

**Sunday, February 18, 2018
First Sunday of Lent**



- Sun. 18 Feb. First Sunday of Lent, I Class**
8:00 am President Trump & His Family
10:30 am Pro Populo
1:30 pm Christine & Charlie Watts & Family
6:00 pm Suffering Souls in Purgatory
- Mon 19 Feb. Feria of Lent, III Class**
7:00 am Claudia Nuno
12:15 pm Oscar Nuno
- Tues. 20 Feb. Feria of Lent, III Class**
7:00 am Ana, Aurora, & Ted McGrath
6:30 pm Alexander McCluskey
- Wed. 21 Feb. Ember Wednesday of Lent, II Class**
7:00 am †Christopherson Cortes
12:15 pm Anne Marie Reslock
- Thurs. 22 Feb. Chair of St. Peter, I Class**
7:00 am Intentions of CSP
6:30 pm Intentions of CSP
- Fri. 23 Feb. Ember Friday of Lent, II Class**
7:00 am Elias Sandoval & Family
12:15 pm Anne Josephine Culbreath
6:30 pm †George Lane
- Sat. 24 Feb. St. Matthias, II Class**
7:00 am Kelly & Jenny Haverty
9:00 am Dianna Dao & Family
- Sun. 25 Feb. Second Sunday of Lent, I Class**
8:00 am Jessie & Lia Gardea
10:30 am Pro Populo
1:30 pm Barbara Dittmer
6:00 pm Bernadette Meauzé

...In Memoriam

†Fatima Moitoso, †George Lane

Important Upcoming Dates

Feb. 20—Preparation for Marian Consecration begins
Feb. 22—Chair of St. Peter
March 8-10 Lenten Mission
March 19—Feast of St. Joseph
March 20—Confirmation 6:00 pm
March 25—Marian Consecration
April 1—Easter Sunday

Examination of Conscience

To insure an orderly and progressive growth in the spiritual life, *we must know ourselves*. We have to consider our sins, our weak points, our evil tendencies, as well as the progress we have already made, the favorable results we have attained, and our inclinations to good. This knowledge of our interior state is obtained through the *examination of conscience*. The examen considered in this way becomes one of the most important exercises of the spiritual life, since its object is to help the soul to rid itself of everything that might obstruct or delay its journey to God, and to stimulate it to quicken its pace toward Him. Just as we cannot wage war with an unknown enemy, or make conquest of an unknown region, in the same way it is impossible to fight the evil in ourselves if we have not previously identified it. We can never attain sanctity if we have not looked for an efficacious means of acquiring it. In other words, the examination of conscience attains its end when the soul who has faithfully practiced this exercise can say to itself: these are the inclinations which I must watch more carefully to avoid falling into sin; these, the weak points which I must strengthen; these are the virtues that I must practice most of all. In this way the soul will be able to formulate practical, firm resolutions which will then become the special subject of its subsequent examinations.

It is clear that we must first recognize and combat any tendencies which could lead us to mortal sin, but then, those that could bring us to venial sin or to simple voluntary imperfections must be similarly treated. Everything that constitutes a deliberate fault must be progressively and energetically rooted out of the soul which aspires to divine union.

Instead of trying to seek out all the faults it has committed, the soul living an interior life—one we assume to be free by now from mortal sin—should fix its attention on the degree to which its faults have been voluntary, even in the case of slight imperfections, because it is these deliberate faults that present the greatest obstacle to spiritual progress and to union with God. The soul must carefully investigate the cause of and the motive for these failures. It must realize that while its exterior faults are of various kinds—faults against charity, for example, or patience, or obedience, or sincerity—all of them, nevertheless, have one and the same cause, one common root which may be, for example, pride or sloth. It is precisely against this root of our sins and imperfections that we must direct our efforts, not simply to lessen it by mortification, but rather to fight it directly by the increase of the opposite virtues in ourselves. In other words, we must struggle against our dominant passion or fault; this is very important, for by aiming to destroy the evil at its root, we eliminate at the same time many actual faults. (*Divine Intimacy* Fr. Gabriel of St. Mary Magdalen)

From the Pastor

If we aren't doing it already, we need to pray hard for the success of the midterm elections that will take place in November of this year, and we need to get others to pray. There is a cultural war going on in our county between those who promote traditional Christian values and those who promote the contrary. It's really a war between good and evil. Those who promote evil (e.g., abortion, "same-sex marriage," transgenderism, assisted suicide, religious intolerance, socialism, etc.) often attempt to intimidate those who promote the good by telling them: "Don't force your morality upon us." They, on the other hand, have no inhibitions about forcing their immorality upon everyone else. There can be no compromise between the two groups. If we want the good to prevail we must use every legitimate means to bring it about. Prayer is first, of course. We especially recommend attendance at Mass as often as possible and the praying of the Rosary daily. Something else many of can do is to vote for candidates who will best uphold traditional Christian values. We need to get the message out to people that the best candidates are not those who promise financial security; but, rather, those who will uphold traditional Christian moral values. And, by the way, upholding traditional Christian moral values is the best way to ensure financial security, as well.

Fridays During Lent

- **Stations of the Cross** - After the 12:15 Mass and 6:30 pm Mass
- **Soup Supper** - after evening Stations of the Cross. For more information or how to help out, call the Strandhagens at 425-919-6572.

40 Days for Life

40 Days for Life prayer vigil from 8 am to 6 pm Monday—Friday until March 25th. For more info see 40daysforlife.com/sacramento.

Fr. Lyons will be at the abortion site every Friday at 10 am throughout the 40 Days. Please join him to pray at 2322 Butano Drive, Sacramento.

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.

Study Sacred Scripture with Fr. Savoie

Thursdays in February @ 7:30 pm Classroom 2

**The Book of Job
Part 1 : Into the Dark**

Around the Parish

Congratulations to Joey & Carolina Dichoso on the birth of their 3rd child, Mateus Ferazza! Mateus was baptized at St. Stephen's on February 11.

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.

2018 Sacred Liturgy Conference

Schola Cantus Angelorum is pleased to announce the sixth annual Sacred Liturgy Conference to be held in Salem, Oregon, June 27-30, 2018. The theme is "**Transfiguration in the Eucharist**" and will focus on the Eucharist as the way of beholding Jesus in His glory.

Special guest speakers will include **Bishop Athanasius Schneider** from Astana, Kazakhstan, **Rev. Cassian Folsom, OSB** from Norcia, Italy, **Bishop James Conley** from Lincoln, NE and many other distinguished presenters.

The Sacred Liturgy Conference is open to anyone interested in the treasures of the Catholic Faith, and promises to be intellectually, liturgically, and spiritually enriching.

Come join us by registering early at www.sacredliturgyconference.org as seating is limited. **Early Bird Special runs through March 1, 2018**

Marian Consecration

Preparation will begin on Tuesday, Feb. 20, for those who would like to consecrate themselves (or, to renew their consecration) to Jesus through Mary according to the method of St. Louis de Montfort. A sermon will be preached on some aspect of the consecration every Tuesday at the 6:30 p.m. Mass until the consecration is made on Palm Sunday, March 25. Why March 25th? March 25th is the feast of the Annunciation, the day God entrusted Himself to the care of the Blessed Virgin Mary. However, because it falls on Palm Sunday this year, it won't be celebrated liturgically until after Easter.

Extra Confession Times During Lent

Throughout Lent, the priests of St. Stephen's will make themselves available to hear confessions from 6 p.m. to 7:30 p.m., Monday through Saturday. Please spread the word to those who do not come regularly to St. Stephen's, but would like to go to confession.

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, William (Pat) Cummings, Lorraine Peterson,
John Testa, Mike Trainor, Michael Cuellar, Alice Smith,
Patricia Quinn, William Eckerman, Mitzi Vandenburg,
Richard Cummings, Nellie Reyes, Gretchen Medel,
Dario Gonzalez



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@ 6:00 pm

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5461 44th Street,
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 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@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

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

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.

St. Bernadette Fund – to aid parishioners in need!
 Donations may be made on-line.