



St. John Baptiste de LaSalle Catholic Church

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St. Stephen Catholic Church

101 Hawthorne Road
Elkin NC 28621-3016
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Website: 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 Yanas	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

First Sunday of Lent
February 18, 2023

Do Overs

Morning Church!

After reflecting on the Genesis text, it becomes very clear that ours is **The God of Do Overs**, a title like last week's *The God of Enoughness*. It's another expression of God's compassionate understanding of us humans. In the first Old Testament covenant, God promised the family of Abraham and Sarah that their descendants would outnumber the heavenly stars. Like us, their descendants didn't quite keep their part of the covenant. As scripture shows, they demonstrated an inability and unwillingness to remain faithful to God.

As salvation history continues, **The God of Do Overs** intervenes and initiates a second covenant with Noah and his clan. This most-famous Genesis allegory is far beyond its surface images. It is more than the famous QEII-like ship serving as a floating zoo on God's purifying flood waters. It is meant to teach us about God's fidelity and tenacious faith in us. This story is about God's initiative and investment in covenantal relationship with Noah's family—and now with all of us. It's about God's fidelity and willingness to be in love with us despite our infidelity, willfulness, and our personal hot topic sins.

Being only a few days into our Lenten season, we know NOW is the time to focus our attention more keenly on our faithfulness to our covenant with God and how we love one another.

This is our graced opportunity for a spiritual **Do Over**. NOW is the time to remember that God has numbered us among the stars for all eternity. NOW's the time to re-examine how vested we are in our relationship with God. NOW is the time to evaluate, to name the flood waters which surround us and seek to drown out God's will, God's voice, and God's relentless grace.

Today's gospel is rightly juxtaposed against Genesis. We find Jesus in a desert, ravaged by the elements and the lack of creature comforts. No flood waters here. Instead the beast of temptation slithers by his heart, seeking to devour him spiritually. In the virtuous resilience found fully in God, Jesus withstands the seductive offerings.

By remaining firm against temptation, Jesus proclaims that NOW is the time to trust God and repent. NOW is the sacred season to celebrate **Do Overs** in Jesus' name.

In CommUNITY,



🌱 **HEARTwork** ~ Reflecting and Acting on The Word ~

*Name the most consistent temptation
in your life right now.*

*What graces do you need to sustain you
on your faithjourney?*






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

Desert Prayer ~ Jan Richardson



I am not asking you
to take this wilderness from me,
to remove this place of starkness
where I come to know
the wildness within me,
where I learn to call the names
of the ravenous beasts
that pace inside me,
to finger the brambles
that snake through my veins,
to taste the thirst
that tugs at my tongue.

But send me
tough angels,
sweet wine,
strong bread:
just enough.

FEBRUARY	
	18 1st Sun Lent RCIA Rite of Election Faith Formation, 10:30-12N
	19 Give Blood Rescue Squad, 1:30-6p 
	20 Ministerial Assoc., 12N; Communion Service, 12:15p
	21 RCIA, 6p; Choir, 7p 
	23 Stations of the Cross, 6p
	24 2nd Sun Lent Faith Formation, 10:30-12N
	27 Communion Service, 12:15p
	28 RCIA, 6p; Choir, 7p 



+S. Elaine Cullen, SSJ	
<i>Born</i>	May 3, 1939
<i>Born to Eternal Life</i>	February 19, 2024
in the 67 th year of religious life	

☪ Mass Intentions	
18	Stephen Faust, Ethan VanHorn & John Orta Jacob Wagoner & Phillip Parrish
25	+Thomas Patrick Rosser +Penny Davis; +Denis Cahill
03	+Cecelia Jones r/b Ladies Guild
10	+Carol McQuade; +Dorothy Hanic

Birthdays & Anniversaries

- | | |
|---------------------|-----------------------|
| 19 Ryan Treannie | 24 Aaron Kelly |
| 22 Julie Colglazier | Allan Lara |
| Wendy McClamrock | Marcus Orta |
| 23 Gabby LaCashio | 25 Hector Hernandez |
| Margarita Serafin | Ray Hernandez |
| 24 Andrew Ange | 26 Catalina Hernandez |
| Laura Barrientos | |

T...all who join in Soup Competition...congrats to win-
Yners Doris, Barry, and Lana...to our Youth Group/
VConfirmadi who reset our Lenten environment...our
Mfaithful church cleaners & Altar linen ministers...and
 our Youth Group who reset our worship space for
 Lent...God bless you real good!

LENTEN FAST & ABSTINENCE

☪ All Catholics 14 years and older are to **ABSTAIN** from all meat on Ash Wednesday and on all Fridays of Lent, unless a particular Friday is a solemnity.

☪ **FASTING** means one full meal and two lesser meals, which combined are not greater than the full meal.

PRAYER, FASTING & ALMSGIVING

Lent means *Spring*, a time of new life, new beginnings, and new growth. These days are for our own renewal in faith, through a recommitment to our **PRAYER LIFE**. Pray for yourself; the growing concerns for national and world compassionate justice, stability, peace, and security.

It greatly helps you if you link your **FASTING** to an intention. Not snacking/eating between meals can selfishly be an incentive to lose weight. Linked to a prayerful intention elevates your **FASTING** to a spiritual mindfulness, e.g., **FAST** for all who are *truly starving*; **FAST** with the desire, through God's grace, to uncover and heal your own brokenness. **FAST** that your heart and the hearts of all your Neighbors will be disarmed and desire reconciliation.

ALMSGIVING seems uncomplicated ~ just drop money in our Poor Box; donate to Tri-C Ministries or The Ark. Consider **ALMSGIVING** of your time, talent, or your treasure in a *new way*: listen to someone who's hurt or confused; call someone who's isolated from family or the community; send a card to encourage someone; offer your talents to those who need help with technology, a home repair, or a ride to the store. **ALMSGIVING** is serving with Intention and not expecting a pay back.



Empty Bowls

Yadkin Christian Ministries

TAKE OUT or DRIVE THROUGH PICKUP

Yadkinville Moose Lodge

1432 Country Club Rd, Yadkinville

March 19, 2024

Lunch: 11:30a-1:30p

Dinner: 4:30p-6:30p

Tickets: \$25.00

Meal includes:

Cracker Barrel vegetable beef soup,
Taste of Italy salad, crackers, Krispy Kreme donuts,
bottled water, and a handcrafted bowl

Tri-C Almsgiving

Thank you so much !!

FEB

Corn meal

MAR

Sm. laundry soap

**Feed the Elderly: An Opportunity
for Compassionate, Generous Service**

Jan	17, 18, 19	<p>Feed the Elderly (FTE) is a local service for our isolated residents.</p> <p>Along with other church volunteers, St. S parishioners have served these residents on specific days.</p> <p>If you are willing to help, in this meaningful service, contact our FTE Coordinator: Gayle Altemueller, (336) 468-0676</p>
Mar	6, 7, 8	
Apr	24, 25, 26	
Jun	24, 25, 26	
Jul	31	
Aug	1, 2	
Sept	18, 19, 20	
Nov	6, 7, 8	
Dec	25, 26, 27	

**Opportunities
to Calendar and Gather**



<i>Ladies Guild</i>			
2nd Monday of the Month 5:00p, Family Life Center			
Jan 8	Apr 8	Jul 8	Oct 14
Feb 12	May 13	Aug 12	Nov 11
Mar 11	Jun 10	Sept 9	Dec 9



<i>Men's Breakfast Group</i>			
3rd Saturday of the Month 8:30a, Cracker Barrel *			
*Any change of venue will be in the bulletin			
Jan 20	Apr 20	Jul 20	Oct 19
Feb 17	May 18	Aug 17	Nov 16
Mar 16	Jun 15	Sept 21	Dec 21



<i>Wise Ones Luncheon</i>			
3rd Thursday of the Month Host and venue vary and will be in the bulletin			
Jan 18	Apr 18	Jul 18	Oct 17
Feb 15	May 16	Aug 15*	Nov 21
Mar 21	Jun 20	Sept 19	Dec 19

Ash Wednesday
FOR FAMILIES



TRADITIONS &
RESOURCES

+ YOUTH LENTEN BULLETIN +

Hang this paper on your refrigerator or in your room.

Write your prayer intention for your prayer
& fasting for each day of the weekday of Lent.

Record date you donated to Tri-C or The Ark.

Ash Wednesday

This year, Ash Wednesday is on **February 14**

~ which is the same day as **Valentine's Day!**

So, this year Ash Wednesday is the perfect day to take
a good look at the choices we make with our hearts.

It is our Catholic tradition to focus on three choices in Lent:

+ PRAYER + FASTING + ALMSGIVING

+ PRAYER

Loving Jesus, you were led by the Holy Spirit into the desert
where you fasted for 40 days and 40 nights. There you learned to rely on God and the Word of God.

Response: *May the same Holy Spirit guide me as I enter into this prayer.*

May my prayers remind me of my complete dependence on you and your grace. **Response**

May my prayer unite me in one heart with those who suffer each and every day
and lead me to pray for those who are too scared, hurt, or ashamed to pray. **Response**

May my prayer for my intentions remind me that I am called to pray for my sisters and brothers
around the world, those waiting at our borders to find a safe home here,
those whose countries are at war, and those who are
hungry, homeless, abandoned, or abused. **Response**

May my daily prayer help me to grow in patience,
humility, generosity, forgiveness and compassion. **Response**

On **Sunday** my prayer intention is _____.

On **Monday** my prayer intention is _____.

On **Tuesday** my prayer intention is _____.

On **Wednesday** my prayer intention is _____.

On **Thursday** my prayer intention is _____.

On **Friday** my prayer intention is _____.

On **Saturday** my prayer intention is _____.

Be with me now, as I eat my meals
and keep me mindful
of my good health of mind, body, and spirit.
Help me to grow in gratitude for your abundant blessings.
In Jesus' Name. Amen.

+ FASTING

Loving Jesus, you were led by the Holy Spirit into the desert where he fasted for 40 days and 40 nights.
There you learned to rely on God and not on bread alone.

Response: *May the same Holy Spirit guide me as I enter into this experience of fasting.*

May this fast remind me of my complete dependence on you and your grace. **Response**

May it unite me in one heart with those who suffer from hunger each and every day
and lead me to share what I have with others. **Response**

May each grumble of my stomach be a holy sign for me — a reminder of my hunger
for you and of how you satisfy that hunger. **Response**

May the discipline of fasting help me to grow in patience,
humility, generosity, and compassion. **Response**

These are my intentions for each day of Lent.

On **Sunday** for the intention of _____.

On **Monday** for the intention of _____.

On **Tuesday** for the intention of _____.

On **Wednesday** for the intention of _____.

On **Thursday** for the intention of _____.

On **Friday** for the intention of _____.

On **Saturday** for the intention of _____.

Be with me now, as I eat my meals and keep me mindful of my good health of mind, body, and spirit.
Help me to grow in gratitude for your abundant blessings. In Jesus' Name. Amen.

+ ALMSGIVING ~ Generous Giving without expecting repayment

Loving Jesus, you were led by the Holy Spirit into the desert where he fasted for 40 days and 40 nights.
There you learned to rely on God and not on bread alone.

Response: *May the same Holy Spirit guide me as I enter into this experience of generous giving.*

May my generosity help others' burdens to be lightened. **Response**

May I give without expecting repayment. **Response**

May I remember to give to **TRI-COUNTY CHRISTIAN MINISTRIES**

FEB Corn meal MAR Small laundry soap

+ + +

The Ark

Toiletries for the adults; sketch pads and colored pencils for the children.

Response

May I generously share my time to help others, my gifts to enrich others
and my offering to Tri-County Christian Ministries
and The Ark to bring help to those in need. **Response**

Be with me now, as I share my blessings with other.
Help me to grow in gratitude
for your abundant blessings. In Jesus' Name. Amen.