



**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](http://www.StStephenNC.org)

**Sacrament Preparation** (Baptism, 1<sup>st</sup> 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-seventh Sunday in Ordinary Time**

**October 6, 2024**

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HISPANIC HERITAGE MONTH  
15 SEPTIEMBRE ~ 15 OCTUBRE

¡Eres parte  
de nuestra familia  
y una bendición!

***Adult Faith Formation Opportunity***

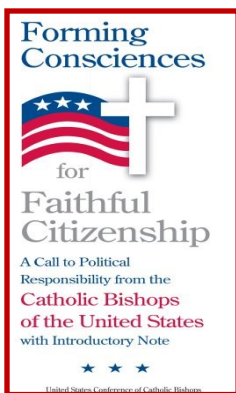
***Monday, October 7, 7:00p  
St. Stephen Family Life Center  
Tim Hodges, Elkin Funeral Services  
"What You Need to Know About Funeral Planning"***

***Monday, November 4, 5:00p  
St. Stephen Family Life Center  
Sister Janis  
"Preplanning Your Funeral Service"***

October 6, 2024

## ***How Does the Church Help the Catholic Faithful to Speak About Political and Social Questions?***

As the bishops of the United States of America have rightly pointed out, while the Church insists on the existence of objective moral norms which are valid for everyone.



We are living in an information-driven society which bombards us indiscriminately with data—all treated as being of equal importance—and which leads to remarkable superficiality in the area of moral discernment. In response, we need to provide an education which teaches critical thinking and encourages the development of mature moral values.

~ Pope Francis

### ***A Well-Formed Conscience***

The Church equips its members to address political and social questions by helping them to develop a well-formed conscience. Catholics have a serious and lifelong obligation to form their consciences in accord with human reason and the teaching of the Church.

Conscience is not something that allows us to justify doing whatever we want, nor is it a mere "feeling" about what we should or should not do. Rather, conscience is the voice of God resounding in the human heart, revealing the truth to us and calling us to do what is good while shunning what is evil.

Conscience always requires serious attempts to make sound moral judgments based on the truths of our faith. *Conscience is a judgment of reason whereby the human person recognizes the moral quality of a concrete act that he/she is going to perform, is in the process of performing, or has already completed. In all we says and does, we are obliged to follow faithfully what we know to be just and right*

### ***The Formation of Conscience includes:***

- ~ a desire to embrace goodness and truth. For Catholics, this begins with a willingness and openness to seek the truth and what is right by studying Sacred Scripture and the teaching of the Church as contained in the Catechism of the Catholic Church.
- ~ to examine the facts and background information about various choices.
- ~ prayerful reflection is essential to discern the will of God. Catholics must also understand that if they fail to form their consciences in the light of the truths of the faith and the moral teachings of the Church they can make erroneous judgments.

### ***Reflection:***

- ☪ How have you continued to form your conscience in light of God's Word, our current church teaching, your prayer life, and participation in ongoing Adult Faith Formation?

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"

## ...amando y honrando todos los días de nuestras vidas...

¡Buenos días, Iglesia!

*La relación es la palabra central hoy. Nuestra relación con Dios existía antes de nuestro nacimiento, incluso antes de la creación de las galaxias. El Amor eterno de Dios es una prueba de que Dios nunca nos da por sentado y no dice: “te amaré hasta”, ni se conforma con una actitud de “convivencia” antes de comprometerse con nosotros. Dios no nos ama por conveniencia o por qué beneficio financiero. Puro y simple: el amor de Dios es incondicional, indiscriminado, extravagante y para siempre.*

*Dios no nos mantiene a distancia. Dios nos consagra en Alianza, por lo que cada relación nuestra es sagrada. En esa Verdad, estamos llamados a estar en Amor, en el Amor de Dios con nuestras hermanas y hermanos. En esa verdad ablandamos nuestro corazón y nos rendimos al amor que Dios y los demás nos ofrecen. Estamos llamados a “amarnos y honrarnos” unos a otros todos los días de nuestra vida. No hay ningún “divorcio” de nuestras relaciones dadas por Dios. En el amor de Dios no hay “desacoplamiento consciente”, no hay lugar para conformarse, para simplemente “vivir juntos”, compartir espacio, aire, culto, vida comunitaria o servicio como si fuéramos silos en un campo. Estamos “casados” con nuestros vecinos de nuestros condados occidentales que sufren las horribles consecuencias de un huracán, con los refugiados, con aquellos en países devastados por la guerra, con los detenidos en la frontera y con cada vecino que clama por pan y justicia.*

*Las promesas matrimoniales se aplican a todas nuestras relaciones. Así como Dios nos ama pase lo que pase, Dios nos pide que nos amemos unos a otros para bien o para mal; ser fieles unos a otros en los buenos y en los malos tiempos, en la enfermedad y en la salud. Dios nos ama y nos honra todos los días de nuestra vida, incluso más allá de nuestra muerte. Como Hijos de Dios no podemos mantenernos a distancia unos de otros, “desacoplándonos conscientemente” o “divorciándonos” unos de otros.*

*Nuestras relaciones requieren toda nuestra atención para que nada nos separe de Dios ni de los demás. No sucumbamos a la implacable tentación de nuestro ego de mantenernos a distancia unos de otros, de “divorciarnos” de Dios o de los demás. Sigamos caminando el Camino de los Hijos de Dios y aceptemos el Reino de Dios. Esta es la manera en que honramos a Dios y a los demás todos los días de nuestras vidas. Que nuestro amor sea incondicional, indiscriminado, extravagante y para siempre.*

En ComUNIDAD,

*spanis*



*P. La homilía de Juan el domingo pasado nos recordó que el Bautismo nos llama a todos a ser profetas, a hablar en el*

*Nombre de Dios contra la injusticia;*

*y levantarnos como líderes que se responsabilizan de la fe que se nos ha confiado.*

*Este es el momento de actuar. No podemos esperar nada*

*Ya no es necesario que alguien más diga o haga por nosotros lo que Dios espera que digamos y hagamos.*

*Debemos hacerlo por nosotros mismos.*

*En lugar de quejarnos de que otros hacen cosas en la iglesia y en otros lugares, ahora es el momento para responder al llamado de Dios y actuar.*

*Ojalá todos fuéramos sacerdotes...*

*Ojalá todos fuéramos profetas...*

*Ojalá todos fuéramos líderes...*

*Enlace al P. Homilía de Juan:*

<https://www.youtube.com/live/D5QXTnUFV9o?feature=shared>

*Homily begins at (24:32) mark.*

### 🍀 Reflexionando sobre la Palabra

*¿Cuándo eres interiormente lo suficientemente libre?*

*¿Caer en el amor de Dios hacia los demás?*

*¿Cuándo te “separas” de los demás?*

*¿O “divorciarse” de los demás?*



## ..loving and honoring all the days of our lives...

*Morning, Church!*

Relationship is the central Word today. Our relationship with God existed before our birth, even before the creation of the galaxies. God's eternal Love is proof that God never takes us for granted and doesn't say, "I'll love you until...", or settles for an attitude of just "living together" before committing to us. God doesn't love us for convenience or for any financial benefit. Pure and simple: God's love is unconditional, indiscriminate, extravagant, and forever.

God doesn't keep us at arm's length. God consecrates us in Covenant, so every relationship is sacred. In that Truth, we are called to be in Love, in God's Love with our sisters and brothers.. In that truth we soften our hearts and yield to the love God and others offer us. We are called to "love and honor" one another all the days of our lives. There is no "divorcing" from our God-given relationships. In God's love, there is no "conscious uncoupling", there is no room for settling, for merely "living together", sharing space, air, worship, community life, or service like we're silos in a field. We are "married" to our neighbors in our western counties suffering the horrific aftermath of a hurricane, to refugees, to those in war-torn countries, those detained at the border, and to every neighbor who cries out for bread and justice.

The marriage promises apply to all of our relationships. Just as God loves us no matter what, God asks us to love one other *for better, for worse; to be true to one another in good times and in bad, in sickness and in health. God loves and honors us all the days of our lives* ~ even beyond our death. As Children of God we cannot keep each other at arm's length, "consciously uncoupling" from or "divorcing" each other.

Our relationships require our *full attention* so that nothing separates us from God or each other. Let's not succumb to our ego's relentless temptation to keep each other at arm's length, to "divorce" God or each other. Let's continue to walk *The Way* of God's Children and accept the Reign of God. This is *The Way* we honor God and one another all the days of our lives. May our love be unconditional, indiscriminate, extravagant, and forever.

In CommUNITY,

*spanis*

Fr. John's homily last Sunday reminded us that Baptism calls for *all of us* to be prophets, to speak in God's Name against injustice; and to rise up as leaders who take responsibility for the faith entrusted to us.

***"This is the time to act. We cannot wait any longer for someone else to say or do for us what God expects us to say and do. We must do it for ourselves.***

***Instead of complaining about others doing things in the church and elsewhere, now is the time to answer God's call and act."***

Would that *all of us* were **priests...**  
would that *all of us* were **prophets...**  
would that *all the us* were **leaders...**

Link to Fr. John's homily:






















<https://www.youtube.com/live/D5QXTnUFV9o?feature=shared>  
Go to (24:32) mark.



🍀 *Reflecting on the Word*

*When are you interiorly free enough to "fall in God's love with others"?*

*When do you "separate" yourself from others or "divorce" yourself from others?*

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, 5p
 15	SSJ Founder's Day 1650 Adult Faith Formation ~ The Chosen, 10a Communion Service, 12:15p Ministerial Association, 12N
 16	RCIA, 6:30p; Choir, 7p 
17	Wise Ones Crave Restaurant, Sparta, 1p Hosts: Judy & Frank (336) 701-7688 
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	SSJ CGG, 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 

OCT MASS INTENTIONS	
06	+Grace Jenkins +Msgr. Thomas P. Ivory Gerri Rogers, S.S.J.
13	+Thomas Patrick Rosser
20	+Damien Michael Whisonant
27	+Phil Altemueller +Carter Chu

### Birthdays & Anniversary



- |                     |                           |
|---------------------|---------------------------|
| 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           |
| 11 Beth Orta        |                           |

01 Ofelia & Alberto Nava

10 Andrea Faw & Stephen Faust

22 Liza Go & Jeff Harris

25 Samantha & Andrew Ange

### Jesus:

I promise to be true to you,  
in good times and in bad,  
in sickness and in health.  
I will love you and honor you  
all the days of my life.



What say you?

**¡MUCHAS GRACIAS!**  
**¡MANY THANKS!**

*...to Doris who created our fall altar arrangements...  
...to Matt Norman, Bryan and Owen Wagoner, and  
Maddox LaCashio who cleared the fallen trees,  
so our parking lot would be open for Sunday Mass....  
...many thanks...*

*...a nuestros padres de Formación de Fe por  
su maravillosa presencia y participación  
el domingo pasado...  
...muchas gracias...*



**You're invited!**  
**Adult Faith Formation & Faithsharing:**  
**The Chosen**  
**Tuesdays,**  
**October 15, 29, Nov. 5**  
**10:00a ~ 11:30a**

**Contact S. Janis for more information**

## I Will Love You and Honor You...



In today's gospel Jesus shares the beauty of a woman and man who get married.

Couples who celebrate marriage in our church promise to *love and honor each other all the days of their lives.*

Like all the Sacraments, God gives the couple grace and strength to live in love.

The couple promises to be true to one other in sickness and health, in good times and in bad, for better or worse, whether they are rich or poor, until they go home to God. Like all of us, the couple is called to love and serve others the same way they love each other.

Jesus calls us to love others in the very same ways ~ in good times and bad, in sickness and health, whether we are rich or poor, on our best or worse days, until we go home to God. We are called to love and honor each other all the days of our lives.

All of us are created in God's image and likeness.  
All of us are Children of God and Children of Grace.

Answers to inside page:  
God, bone, woman  
names, birds, animals, partner, sleep,

Let the children come to me!  
Answer to front page:

Bee like Jesus:



Treat others  
the way you  
want to be treat-

# The Kids' Bulletin

## 27th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Sunday, October 6, 2024



Mark 10:13-16

What did Jesus say to the apostles when they tried to keep the children away?

Use the code to find out!


! . : \* ^ E - ' ^ ^ ^ \ ' ^ /  
C D E H I L M N O R T




# Saint John Henry Newman

October 9

JOHN HENRY NEWMAN WAS BORN IN 1801, THE ELDEST OF SIX CHILDREN. HIS FATHER WAS A BANKER IN ENGLAND.



THE FAMILY WAS PROTESTANT, BUT JOHN HENRY TOOK HIS FAITH SERIOUSLY.




HE STUDIED HARD AND BECAME AN ANGLICAN PRIEST.



FOR MANY YEARS HE TAUGHT IN UNIVERSITIES, BUT HE KEPT STUDYING AS WELL.




EVENTUALLY HE SAW THAT THE CATHOLIC CHURCH WAS THE ONE TRUE CHURCH.




The saints prove that the Catholic Church is true!

HE WAS ORDAINED A CATHOLIC PRIEST AND HELPED START A CATHOLIC UNIVERSITY IN IRELAND.



FATHER JOHN HENRY WAS MADE A CARDINAL. HE WROTE ABOUT FORTY BOOKS IN HIS LIFE, AND 21,000 LETTERS BEFORE HE DIED IN 1890.



SAINT JOHN HENRY NEWMAN LEARNED THE TRUTH ABOUT THE CATHOLIC FAITH BECAUSE HE HONESTLY STUDIED ABOUT THE HISTORY OF THE CHURCH. WE SHOULD FOLLOW HIS EXAMPLE AND LEARN ALL WE CAN ABOUT GOD AND THE CHURCH. ONE GOOD WAY IS TO LEARN ABOUT THE SAINTS!

# Fill In The Missing Words!

Use the words at the bottom to fill in the blanks



The man gave \_\_\_\_\_ to all the cattle, all the \_\_\_\_\_ of the air, and all wild \_\_\_\_\_; but none of them proved to be the suitable \_\_\_\_\_ for the man.



So the Lord God cast a deep \_\_\_\_\_ on the man, and while he was asleep, he took out one of his ribs and closed up its place with flesh. The Lord \_\_\_\_\_ then built up into a woman the rib that he had taken from the man. When he brought her to the man, the man said: "This one, at last, is \_\_\_\_\_ of my bones and flesh of my flesh; this one shall be called ' \_\_\_\_\_', for out of 'her man' this one has been taken."



PARTNER NAMES  
BONE GOD  
WOMAN BIRDS  
ANIMALS SLEEP

Genesis 2:18-24

