

Sunday, August 4, 2013
11th Sunday after Pentecost
& the Finding of the
Relics of St. Stephen



Sun. 4 Aug, 11th Sunday after Pentecost, II Class

8:30 am Fr. Ramon Bejorano
 10:30 am Pro Populo
 1:00 pm Rob & Teri Bartoli

3:00 pm Vespers & Benediction

Mon. 5 Aug, Dedication of the Basilica of St. Mary Major, III Class

7:00 am Wynette Sills
 12:15 pm FSSP Priest

Tues. 6 Aug, Transfiguration of Our Lord, II Class

7:00 am †Jonan Sneeringer
 6:30 pm Dr. Josepha Adubofore

Wed. 7 Aug, St. Cajetan, Confessor, III Class

7:00 am Fr. Jeff Wilson
 12:15 pm Elizabeth Pierini

Thurs. 8 Aug, St. John Vianney, Confessor, III Class

7:00 am Fr. Mark Wagner
 6:30 am Therese Pineda & Family

Fri. 9 Aug, Vigil of St. Lawrence, III Class

7:00 am Carmelite Monastery
 12:15 pm †Dan Bailen
 6:30 pm Rose Wedinsky

Sat. 10 Aug, St. Lawrence, Deacon & Martyr, II Class

7:00 am †Anna Marie Cain
 9:00 am Peggy Brooks

Sun. 11 Aug, 12th Sunday after Pentecost, II Class

8:30 am †David Coit
 10:30 am Pro Populo
 1:00 pm Phil & Joan Rutschow

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

†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, †Louis Solton

Important Upcoming Dates

Aug. 4—Finding of the Relics of St. Stephen—Pig Roast & Square Dance
 Aug. 13—Fatima Procession
 Aug. 15—Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary—**Holy Day**
 Aug. 20—Chesterton Society Meeting (7:00 pm)
 Oct. 18—25th Anniversary of the Fraternity of St. Peter
 Oct. 31—All Saints Eve Party

Bear Ye One Another's Burdens

Everyone has some burden, more or less heavy to bear: physical or moral weakness, the press of duties and responsibilities, fatigue or other troubles which weigh on his shoulders. Everyone feels the need of a friendly hand to help him carry this weight. This hand should be held out to him in fraternal charity, which for the love of God, knows how to be all things to all men. "Bear ye one another's burdens." A Christian knows that he is not isolated, but is a member of a unique body, the Mystical Body of Christ. "So we being many, are one body in Christ, and everyone members one of another." This knowledge of his solidarity with the brethren makes a Christian live, not enclosed in the tiny circle of his own interests, but with his heart open to the needs and interests of others. The mystery of our incorporation in Christ is more than an individual fact; by grace and charity connotes reciprocal incorporation from the same stock, are so closely united one to another that they live, grow, and develop together. Love for Christ, this union, becomes the more our love increases; so too, fraternal charity is the vital expression of our reciprocal charity, were not living and operative, we could have to say even absolutely null.

If charity and grace unite us to Christ in such intimate and vital relations, it is evident that we must live this union, first with Him who is our Head, and then with our Brethren, who like us have also been engrafted into Christ. Hence there will be a supernatural affection which will bind us to one another and make us one heart and one soul, ready to labor and suffer for one another, to help and sustain one another. "Rejoice with them that rejoice, weep with them that weep. Thus the Apostle teaches us to share the joys and sorrows, the cares and anxieties of others as if they were our own. They are, in fact, our own, because they are the joys, sorrows, cares, and anxieties of that one Mystical Body of Christ to which we belong and which, therefore, is ours.

Bearing one another's burdens also means enduring the faults of others calmly and kindly. Faults are the inevitable consequence of human limitations. The *Imitation of Christ* tells us, "what a man cannot amend in himself or others, he must bear with patience till God ordains otherwise." In the last months of her life, St. Therese of the Child Jesus wrote, "Now I know that true charity consists in bearing all my neighbor's defects, in not being surprised at mistakes, but in being edified at the smallest virtues."

Not without reason does St. Paul say, "charity beareth all things, believeth all things, hopeth all things, endureth all things. Charity always believes in the good will of others, even though it may be accompanied by faults; it always hopes in the good which it knows how to discover in every creature, although it may be eclipsed by many deficiencies. What is more important, charity supports everything, never finding any burden too heavy. To support, according to the etymology of the word, means "to place oneself under a weight to carry it." Charity feels that it must stoop with love to take up the burdens of others, particularly those burdens which avoid all because they are troublesome. St. Therese of the Child Jesus notes that certain people are left alone because of their natural imperfections, such as sensitiveness, or lack of judgment or education. "Defects of this kind are, I know, incurable... From all this I conclude that I ought to seek the companionship of those sisters for whom I feel a natural aversion, and try to be their good Samaritan." Behold the charity which instead of fleeing, seeks out those who are suffering through natural and moral imperfections, and busies itself with them so lovingly that they never guess how painful the effort is, nor how troublesome their defects are to others. Charity bears all things, endures all things with a smiling, serene face, never showing itself annoyed or crushed by the burden it bears.

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



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

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

~ 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.

25th Anniversary Mass to be offered by Fr. John Berg in Rome!

We are nearly full—If interested, contact us soon!

Travel to Rome, Italy see the most important religious sites of the Eternal City and then travel south to visit the shrines of Pompei, Nettuno, Materdomini, Naples & Amalfi. For more information call 916-223-3112 or visit the website @ www.syversentouring.com/confraternity

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, Munsill Family, Sister Marie Jeanne, Charles Cantoni, Hayden Garcia, Mitzi Vandenberg, John Reyes, Dr. Gerald Foy, Cindy Yumoto

We Must Expect Temptation
Sermon of the Cure of Ars

It is most unfortunate for ourselves if we do not know that we are tempted in almost all our actions, at one time by pride, by vanity, by the good opinion which we think people should have of us, at another by jealousy, by hatred and by revenge. At other times, the Devil comes to us with the foulest and most impure images. You see that even in our prayers he distracts us and turns our minds this way and that. It seems indeed that we are in a state. . . Since we are in the holy presence of God. And even more, since the time of Adam, you will not find a saint who has not been tempted—some in one way, some in another—and the greatest saints are those who have been tempted the most. If Our Lord was tempted, it was in order to show us that we must be also. It follows, therefore, that we must expect temptation. If you ask me what is the cause of our temptations, I shall tell you that it is the beauty and the great worth and importance of our souls which the Devil values and which he loves so much that he would consent to suffer two Hells, if necessary, if by so doing he could drag our souls into Hell.

We should never cease to keep a watch on ourselves, lest the Devil might deceive us at the moment when we are least expecting it. St. Francis tells us that one day God allowed him to see the way in which the Devil tempted his religious, especially in matters of purity. He allowed him to see a band of devils who did nothing but shoot their arrows against his religious. Some returned violently against the devils who had discharged them. They then fled, shrieking hideous yells of range. Some of the arrows glanced off those they were intended for and dropped at their feet without doing any harm. Others pierced just as far as the tip of the arrow and finally penetrated, bit by bit.

If we wish to hunt these temptations away, we must, as St. Anthony tells us, make use of the same weapons. When we are tempted by pride, we must immediately humble and abase ourselves before God. If we are tempted against the holy virtue of purity, we must try to mortify our bodies and all our senses and to be ever more vigilant of ourselves. If our temptation consists in a distaste for prayers, we must say even more prayers, with greater attention, and the more the Devil prompts us to give them up, the more we must increase their number.

The temptations we must fear most are those of which we are not conscious. St. Gregory tells us that there was a religious who for long had been a good member of his community. Then he developed a very strong desire to leave the monastery and to return to the world, saying that God did not wish him to be in that monastery. His saintly superior told him: "My friend, it is the Devil who is angry because you may be able to save your soul. Fight against him."

But no, the other continued to believe that it was as he claimed. St. Gregory gave him permission to leave. But when he was leaving the monastery, the latter went on his knees to ask God to let this poor religious know that it was the Devil who wanted to make him lose his soul. The religious had scarcely put his foot over the threshold of the door to leave when he saw an enormous dragon, which attacked him.

"Oh, brothers," he cried out, "come to my aid! Look at the dragon which will devour me!"

And indeed, the brethren who came running when they heard the noise found this poor monk stretched out on the ground, half-dead. They carried him back into the monastery, and he realized that truly it was the Devil who wanted to tempt him and who was bursting with rage because the superior had prayed for him and so had prevented the Devil from getting him. Alas, my dear brethren, how greatly we should fear, lest we do not recognize our temptations! And we shall never recognize them if we do not ask God to allow us to do so.

(available at St. Stephen's bookstore)