



**St. John Baptiste de LaSalle Catholic Church**

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**St. Stephen Catholic Church**

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Website: [www.ststephennc.org](http://www.ststephennc.org)

**Fr. John D. Hanic** 704-763-2475

**Rev. Mr. Harold Markle** 336-466-4173

**Sister Janis McQuade, S.S.J.** 336-835-4542

**Fr. Jose Rebaque** 203-954-7134

**Mr. Cuauhdemoc (Temoc) Herrejon** 828-773-2353

**St. John**

Mary Buran, Karen Huffman Music Ministry  
Sabrina Caudill Parish Accountant  
336-957-1295  
Laura Yanes Bookeeper, Census  
Ann Stone RCIA

**St. Stephen**

Theresa Martin Music Ministry  
Natalie Lopez Youth Faith Formation  
Peggy Reikowsky Youth Faith Formation  
Phillip Parriah RCIA

**Worship Times**

**Saturday Vigil Mass**, 4:00p

**Sunday Mass 11:15a**; En español, 1:00p

**Daily Mass, Holy Days** Consult bulletin

**Sacrament of Reconciliation**

Saturdays, 3:00-4:00p

**Sunday Mass** 9:00a

**Communion Service** Tuesdays, 12:15p

**Holy Days** 7:00p

**Sacrament of Reconciliation**

By appointment

**Welcome, New Parishioners**

*We are a Stewardship Community, sharing our time, talent, and treasure, in the most life-giving ways possible. Parishioners are expected to participate in weekly worship, in our community life, and in our service among our dear neighbors.*

**Sacramental Life ~ Baptism, Confirmation, Eucharist, Matrimony**

*For Sacrament preparation, you must be a registered, active member and attend preparation sessions.*

**Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults (RCIA)**

*For those who desire to explore the Catholic Faith, spirituality, customs, and practices.*

**Anointing of the Sick**

*For those with chronic illness or who are pre-surgery, contact Father John or Sister Janis*

**3rd Sunday of Easter**  
**April 23, 2023**



**St. Stephen là gia đình của bạn!**

**Chúng tôi rất may mắn bạn đang ở đây!**

**Cha Long sẽ ở St. Stephen**

**Ngày 7 tháng 5 năm 2023**

**để cử hành thánh lễ với bạn**

**bằng tiếng Việt.**

**Lên kế hoạch tham dự và mời gia đình  
gia đình và bạn bè của bạn đến tham dự!**

**Nếu bạn có câu hỏi nào,**

**nói chuyện với Hạnh.**



## Arroz con pollo ACP

Our Youth Group/Confirmadi are asking your help in preparing **ACP dinners for five.**

The prepared dinners will be donated to area families and to Tri-C Christian Ministries.

It's a **simple meal for five (5)** consisting of rice, chicken and cheese.

Cook the dinner in a aluminum pan, cover it with a lid or aluminum foil.

Bring your prepared dinner to the FLC on **Sunday, April 23.**

For your meal for five (5) you can use chicken legs or bone-in breasts.....as the meal will feed a family

**Due today**

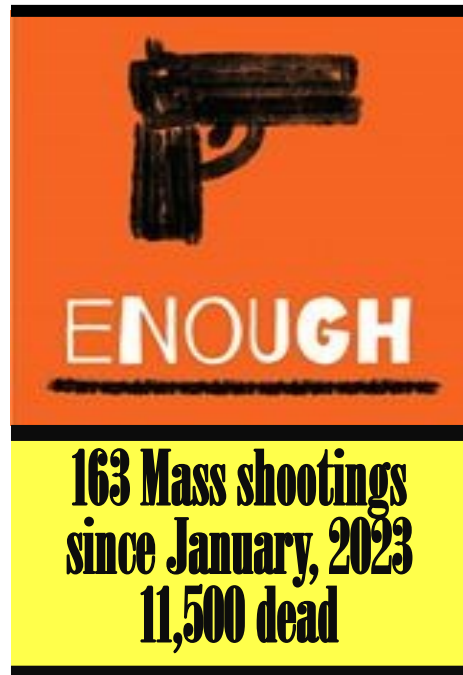
long

of five.

### Tri-C Almsgiving

Thank you so much !!

APR	Instant potatoes
MAY	Dry pasta
JUN	Jelly



**Our Lady,  
Queen of Peace,  
pray for us!**

## EARTHQUAKE RESPONSE

Please pray for your suffering sisters and brothers and the first responders. If you wish, you can send a donation to:

**Catholic Relief Services**  
228 West Lexington Street  
Baltimore, MD 21201

Memo line:  
**Earthquake relief**

**Jesus  
always shows up  
when  
you least expect him  
and when  
you most need him.**



### *Morning Church!*

Anyone who's experienced a trauma or a tremendous loss, understands the mind and heart of the disciples on the road to Emmaus. When you deal with a *crushed hope* you tend to lose your spirit. You reach out to others in the hope they will listen to and comfort you.

***Jesus always shows up when you least expect him  
and when you most need him.***

The post-Resurrection Emmaus walk is a model of ministry for all of us. Jesus joins the two disciples as they make their exit from Jerusalem. After some introductory banter, Jesus listens to their story of trauma and tremendous loss.

***Jesus always shows up when you least expect him  
and when you most need him.***

The natural, human tendency is to play the "fixer" and make every effort to remove the other's pain, and the discomfort you may feel in the sufferer's presence. Jesus makes no effort to take away their pain or to "fix" them. Instead, he listens to what they say and don't say. He remains present to them without interruption or judgment. In the most loving manner, he redirects their thoughts. He offers them the extraordinary grace of *remembering*. He knew one of the side effects of stress and every form of PTSD is *forgetfulness*.

***Jesus always shows up when you least expect him  
and when you most need him.***

Jesus knew they'd forgotten all the promises, made and kept, in Salvation History in their covenant with God. Hearing the witness of *HIS*Story, they are transformed and their hearts were rekindled in faith.

***Jesus always shows up when you least expect him  
and when you most need him.***

Like the Emmaus Walkers, is your heart rekindled in faith today?  
Do you want Jesus to stay with you?  
Do you want to stay with Jesus?

***Jesus always shows up when you least expect him  
and when you most need him.***

God's blessings

*spanis*

### **Emmaus Blessing**

Already a blessing  
in the walking

already a blessing  
on the road

already a blessing  
drawing near

already a blessing  
in the listening

already a blessing  
in the burning hearts

already a blessing  
in the almost evening

already a blessing  
in the staying

already a blessing  
at the table

already a blessing  
in the bread

already a blessing  
in the breaking

already a blessing  
finally known

already a blessing  
give us eyes

already a blessing  
let us see.

~ Jan Richardson

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### **🌱 Reflecting and Acting on The Word**

*What does Jesus say to you as you walk together?*

*What would you say to Jesus?*

Readings <https://bible.usccb.org/>

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A P R I L	
 23	3rd Sun Easter; FFF after Mass <b>ACP DISHES DUE for CONFIRMATION OUTREACH</b>
25	Communion Service, 12:15p
 30	4th Sun Easter; FFF after Mass
M A Y	
01	Feast of St. Joseph the Worker
02	Communion Service, 12:15p
06	Baptism prep for parents, St. J, 9a
07	5th Sun Easter <b>Happy Mother's Day</b>
 08	Ladies Guild, 5p
09	Communion Service, 12:15p
 14	6th Sun Easter; FFF after Mass
15	Give blood Elkin Rescue Squad 1:30-6p 
16	Communion Service, 12:15p Ministerial Association, 12N
 17	RCIA, 6:45p
 18	Wise Ones TBA Wedding: Army Captain Michael Dimeo & Sophia Fioretino 
20	Men's Breakfast, Cracker Barrel, 8:30a 
21	<b>Feast: Ascension</b>
23	Communion Service, 12:15p
28	<b>Feast: Pentecost</b>
30	Communion Service, 12:15p



Easter Flowers	
Donor	In honor/memory of
Wendy, Jason & Lukas McClamrock	Mary Elizabeth Cain Buddy Gough Susan Martin Jeff Stout

🌿 Mass Intentions	
23	+Rose & Jo El-Khouri r/b Theresa; +Judy Tymko
30	+Kathy & Ray Hyer; +Judy Tymko
07	Deceased members of Langlois & Watson families +Bob Gochnauer
14	All Mothers living and deceased
21	+Tom Lux
28	St. Stephen Parishioners' Intentions

### Parish Celebrations

27 Dianne Crawford      30 Liza Go-Harris  
Luis Rodriguez            Vanessa Lopez

27 Julie & Patrick Colglazier

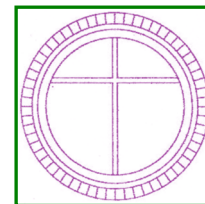
01 Emilio Lopez  
Phillip Parish  
02 Cecilia Martinez  
04 Samantha Ange  
Guillermo Lara  
Christian Ouellette



08 Matt Norman  
11 Antonio Crispin  
Maddox LaCashio  
15 Ron Berryman  
Luis Angel Lopez



...to our Ladies Guild,  
who donated the tall palm plants  
in honor of Saint. Joseph...  
...they're a gift that will keep  
on giving. Although they look real  
and are artificial!  
God bless you real good!



**NEW**

**PARISH DIRECTORY**  
**PLEASE SIGN UP for**  
**HOUSEHOLD PHOTOS**  
**April 23, 30 May 7, 14**



## Pope Francis Encourages A Church of Emmaus

Using the Gospel story of Emmaus, Francis talked to the bishops about people who have left the church because they "now think that the church, their Jerusalem -- can no longer offer them anything meaningful and important." He does not blame the culture, he does not harangue against relativism, consumerism and other "isms"; rather, he calls for self-examination by the bishops.

Perhaps the Church appeared too weak, perhaps too distant from their needs, perhaps too poor to respond to their concerns, perhaps too cold, perhaps too caught up with itself, perhaps a prisoner of its own rigid formulas, perhaps the world seems to have made the church a relic of the past, unfit for new questions; perhaps the church could speak to people in their infancy but not to those come of age. Faced with this Emmaus encounter, Francis suggests:

*We need a Church* unafraid  
of going forth into their night.

*We need a Church* capable  
of meeting people on their way.

*We need a Church* capable of entering  
into their conversation.

*We need a Church* able to dialogue  
with those disciples who, having left Jerusalem  
behind, are wandering aimlessly, alone,  
with their own disappointment, disillusioned  
by a Christianity now considered barren,  
fruitless soil, incapable of generating meaning.

*Are we still a Church capable* of warming hearts?

*A Church capable* of leading people back  
to Jerusalem?

Of bringing people home?

*Jerusalem is where our roots are:*

Scripture, catechesis, sacraments, community,  
friendship with the Lord, Mary and the apostles.

*Are we still able to speak* of these roots in a way  
that will revive a sense of wonder at their beauty?



With his usual humility, the Pope admitted that he and the bishops are lagging in what he calls "pastoral conversion" and could do better. He sets a high standard to which he and other bishops should aspire.

*Bishops must* be pastors, close to people, as fathers or brothers, gentle, patient, and merciful.

Men

~ who love poverty, both interior poverty,  
as freedom before the Lord,  
and exterior poverty, as simplicity  
and austerity of life.

~ do not think and behave like "princes."

~ who are not ambitious

~ who are married to one Church without  
having their eyes on another.

~ capable of watching over the flock entrusted  
to them and protecting everything  
that keeps it together, guarding their people  
out of concern for the dangers  
which could threaten them,  
above all instilling hope, so that light  
will shine in people's hearts.

~ capable of supporting with love and  
patience God's dealings with people.

Bishop must be among his people in three ways:

~ in front of them, pointing the way

~ among them, keeping them together  
and preventing them from being scattered

~ behind them, ensuring that no one  
is left behind ~ also, and primarily,  
so that the flock itself can sniff out new paths.

It is clear from this description Francis has made  
pastoral qualities a high priority in the selection  
of new bishops.

If he is successful in finding such bishops, a new  
style of leadership will spread from Rome  
throughout the Catholic world.

~Tom Reese, S.J.

## The Road to Emmaus



Imagine how the disciples felt after Jesus died on the cross. Everyone felt sad. Two disciples were talking together as they made their way home. They were sad because Jesus had been tortured and killed. Then Jesus started walking with them ~ but they didn't recognize him! As they talked with Jesus they were surprised that he didn't know why they were so sad. Jesus listened. Then he began to explain what the Bible said. The Savior would suffer and die ~ and would rise from the dead. As he explained the Scriptures, and God's promises, they began to understand what God had done to bring them New Life in Jesus.

Everytime you go to Mass you hear about the life of Jesus in the Gospel. Do you have to wait until you go to Mass to learn about Jesus? No! You can read the Gospels at home with your family every day.

The more you read about Jesus, what he said, and how he helped people, you can learn how to live like Jesus. Reading the Bible will help you become more loving, generous, forgiving and helpful ~ especially with your family.



When you read the Bible, especially the Gospels you can be like the two disciples in today's Gospel. Jesus will speak to your heart and help you know how much he loves you.

Read part of the Gospels every day. You'll find them in the New Testament in Matthew, Mark, Luke, and John. Ask your parents to read your Bible with you. Together you can come to a better understanding of God's love.

### REMEMBER:

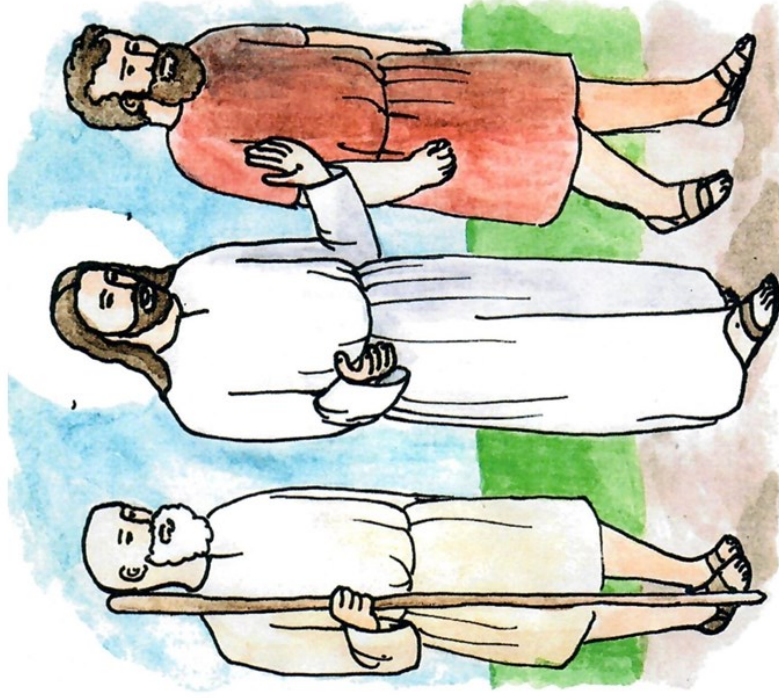
The Bible is sometimes called  
The Word of God or the Scriptures.

Answers to Picture Puzzle p. 3: Top - 4, 1 middle - 2, 6 Bottom - 3, 5

Answers to Puzzle: In the Breaking of the Bread.

# The Kids' Bulletin

Third Sunday of Easter  
April 23, 2023



A B D E F G H I K N O R T  
 7 0 9 □ x 2 - 3 ✓ < - 0 e 1

The disciples on the road to Emmaus didn't recognize Jesus at first. How did they recognize Him eventually?  
Use the code to find out!

> C    □ - 1    □ □ □ 7 ✓ □ < 2  
 □ x    □ - 1    □ □ □ 7 9



# Saint Catherine of Siena

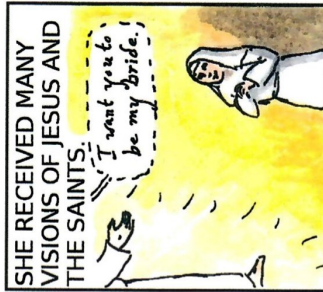
April 29



CATHERINE WAS THE SECOND YOUNGEST OF A VERY LARGE FAMILY IN SIENA, ITALY. AT A VERY YOUNG AGE SHE HAD CONSECATED HER LIFE TO GOD.



WHEN SHE WAS 16 SHE BECAME A DOMINICAN TERTIARY, WHICH IS LIKE A KIND OF NUN WHO DOESN'T LIVE IN A CONVENT.



SHE RECEIVED MANY VISIONS OF JESUS AND THE SAINTS.



CATHERINE BEGAN TO ADVISE PEOPLE SO THAT THERE WOULD BE PEACE IN ITALY.



SHE EVEN ADVISED THE CHURCH LEADERS.



THE POPE AT THAT TIME WAS NOT LIVING IN ROME, SO CATHERINE CONVINCED HIM TO MOVE BACK.



THE POPE CALLED HER TO HELP HIM IN ROME, SO SHE WENT. THERE SHE ALSO CARED FOR THE SICK AND THE POOR. SHE DIED THERE AT AGE 33.

CATHERINE ALSO HAD GREAT PHYSICAL SUFFERING. OFTEN SHE LIVED ON ALMOST NO FOOD OTHER THAN HOLY COMMUNION. SHE RECEIVED THE WOUNDS OF CHRIST AND ASKED GOD TO LET HER CARRY THE SINS OF THE WORLD. WE CAN LEARN FROM HER TO PRAY FOR THE HOLY FATHER AND DEFEND HIM.

# Picture Puzzle: The Road to Emmaus

How well do you know the story of the two disciples on the road to Emmaus? Figure out the order of the pictures and put the appropriate numbers in the corners.

