

Sunday, September 3, 2017
13th Sunday After Pentecost



Sun. 3 Sept.

8:00 am
10:30 am
1:30 pm
6:00 pm

13th Sunday After Pentecost, II Class

Joseph Magabo
Pro Populo
Yadao Family
Mendoza Family

Mon 4 Sept.

7:00 am
12:15 pm

Feria, IV Class

Grace & Matthew Mariner
Martha Pentland

Tues. 5 Sept.

7:00 am
6:30 pm

St. Lawrence Justinian, Bishop & Confessor, III Class

†Stephen, †Florence, †Carole, †Tim, Gail
Lebowink Gallagher
Hau Nguyen, Steve Carty

Wed. 6 Sept.

7:00 am
12:15 pm

Feria, IV Class

Rose Wedinsky
Elizabeth Nicolini

Thurs. 7 Sept.

7:00 am
6:30 pm

Feria, IV Class
III Class

†James Garrett
St. Monica Sodality

Fri. 8 Sept.

7:00 am
12:15 pm
6:30 pm

Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary, II Class

Theresa Realí
Richard Szabo
Judy Kasak & Family

Sat. 9 Sept.

7:00 am
9:00 am

St. Peter Claver, Confessor, III Class

†Sarah Vierra
†Joseph Albert Aloisa

Sun. 10 Sept.

8:00 am
10:30 am
1:30 pm
6:00 pm

14th Sunday After Pentecost, II Class

Carolina F. Dichoso
Pro Populo
Patricia Mitchell
John Pope

...In Memoriam

†Maria Lopresti, †George Klopff, †Nell Keim, †John Reyes,
†Margaret Melusky, †Robert O’Kane, †Savino Salierno,
†Beverly Longtin, †Donald Strahota, †Ursula Uclaray,
†Marina Servande, †Rizal Robancho, †Mike McGrath,
†Sarah Vierra, †Mary Daley, †James Greenwell,
†Josef Schuchmann, †Paulette Brady, †Felipa Lopez,
†Jorge Munoz, †William J. Foy, †Patricia Becker,

Important Upcoming Dates

Sept. 8—Youth Group resumes
Sept. 10—Confirmation classes begin
Sept. 13—Fatima Procession
Sept. 15—Seven Sorrows of the Blessed Virgin Mary
Sept. 16—Altar Guild resumes
Sept. 20—Men’s Holy League
Oct. 18—29th Anniversary of Fraternity of St. Peter

Sincerity

“Lord, who shall dwell in Thy tabernacle, or who shall rest in Thy holy hill?” asks the Psalmist. And he gives the answer: “He that walketh without blemish, and worketh justice.”
God is truth, and no one can be admitted to His intimacy who does not strive as much as he can, to live in truth and to be sincere in all his actions. First of all, we must seek to possess truth in the depths of our heart, that we may know ourselves as we really are in the eyes of God, stripped of all disguise and artificiality. To do this we must accept, not only the truths which please us, but also those which are painful and wound our pride to the quick, revealing our faults and evil tendencies. A person who is sincere never closes his eyes to these truths, but values them, even if they are humiliating, knowing that humiliation which reveals the truth is worth more than illusion which flatters pride and keeps us in error. Sometimes God permits difficult circumstances which are especially hard and trying for the practice of virtue, that we may see the truth and know ourselves as we really are. Under the onset of contradiction, we experience movements, hitherto unknown, surging up within us: movements of anger, rebellion, selfishness, from which perhaps we had had the illusion that we were free. In such cases, instead of turning our gaze away, it is necessary to have the courage to recognize these faults and confess them, humbly and frankly. St. John of the Cross speaks of certain pious souls who, in confession, “palliate and make them appear less evil, and thus...excuse themselves rather than accuse themselves.” A soul that loves the truth is very far from acting in this way; even if it has only venial sins and imperfections of which to accuse itself in confession, it exposes them all very sincerely, without magnifying or minimizing them, never blaming circumstances, but only itself for all that is faulty. Sincerity in confessing our faults if the first step toward freeing ourselves from them.
A soul can be insincere in its interior life and its relations with God, but it can never deceive Him, and its lack of sincerity will only redound to its own disadvantage. But with respect to our neighbors it is not so; a want of sincerity can easily harm them, or at least deceive them. Hence, not only charity, but also justice demands that we conduct ourselves with the greatest sincerity in our relations with our neighbor. “Wherefore putting away lying,” St. Paul exhorts, “speak ye the truth everyman with his neighbor, for we are members one of another.” Because of the natural ties, and still more the supernatural ones, which bind us to our neighbor, he has every right not to be deceived either by our words or by our actions.

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

Why Does Mary’s Birth Cause Such Great Joy?

To this the Church answers beautifully in the antiphon of the Magnificat: “O Virgin, Mother of God, Thy birth has announced joy to the whole world, for from Thee has proceeded the Sun of justice, Christ our Lord, who, by taking away the curse, has shed benediction and who, by confounding death, has given us everlasting life.” This curse, caused by the sin of our first parents in paradise, burdened the whole earth and especially mankind, for “sin having come into the world by one man, it passed upon all, since all have sinned in this one.”
Finally, the hour of redemption had come. The infant was born, who was predestined by God to become the mother of the promised Savior, and who was consequently to crush the head of the serpent. This festival ought then to spread joy through the world, since, after such ardent desires, salvation is at last about to appear! For Jesus, the Savoir, our Lord and God, the Light of the world, the Sun of justice, is to come forth from Mary; that darkness which had overshadowed all nations, is about to disappear, the knowledge of God shall abound, the bonds of sin, in which mankind lay fettered, shall be loosed, the curse so long resting upon creation shall be taken away, in a word, the fullness of benediction shall reign upon earth. Today even death is put to shame, for she is born, from whom shall come forth the Conqueror of death, who depriving it of its sting, shall guide us unto perpetual life.
“The Church’s Year,” by Rev. Fr. Leonard Goffine

Fr. Savoie’s Bible Study Class
Thursdays—September 7, 14, 21, 28

The Exile of a Beloved Son
The Joseph Narrative
Genesis 37—50

Prayer for Priestly and Religious Vocations

Priest: Let us pray for priestly and religious vocations.
All: O God, we earnestly beseech Thee to bless the Church with many priests, brothers, and sisters, who will love Thee with their whole hearts, be faithful to their vocations, and gladly spend their entire lives to teach Thy truths, serve Thy Church, and to make Thee known and loved.
Priest: Bless our families, bless our children.
All: Choose from our homes those who are needed for Thy work.
Priest: O Mary, Queen of priestly and religious vocations:
All: Pray for us. Pray for our priests, seminarians and religious. Obtain for us the grace of many more. Amen.
(Please offer your reception of Holy Communion on the first Sunday of the month for vocations)

Prayer of Parents for Priestly and Religious Vocations

O God, grant that at least one of our sons may become a priest or religious brother, and one of our daughters a religious sister. We ourselves want to live as good Christians, and to guide our children always to do what is right, so that we may receive the grace, O God, to be allowed to give Thee a holy priest, brother, or sister! Amen.
(Conclude with an Our Father, Hail Mary and Glory Be)

Music Classes

Give your children the joy of glorifying God through music! Music classes for children at St. Stephen’s will resume the first week of September. Weekly classes are available free of charge for kids at all levels, ages 4 thru high school. We especially invite families who have not previously participated to get involved.
I teach the classes based on the principles of Music Learning Theory, an approach developed by the late great musicologist Edwin Gordon. MLT develops the ability to hear music with understanding, especially through the study of note and rhythm patterns. Classes involve listening, singing, moving in tempo, and practicing the principles of good vocal production. We have lots of fun, but the work is challenging and requires a consistent commitment of time and energy.
While the main purpose of these classes is to prepare young singers for the parish choir, all children can benefit from studying sacred music. For more information or to register, please contact me at (916) 202-0187 or ksmith_writer@yahoo.com
Keven Smith, Choir Director

Food Drive for Brown Bag Lunch

The Knights of Columbus are hosting a food drive for the Brown Bag Lunch project today. If you want to learn more about this program, how our parish is helping to feed the hungry in Sacramento, and how you can be a part of it, please stop by at their table in the courtyard.

Youth Group

The youth group will begin meeting again at St. Stephen’s on September 8, 2017, at 7:30 pm in Classroom 2. Those attending are highly encouraged to attend Mass beforehand. Teenagers aged 14 to 18 are welcome (13 year olds can begin attending the academic semester in which they turn 14).
The group begins with a short meal followed by a talk given by one of the priests. These talks are intended to further the religious formation of the youth and to help prepare them to enter the world as faithful Catholics. After the talk, the evening concludes with a game or activity. Parents are asked to pick up their children no later than 10:15pm.

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

Please Keep in Your Prayers ...
Renee Burns, Barbara Graichen, Sue McGrath, Sandy Sneary, Barbara Jeong, John Newaz, Jim Carlson, Darryl Gallagher, Fr. Goodwin, Margaret Northan, Jean Haun, Sandra De Monaco, Pamela Lewis, Helen DiCarlo, Barbara Cogan , Ramon and Robert Daley, Liz Nicolini, Julie Jeong, William (Pat) Cummings, Lorraine Peterson



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*Mother of Perpetual Help! Thank you
for all the Blessings for our Family!*

PREGNANT? NEED HELP? - Call 1-800-712-HELP

HURTING AFTER ABORTION? - CALL 1-877-HOPE4ME



Saint Stephen

The First Martyr Parish

Served by the Priestly Fraternity of Saint Peter

5461 44th Street,
Sacramento, California 95820
Tel: (916)455-5114
Fax: (916)455-1018

Rev. Fr. John Lyons, F.S.S.P., *Pastor*
Rev. Fr. Joshua Curtis, F.S.S.P., *Parochial Vicar*
Rev. Fr. Dominic Savoie, F.S.S.P., *Parochial Vicar*

www.sacfssp.com

If you wish to receive official notifications from the parish, subscribe to email: ststephenfssp-subscribe@yahoogroups.com

MASS SCHEDULE
TRADITIONAL ROMAN RITE

Sunday: 8:00 a.m. Low Mass
10:30 a.m. High Mass
1:30 p.m. Low Mass
6:00 p.m. Low Mass

Monday: 7:00 a.m. and 12:15 p.m.

Tuesday: 7:00 a.m. and 6:30 p.m.

Wednesday: 7:00 a.m. and 12:15 p.m.

Thursday: 7:00 a.m. and 6:30 p.m.

Friday: 7:00 a.m. and 12:15 p.m. and 6:30 p.m.

Saturday: 7:00 a.m. and 9:00 a.m.

Holy Days: Please call the office or consult the bulletin or website

DEVOTIONS

Rosary:

- Sunday: 7:30 a.m., 10:00 a.m., and after the 1:30 p.m. Mass
- Following the 12:15 p.m. Mass on weekdays

Holy Face Novena: 5:30 p.m. every Tuesday

St. Monica Novena: First Thursday of every month, following the 6:30 p.m. Mass

Our Lady of Perpetual Help Novena: after 6:30 p.m. Mass every Tuesday

Fatima Procession: 13th of every month- May to October - following the 6:30 p.m. Mass on weekdays, the 9:00 a.m. Mass on Saturdays, and the 1 p.m. Mass on Sundays

Men's Holy League: 3rd Wednesday of each month. Holy Hour 7pm—8 pm

Knights of Columbus: 3rd Wednesday of each month, 6 pm

CONFESSION

- One half hour before all Masses
- Saturdays 8:30 a.m. to 10:00 a.m.

EXPOSITION AND BENEDICTION
THE MOST BLESSED SACRAMENT

Thursday: 3:00 p.m. to 6:15 p.m.

Friday: After 6:30 p.m. Mass

Saturday: After 7:00 a.m. to 8:45 a.m. (Holy Hour for Vocations)

First Friday: Benediction after 12:15 p.m. Mass

SICK CALLS

If anyone is in need of the Sacraments (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?

Registration forms are available in the Parish Office or Bookstore.

ENVELOPES AND ON-LINE GIVING

Envelopes are very helpful for our bookkeeping. PLEASE pick them up in the Parish Office or Bookstore.

For on-line giving go to the parish website:
www.sacfssp.com

St. Bernadette Fund – to aid parishioners in need!
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