



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

275 C.C. Wright School Road  
North Wilkesboro NC 28659-9103

**336-838-5562**

Email: [Info@StJohnNC.Org](mailto:Info@StJohnNC.Org)

Website: [www.StJohnNC.Org](http://www.StJohnNC.Org)



**St. Stephen Catholic Church**

101 Hawthorne Road  
Elkin NC 28621-3016

**336-835-3007**

Email: [connect@ststephennc.org](mailto:connect@ststephennc.org)

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.*

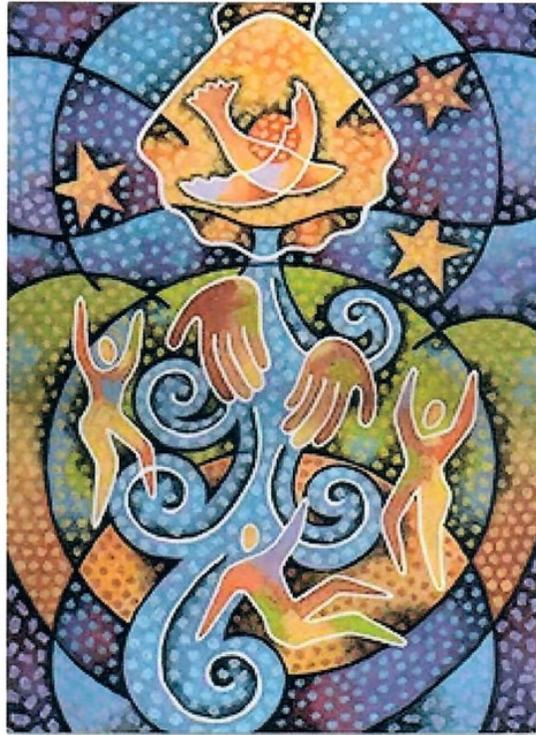
**Anointing of the Sick**

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

**Feast of Mary, Mother of God  
January 1, 2022**

**Everyone is invited and welcome!**

**Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Day  
Community Worship Service  
Sunday, January 15, 2023 – 3:00 PM  
New Beginnings United Methodist Church  
Jonesville, North Carolina**



**“Let justice roll down like waters,  
And righteousness like an ever-flowing stream.”**

Amos 5:24

This worship service is sponsored and lead by *Connections*,  
a group of Elkin and Jonesville clergy who are seeking  
to dismantle racism one relationship at a time.

Preaching

Pastor Wallace Hairston

Sister Janis McQuade SSJ



**St. Stephen là gia đình của bạn!**

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

**Cha Long sẽ ở St. Stephen**

**Chủ nhật, ngày 1 tháng 8, 2:00p**

**để cử hành thánh lễ với bạn**

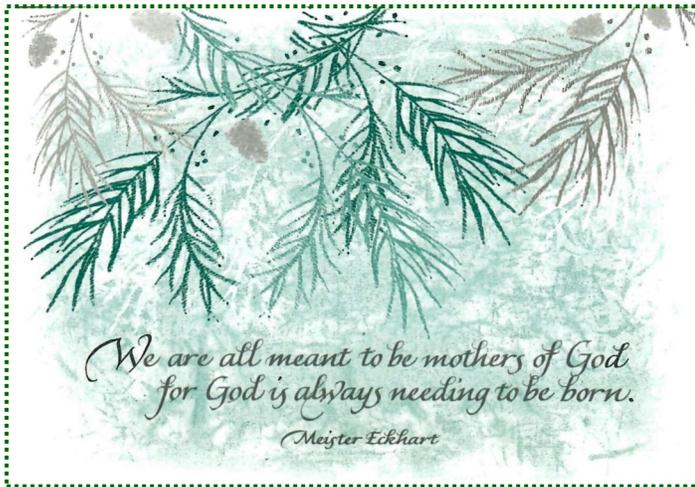
**bằng tiếng Việt.**

**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.**



*We are all meant  
to be mothers of God  
for God is  
always needing to be born.*

*- Meister Eckhart*

### *Morning Church!*

Above is the front cover of the Christmas card sent by our SSJ Leadership Team. Its message is the message of today's Feast of Mary, the Mother of God.

To be a mother of and for God has nothing to do with offering nine months of your life to swollen discomfort, mood and food swings, or sleepless nights. Mothering with and for God is not based on gender. It is based on your faith and capacity for sacrifice, hope, trust, and to be faithful, courageous, and committed.

Never having been a mother or lived the experiences of pregnancy, labor and delivery, does not eliminate you from carrying out the mission and ministry of serving as God's Mother-like presence. In the spiritual realm among Neighbors you encounter, the members of your family, friends, workers, and those you may even call Strangers, are many opportunities to birth Christ's life.

Today, I received from an Ararat, NC mother, asking for help with her oil bill. The woman said all her other bills were paid this month. Our recent cold snap really set her back, so she wanted some help with this bill.

The woman said she's called every church in Surry County, regardless of their denomination. She'd called Tri-County Ministries here and Outreach Ministries in Pilot Mountain. Neither ministries pay oil bills; and the other churches didn't answer or hung up on her.

Also, area charities had just completed their Giving Tree Outreach programs, so all the wells "were dry".

"What about your church?", I asked. Her own church had just replaced the living room and kitchen floors of a church member who's a quadriplegic. They, too, were unable to help her at this time.

She'd called dozens of agencies and churches and felt grateful she called St. S because, even though I couldn't help her, she appreciated being heard. She said that I'd helped her just by being kind and not hanging up on her. Of course she has an open invite to St. Stephen!

Remember, someone's always needing to be birthed, listened to, assured, comforted, encouraged, and mothered in God's Name.

Every conversation like this is your invite to be and do what's you've *always been meant to be and do*: to serve as God's a spiritual dula for everyone.

You are called to keep vigil with those still in "labor" or going through an agonizing "delivery" beyond a loss, a death, a divorce, a breakup, an addiction, or an relentless illness.

Listen with understanding, and be present. There's new life in it for you, as well!

This inside of the SSJ Christmas card says:

*May the celebration of God's birth  
inspire you to seek new ways  
of bringing God's love to the world.*

*Being God's Mother is your soul power!*

*Blessed New Year!*

*spanis*

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

*How do you serve as a mother of God, promoting and nurturing life?*

*How will you do this within St. Stephen Faith Community and beyond this coming year?*

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

JANUARY	
	<i>Happy New YOU. 2023!</i> <i>Feast Mary, Mother of God ~ Mass ~ 9:00a</i>
03	Communion Service, 12:15p
04	RCIA, 6:45p
07	Baptism Prep, St. J, 9a
 08	Feast: Epiphany FFF 10:30-11:45a
10	Communion Service, 12:15p
11	RCIA, 6:45p
15	2nd Sun OT NO FFF Martin Luther King, Jr. Community Prayer Service, 3p New Beginnings United Methodist Ch, Jonesville
16	MLK, Jr. Holiday
17	Communion Service, 12:15p
18	RCIA, 6:45p
19	? Wise Ones, TBA 
 21	Men's Breakfast, Cracker Barrel, 8:30a
 22	3rd Sun OT FFF 10:30-11:45a
23	RCIA, 4:00-5:30p
24	Communion Service, 12:15p
25	RCIA, 6:45p
 29	4th Sun OT FFF 10:30-11:45a
30	St. Stephen Church Dedication Jan. 30, 1956
31	Communion Service, 12:15p

🌿 Mass Intentions	
 01/01	St. Stephen Parishioners +Joseph W. Carboy Tom Lux
08	+Phil Altemueller +Mary Hinson +Joe Edward Sloan

---

### Parish Celebrations

---

03 Alayna Faw	20 Isabella Estrada
09 Joshua Baskey	Cecilia Jones
10 Anahi Parral	21 Ines Trejo
11 Rosa Parral 	22 Sonia Rodriguez
13 Luis Martinez	23 Lou Stackhouse
16 Jenny Ardizzola	25 Braulio Mata
Barry Blackburn	30 Marta Lopez
Epi Cortez	31 Dolores Spicer

 01 Minnie & Julian Espino  
02 Mary & Barry Blackburn

Please remember in prayer:

*Tom Lux*

*June Spelman*



*Joseph Aloisius Ratzinger*  
Pope Benedict XVI

Born:

April 16, 1927

Markt, Germany

Born to Eternal Life:

December 31, 2022

Monastero Mater Ecclesiae, Vatican City

Think of the year  
as a house:  
door flung wide  
in welcome,  
threshold swept  
and waiting,  
a graced spaciousness  
opening and offering itself  
to you.

Let it be blessed  
in every room.  
Let it be hallowed  
in every corner.  
Let every nook  
be a refuge  
and every object  
set to holy use.

### *The Year As a House* *A Blessing* ~ Jan Richardson

Let it be here  
that safety will rest.  
Let it be here  
that health will make its home.  
Let it be here  
that peace will show its face.  
Let it be here  
that love will find its way.

Here  
let the weary come  
let the aching come  
let the lost come  
let the sorrowing come.

Here  
let them find their rest  
and let them find their soothing  
and let them find their place  
and let them find their delight.  
And may it be  
in this house of a year  
that the seasons will spin in beauty,  
and may it be  
in these turning days  
that time will spiral with joy.  
And may it be  
that its rooms will fill  
with ordinary grace  
and light spill from every window  
to welcome the stranger home.

JANUARY 2023						
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31				

*New Year's Blessing Prayer  
For Clocks, Watches  
and Calendars*

~ Fr. Ed Hayes

**(You can place your watches and calendars on the table.)**

Christ, you who live outside of time, and reside in the imperishable moment, we ask your bless on this New Year upon your gift to us of time.

Bless our clocks and watches, you who kindly direct us to observe the passing of minutes and hours.

May they make us aware of the miracle of each second of life we experience.

May we ever be free from being clock watchers an instead become time lovers.

Bless our calendars, these ordered lists of days, weeks, and months, of holildays, holydays, fasts and feasts ~ all our special days of remembering.

Mary these servants, our calendars, once reserved for the royal few, for Magi and pyramid priest, now grace our homes and our lives.

May they remind us of birthdays and other gift-days, as they teach us the secret that all life is meant for celebration and contemplation.

Gracious God, bless this New Year, each of its 365 days and nights.

Bless us with new moons and full moons.

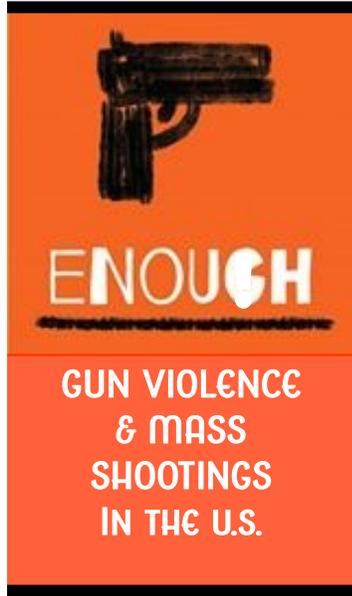
Bless us with happy seasons and long life.



Grant to us, O Christ, the New Year's gift of a Year of Love.  
Amen.+



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



TRI-COUNTY CHRISTIAN MINISTRIES

**SMALL SIZE IS BEST AS WELL AS PURCHASING NON-BRAND NAMES.**



**St. Stephen  
Monthly Donation  
JANUARY  
Any non-perishable  
Toiletries  
Dish or laundry soaps  
until we get our list**

## Images of Mary Around the World



Africa



America



Poland



Vietnam



Mexico

## Mary, The Mother of God and Our Mother

Today, we celebrate another special day. January 1 is the Feast of Mary, the Mother of God.

Mary is our mother, too, because she cares for us and helps us.

Catholics around the world honor Mary, the Mother of God.

Here are some images of how people see Mary, the Mother of God in Africa, America, Poland, Vietnam and in Mexico.

Mary teaches us to say

“yes” to God.

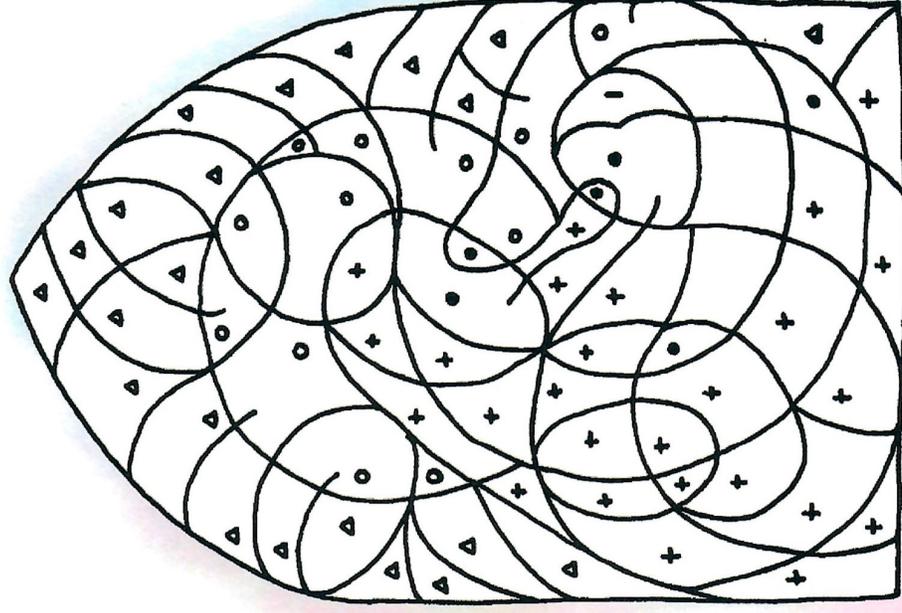
Mary teaches us to follow Jesus.

Mary is the Mother of God and our Mother, too.

# The Kids' Bulletin

Sunday January 1st, 2023

Solemnity of Mary the Mother of God



Whose feast is it on New Year's Day?  
Colour in the spaces to see! Here's the code:

- + Blue
- ▲ Pink
- Yellow
- ! Brown
- Skin colour

# Saint John Neumann

## January 5

# Octave of Christmas

## Word-Find



JOHN NEUMANN WAS BORN IN BOHEMIA IN 1811. HE STUDIED FOR THE PRIEST- HOOD BUT THE BISHOP WOULD NOT ORDAIN HIM BECAUSE THEY HAD SO MANY PRIESTS!

I'm sorry! All the parishes have enough priests.

SO JOHN WAS ORDAINED IN NEW YORK WHERE ONLY 36 PRIESTS HAD TO LOOK AFTER 200,000 CATHOLICS!

There will be much work for all of you.

FR. JOHN WORKED IN A COUNTRY CHURCH THAT HAD A DIRT FLOOR AND NO STEEPLE.

We can't afford to build it better!

It takes us two hours to get here. Can you come to our house next?

HE TRAVELED FROM VILLAGE TO VILLAGE, OFFERING MASS IN PEOPLE'S HOUSES.

AT AGE 41 JOHN WAS CHOSEN TO BE BISHOP OF PHILADELPHIA. HE STARTED 100 CATHOLIC SCHOOLS.

The children need an education!

ONCE WHEN VISITING ONE OF HIS PARISHES, BISHOP JOHN HAD TO TAKE A RIDE ON A MANURE WAGON!

Your excellency, could you hear my friend's confession in French?

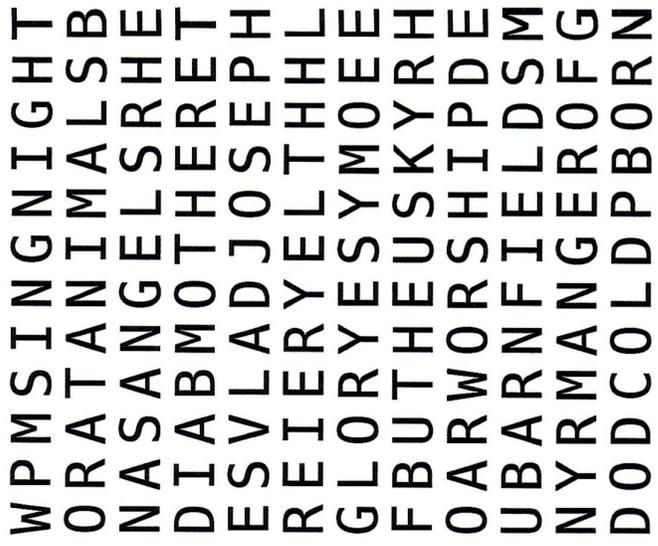
Sure!

ST. JOHN WAS ABLE TO HELP PEOPLE WHO CAME FROM ALL OVER EUROPE BECAUSE HE COULD SPEAK MANY LANGUAGES. HE ALSO TAUGHT BY WRITING IN NEWSPAPERS.

SAINT JOHN NEUMANN WORKED TIRELESSLY TO HELP THE POOR PEOPLE WHO WERE SETTLING IN AMERICA. HE DID NOT LET HIS OWN POVERTY SLOW HIM DOWN. WE CAN LEARN FROM HIS EXAMPLE TO USE OUR TALENTS TO BRING GOD TO THE WORLD NO MATTER HOW MUCH OR HOW LITTLE WE HAVE.

Can you find all the words in the list in the puzzle below? Use the leftover letters to fill in the blanks at the end.

- |           |        |           |
|-----------|--------|-----------|
| ANGELS    | GLORY  | PRAISE    |
| ANIMALS   | GOD    | SAVIOUR   |
| BABY      | HOLY   | SHEEP     |
| BARN      | JESUS  | SHEPHERDS |
| BETHLEHEM | JOSEPH | SING      |
| BORN      | MANGER | SKY       |
| COLD      | MARY   | STABLE    |
| FIELDS    | MOTHER | WONDER    |
| FOUND     | NIGHT  | WORSHIP   |



On the eighth day of Christmas we honour in a special way

-----  
 -----  
 -----  
 -----