

**Sunday, November 26, 2017
24th Sunday After Pentecost**



Sun. 26 Nov. 24th Sunday After Pentecost, II Class

8:00 am Liz Nicolini
10:30 am Pro Populo
1:30 pm †Alouis Wiechert
6:00 pm †Enola Wiechert

Mon 27 Nov. Feria, IV Class

7:00 am Liz Nicolini
12:15 pm †Holy Souls

Tues. 28 Nov. Feria, IV Class

7:00 am †Jan Heier
6:30 pm Dolores Villalando

Wed. 29 Nov. Feria, IV Class

7:00 am †Stefanie Freydon
12:15 pm †Debbie Bryant

Thurs. 30 Nov. St. Andrew, Apostle, II Class

7:00 am Randy Mendoza & Family
6:30 pm Al Mendoza & Family

Fri. 1 Dec. Feria, IV Class

7:00 am Mary Ann Carbonell & Family
12:15 pm Angelo Mendoza
6:30 pm Rance Family Benefactors

Sat. 2 Dec. St. Vivian, Virgin & Martyr, III Class

7:00 am Scarry Family
9:00 am Victor C. Pacheco

Sun. 3 Dec. First Sunday of Advent, I Class

8:00 am Suffering Souls in Purgatory
10:30 am Pro Populo
1:30 pm †Sarah Vierra
6:00 pm Alexandra Hardin

...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,
†David Munoz Ortiz, †Paige Langdon, †Francis Hadano,
†Fatima Moitoso, †George Lane

Important Upcoming Dates

Dec. 3—Advent begins
Dec. 8—Feast of the Immaculate Conception—Holy Day
Dec. 12—Feast of Our Lady of Guadalupe
Dec. 16—Rorate Mass
March 20—Confirmation 6:00 pm

The Triumph of Love

The life of the soul which has reached total union may be defined as one simple, continual, most intense exercise of love, by means of which it gives itself to God unceasingly. All its faculties, not only purified, but perfectly harmonized, are wholly employed in the divine service: “Its understanding [the soul] employs in the understanding of those things that pertain most nearly to His service in order to do them; its will, in loving all that pleases God and in having affection of the will for God in all things; and its memory and care in that which pertains to His service and will be most pleasing to Him” (J.C. SC, 28,3). Furthermore, even the sensual part, the body with all its senses, takes part in this magnificent concert of love, so that the soul can truly say that all its “possessions,” that is, all its spiritual and sensitive powers, are completely employed in the service of holy love. “For the body now works according to God; the inward and outward senses are directed toward Him in all their operations and all the four passions of the soul [that is, joy, hope, fear, and sorrow], it likewise keeps bound to God, because it neither has enjoyment save from God, nor has hope save in God, nor fears any save only God, neither does it grieve save according to God; and likewise all its desires and cares are wholly directed to God alone” (*ibid.*, 4).

The loving flame of divine Wisdom has taken possession of this soul to such an extent, has so purified it and made it love God alone, that its whole being and all its faculties vibrate solely for Him, being engaged in nothing except in His service and in giving Him pleasure. It has no craving but for Him, no other desire than to give itself and unite itself to Him in perfect love; hence even the very first movements of this soul are movements of love: “The understanding, the will, and the memory go straightway to God; and the affections, the senses, the desires and appetites, hope, joy, and all the rest of the soul’s possessions are inclined to God from the first moment” (*ibid.*, 5). Love has become the atmosphere in which the soul moves; it has become its breath, its life. The difficult sacrifices, the bitter struggles and renunciations of the past, when its exercise of love consisted “in stripping itself for God’s sake of all that was not God” (J.C. AS II, 5,7), seems to it as nothing now, compared with the great good it has obtained; thus it repeats enraptured: “Everything is little when it is a question of acquiring pure and true love of God” (T.M. Sp).

The love of a soul completely surrendered to God is truly pure love, because it has been purged of the least affection for creatures and of all return on self; it is pure love because it goes straight and swiftly to God through all the circumstances of life, without stopping at anything created. “Love and do what you will,” said St. Augustine; “For the just man there is no law,” wrote St. John of the Cross at the summit of the Mount of Perfection. Far from implying that love dispenses from the observance of the law, from duties and obedience, these words signify rather, that love, when it is truly perfect, replaces and completes all law, having in itself the power to draw the soul to the highest perfection. (*Divine Intimacy* by Fr. Gabriel of St. Mary Magdalen)

From the Pastor

The U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops has declared today (Nov. 26) a day of prayer for persecuted Christians. They have suffered imprisonment, torture, death, and exile simply because they are Christians. A quick internet search reveals that Christians continue to be the most persecuted group around the world. The Italian-based Center for Studies on New Religions, determined that 90,000 Christians were killed for their beliefs worldwide last year and nearly a third were at the hands of Islamic organizations like ISIS. The study also found that as many as 600 million Christians were prevented from practicing their faith in 2016. The Christian population in Iraq alone has fallen from 1.5 million in 2003 to current estimates of 275,000 and could be gone for good within just a few years. North Korea heads the list of countries where the persecution of Christians is the most extreme. Persecution of Christians abounds in most Muslim countries. We are told: “81%, or thirty-six of the forty-four Muslim majority countries, currently maintain either significant social hostilities or government restrictions on religion.” Although not as overt as in some countries, the persecution of Christians also takes place in countries like our own U.S. Christians have been harassed, threatened, taken to court, and sued because they refused to go against their consciences and support “same-sex marriage,” or provide insurance plans for their employees that would allow for the use of contraceptives. We should be grateful that under the present administration in Washington some measures have been taken to protect religious liberty, and more judges protective of the Christian conscience have been appointed. Let us hope that this trend continues.

Mary, help of Christians, pray for us!

Important Message about Offering Envelopes

The use of “offering-envelopes” makes the job of keeping track of your donations for tax purposes much easier; loose checks must be photo copied and recorded.

New envelopes for 2018 are now available to pick up in the vestibule. If you do not see a box with your name on it, it is either because you are not registered or you have not picked up your envelopes for the last two years.

If you would like to have envelopes, please stop by the office/bookstore and fill out a registration form and a box will be given to you.

It is also helpful to the counters if you write the amount on the envelope as the envelopes are used to record your donation.

Thank you for your continued support of our parish!

Prayer to St. Joseph

V. He made him lord of his house.
R. And prince over all his possessions.

Let us pray:

O God, in Thy marvelous providence, Thou hast deigned to choose St. Joseph to be the spouse of Thy most holy Mother. We ask Thee to grant that we may deserve to have him for our intercessor in heaven, whom on earth we venerate as our protector; who livest and reignest forever and ever. Amen.

Around the Parish

Congratulations to Charlie & Christine Watts on the birth of their 5th child, Catharina Therese! Catharina was baptized on November 25th.

Pilgrim Virgin Statue - If you would like to have our Blessed Mother’s image spend a week with you in your home, sign up in the book store. First come, first served! You may pickup the statue on one Sunday and return it the next. By taking the image you’re agreeing to pray a family Rosary daily for the duration of the visit.

Registration for 1st Communion class is open for children of parishioners who will be 7 by June 1st. Forms are available in the office or bookstore. Classes begin in January. A copy of the child’s baptism certificate must accompany the registration.

Christmas Novena

Recite this prayer 15 times a day from November 30, the feast of St. Andrew, until Christmas.

Hail and blessed be the hour and moment in which the Son of God was born of the most pure Virgin Mary at midnight, in Bethlehem, in the piercing cold, in that hour vouchsafe, I beseech Thee, O my God, to hear my prayer and grant my desires, **[here mention your request]** through the merits of Our Savior Jesus Christ and of His blessed Mother. Amen.

FSSP Calendars and Ordos

FSSP calendars and ordos are available to purchase in our bookstore.

Also available are Advent supplies; candles, wreaths and books.

**Chesteron Society Meeting:
December 12th at 7:30pm**

We will meet in one of the classrooms right after the 6:30 pm Mass.

We will discuss chapter 3 of *St. Francis of Assisi* “Francis the Fighter.”

All are welcome!

St. Francis Xavier Mission Trips

This year there will be four trips: two in Mexico (Holy Week and July), one in Peru, and one in the Dominican Republic. Registration is now open via the website www.sfxmission.com

Please Keep in Your Prayers ...

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, John Testa, Mike Trainor, Michael Cuellar, Alice Smith, Patricia Quinn, William Eckerman



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If you wish to receive official notifications from the parish, subscribe to email: ststephenfssp-subscribe@yahoo.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!
 Donations may be made on-line.