

**Sunday, May 11, 2014**  
**Third Sunday After Easter**



<b>Sun. 11 May</b>	<b>Third Sunday after Easter, II Class</b>
8:30 am	Romulus Baccay
10:30 am	Pro Populo
1:00 pm	†Andrew De La Cruz
3:00 pm	Vespers & Benediction
<b>Mon. 12 May</b>	<b>Ss. Nereus, Achilleus, Domitilla, Virgin, &amp; Pancras, Martyrs, III Class</b>
7:00 am	Angela D'Amico
12:15 pm	Thanksgiving
<b>Tues. 13 May</b>	<b>St. Robert Bellarmine, Bishop, Confessor &amp; Doctor, III Class</b>
7:00 am	Bob Petta
6:30 pm	Brian Philip Nino
<b>Wed. 14 May</b>	<b>St. Boniface, Martyr, IV Class</b>
7:00 am	Tom & Monique Rance
12:15 pm	Angela Cusmano
<b>Thurs. 15 May</b>	<b>St. John Baptist de la Salle, Confessor, IV Class</b>
7:00 am	Barbara Dittmer
6:30 pm	Cassandra Brennan
<b>Fri. 16 May</b>	<b>St. Ubaldus, Bishop &amp; Confessor, III Class</b>
7:00 am	Junquin & Stephani Sandoval
12:15 pm	Stephanie Sullivan
6:30 pm	Jean Petta
<b>Sat. 17 May</b>	<b>St. Paschal Baylon, Confessor, III Class</b>
7:00 am	Catherine Dugyon
9:00 am	Matthew & Jennifer Gallagher
<b>Sun. 18 May</b>	<b>Fourth Sunday after Easter, II Class</b>
8:30 am	†Donna Foy
10:30 am	Pro Populo
1:00 pm	Souls of Priests
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, 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, †Philip Rutschow

**Important Upcoming Dates**

May 13—Fatima Procession (after evening Mass)  
 May 15—Evening of Recollection  
 May 20—Chesterton Society meeting  
 May 29—Ascension of Our Lord  
 May 31—Ordinations in Omaha, Nebraska  
 June 14—Ordinations in Leesburg, Virginia  
 June 22-28—Camp Sacred Heart  
 July 13—17—Silent Retreat

**The Divine Office**

The liturgy accompanies Holy Mass with the recitation of the Divine Office which, as *Mediator Dei* teaches “is the prayer of the Mystical Body of Christ, addressed to God in the name of all Christians and for their benefit, by priests, other ministers of the Church, and religious, who are assigned this task.” The great dignity of the Divine Office lies in the fact that it is not a private prayer, but the official public prayer of the Mystical Body of Christ, whose members do not pray alone, but with Christ their Head. “When the Word of God assumed human nature, He intoned in His earthly exile the hymn which is sung in heaven through all eternity. He joined to Himself the whole human community and united it with Himself in the chanting of this hymn of praise. In the Divine Office, “Jesus prays with us as our Priest; prays in us as our Head... Let us recognize then,” says St. Augustine, “our voice in His and His voice in us.” What a wonderful gift! Jesus, the Son of God, associates our poor, miserable prayers with His great precious Prayer.

Although the Divine Office is of obligation only for priests and religious who are charged with it by the Church, it can be said that it is the prayer of the whole Christian people, in the sense that it is addressed to God “in their name and for their benefit.” It is therefore highly praiseworthy for the laity to try to participate in it in some way; for example, the recitation of *Vespers* on feast days, as well as of *Prime* and *Compline*. Furthermore, they can offer to God at every hour of the day and night the great Prayer of the Church, for their own special intentions and individual needs. In this way they can make up for the deficiencies and the brevity of their own personal prayers. Even in the midst of daily occupations, each one can unite himself from time to time by pious aspirations with the “perpetual praise” which the Church sends up to God in the name of all Christians.

The Divine Office is made up, for the most part, of inspired texts taken from Holy Scripture. This is why we cannot find vocal prayers that are more beautiful and more suitable for praising the Divine Majesty; in the inspired word, the Holy Spirit Himself “asketh for us with unspeakable groanings.” Then, too, these prayers are so rich in doctrine and unction that they help greatly to nourish our personal piety. All these reasons make us understand that “the interior devotion of our soul must correspond to the lofty dignity of this prayer,” in such a way that “our soul is in tune with our voice,” as St. Augustine says. Because the Divine Office is the prayer which the Church, together with Jesus, her Head, sends up to God, and because it is inspired by the Holy Spirit, it has great value in itself; but it will have no value for us, so as to increase our union with God and to draw divine blessings down upon us, if it does not become *our* prayer, if we do not accompany it with *our own personal* devotion. In the society of the faithful, the Church prays with the heart of her children, with *our* heart; and the more fervent and full of love this heart is, the more our prayer, the Prayer of the Church, will be pleasing to God.

Even if the obligation of reciting the Divine Office is not involved, and a few brief prayers only are taken from the Breviary, it is well for all interior souls to try to grasp the spirit of this liturgical prayer and to make it their own. It is a spirit of praise and adoration which desires to render to God perpetual worship in Union with Christ and in the name of the whole Church, a spirit of solidarity with Jesus, our Head, and with all the faithful, our brethren. We no longer feel alone in prayer!

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

**How to Pray**

Do you ask Me, as My disciples did, “Lord, teach us to pray”? I will teach you how to pray in all that you think, say, or do. Do not worry about methods. Leave your prayer in my hands. I will give you the way of prayer that is best for you, changing it as you progress, a way that unites your will most firmly with Mine.

When you pray, will to give me all of yourself: all of your attention, all of your memory, all of your love. Will to keep nothing back. Whether or not you succeed in giving Me all of your attention and memory is not important; the *willing* of it is the core of all true prayer.

Now let me tell you how you may say some of the prayers that are especially dear to my heart. When you pray the Rosary or any other formal prayer, do not race. Pray calmly, meditatively, maintaining yourself in peace and serenity. So many of My friends rush through the Rosary as though it were a foreign language, full of strange words and phrases.

There is no such word as “wombJesus,” my other self.

When in the “Hail Mary,” you say, “pray for us sinners,” you ask My Mother to pray not only in your favor but in your stead. You ask her to make your prayer her prayer. Realize that My Mother prays with and for you, making up what your prayer lacks, and unite your prayers with hers.

When you pray the Rosary, unite yourself with its mysteries. Remember that you share in whatever I did as if you had done it yourself. Join yourself to Me in My agony; make it your agony. Make My scourging your scourging, My crowning with thorns your crowning, My carrying the cross your carrying the cross, My crucifixion your crucifixion. Join yourself to Me in all these mysteries, attaching your sufferings, mortifications, pains, and sorrows to mine, so that our sacrifice may become one sacrifice; one act of love utterly pleasing to the Trinity.

(*excerpts from “My Other Self” by Charence J. Enzler*)

**First Communicants**

Congratulations to the 32 children who made their First Communion here yesterday. It was a happy day for them and Our Lord. May they receive Our Eucharistic Lord often and always worthily.

**Recent Special Collections**

The collection for the Holy Land taken up on Good Friday brought in \$1,297.55.

The collection for the Home Missions on Divine Mercy Sunday was \$652.00.

**Reminder: Chesterton Society meeting:**

**May 20th at 7:30pm**

We will be reading:

**Orthodoxy - Authority & the Adventurer & Fr. Brown - The Salad of Colonel Cray**

**May 15, 2014**

**Evening of Recollection Confraternity of St. Peter**

Don't miss out on the spiritual benefits of our CSP Evening of Recollection on Thursday, May 15th, beginning with Holy Mass at 6:30 pm. Each month we are given a wonderful sermon and conference along with Holy Mass and CSP prayers.

**The Confraternity of St. Peter is a group of lay men and women united to the Priestly Fraternity of St. Peter.**

- Conforming our lives in the Spirituality of the Holy Mass
  - Praying for the priests and seminarians of the Fraternity of St. Peter.
  - Praying for more vocations to the Holy Priesthood
- For more information visit [www.confraternityofstpeter.com](http://www.confraternityofstpeter.com) or call the parish office 916-455-5114.

**Confraternity of St. Peter 2014 Pilgrimage**

**English Martyrs**

“Our Lady’s Dowry” a glorious title that England was commonly known by in the Middle Ages. Visit the shrines and sites halloved by the saints and martyrs of England’s past and be a part of the closing events of the largest Traditional pilgrimage in the UK, to witness the ancient Faith anew! Join Fr. James Fryar, FSSP, Chaplain of the Confraternity of St. Peter on August 23—September 1, 2014. For more information call Tish at 916-223-3112 or visit the website [www.syversentouring.com/confraternity](http://www.syversentouring.com/confraternity).

**Pilgrim Virgin Statue**

Those of you who signed up to receive the Pilgrim Virgin Statue will be contacted in the order in which you signed up. It may take several weeks. When we finish the present list, another opportunity for signing up will be offered.

**Spiritual Adoption Progress Report—Month 5**

Check out the new Spiritual Adoption poster in the vestibule to see the development progress of our parish spiritually adopted “babies”! He/she is now two months old in utero. Your spiritually adopted baby weighs over one pound now. His mother can feel him moving. Before, he was too small for her to feel. Although he swam with ease in his watery world, he needed to be big and strong enough to kick hard against the outside uterine wall and dent it—the inside wall of the uterus has no feeling. We are mid-way through the pregnancy now. Your prayers have helped your baby’s mother continue with her pregnancy and seek the help she needs. Keep praying!

**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](mailto: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!

**“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](mailto:stephenproto@yahoo.com)

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

Mike Hayes, Jim Carlson, Kaehler Family, Mike McGrath, Barbara Graichen, Munsill Family, Sister Marie Jeanne, Mitzi Vandenburg, John Reyes, Dr. Gerald Foy, Carlos Aldana, Liliana, Luz & Cesar Morales, Richard Corbin, Robert Nunez, Renee Burns, Sue McGrath, Lorraine Peterson, John Patrick Corr