

**Sunday, April 6, 2014
Passion Sunday**



Sun. 6 Apr. 8:30 am 10:30 am 1:00 pm 3:00 pm	Passion Sunday, I Class Sergio Reali family Pro Populo Patricia Patch Vespers & Benediction
Mon. 7 Apr. 7:00 am 12:15 pm	Monday of Passion Week, III Class Jame Meyer Jim McGrath
Tues. 8 Apr. 7:00 am 6:30 pm	Tuesday of Passion Week, III Class Poor Souls who have no one to pray for them Dr. Daniel D'Amico family
Wed. 9 Apr. 7:00 am 12:15 pm	Wednesday of Passion Week, III Class Declan Cuny Father Simon Slana
Thurs. 10 Apr. 7:00 am 6:30 pm	Thursday of Passion Week, III Class Jeremy & Ciana Becker Luke Barnard
Fri. 11 Apr. 7:00 am 12:15 pm 6:30 pm	Friday of Passion Week, III Class Tian Accetola's intentions Fr. John Lyons FSSP Charles & Mary Ann Cuny
Sat. 12 Apr. 7:00 am 9:00 am	Saturday of Passion Week, III Class Mamie Alberti †Robert Porter
Sun. 13 Apr. 8:30 am 10:30 am 1:00 pm 3:00 pm	Palm Sunday, I Class Tait Pilegaard Pro Populo Mike & Catherine McGrath 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.

...In Memoriam

†Charles Cantoni, †Manuel Nino, †Margaret Correa,
†Cindy Yumoto, †Fr. Vladimir Kozina

Important Upcoming Dates

- April 11—Seven Sorrows of the Blessed Virgin Mary
- April 13—Palm Sunday
- April 18—Good Friday
- April 20—Easter Sunday
- May 3—May Procession & Solemn Mass at the Cathedral
- May 10—First Holy Communion
- June 22-28—Camp Sacred Heart
- July 13—17—Silent Retreat



April 11—Seven Sorrows of the Blessed Virgin Mary

**Why Devotion to the Heart of Our Mother in Her Sorrows?
Because Jesus wants this devotion.**

“Jesus Christ Himself revealed to Blessed Veronica of Binasco, that, He is more pleased in seeing His Mother compassionated than Himself.” He said to her: *‘My daughter, tears shed for My Passion are dear to Me; but as I loved My Mother Mary with an immense love, the meditation on the torments which She endured at My death is even more agreeable to Me.’*
“Wherefore the graces promised by Jesus to those who are devoted to the dolours of Mary are very great.”

Because Our Lady also wants it!

Our Lady lamented to St. Bridget that very few consoled Her by meditating on Her Sorrows, and “that the greater part of the world lived in forgetfulness of them: *‘I look around at all who are on earth, to see if by chance there are any who pity Me, and meditate upon My Sorrows; and I find that there are very few. Therefore, My daughter, though I am forgotten by many, at least do you not forget Me; consider My anguish, and imitate, as far as you can, My grief.’*”

“For this purpose the Blessed Virgin Herself appeared in the year 1239 to the founder of the Order of the Servites, or servants of Mary, to ask them to institute a religious order in remembrance of Her sorrows.”

In the words of the Church:

Pope Benedict XIII, in 1724, promulgated and encouraged the practice of the devotion to Our Lady's Sorrows when he bestowed many indulgences for the recitation of the Chaplet of the Seven Sorrows.

Our Lady's Sorrows are commemorated twice a year on the liturgical calendar, September 15, and the Friday before Palm Sunday. Commemorating the sorrows of the Blessed Virgin Mary twice a year on the Roman Liturgical Calendar demonstrates how important this devotion is to Heaven.

The Seven Sorrows of Our Lady

1. **St. Simeon's Prophecy**
2. **The Flight into Egypt**
3. **The Loss of Jesus in the Temple**
4. **The Meeting of Mary and Jesus on the Way to Calvary**
5. **The Crucifixion and Death of Jesus**
6. **The Piercing of the Side of Jesus, and His Descent from the Cross**
7. **The Burial of Jesus**

The Chaplet of Our Lady of Sorrows will be prayed at 11:30 am, on April 11th.

HOLY WEEK SCHEDULE

- Holy Thursday** – April 17th
Tenebrae – 8:00 am
Confessions – 5:45 pm – 6:45 pm
Solemn High Mass of the Lord's Supper – 7:00 pm
(Adoration, in the gym, after the Mass, until midnight)
- Good Friday** – April 18th
Tenebrae – 8:00 am
Stations of the Cross, 2:00 pm
Confessions – 2:00 pm – 2:45 pm
Solemn Liturgy – 3:00 pm
- Holy Saturday, Easter Vigil** – April 19th
Tenebrae – 8:00 am
Confessions – 7:30 pm – 8:15 pm
Easter Vigil – 8:30 pm
- Easter Sunday** – April 20th
8:30 am Low Mass
10:30 am High Mass
1:00 pm Low Mass
(No Vespers)

Do You Have Calla Lilies in Your Yard?

Would you like to share some of your lilies for our altar for Easter? Please call the office if you can help us out. We need many to make it beautiful! 916-455-5114

Altar of Repose

Many flowers are also needed for our Altar of Repose. Please bring cut flower, potted Easter Lilies (**not** the type with heavy scent), and flowers of your choice in order to make our **Altar of Repose** really beautiful for Our Lord. Flowers may be brought to the gym during Holy Week—we need them for Holy Thursday evening. Let's try to have every family participate in this tradition.

Help Needed with Palms

Much help will be needed after the 9:00 am Mass on Saturday, April 5th. Please bring gloves and clippers and join in the yearly preparation of palms.

If you have any questions please call the parish office.

God bless you for your assistance with this!

Repost for Annual Catholic Appeal

The Annual Catholic Appeal netted \$3,549.20 (so far) this year in our parish. Thank you to those who contributed.

The Blessed Eucharist Our Greatest Treasure

The most Holy Eucharist is so great and so sublime a mystery that the more we say of it, the more remains to be said. If St. Alphonsus could say with all truth of the Passion of Our Lord, “that eternity will not suffice to meditate adequately upon it,” we may affirm the same of Jesus Christ hidden in the Blessed Sacrament.

Worldly lovers are accustomed frequently to mention and praise those whom they love, that others also may praise and applaud them; how poor and weak should we then consider the love of those who call themselves lovers of the Blessed Sacrament and yet who seldom speak of it or think of endeavoring to inspire others with a love of it. The true lovers of the most Blessed Sacrament do not act thus; they speak of it, praise it everywhere, in public and in private; whenever it is in their power they try to enkindle in the hearts of everyone those ardent flames of love with which they themselves burn for their beloved Jesus. *(The Blessed Eucharist Our Greatest Treasure* by Michael Mueller, C.S.S.R.)

Choir News

The St. Stephen's choir seeks new members. We're especially short on tenors and baritone/basses. Musical experience is helpful, though you need not have an exceptional voice. To learn more, contact our new choir director, Mr. Keven Smith, at ksmith_writer@yahoo.com or 559-593-5012. Or speak with Keven after the Sunday 10:30 Mass.

MUSIC CLASS FOR CHILDREN: Our choir director, Keven Smith, is considering offering a beginning music class for children ages 8-12 using the Ward Method. The goal is to teach children the fundamentals of reading music, training the ear, and developing the voice for future participation in our parish choir. If you are interested, please stop by the bookstore for more information and to sign up.

“Christian Perfection & Love for the Cross of Christ”

Sunday, July 13—Thursday, July 17

In the fever and agitation of modern life, the need of meditation and spiritual repose impresses itself on Christian souls who desire to reflect on their eternal destiny, and direct their life in this world towards God. Here is your opportunity to do just that, don't put it off.

Fr. Chrysostom Baer, O. Praem. will preach our 2014 Retreat at Christ the King Retreat Center. This silent retreat is open to all adult men and women. Each retreatant will have a private room/bath and all meals will be provided.

Daily Latin Mass, opportunity for Confession & Spiritual direction

More information is available at the parish office or bookstore. 916-455-5114 - stephenproto@yahoo.com

Camp Sacred Heart 2014

Camp Sacred Heart will be held June 22—28 this year. Registration is open to boys age 9—18, boys unknown to the chaplain must get a letter of recommendation from a priest.

For more information call the parish office or 916-223-3112. Forms may be obtained by e-mail stephenproto@yahoo.com You may also stop by the parish office or bookstore.

Sponsors needed for Camp

If you are able to help sponsor a boy for camp, there is a great need, especially for large families. Your help is very much appreciated!

Calling All Cooks

Soup is needed for Fridays during Lent. Please sign up for one or more weeks. Soup and bread will be available for all after the 6:30 pm Masses on Fridays. Questions? Stop by the Parish Office or Bookstore.

Baby Bottle Project

Thank you to all who have participated in the Sacramento Life Center Baby Bottle Project this Lent. We will be collecting bottles before and after Masses on April 6th. If you are unable to bring it then, please bring it to the book store before Easter Sunday.

Handmaids of the Blessed Sacrament—Altar Society

Are you interested in ironing, making or mending sacred linens for use at the altar? Would you enjoy arranging flowers for our altar? We need you! There are many other opportunities as well to serve the church by being a part of our altar society. Stop by the parish office or bookstore or call and leave your name. No previous experience is necessary—we will teach you!

Please Keep in Your Prayers ...

Mike Hayes, Jim Carlson, Kaehler Family, Mike McGrath, Barbara Graichen, Munsill Family, Sister Marie Jeanne, Charles Cantoni, Mitzi Vandenburg, John Reyes, Dr. Gerald Foy, Carlos Aldana, Liliana, Luz & Ceasar Morales, Mark Garcia Family, Richard Corbin, Philip Rutschow, Robert Nunez, Renee Burns,