

ST. STEPHEN PARISH COMMUNITY

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FOURTH SUNDAY OF LENT



**For everyone who does wicked things hates the light
and does not come towards the light (John 3:20)**

STAFF:

Rev. Francisco J. Anzoátegui, Pastor
Rev. Andrew T. Grelak, Senior Priest

Deacon: Alfredo Nieves

Deacon: Francisco Eli Mesa

Deacon: Hugo Ochoa Rodriguez

Deacon Seminarian: Luis Marquez

Deacon Emeritus: Pedro L. Torres

Music Director: Kim Lisbon and Fito Alvarado

Religious Education Coordinator: James J. Drummey

Assistant Coordinator & Sacristan: Maria M. Nieves

Mass Media Coordinators: Osvaldo & Margarita Calderon

Parish Secretary: Maria M. Nieves

Financial Manager: Mrs. Helena Siciliano

Chairman Finance Council: Kevin Convery

Cemetery Director: Joseph Viel, CSI

WEEKEND MASSES:

Saturday: 4 p.m. (English) - 7 p.m. (Spanish)

Sunday: 9:00 a.m. (English) - 10:30 a.m. and 12:30 p.m. (Spanish)

WEEKDAY MASSES:

Monday to Saturday: 8 a.m.

Wednesday: 7 p.m. (in Spanish)

HOLY DAY MASSES: As announced

Confessions:

Thursdays, 4:00 to 5:00 p.m.

Saturdays, 2:30 to 3:30 p.m.

Or by appointment

March 10, 2024



Mass Intentions for March 9 through March 16

Saturday, March 9

8:00 A.M. Wladyslawa Lezanska, Health / Blessings
4:00 P.M. Stella Trottier, Birthday Blessings
7:00 P.M. Maria Tarcila Roca, Memorial and
Jose Febus and Hilda Martinez, Memorial

Sunday, March 10

9:00 A.M. Andrew (Andy) LaVallee, Memorial
10:30 A.M. Hilda R. Martinez, Memorial
Maria and Emma Arevalo, Memorial
Maria and Carlos Aquino, Memorial
Emmanuel Aquino, Memorial
12:30 P.M. Francisco Escalante, Birthday Blessings
Raul Molina, Memorial
Miguel Molina, Memorial
Juana Tibon Lombo, Memorial

Monday, March 11

8:00 A.M. Stanley Jakubiak, Memorial
12:10 P.M. Anthony Saizon, Health and Blessings

Tuesday, March 12

8:00 A.M. Marian Karpierz, Memorial
12:10 P.M. Ricardo and Martha Emilia Anzoátegui,
Memorial

Wednesday, March 13

8:00 A.M. Living and Deceased Parishioners of St.
Stephen Parish
12:10 P.M. Carol Chopiga, 10th Anniversary Memorial
7:00 P.M. Emma Gomez Lopez, Health and Blessings

Thursday, March 14

8:00 A.M. Józef and Alexandra Karpierz, Memorial
12:10 P.M. Holy Souls in Purgatory

Friday, March 15

8:00 A.M. Estafania Karpierz, God's Health and
Blessings
12:10 P.M. Nan Convery and Mike McInerney,
Wedding Anniversary Blessings

Saturday, March 16

8:00 A.M. Fr. Paco, Health and Birthday Blessings
4:00 P.M. Jim Murphy, Memorial
7:00 P.M. Cayetana Rivera, Memorial

The Sacrament of Reconciliation

One of the greatest blessings the Lord left for His Church is the Sacrament of Reconciliation or Confession. Saint Faustina used to say: "Never be afraid to throw your sins into the vast ocean of God's Divine Mercy." You will see on the front page the times for Confession. Please take advantage of these opportunities and **make a good Confession.**



Rose for Life Intentions



The Roses for Life are sponsored this week in honor of **Lima Cardona** by **Mariela Grellana**, in honor of the growth in faith of the **Lima-Cabrera family** by **Maryolin Lima**, for birthday blessings for **Jane Bilis** by **grandparents Joe and Rachel Previte**, and for healing for **Bob and Dave Drummey, Kate Roach, and Lorraine Moriarity** by **Jim Drummey.**

Our Lenten Opportunities

Morning Mass in Church at 8:00 a.m.
Noon Mass in Church at 12:10 p.m.

Fridays — Stations of the Cross in English at 12:40 p.m.
Stations of the Cross in Spanish at 7:00 p.m.



Mass and Healing Service This Monday Night!

"Come to me, all you who are weary and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest!" (Mt 11:28).

You are all invited to lay down at the feet of Jesus

all your fears, anxiety, and pain. Take this opportunity to bring family and friends to this most inspiring Healing Service; they will be forever grateful to you.

Be part of our bi-monthly Healing Service this Monday night, March 11th, at 7:00 p.m. in the church. All are welcome!

SPIRITUAL CHANGE DURING LENT

It is urgent that we return to the pristine spirit of the **Great Fast**, which is so badly needed in our materialistic world. Listed below are suggested practices that may be used along with your usual Lenten family penances.

- **Avoid TV or videos; instead, read the Passion of Christ or another spiritual book.**
- **Take less of what you like and more of what you dislike at meals.**
- **Don't make any complaints for a whole day.**
- **Restrain any anger and go out of your way to be kind to the person who caused your anger.**
- **Avoid any gossip today; instead, say a rosary.**
- **Practice humility today in all your actions.**
- **Do a job that needs to be done without being asked.**

Reasons to Go to Confession

- **"Your sins are forgiven, go in peace."** These are the most beautiful words you will ever hear.
- Be strong, deal with your sins, and then move on.
- As the Lord told the prophet Isaiah: "Come now, let us set things right. Though your sins be like scarlet, they may become white as snow; though they be crimson red, they may become white as wool" (Isaiah 1:18).
- There is nothing you can tell the priest that he has not heard before, and he cannot tell anyone what you have confessed.
- If you are hoping to convert on your deathbed, that's not very likely. It is more likely that you will die as you lived.
- Don't be scared to death of Confession; be scared of death without Confession.
- Love means having to say you are sorry to the one you love, in this case, God.



But he who acts in truth comes into the light to make clear that his deeds are done in God (John 3:21).

Readings for Week of March 10, 2024

Sunday:	2 Chr 36:14-16, 19-23/Ps 137:1-2, 3, 4-5, 6 (6ab)/Eph 2:4-10/Jn 3:14-21
Monday:	Is 65:17-21/Ps 30:2 and 4, 5-6, 11-12a and 13b/Jn 4:43-54
Tuesday:	Ez 47:1-9, 12/Ps 46:2-3, 5-6, 8-9/Jn 5:1-16
Wednesday:	Is 49:8-15/Ps 145:8-9, 13-14, 17-18/Jn 5:17-30
Thursday:	Ex 32:7-14/Ps 106:19-20, 21-22, 23/Jn 5:31-47
Friday:	Wis 2:1a, 12-22/Ps 34:17-18, 19-20, 21 and 23/Jn 7:1-2, 10, 25-30
Saturday:	Jer 11:18-20/Ps 7:2-3, 9bc-10, 11-12/Jn 7:40-53
Next Sunday:	Jer 31:31-34/Ps 51:3-4, 12-13, 14-15 (12a)/Heb 5:7-9/Jn 12:20-33

Examination of Conscience Before Confession

There are those who have not been to Confession in a long time because they do not think they have committed any sins. In this and future bulletins, we will look at some violations of the Ten Commandments that ought to be confessed. This summary is based on a Marian Press pamphlet entitled "How to Make a Good Confession."

5. You shall not kill. Have I loved my neighbor, or have I physically harmed or hastened the death of another through violence, murder, abortion, the RU-486 pill, euthanasia, drugs, hatred, racism, or physical and mental abuse? Have I practiced ways of life that are harmful to my family and myself — spiritually and physically? Do I eat or drink immoderately? Am I guilty of scandal, that is, of leading others into sin by my words or actions? Have I had myself sterilized or encouraged others to be sterilized or to have their children surgically mutilated or chemically castrated to alter their gender?

6 and 9. You shall not commit adultery. You shall not covet (desire) your neighbor's wife (or husband). Have I been pure and holy in my thoughts, words, and actions, or have I been unfaithful to my spouse or lusted after another person? Have I been sexually active outside of marriage, or with a person of the same sex? Have I practiced any form of contraception in my marriage? Have I used fertility treatments condemned by the Church? Have I engaged in masturbation or watching pornography? Am I modest in the way I dress, act, and talk with others? Have I practiced chastity, that is, used God's gift of sex only in the way He intended it to be used?

Financial Information

Regular Offertory 3/2 and 3/3	\$ 6,111
For the Church Around the World (Total)	\$ 2,211
We Share—Weekly Offertory	\$ 593
Weekly Needed to Cover Expenses	\$ 6,000

Love of Our Spiritual Home, March 9/10
THANK YOU FOR YOUR GENEROSITY



MARCH: MONTH DEDICATED TO SAINT JOSEPH!

O, St. Joseph, whose protection is so great, so prompt, so strong, before the throne of God, I place in you all my interests and my desires.

O, St. Joseph, do assist me by your powerful intercession, and obtain for me from your Divine Son all spiritual blessings, through Jesus Christ, our Lord.

So that, having engaged here below your heavenly power, I may offer my thanksgiving and homage to the most loving of fathers.

O, St. Joseph, I never weary contemplating you and Jesus asleep in your arms; I dare not approach while he reposes near your heart. Press him in my name and kiss his fine head for me and ask him to return the kiss when I draw my dying breath.

St. Joseph, patron of departing souls, pray for me.
Amen.

Donate to the Saint Vincent de Paul Society!

Charity is one of three pillars of our Lenten season; "Faith without works is dead," said the apostle James. If you are thinking of a good organization or a good cause to help this Lent, the St. Vincent de Paul Society of our Parish is a great choice.

Whatever you donate in those poor boxes as you exit the church will go directly to help the most needy among us. You can be certain of that, and you can also be certain that your kindness and generosity will never be forgotten in Heaven either.



Donations for Easter Flowers

You can remember your loved ones by making a donation for Easter flowers in their names and placing the donation in envelopes that you will find at the doors of the Church.

Please print their names clearly so that we will be able to acknowledge them later. This is a wonderful way to remember and honor your loved ones, to help support the activities of the Parish. and to make our church look beautiful for Easter.

