

Sunday, March 11, 2018
Fourth Sunday of Lent
(Laetare Sunday)



Sun. 11 Mar. **Fourth Sunday of Lent, I Class**
8:00 am O'Reba Travao
10:30 am Pro Populo
1:30 pm Norman LeClair
6:00 pm Tim McGlathery

Mon. 12 Mar. **Feria of Lent, III Class**
7:00 am †Carol Lawless
12:15 pm St. Stephen's Parishioners

Tues. 13 Mar. **Feria of Lent, III Class**
7:00 am In Honor of the Precious Blood
6:30 pm Alexander McCluskey

Wed. 14 Mar. **Feria of Lent, III Class**
7:00 am Pope Francis
12:15 pm President Trump

Thurs. 15 Mar. **Feria of Lent, III Class**
7:00 am FSSP Priests
6:30 pm Olapeju Adesanya

Fri. 16 Mar. **Feria of Lent, III Class**
7:00 am †Carol Engel D'Amico
12:15 pm †Donald Cools
6:30 pm Judy Schumacher

Sat. 17 Mar. **St. Patrick, I Class**
7:00 am Rose Wedinsky
9:00 am †Maria Mortoro

Sun. 18 Mar. **Passion Sunday, I Class**
8:00 am †Theodore D'Amico
10:30 am Pro Populo
1:30 pm Barbara Ryan
6:00 pm †Paul Garcia

...In Memoriam

†Fatima Moitoso, †George Lane

Important Upcoming Dates

March 17—St. Patrick co-patron of the diocese
March 19—Feast of St. Joseph
March 20—Confirmation 6:00 pm
March 25—Marian Consecration
March 29—Holy Thursday
April 1—Easter Sunday
May 5—First Communion

Difficulties in Obedience

Although obedience is precious because it places our whole life in God's will, nevertheless, in practice it has its difficulties and these arise chiefly because the command itself does not come directly from God but through His representatives. Thus it often happens that we fail to see God in our superiors and to recognize His authority in them. For example, when, as often happens in religious life, we have as our superior a former colleague or perhaps even a former pupil, younger and less experienced than we, one whose weaknesses and defects we know only too well, we could easily be tempted to have insufficient respect for his authority and his commands. Then a life of obedience becomes especially difficult: it is hard for us to obey, we do not have recourse to the superior with childlike trust, and what is worse, we justify this attitude to ourselves. Here we are making a great mistake in perspective; we forget that, no matter who the superior is, he is invested with authority which comes from God, authority placed on him solely because he has been called to this office. This authority is unchangeable and has the same force whether the superior is old or young, experienced and virtuous or inexperienced and less virtuous. Basically, if we find ourselves in these difficulties, we must lay the blame on our lack of a supernatural spirit, a spirit of faith. We are judging spiritual matters according to natural standards and from the point of view of human values, which makes it impossible for us to live a life of real obedience, a life entirely based on supernatural values and motives. We must learn how to rise above human views concerning the person of our superior—his good qualities or his faults, his actions in the past, and so forth—to look upon him only as the representative of God and of His divine authority. It is true, we often find it absolutely necessary to use all our strength and efforts to do this if we do not wish to lose the fruit of a life of obedience. It is certain that the more we force ourselves to see in our superiors the authority which comes from God, so much the more perfect and meritorious our obedience will be, and God Himself will guide us through them.

Very often, if not always, a want of supernatural spirit is accompanied by a want of humility. It is painful to self-love to depend upon and submit to others; it is hard to subject our own affairs to the judgment and rule of someone else and to acquiesce to his decisions. It is particularly difficult if the superior seems to be, at least in some respects, our inferior in age, culture, experience, or ability; then the "ego," its pride hurt, rebels vigorously, hiding its resistance under a thousand excuses. This, too, is a grave error because, although it is true that the superior may be our inferior in some ways, we must not consider this, but only the fact that he is always superior in relation to us—because God has made him so. (*Divine Intimacy* Fr. Gabriel of St. Mary Magdalen)

From the Pastor

There are a few practical things I would like to mention just to help us all get along a little better here at church. First, while Mass is going on, the bathrooms should only be used in emergency situations. The constant flow into and out of the church by children going to the bathroom is distracting to many. Sometimes it's the same child going in and out. It may be helpful to have children use the bathroom before entering the church. Once they've entered the church for Mass it should be understood that they are not to leave unless it's very urgent. This doesn't apply to infants and very small children who may have to be taken out when they cry or are very restless.

Second, before you leave the church, please make sure the hymnals are neatly put back in their places, and that any articles you brought in with you are taken out (for example, bulletins, tissues, etc.). This will reduce the ushers work in making sure the church is ready for the next Mass. Third, if you use a table in the hall, please clean it well when you leave and straighten the chairs, mindful of the next person who will be using it. A broom and dustpan may be found near the west door exit if it's necessary to sweep up spills.

Finally, a reminder to not let children run anywhere but in the playground area and on the field. Our older parishioners fear being run into and possibly knocked down. There's also more danger to the children themselves when they're running in congested areas. Thank you for cooperation!

St. Joseph's Feast Day

On Monday, March 19, there will be a 6:30 p.m. High Mass to celebrate St. Joseph's feast day. After Mass, you are invited to the hall for a traditional **St. Joseph's Table, "La Tavola di San Giuseppe."** Some food and beverage will be provided, but we invite you to help out by bringing a simple dessert treat, i.e. cookies, biscotti, cannoli, etc. - these can delivered anytime after noon on Sunday, Mar. 18, the day before, or before the evening Mass on Monday, Mar. 19.

We will also need help baking bread to adorn the St. Joseph's Table altar as well as with set up the day before and on the feast day itself. If you are interested, please contact Larry White at 916-296-2088 or email at: lwhite@mcn.org.

Chesterton Society Meeting
March 13th at 7:30pm -

We will discuss "Saint Francis of Assisi chapter VI: "The Little Poor Man."

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.

Around the Parish

Congratulations Jesus & Selene Molina on the birth of their 5th child, Fatima Marina! Fatima was baptized at St. Stephen's on February 26th.

Congratulations to Matthew & Susan Frederes on the birth of their 11th child, Madeleine Therese! Madeleine was baptized at St. Stephen's on February 28th.

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.

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.

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.

Marian Consecration

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.

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, Helen DiCarlo, Barbara Cogan, Ramon and Robert Daley, Liz Nicolini, William (Pat) Cummings, Lorraine Peterson, John Testa, Michael Cuellar, Alice Smith, Patricia Quinn, William Eckerman, Mitzi Vandenburg, Richard Cummings, Nellie Reyes, Gretchen Medel, Dario Gonzalez, Rick Rabenau



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 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

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.

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

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.