authentic continuation of the pre-Reformation Church in England, why were priests such as Gerard hunted down, tortured and killed by authorities for celebrating Mass and administering the sacraments and teaching the doctrines that their predecessors had done for centuries?

(available at St. Stephens Bookstore)

Sunday Vespers/Benediction

Sunday Vespers takes place **every Sunday at 3:00pm** followed by Benediction. Pamphlets are available in the church entrance. "All should come to our churches and there sing the praises of God, and be enriched with Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament" - Pope Pius XII, Mediator Dei

9th Annual Walk for Life

Bus tickets are on sale in the gym. after all the Masses in October. See Mike or Kathleen DeSantis for more information.

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.

Please Keep in Your Prayers ...

Mike Hayes, Jim Carlson, Kaehler Family, Mike McGrath, Barbara Graichen, Patricia Becker, Munsill Family, Michael Gould; Sister Marie Jeanne, Elizabeth Pierini; Charles Cantoni, Hayden Garcia, Mitzi Vandenburg, John Reyes; Lori Bates; Fred & Terry Bose; Ed Wedinsky,