


SAINT STEPHEN THE FIRST MARTYR ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH



PARISH INFORMATION	SACRAMENTS	DEVOTIONS
<p style="text-align: center;"><b>PARISH OFFICE</b></p> <p><b>Email</b>      stephenproto@yahoo.com  <b>Website</b>      www.sacfssp.com  <b>Phone</b>      916-455-5114  <b>Fax</b>      916-455-1018  <b>Address</b>      5461 44<sup>th</sup> Street                               Sacramento, CA 95820</p> <p><b>Bookstore</b>      916-223-3112</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>PRIESTS</b></p> <p>Fr. Joshua Curtis, FSSP      <i>Pastor</i>          frcurtis@fssp.com</p> <p>Fr. Dominic Savoie, FSSP      <i>Par. Vicar</i>          frsavoie@fssp.com</p> <p>Fr. Graham Latimer, FSSP      <i>Par. Vicar</i>          frlatimer@fssp.com</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>STAFF</b></p> <p>Tish Gallagher      <i>Parish Secretary</i>          stephenproto@yahoo.com</p> <p>Keven Smith      <i>Choirmaster</i>          ksmith_writer@yahoo.com</p> <p>Kelly Mantsch      <i>Parish Bookkeeper</i>          ststephenbusinessoffice@gmail.com</p> <p>Barbara Cristi      <i>Parish Assistant</i></p> <p>Junior Solorio      <i>Maintenance</i></p> <p>Edward Wedinsky      <i>Maintenance</i></p> <p>Francis Dugyon      <i>Sacristan</i></p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>MASS SCHEDULE</b></p> <p><b>Sunday</b>      8:00 am, 10:30 am (High),                               1:30 pm &amp; 6:00 pm</p> <p><b>Monday</b>      7:00 am &amp; 12:15 pm</p> <p><b>Tuesday</b>      7:00 am &amp; 6:30 pm</p> <p><b>Wednesday</b> 7:00 am &amp; 12:15 pm</p> <p><b>Thursday</b>      7:00 am &amp; 6:30 pm</p> <p><b>Friday</b>      7:00 am, 12:15 &amp; 6:30 pm</p> <p><b>Saturday</b>      7:00 am &amp; 9:00 am</p> <p><b>Holy Day</b>      Check bulletin.</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>CONFESSIONS</b></p> <p><b>Everyday</b>      Thirty minutes prior to                               all Masses.</p> <p><b>Saturday</b>      8:30 am - 10:00 am</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>BAPTISMS &amp; WEDDINGS</b></p> <p>Contact the Parish Office.</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>SICK CALLS</b></p> <p>Call the Parish Office to schedule a home visit for the Sacraments.</p> <p><b>If someone is dying</b>, outside of office hours, dial <b>916-455-5114</b>, then press <b>1</b>. You will be transferred immediately to the priest-on-call.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>EXPOSITION &amp; BENEDICTION</b></p> <p>Thursday      3:00 pm - 6:15 pm      First Friday      After the 12:15 pm      Friday      After the 6:30 pm      Saturday      7:45 am - 8:45 am</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>THE HOLY ROSARY</b></p> <p>Sunday      7:30 am, 10:00 am,                               2:30 pm, 5:30 pm      Weekdays      After the 12:15 pm</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>OUR LADY OF PERPETUAL HELP</b></p> <p>Tuesday      After the 6:30 pm</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>SAINT MONICA SODALITY</b></p> <p>First Thursday      After the 6:30 pm</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>FATIMA PROCESSION</b></p> <p>The 13<sup>th</sup> of every month from May to October. See bulletin announcements for times.</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>MEN'S HOLY LEAGUE</b></p> <p>Third Wednesday          7:00 pm Holy Hour, lecture &amp; food</p>
<p style="text-align: center;"><b>STAYING CONNECTED</b></p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>THE FSSP</b></p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>DONATIONS</b></p>
<p style="text-align: center;"><b>PARISH ONLINE NEWSLETTER</b></p> <p>To receive the bulletin and important announcements online, call the Parish Office to register.</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>NEW PARISHIONERS</b></p> <p>Registration forms are available in the Parish Office or Bookstore.</p>	<p>St. Stephen the First Martyr is a personal parish of the Diocese of Sacramento. It is served by priests of the <b>Priestly Fraternity of St. Peter</b>.</p> <p style="text-align: center;"></p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>ST. BERNADETTE FUND</b></p> <p>Please consider giving to those in need. Donations can be made online or in the Parish Office.</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>ONLINE GIVING</b></p> <p>Available at the parish website.          www.sacfssp.com</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">Envelopes are very helpful for our bookkeeping. Please pick them up in the Parish Office or Bookstore.</p>		

LITURGICAL CALENDAR



10 February 2019  
5<sup>th</sup> Sunday After Epiphany

<b>Sun. 10 Feb.</b>	<b>5<sup>th</sup> Sunday After Epiphany, II</b>
8:00 am	FSSP Priests
10:30 am	Pro Populo
1:30 pm	Elizabeth G. Scott
6:00 pm	†Paul Moran
<b>Mon. 11 Feb.</b>	<b>Our Lady of Lourdes, III</b>
7:00 am	Alexander McCluskey
12:15 pm	Lisa Juarez
<b>Tu. 12 Feb.</b>	<b>Seven Holy Servite Founders, Conf., III</b>
7:00 am	Emmanuel Romero
6:30 pm	Paul & Melanie Baccay
<b>Wed. 13 Feb.</b>	<b>Feria, IV</b>
7:00 am	†Dr. Gerald Foy
12:15 pm	José & Ana Garcia & Family
<b>Th. 14 Feb.</b>	<b>St. Valentine, Priest &amp; Martyr, IV</b>
7:00 am	†Ben Harling
6:30 pm	Renee Ribal
<b>Fri. 15 Feb.</b>	<b>Feria, IV</b>
7:00 am	†Loretta Bayly
12:15 pm	Bryan & Cecilia Castillo
6:30 pm	†Maria Lo Presti
<b>Sat. 16 Feb.</b>	<b>Saturday of Our Lady, IV</b>
7:00 am	†Incarnation Pigao
9:00 am	Rosa Garcia

PLEASE KEEP IN YOUR PRAYERS

Barbara Graichen, Sandy Sneary, Johan Newaz, Jim Carlson, Darryl Gallagher, Fr. Goodwin, Margaret Northan, Jean Haun, Helen DiCarlo, Barbara Cogan, Ramon & Robert Daley, Liz Nicolini, William Cummings, Lorraine Peterson, John Testa, Mitzi Vandenburg, Richard Cummings, Gretchen Medel, Dario Gonzalez, Rick Rabenau, Holly Hollingsworth, Michael Cuellar, Ken Taylor, Michelle di Giovanni, Barbara Jeong, Carol Cummings, Joan Rutschow, Patricia Quinn, Gordon Adler, Rogelio Mendoza

PARISH GROUPS

<b>Altar Guild</b> .....	Mike Solton
<i>Boys 10 - 18, Third Saturday</i>	916-832-2859
<b>Choir &amp; Music Classes</b> .....	Keven Smith
<i>Youth &amp; Adults, Sun. &amp; Wed.</i>	ksmith_writer@yahoo.com
<b>Sodality of the BVM</b> .....	Amy Rutschow
<i>Girls 14 - 18, First Saturday</i>	916-340-5782
<b>Rosa Mystica</b> .....	Sue McGrath
<i>Girls 9 - 13, First Saturday</i>	916-531-3946
<b>Little Flowers</b> .....	Katie Scarry
<i>Girls 5 - 8, First Saturday</i>	530-945-6947
<b>Bible Study</b> .....	Fr. Dominic Savoie, FSSP
<i>Adults, Thursday</i>	frsavoie@fssp.com
<b>OLSW Co-op</b> .....	Keetje Terzo
<i>Ages 14 - 18, Tuesday &amp; Thursday</i>	kterzo@hotmail.com
<b>CCM Co-op</b> .....	Krista Williams
<i>Ages 3 - 14, Friday</i>	916-955-6437
<b>Youth Group</b> .....	Liz Hernandez
<i>Ages 14 - 18, Second &amp; Fourth Friday</i>	916-396-4062
<b>Chesterton Society</b> .....	Spencer Roundtree
<i>Adults, Second Tuesday</i>	sac.chesterton@gmail.com
<b>Knights of Columbus, Council #16419</b> .....	Mike McVean
<i>Adult men, Third Wednesday</i>	916-747-3021
<b>Holy League</b> .....	Mike Rund
<i>Adult men, Third Wednesday</i>	916-218-0096
<b>Altar Linen &amp; Flowers Society</b> .....	Tomoko McDonough
<i>Adult women, Third Saturday</i>	mcdonoughmommy6@gmail
<b>Church Flowers</b> .....	Greta Munsill
<i>Friday</i>	916-425-7112
<b>Church Cleaning</b> .....	Eli Gonzalez
<i>Thursday</i>	916-395-7408
<b>Ushers</b> .....	Patrick Risse
<i>Sunday</i>	patrickgeraldrisse@gmail.com
<b>Coffee &amp; Donuts</b> .....	Liz Hernandez
<i>Sunday</i>	916-396-4062
<b>Collection Count Crew</b> .....	Kelly Manstch
<i>Monday</i>	Parish Office 916-451-5114
<b>Brown Bag Lunch Program</b> .....	Maureen Olguin
<i>Sunday</i>	jmolguin5960@att.net
<b>St. Vincent de Paul Society</b> .....	William Giovannetti
<i>First &amp; Third Sunday</i>	916-531-4730
<b>Security</b> .....	Patrick Clemons
<i>Parish Events</i>	916-717-0244

IN MEMORIAM

Barbara Lyons, Norman Sayles, Penny Hummell, Charles Bardin, Shawn Williams, Marcial Cristi, Louise Szabo, Gerald Foy, Mieczysław Jasinski, Joseph Murphy, Olapeju Adesanya, Alice O'Kane, Willard Coillot, Audrey Kasak

## FROM THE PASTOR

### THE GIFT OF FILIAL ADOPTION

*The Christian Faith: the only valid and the only God-willed religion* by Bishop Athanasius Schneider

The Truth of the filial adoption in Christ, which is intrinsically supernatural, constitutes the synthesis of the entire Divine Revelation. Being adopted by God as sons is always a gratuitous gift of grace, the most sublime gift of God to mankind. One obtains it, however, only through a personal faith in Christ and through the reception of baptism, as the Lord himself taught: "Truly, truly, I say to you, unless one is born of water and the Spirit, he cannot enter the kingdom of God. That which is born of the flesh is flesh, and that which is born of the Spirit is spirit. Do not marvel that I said to you, 'You must be born again.'" (John 3: 5-7).

In the past decades one often heard – even from the mouth of some representatives of the Church's hierarchy – statements about the theory of "anonymous Christians." This theory says the following: The mission of the Church in the world would consist ultimately in raising the awareness that all men must have of their salvation in Christ and consequently of their filial adoption in Christ. Since, according to the same theory, every human being possesses already the sonship of God in the depth of his personality. Yet, such a theory contradicts directly Divine Revelation, as Christ taught it and His Apostles and the Church over two thousand years always transmitted it unchangingly and without a shadow of a doubt.

In his essay "The Church, consisting of Jews and Gentiles" (Die Kirche aus Juden und Heiden) Erik Peterson, the well-known convert and exegete, long since (in 1933) warned against the danger of such a theory, when he affirmed that one cannot reduce being a Christian ("Christsein") to the natural order, in which the fruits of the redemption achieved by Jesus Christ would be generally imputed to every human being as a kind of heritage, solely because he would share human nature with the incarnated Word. However, filial adoption in Christ is not an automatic result, guaranteed through belonging to the human race.

Saint Athanasius (cf. Oratio contra Arianos II, 59) left us a simple and at the same time an apt explanation of the difference between the natural state of men as God's creatures and the glory of being a son of God in Christ. Saint Athanasius derives his explanation from the words of the holy Gospel according to John, that say: "He gave them power to be made the sons of God, to them that believe in his name. Who are born, not of blood, nor of the will of the flesh, nor of the will of man, but of God" (John 1: 12-13). John uses the expression "they are born" to say

that men become sons of God not by nature, but by adoption. This shows the love of God, that He Who is their creator becomes then through grace also their Father. This happens when, as the Apostle says, men receive in their hearts the Spirit of the Incarnated Son, Who cries in them: "Abba, Father!" Saint Athanasius continues his explanation saying, that as created beings, men can become sons of God in no other manner than through faith and baptism, when they receive the Spirit of the natural and true Son of God. Precisely for that reason the Word became flesh, to make men capable of adoption as sons of God and of participation in the Divine nature. Consequently, by nature God is not in the proper sense the Father of all human beings. Only if someone consciously accepts Christ and is baptized, will he be able to cry in truth: "Abba, Father" (Rom. 8: 15; Gal. 4: 6).

... to be continued

### IMPORTANT DATES

Mar. 6	Ash Wednesday
Mar. 16	Confirmations
Mar. 24-29	Parish Mission: Fr. Francisco Nahoe
May 4	First Holy Communion
May 11	Great Marian Procession
June 16-22	Camp Sacred Heart
July 21-25	Parish Retreat

### ANNOUNCEMENTS

**Donor Acknowledgment Letters (i.e. tax letters)** are available in the Parish Bookstore or Office.

**7 Steps to Becoming Financially Free.** Next session is this Tues, Feb. 12 at 7:30 pm, in Classroom 2.

**Altar Guild** meets this Saturday, starting with 9:00 am Mass. Do please attend Mass with your guild members!

**Rosary for Priests.** Join other parishioners in praying fifteen decades of the Rosary for the sanctification of priests on the last Saturday of every month. First meeting will be in the Church at 10:00 am on Sat., Feb. 23. Booklets will be available. For details speak with Bernadette Meauze or Barbara Dittmer. Phone: 530-758-4740.

**Parish Mission.** I'm pleased to announce that Fr. Francisco Nahoe, OFM Conv., will be giving a parish mission during the Third Week of Lent this year, from Mar. 24 to 29. Details and scheduling will be available soon.

**Parish Retreat.** There are already over thirty people registered for the summer retreat (July 21-25); slots are filling up quickly. If you intend on attending the retreat, please sign up soon so as to secure a room for yourself!



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