



St. John Baptiste de LaSalle Catholic Church

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St. Stephen Catholic Church

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Fr. John D. Hanic, V.F. (704) 763-2475

Rev. Mr. Harold Markle (336) 466-4173

S. Janis McQuade, S.S.J. (336) 835-4542

Fr. Jose Rebaque (203) 954-7134

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

St. John

Temoc Herrejon Faith Formation
Ann Stone RCIA
Joel Everett Music

St. Stephen

S. Janis McQuade, S.S.J. Faith Formation
Phillip Parrish RCIA
Theresa Martin Music

Mass Schedule

St. John

Saturday 4:00p
Sunday 11:15a English
1:00p en español
Wednesday 11:00a

St. Stephen

Sunday 9:00a
Communion Service
Tuesday, 12:15p
Holy Days 7:00p

Sacrament of Reconciliation

Saturday 3:00 - 3:45p *By appointment*

Welcome, New Parishioners: We are a Stewardship Community, sharing our time, talent, and treasure in life-giving ways.

To register and get more information: go to our website: www.StStephenNC.org

Sacrament Preparation (Baptism, 1st Communion, Reconciliation (Penance), or Matrimony)
Call S. Janis (336) 835-4542

Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults (RCIA)

Offered for adults who desire to explore the Catholic Faith, spirituality, rites, and practices.

Sacrament of Anointing and Pastoral Care

If you or someone you know is desirous of God's healing and would like to receive the sacred anointing, contact S. Janis.

Twenty-sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time

September 29, 2024

You're Invited!

Blessing of the Animals



WHERE: Farmer's Market
Downtown Elkin

WHEN: Sat., October 5th, 10:30a

Come join us!
Bring your pet-companion
to give thanks and
praise to God!

Out of courtesy for others,
all pets need to be leashed
or in a carrier.

Sponsored by The Ministerial Association and



Yadkin Valley
PET FUNERAL SERVICES



HISPANIC HERITAGE MONTH
15 SEPTIEMBRE ~ 15 OCTUBRE

¡Eres parte
de nuestra familia
y una bendición!

Adult Faith Formation Opportunity

Monday, October 7, 7:00p

St. Stephen Family Life Center

Tim Hodges, Elkin Funeral Services

“What You Need to Know About Funeral Planning”

Monday, November 4, 5:00p

St. Stephen Family Life Center

Sister Janis

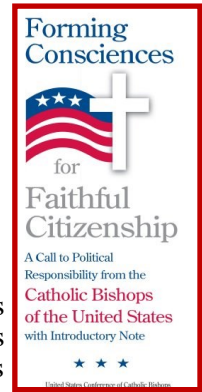
“Preplanning Your Funeral Service”

September 29, 2024

Who in the Church Should Participate in Political Life?

Some reflection questions (instead of mountains of text)

We, the Laity, ought to know the function of our well-formed Christian conscience is based on Christ's life, teachings, and example, as well as, the ever-developing teachings of the Church. We are commissioned by Christ, who inscribed his Word on our hearts and sent us to give witness to the divine law in our hearts.



☪ ***Consider some ways your Catholic Faith can influence you as you interact with your neighbor, especially those who have very different beliefs and lifestyle.***

Each of us are responsible to develop a well-formed conscience according to God's Word, especially the New Testament, and the teachings of our Church. This can be very difficult at times, as our Catholic Faith calls us to live counter-culturally, to uphold and live a life of virtue, and to stand over and against all violence, injustice, and prejudice.

☪ ***Name some of the concerns you have that are present today. What have you or will you do to shed the light of Christ on these concerns in your family, parish, Church, and country.***

We have come to know that our daily conduct and concerns reveal what we truly believe, as well as, reveal the beliefs of our Church. Others will judge the authenticity of our faith by the way we live it.

"I watch what I do to see what I believe." Sister Helen Prejean, CSJ

☪ ***Right now, what are your biggest challenges to living your faith? When do you find yourself hesitant when speaking out against inequality and injustices?***

What are your fears about giving witness to what you believe?

In the Catholic Tradition, responsible citizenship is a virtue, and participation in political life is a moral obligation. "People in every nation enhance the social dimension of their lives by acting as committed and responsible citizens".

The obligation to participate in political life is rooted in our baptismal commitment to follow Jesus Christ and to bear Christian witness in all we do. As the Catechism of the Catholic Church reminds us, "It is necessary that all participate, each according to his position and role, in promoting the common good. This obligation is inherent in the dignity of the human person. . . . As far as possible citizens should take an active part in public life".

☪ ***So many countries do not have a free and just political election process. We are so blessed to live in a country where free and fair elections are the expected norm. Take a few moments of quiet and prayer to thank God for this extraordinary gift and to pray for all those who are running for public office this Fall.***

We must consider not only candidates' positions on these issues,
but their character and integrity as well.

Adapted from U.S. Catholic Conference of Bishops' document "Forming Consciences for Faithful Citizens"

Coming to Our Senses?

Morning, Church!

We've all heard these recommendation: exercise regularly; get at least eight hours of sleep; eat nourishing foods that will fuel your body. These are the ways to attain and maintain good health. Also, healthcare pros suggest genuine "down time"; we get off our electronic devices at night and allow our bodies and spirits to reboot, just the way we reboot our devices when they're not fully functioning.

Haven't we come to understand that reliance on tobacco, alcohol, and/or drugs is a prescription for going in a negative health direction just to "cope" with the circumstances of the day or in our relationships?

We all know the good things. We understand doing them creates good habits in our lives that strengthen our health and longevity. Knowing good health habits and actually including them in our lifestyle are two completely different things.

With spiritual health, similar patterns apply. If we *believe* we are spiritually healthy, are we consistent with our spiritual habits: daily and frequent prayer, fasting regularly, serving others generously without expectation of compensation or recognition?

Face it: the gospel *is radical*. *Putting it into practice is radical*. Today's gospel seems very radical! Jesus' desire for our spiritual wholeness. He is provoked to say aloud that we ought to dismember/disfigure our body! Rid yourself of anything and everything that spiritually disfigures/dismembers your spirit!

We are created in God's image and likeness. God found everything God created to "be good, very good." Why, then, in God's Name, would we dismember/disfigure our bodies? Why would we use our bodies to harm ourselves or others?

Jesus is dramatic for a reason. He wants us to closely examine our choices and how we use or abuse the profound creation we are.

- ~ do your *eyes* see others and judge them, especially when you don't know them?
- ~ are your *hands* used to scold, punish, or possess others or are they used to serve others?
- ~ do your *feet* take you places that compromise your relationship with God and your commitment to others?
- ~ do your *ears* filter what others say and desire to share or do you keep an open heart?
- ~ do you use your *tongue* to compliment or complain, to affirm or discourage others?

We all know what we ought to avoid to maintain good spiritual and physical health. We need to make a concerted effort to create habits that lead to wholeness and holiness.

In CommUNITY,



Reflecting on the Word

Name healthy spiritual and physical habits you want to make part of your lifestyle.

Write them down and use this list as your daily examination of conscience.

For accountability:

give yourself a timeline to make these habits a part of your daily practice.

¿Volviendo a nuestros sentidos?

¡Buenos días, Iglesia!

Todos hemos escuchado esta recomendación: haga ejercicio con regularidad; duerma al menos ocho horas; Coma alimentos nutritivos que alimenten su cuerpo. Éstas son las formas de lograr y mantener una buena salud. Además, los profesionales de la salud sugieren un verdadero “tiempo de inactividad”; apagamos nuestros dispositivos electrónicos por la noche y permitimos que nuestros cuerpos y espíritus se reinicien, tal como reiniciamos nuestros dispositivos cuando no están funcionando completamente.

Todos hemos llegado a comprender que la dependencia del tabaco, el alcohol y/o las drogas es una receta para tomar la dirección más negativa para la salud sólo para "hacer frente" a las circunstancias del día o a nuestras relaciones.

Todos sabemos estas cosas. Entendemos que hacerlos crea buenos hábitos en nuestras vidas que fortalecen nuestra salud y longevidad. Saber que estos son buenos hábitos de salud e incluirlos en nuestro estilo de vida son dos cosas completamente diferentes.

Cuando se trata de salud espiritual, parece que se aplican patrones similares. Incluso si creemos que estamos espiritualmente sanos, ¿somos también consistentes con nuestros hábitos espirituales?... ¿orar diariamente, ayunar regularmente, servir generosamente sin esperar compensación o reconocimiento?

Acéptalo: el evangelio es radical. Ponerlo en práctica es radical. ¡El evangelio de hoy parece muy radical! El deseo de Jesús por nuestra integridad espiritual lo provoca a decir que debemos desmembrar/desfigurar nuestro cuerpo. Deshazte de todo aquello que desfigura tu espíritu y te desmembra espiritualmente.

Si somos creados a imagen y semejanza de Dios. Dios encontró que todo lo que Dios creó era “bueno, muy bueno”. ¿Por qué entonces, en el Nombre de Dios, desmembraríamos/desfiguraríamos nuestros cuerpos? ¿Es porque aún no somos plenamente imagen y semejanza de Dios? ¿Es porque la forma en que usamos nuestro cuerpo es para dañarnos a nosotros mismos o a los demás?

Jesús es dramático por una razón. Él quiere que examinemos de cerca nuestras elecciones y cómo usamos o abusamos de la creación profunda que somos.

- ~ ¿Tus ojos ven a los demás y los juzgan, especialmente cuando no los conoces?
- ~ ¿Tus manos se usan para regañar, castigar o poseer a otros o se usan para servir a otros?
- ~ ¿Tus pies te llevan a lugares que comprometen que puedas crecer en fe y amor o
¿A lugares donde tu relación con Dios y tu compromiso con los demás?
- ~ ¿Tus oídos filtran lo que otros dicen y desean compartir o mantienes el corazón abierto?
- ~ ¿usas tu lengua para felicitar o quejarte, para afirmar o desanimar a los demás?

Todos sabemos lo que debemos evitar para mantener una buena salud física y espiritual.

La pregunta es: ¿haremos lo que sea necesario para crear hábitos sólidos que conduzcan a la plenitud y la santidad?

En ComUNIDAD,






















🍷 Reflexionando sobre la Palabra

Nombra hábitos espirituales y físicos saludables que quieras que formen parte de tu estilo de vida. Anótalas y utiliza esta lista como tu examen de conciencia diario.

Para la rendición de cuentas:

Indique un cronograma en el que estos hábitos se convertirán en parte de su práctica diaria.

SEPTEMBER	
 29	26th Sun OT Faith Formation ~ Parents & Youth, After Mass, FLC
OCTOBER	
01	Communion Service, 12:15p
 02	RCIA, 6:30p; Choir, 7p 
05	Blessing of Animals, Farmer's Market, 10:30a
03-08	SSJ Fall Assembly
 06	27th Sun OT Faith Formation ~ Parents & Youth, After Mass, FLC
 08	Communion Service, 12:15p 
09	RCIA, 6:30p; Choir, 7p
 13	28th Sun OT Faith Formation ~ Parents & Youth, After Mass, FLC
 14	Ladies Guild
15	SSJ Founder's Day 1650 Adult Faith Formation ~ The Chosen, 10a Communion Service, 12:15p 
 16	RCIA, 6:30p; Choir, 7p
17	Wise Ones TBA 
19	Men's Breakfast, Cracker Barrel, 8:30a 
 20	29th Sun OT Faith Formation ~ Parents & Youth, After Mass, FLC
21	Donate Blood, 1st Baptist Church, 1:30-6:00p 
22	Adult Faith Formation ~ The Chosen, 10a Communion Service, 12:15p
 23	RCIA, 6:30p; Choir, 7p 
 27	30th Sun OT Faith Formation ~ Parents & Youth, After Mass, FLC
29	Adult Faith Formation ~ The Chosen, 10a Communion Service, 12:15p
 30	RCIA, 6:30p; Choir, 7p 

SEPT MASS INTENTIONS	
01	+Linda Cirone
08	Fr. Ed Sheridan +Cecelia Jones +Kathleen Hyer
15	Linda & Frank Hart +Pat Black, SSJ
22	St. S Parishioners +Cmdr. Henry Lane Hubbard
29	Faith Formation Families

Birthdays & Anniversary



- | | |
|-------------------------------|---------------------------|
| 29 Minnie Espino | 11 Beth Orta |
| 01 Ellen Bernabe | 12 Natalie Lopez-Williams |
| Liam Hernandez | 14 Raquel Martinez |
| Daniela Trejo | 18 Athena Spicer |
| 03 Nancy Hubbard | 19 Yandi Nava |
| Gerardo Parral, Sr. | 20 John Darcey |
| 04 Ngoe Vo | 22 Ty Keller |
| 06 Marisol Ledesma | Ruben Ramirez |
| 08 Maria Mata-Reyes | Leilany Garcia |
| Sergio Loyola | 25 Beth Altemueller |
| 10 Angel Ledesma | 26 Ramona Doyle |
| 01 Ofelia & Alberto Nava | |
| 10 Andrea Faw & Stephen Faust | |
| 22 Liza Go & Jeff Harris | |
| 25 Samantha & Andrew Ange | |




Tri-C Christian Crisis Ministries

SEPT

Shampoo

Pope Francis ~ Walking the Word

*A fundamental rule
of being a disciple of Christ
is the necessity to make sacrifices
and deny one's self. ~Angelus message*

 Name healthy spiritual and physical habits you want to make part of your lifestyle so you can be a more authentic disciple.



You're invited!
Adult Faith Formation & Faithsharing:
The Chosen
 Tuesdays,
 October 15, 22, 29
 10:00a ~ 11:30a

Contact S. Janis for more information

Guardian Angels

On October 2nd we celebrate the feast of the Guardian Angels. Did you know that God has an angel specially looking after you?

Let's read the Bible.



God gave you a guardian angel to help guard you against temptation and danger.

Angels are pure spirits. Even though we draw them like people with wings, they don't have bodies, so they don't take up space. They can see and understand much more than we can, and they know God much better than we do, too. They are very powerful and can help us very much.

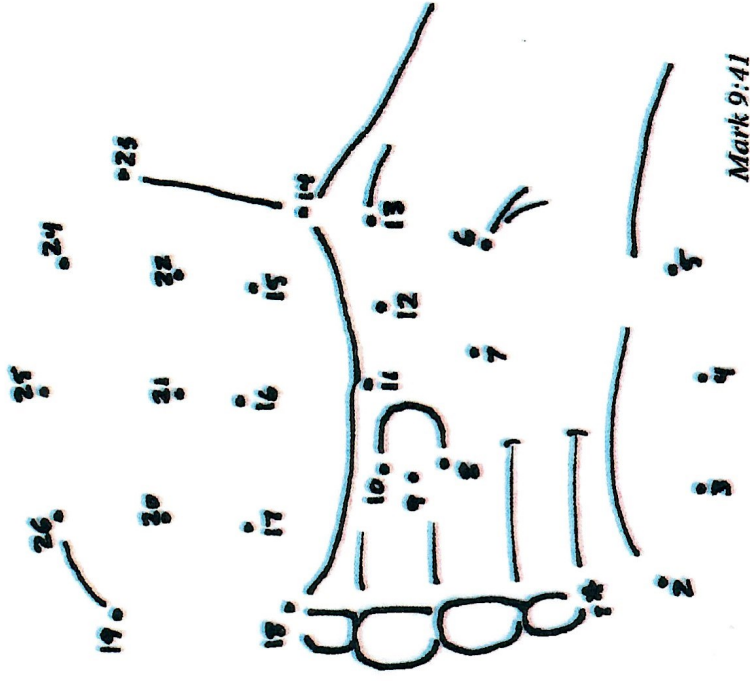
We should try to talk to our Guardian Angel every day. Thank your angel for looking after you, and ask him to keep protecting you from evil. Here is a good prayer you can say every day:

*Angel of God, my guardian dear,
to whom God's love commits me here,
Ever this day be at my side
to light, to guard, to rule and guide.
From sinful state O keep me free,
and at death's hour my helper be.
Amen.*

Answer to Word-Find: (It is better) to suffer than to sin.

The Kids' Bulletin

26th Sunday in Ordinary Time
September 29, 2024



Mark 9:41

What is it?

Connect the dots to find out!

Jesus says in today's Gospel reading that anyone who gives one to someone for His sake will receive their just reward.

Saint Therese of Lisieux

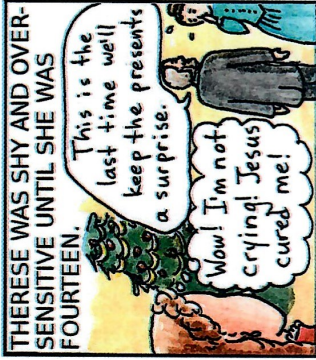
"The Little Flower"

October 1

THERESE MARTIN
 WAS BORN TO A
 MIDDLE CLASS
 FAMILY IN FRANCE
 IN 1873. HER
 MOTHER DIED
 WHEN SHE
 WAS FOUR,
 SO SHE WAS
 RAISED BY
 HER FATHER
 AND SISTERS.



THERESE WAS SHY AND OVER-SENSITIVE UNTIL SHE WAS FOURTEEN.
 This is the last time we'll keep the presents a surprise.
 Wow! I'm not crying! Jesus cured me!



THERESE DECIDED TO BECOME A CARMELITE NUN LIKE TWO OF HER SISTERS HAD.
 I could serve God with them!



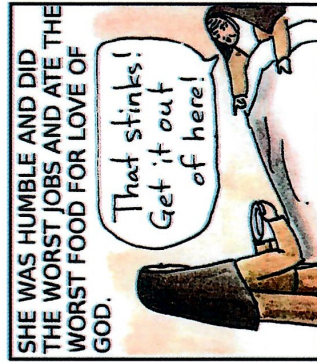
Your Holiness, I want to ask a favour!
 BUT SHE WAS ONLY 15, SO SHE WASN'T ALLOWED UNTIL SHE ASKED THE POPE!



EVEN THOUGH SHE WAS YOUNG, THERESE WAS WISE AND DID EVERYTHING FOR GOD.
 Jesus, I'll pretend I'm washing your clothes!



SHE WAS HUMBLE AND DID THE WORST JOBS AND ATE THE WORST FOOD FOR LOVE OF GOD.
 That stinks! Get it out of here!



If only you knew how much she suffers!
BUT SOON ST. THERESE BECAME VERY SICK AND HAD TO STAY IN BED. SHE FELT THAT GOD HAD ABANDONED HER, BUT SHE KEPT HER FAITH. SHE DIED AT AGE 24.



BECAUSE SHE WAS A CLOISTERED NUN IN A CONVENT, SAINT THERESE KNEW THAT SHE COULD NOT DO ANY GREAT DEEDS FOR GOD. BUT SHE SAW ANOTHER WAY TO BECOME HOLY. BY THINKING OF HERSELF AS A LITTLE CHILD OF GOD AND DOING EVERY LITTLE THING FOR HIM, SHE BECAME A GREAT SAINT!

"If it causes you to sin" Word-Find

See if you can find all the words from this part of today's Gospel passage that are in CAPITALS.

Use the left-over letters to fill in the blanks at the end.



Mark 9:42-48

T W O R M Q T O S
 U B F C A U S E L I
 F O T Y H A N D F N
 O T E R O T H I M O
 H R F W A E T I N T
 G K I N G D O M I
 O O R S L A M E I
 D I E N T E R D N

...if your **HAND** causes you to **SIN**, cut it off; it is **BETTER** for you to enter life **MAIMED** than with two hands go **INTO** hell, to the unquenchable **FIRE**.

And if your **FOOT** causes you to sin, cut it off; it is better for you to enter life **LAME** than with two **FEET** to be **THROWN** into **HELL**.

And if your **EYE** **CAUSES** you to sin, pluck it out; it is better for you to **ENTER** the **KINGDOM** of **GOD** with one eye than with **TWO** eyes to be thrown into hell, where the **WORM** does not **DIE** and the fire is **NOT** **QUENCHED**.

It is better