

Sunday, August 11, 2013
12th Sunday after Pentecost



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

Mon. 12 Aug, St. Clare, Virgin, III Class

7:00 am Dr. Josepha Adubofore
 12:15 pm Fr. Mark Wagner

Tues. 13 Aug, SS. Hippolytus & Cassian, Martyrs, IV Class

7:00 am Pat
 6:30 pm †Jeany Lynn Tan

Wed. 14 Aug, Vigil of the Assumption, II Class

7:00 am Pope Emeritus Benedict XVI
 12:15 pm †Joseph Ducato

Thurs. 15 Aug, Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary, I Class

7:00 am †Gabriel Vargas
 7:00 am FSSP

Fri. 16 Aug, St. Joachim, Father of the Blessed Virgin Mary, II Class

7:00 am Mary Kaehler
 12:15 pm †James R. Sheldon
 6:30 pm †Anthony Scarry

Sat. 17 Aug, St. Hyacinth, Confessor, III Class

7:00 am Fr. Mark Wagner
 9:00 am Fr. Jeff Wilson

Sun. 18 Aug, 13th Sunday after Pentecost, II Class

8:30 am Louise Szabo
 10:30 am Pro Populo
 1:00 pm Charlie Dana

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. 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

Prudent Judgment

The first duty of prudence is to help us choose the best means for attaining our final end. Many times the choice is easy, and presents itself spontaneously to a mind accustomed to making judgments and acting in the light of eternity. At other times, however, it is difficult and perplexing, as for example, when it concerns choosing one's vocation or profession, or solving complicated problems in which elements independent of one's own will must be considered. In these cases, we must take time to examine everything carefully and to consult prudent, experienced persons; to act hastily would show a want of prudence. In the Gospel, Jesus Himself tells us about the prudent man who "having a mind to build a tower, first *sits down* and reckons the charges that are necessary, whether he have wherewithal to finish it." The time spent in these examinations and calculations as dictated by prudence is not time wasted. Quite the contrary! When facing serious decisions, we must realize that God Himself often wants us to wait patiently until circumstances clearly manifest His will to us. In this waiting, we should give a large place to prayer, begging Our Lord for the light which our own prudence cannot give us. In fact, prudence, even though it is an infused supernatural virtue, is always a virtue exercised by human faculties and, therefore, is affected by human limitations; however, to help it, God has given us a special gift of the holy Spirit, the gift of counsel, the actuation of which does not depend on us but is obtainable by prayer.

After using all the means suggested by supernatural prudence, we arrive at a decision. Prudence then commands us to put it into effect with courage and diligence, without needless delays on our part and without being discouraged by the difficulties we may meet.

In order that our judgments and choices may be prudent, we must know how to free them from elements which are too subjective, such as our personal attractions and interests, our natural likes and dislikes. Sometimes we can deceive ourselves into thinking that we are judging a situation or deciding to do something solely for the glory of God or ourselves thoroughly, we would perhaps see that the motives which prevailed in our judgment or in our deliberations were egoistic and dictated by our own personal interest. Hence, even prudence requires that we cleanse our hearts from all these human motives, and that we practice detachment and renunciation. After Jesus had spoken of the prudence necessary for the man who wished to build a tower, and for the king who was about to make war against another king, He said: "So likewise everyone of you that doth not *renounce* all that he possesseth, cannot be My disciple." In other words, the prudence needed by one renunciation of all that can be an obstacle to the attainment of eternal life; it consists in that renunciation of self which frees the heart from selfish personal impulses. Only this renunciation will permit the soul to triumph over the spontaneous reactions of self-love, the impulses of egoism, thus allowing it to form right judgments and impartial decisions. Decisions which would affect our neighbor or about which we have a personal bias, prudence requires a conscientious examination as to whether we are really moved by supernatural motives, independent of human considerations. Finally, when something has greatly disturbed us, prudence will teach us to suspend all judgment and deliberation until calm has returned; otherwise, we would be exposing ourselves to act by passion rather than by a sincere love of the good.

"Love is prudent, circumspect, upright," says the *Imitation of Christ*, which means that prudence is the indispensable characteristic of all genuine virtue.

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

Confirmation 2014

Registration is now open for Confirmation classes.

Please bring a copy of your child's baptism certificate to the parish office or bookstore and fill out the registration forms as soon as possible—**all paperwork must be in before the first class.**

Classes will begin the **second Saturday of September** starting with Holy Mass at 9:00 am.

**Reminder for the May Chesterton Society meeting:
 August 20th at 7:30pm.**

The reading for the August meeting will be:
 Our final three essays from Tremendous Trifles:
 "The Shop of Ghosts"
 "The Ballade of a Strange Town"
 "The Mystery of a Pageant"
 The Father Brown Story, the first in the second collection of stories, The Wisdom of Father Brown, is: "The Absence of Mr. Glass"

All are welcome to attend!

**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*

**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

Mother

There are moments in the life of every man when, however much a man he may be, he needs to become a child again, to have a mother he can come to who will comfort him and help him with his problems. We are all sinners, and when we feel conscious of our sins and we see clearly how much right God has to reject us, when we realize our weakness and our inability to repent, when we find ourselves surrounded by temptation and assailed by evil desires, then we need our Lady's maternal love to protect, defend, and console us; we need to listen to her affectionate and encouraging words, which keep us free from all danger. When we feel alone and helpless, surrounded and weighed down by our sins, like lost children in a huge unknown city, with our hearts cold and anguished, paralyzed by loneliness, then it is she who with her tenderness restores our peace and confidence, and we know we are protected, sheltered, and defended; only then do we begin to feel that everything will work out well in spite of everything, because she loves us and will not abandon us, because we are her children.

Our Lord promised his disciples that he would not leave them orphans; he left them the Virgin as their mother. A mother is she who gives to the home a note of femininity and warmth; it is she who makes the home a place of refuge and care; she looks after our comfort and keeps everything moving harmoniously. She is the bond of union, she is the heart of the house. Protestantism gives the appearance of being cold and disinified, and it is probably because it is a home that has no mother; our Lady is absent from it, and it is weakly held together.

Above all else, our Lady has shown us, by her example, the way, the manner, of living in union with Jesus Christ. Both in her ordinary and discreet life as well as at those extraordinary moments she has left us a very simple lesson: easy to grasp and easy to imitate. She has shown us that in the world, in the home, in the ordinary daily tasks, in the duty of each moment, it is possible to achieve perfection and the very highest degree of sanctity; she has revealed to us the mystery of vocation, and how those who know that mystery find a deep meaning in life and know how to make little things great, common things heroic, ordinary things extraordinary. "It is to be hoped," wrote Pope Pius XII, "that everyone who meditates on the glorious example of Mary will become more and more convinced of the value of human life if it is devoted entirely to carrying out the will of the heavenly Father and the good of one's neighbor." Self-surrender to each one's particular vocation according to the will of the Father: that is what gives value to life.

It should be to us a constant source of joy to know that we are children of such a Mother. In giving her to us as our Mother, God gave us such a proof of love that only our habitual laziness and reluctance to think explain why we do not thank Him as we should. Undoubtedly "we have an advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ the just," but God in His kindness, who knows our misery so well, has also given us a Mother to intercede for us. It is she, the *Virgo fidelis*, who helps us to understand the only thing necessary: faithfulness in the complete fulfillment of our vocation in life.

("Mary of Nazareth" by Federico Suarez)

~ 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.