

**Sunday, June 23, 2013**  
**5th Sunday after Pentecost**



**Sun. 23 June, 5th Sunday after Pentecost, II Class**

8:30 am Wynette Sills  
 10:30 am Pro Populo  
 1:00 pm Mary Anne Kaehler

3:00 pm Vespers & Benediction

**Mon. 24 June, Nativity of St. John the Baptist, I Class**

7:00 am Mitzi Vandenburg  
 12:15 pm Paulette Brady

**Tues. 25 June, St. William, Abbot, III Class**

7:00 am Dr. Gerald Foy  
 7:00 pm Joan Szumowski

**Wed. 26 June, SS. John & Paul, Martyrs, III Class**

7:00 am Nicolini Family  
 12:15 pm Elizabeth Krieg

**Thurs. 27 June, Our Lady of Perpetual Help, IV Class**

7:00 am Roslyn J. Roy  
 6:30 pm Dr. Faisal Merchant

**Fri. 28 June, Vigil of SS. Peter & Paul, I Class**

7:00 am Victims & Families of Newton Tragedy  
 12:15 pm James Vickerman & Family  
 6:30 pm Wynette Sills

**Sat. 29 June, SS. Peter & Paul, Apostles, I Class**

7:00 am Donna Hopkins  
 9:00 am Edward Wedinsky  
**10:30 am** Special Intention

**Sun. 30 June, 6th Sunday after Pentecost, II Class**

8:30 am †George Haun  
 10:30 am Pro Populo  
 1:00 pm Angela Nicolini

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.

**Please Keep in Your Prayers ...**

Mike Hayes, Jim Carlson, Kaehler Family, Mike McGrath, Barbara Graichen, Munsill Family, Sister Marie Jeanne, Charles Cantoni, Hayden Garcia, Mitzi Vandenburg, John Reyes, Dr. Gerald Foy,

**...In Memoriam**

†Ray Keller, †Elin Frances Terra, †Martha Robison, †Gabriel Vargas, †Olympia Gonzalez, †Forrest Long, †Jenna Telles, †Bernard Beronio, †Georgia Munsill, †Patricia Greco, †Draga Kozina, †Doug McNeely

**Important Upcoming Dates**

June 29—Feast of SS. Peter & Paul  
 June 30—Peter Pence Collection  
 July 8—12 Annual Parish Retreat (Preached by Fr. Goodwin)  
 July 26—27—N.C.A Home School Conference—St. Stephens  
 Aug. 4—Finding of the Relics of St. Stephen—Pig Roast & Square Dance  
 Oct. 31—All Saints Eve Party

**Living With the Trinity**

If we wish the great gift of the indwelling of the Blessed Trinity to bear its full fruit of intimate friendship with the three divine Persons, we must become accustomed to living with the Trinity, since it is impossible to have a real bond of friendship with someone if, after offering him the hospitality of our home, we immediately forget him. In order to live with the Trinity, it is not necessary to feel God's presence within us; this is a grace which He may give or withhold. It is sufficient to be grounded in the faith by which we know with certitude that the three divine Persons are dwelling within us. By relying on this reality which we cannot see, feel, or understand, but which we know with certainty because it has been revealed by God, we can direct ourselves toward a life of true union with the Blessed Trinity.

First, we should consider the three divine Persons present within us, in Their indivisible unity. We already know that everything done by the Trinity "ad extra," that is, outside the Godhead, is the work of all three divine Persons without distinction; hence, this applies to Their action in our soul. All Three dwell equally in us. They are there simultaneously and They all produce the same effects in us. All Three diffuse grace and love in us; They enlighten us, offer us Their friendship and love us with one and the same love. Still this does not prevent each of Them from being present in our soul with the characteristics proper to His Person; the Father is there as the source and origin of the divinity and of all being; the Word is present as the splendor of the Father, as light; the Holy Spirit, as the fruit of the love of the Father and of the Son. Each divine Person, then, loves us in His own personal way and offers us His special gift. The Father offers us His most sweet paternity; the Son clothes us with His shining light; the Holy Spirit penetrates us with His ardent love. And we, insignificant creatures, should try to realize that we have such great gifts, so that we may fully profit by them.

You may have special relations with each of the three divine Persons, relations which correspond to Their particular characteristics. When you think of the Father, you will feel a need to live close to Him like a loving and devoted child, trying to please Him in all things, and desiring to do His will alone. At the same time, especially in moments of difficulty and anguish, you will hasten to take refuge in Him, finding in His omnipotence, His greatness and infinite goodness, a support and a remedy for your insufficiency, littleness and wretchedness.

When you contemplate the Word present in your soul, you will have the desire to allow yourself to be penetrated by His light, to be taught by Him who is the Word of the Father, that He may bring you to a true knowledge of the divine mysteries, and show you how to judge everything as God does. You will fill the need of seeking Him in His Incarnation where you find Him more accessible to your humanity, of taking refuge in His Redemption by which He gives you life, makes Himself your Brother and presents you to the Father as His child.

When you consider the Holy Spirit, the delightful fruit of the love of the Father and the Son, a more ardent desire will arise in you to assist His work of love in your soul; therefore, you will be willing to follow His inspirations with more docility; you will let yourself be guided by Him in all things and, finally, you will allow yourself to be seized by His divine motion, so that He can bring you with Himself into the bosom of the Father and the Son.

In this way you will realize in yourself that very lofty end for which God has created and redeemed us, that is, "that our fellowship may be with the Father and with His Son Jesus Christ. This will not be accomplished through your own merits but only through the infinite merits of Christ, who has shared with you His glory as the Son of God, who has made you participate in the love with which the Father loves Him, who has given you His Spirit, and has become your Food in order to nourish your life of union with the Most Holy Trinity in the most direct manner possible.

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

**Simon Called Peter**

*By dom Mauro-Giuseppe Lepori, O.Cist.*

The disciple and apostle Simon Peter is one of the most emblematic figures of the gripping drama of following Christ. He left everything right at the start, without hesitation, but he still had to confront the claims made on his freedom by Jesus, by circumstances, and by his own fragility and repeat his initial Yes to the very end. Peter's denial, but also the tradition of "Quo vadis?" - his last attempt to escape the total Yes of martyrdom by leaving Rome, and his encounter with Jesus, who asked him for a definitive "leaving everything" in dying for him—help us to understand that the freedom of total self-donation to Christ is a lifelong commitment. Because this commitment is asked of us by the Lord, it is always possible, in spite of everything, as for the repentant thief crucified next to Jesus.

At every stage of my journey as a man, a Christian, a monk, and an abbot, I have found St. Peter as a companion walking ahead of me with my own humanity, with my own human poverty, full of contradictions. Peter is the saint in the gospels who is most like us, the closest to our humanity, and yet also very close to Christ. We can always follow Peter. He always leads us to Jesus, he unites us to Jesus, because he never permitted his own fragility to separate his heart from Christ, even when he denied him.

And it is for this reason, I believe, that Simon Peter is the character we recognize best in the Gospels. We know all about Peter; his abilities and limitations, his sins and his sanctity, his psychology, his whole character. All of this lies before us absolutely clearly, so much so that at times he seems a bit superficial and crude to us.

Peter's transparency is gospel, is part of the of the gospel, of the good news of redemption in Christ. We can and must enter the school of Simon Peter, the school of his journey with Jesus, in order to follow the Lord as he wants to be followed, to cling to Christ as he enables us to love him.

(available at St. Stephen's Bookstore)

**Sodality of the Blessed Virgin Marv. Rosa Mystica & Little Flowers**

Registration is now open for Rosa Mystica (ages 9-14) & Little Flowers (ages 5—8). Forms are available at the Parish Office, bookstore, or by e-mail. The **deadline** for registration is July 31st and **space is limited**. Registration forms are also available for the Sodality of Our Lady, (ages 14 & up)

**Start Saving!!**

Start saving white elephant prizes gently used or new for the *Fatima's Bazaar Booth* at the Pig Roast.

Help will be needed as well. For more information call Fatima 916-451-9752. Prizes may be left at the parish office.

**Calling all Mothers and Grandmothers & all Ladies of the Parish!**

Do you have skills you would like to share with the young ladies of the parish? Homemaking skills of any kind; sewing, knitting, embroidery, crochet, proper table setting, being a good hostess, flower arranging, etc. We need you!

The Rosa Mystica Girls Society meets the 1st Saturday of the month during the school year and is looking for women who would enjoy sharing their time and talent with our young ladies. For more information please call Jean Gomez 530- 672-2076

**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.

**St. Paul—Apostle of Nations**

*By Daniel-Rops*

Across 2000 years of Christian History, the accomplishments of Saint Paul still command awe and respect. From fanatical hatred of the new religion, Paul transformed himself into the most zealous of the first Christian witnesses and apostles. He carried the new faith from its obscure origin in Palestine to the corridors of Roman imperial power on the fringe of Europe, and then to the epicenter, Rome itself. This transplantation soon created the Christian culture that remains a dominant force in world affairs to this day.

"Saint Paul is unquestionably the most wonderful example of that pure and ardent flame which Christ Jesus can light in the souls of those who love him. And even for those who do not share his faith, he remains a genius, a hero, the champion of causes which are more precious than life itself, a man who is a credit to mankind."

**Confraternity of St. Peter FSSP Anniversary Pilgrimage 25 Years**

Travel to Rome, Italy to attend a Solemn Mass of Thanksgiving at the Fraternity of St. Peter's Rome Parish on the 25th anniversary of the order's founding. See the most important religious sites of the Eternal City and then travel south to visit the shrines of Pompei, Nettuno, Materdomini, Naples & Amalfi.

**Highlights:** General Audience with Pope Francis, Four Major Churches of Rome, Catacombs, Holy Staircase (Scala Santa), Shrines of St. Gerard Majella, St. Maria Goretti & St. Philomena.; Rosary Basilica of Pompei (tomb of Bl. Bartolo Longo); home of St. Guiseppe Moscati; tomb of St. Andrew the Apostle.

For more information call 916-223-3112 or visit the website @ [www.syversentouring.com/confraternity](http://www.syversentouring.com/confraternity)

**Peter Pence Collection—Next Weekend**

Next Week our parish will take up the Peter's Pence Collection. This collection allows the Holy Father to cast the light of Christ upon the world by providing emergency assistance to those who need it most around the globe. Please be generous in next week's Peter's Pence Collection.

**Finding of the Relics of St. Stephen Annual Feast Day Celebration August 4, 2013**

The Finding or Transferal of the Relics of St. Stephen is our biggest event of the year at St. Stephens. Because it is our patronal feast, everyone should be involved in making it a special celebration.

Please offer your assistance by signing up in the vestibule or calling the parish office.

**~ 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 strangers in this matter be left to the priests or their delegates.