



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
Website: www..StJohnNC.Org



St. Stephen Catholic Church

101 Hawthorne Road
Elkin NC 28621-3016
336-835-3007
Email: connect@ststephennc.org
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

Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time
February 4, 2023

The Mystery of Suffering

Morning Church!

“For better, for worse, in sickness and in health” is a phrase from the marriage vow formula. Standing at the altar, the newly-married couple are not thinking of the worst or the sickness that may come. They’re focused on the joy and possibilities of their “yes” to God and each other. All negatives are banished from their thoughts at this celebratory moment.

Part of our faith journey includes experiencing the “worst” and the “sickness” in us and around us. We followers of Jesus can label the “worst” and “sickness” as negatives unless we see these experiences in the light of faith.

Some of life’s “worst”, i.e., suffering, like a friend’s betrayal, brokenness, alienation, diminished physical capacity, or a catastrophic loss, are sacred invitations to go back to the altar of our first yes to God and ask for healing and strength.

The experience of suffering seems like an unsurmountable affliction. Suffering offers two alternatives: dwell on the pain and allow it to drag you into despair so you lose hope; or allow the suffering to reshape your spirit enlarge your heart to accept Christ’s gracious, life-giving, healing power.



The cost of suffering is sacrifice. Sacrifice means *sacred gift*. In Hebrew, sacrifice means to *draw near to God*.

When we understand suffering in the light of faith, we can, with Christ offer it for the life of the world.

In this way, suffering can be transformed and becomes an act of faith, and act of redemption.

Job’s reversal of fortune, a riches to rags story, is decisively set within the Bible’s *Wisdom* literature. This intense poem is meant to teach and re-form believers’ hearts. It accentuates our innate longing for Divine healing and wholeness. It taps into the striking difference between human and Divine perception. Job’s suffering gracefully intensifies his capacity for faithfulness. At the end of the book, *Job arises* from his trials and is honored for his virtue. Job contended with the “worst” and now understands his suffering as his Divine Teacher.

I have heard of you by word of mouth, but now my eye has seen you. 42:5

Like Job, our profound crucible of suffering can ooze with a drudgery born out of wrongful self-reliance. Our “worst” days are meant to bring us to stand again at the altar, at the foot of The Cross, where Christ vowed to love us all the days of our lives. At this altar of prayer, we are grace to renew our promise to love and honor Christ and one another all the days of our lives.

With Peter’s mother-in-law, *we can arise* from whatever fever is gripping our soul. All we have to do is reach out and grasp the hand of the Divine Healer who is right in front of us. The mysteries of suffering and healing remind us that the “worst” is in invitation to allow Christ to heal us and mission us to heal and serve others in his name.

In CommUNITY,

spanis





















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

Recall a time you suffered an illness or a loss.

How did you respond after you were healed?

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

FEBRUARY

	01	SSJ ZOOM 6:00-7:30p	
	04	5th Sun OT Faith Formation, 10:30-12N	
	06	The Chosen, 10a Communion Service, 12:15p	
	07	Music Mtg., 4p RCIA 6p; Choir, 7p 	
	10	Souper Soup Competition, 5:30p, FLC	
	11	6th Sun OT Baptism: Mason Treannie We Believe in Marriage Sunday 	
	12	Ladies Guild, 5p	
	13	The Chosen, 10a Communion Service, 12:15p	
	14	Ash Wednesday Service of Ashes, 12:15p & 7p	
	15	Wise Ones, 1:00p SSJA ZOOM, 6:30-8:15p	
	16	Stations of the Cross, 6p	
	17	Men's Breakfast Cracker Barrel, 8:30a	
	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 	

Opportunities for Lent

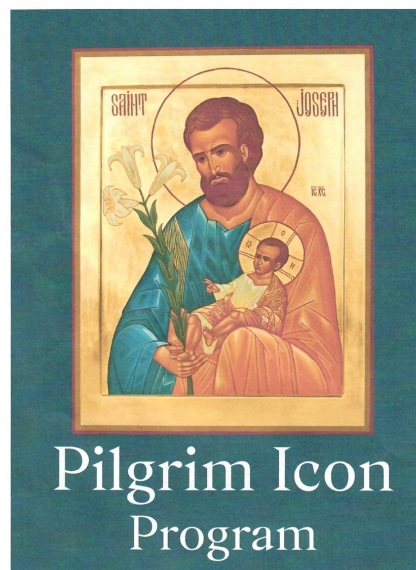
-  **Tuesday Communion Service, 12:15p**
-  **Celebrating the 90 Days:
Ash Wednesday to Pentecost**
Daily Devotional will be posted on our website
-  **Stations of the Cross**
Fridays, Feb. 16 & 23; March 1, 8, 15, 22
-  **Women of Jerusalem March 29**
-  **Ministerial Association Holy Week Service**
March 25. 26. 27. 28, 29 , 12N - 1:00p
Church host: TBD

Mass Intentions

04	+Ezekiel Peña Noreen O'Neill (Birthday)
11	St. Stephen Parishioners
18	Stephen Faust, Ethan VanHorn & Jacob Wagoner
25	+Thomas Patrick Rosser

Birthdays & Anniversaries

- | | |
|----------------------|-----------------------|
| 01 Jusselly Gonzalez | 23 Margarita Serafin |
| 03 Ayda Lopez Chanes | 24 Andrew Ange |
| 08 Marbel Garcia | Laura Barrientos |
| 11 Bob Horneck | Aaron Kelly |
| 14 Karen Gochnauer | Allan Lara |
| 16 Julian Cortez | Marcus Orta |
| 19 Ryan Treannie | 25 Hector Hernandez |
| 22 Julie Colglazier | Ray Hernandez |
| Wendy McClamrock | 26 Catalina Hernandez |
| 23 Gabby LaCashio | |
- 12 Cindy Whitley & Ozzie Martinez
14 Lana & Bob Horneck
17 Catalina & Sergio Hernandez



St. Stephen Church
February 11, 2024
Contact: Patrick Colglazier
(336) 353-0403
Sponsored by Knights of Columbus



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

Jan	17, 18, 19	<p>Feed the Elderly (FTE) is a local service for isolated residents here. of our community.</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**



Ladies Guild

2nd Monday of the Month

Jan 8	Apr 8	Jul 8	Oct 14
Feb 12	May 13	Aug 12	Nov 11
Mar 11	Jun 10	Sept 9	Dec 9



**St. Stephen Ladies Guild
Souper Soup Competition**



February 10, 2024

5:30p ~ Family Life Center

Everyone is invited to enter until all the slots are filled.

Bring a crockpot of your favorite soup, and, if you like, crackers, bread, or chips

If you're willing, bring copies of your recipe to share with everyone.

Sample as many soups and you like, then vote for your favorites.

Winners announces at 7p.



Men's Breakfast Group

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



Wise Ones Luncheon

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

Entry Fee

Soup Chef	Free
Adults & children over 6	\$5.00
Children 3-6	\$3.00
Children under 3	Free

Registration deadline: February 5

For more info or to register and give the name of your soup: Call to leave a message or text Aileen, (336) 466-1484

Spending Time with God



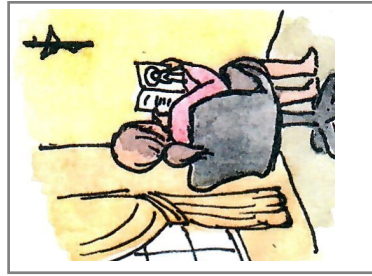
In today's Gospel reading, Our Lord went to Simon and Andrew's house, where He spent the evening healing the sick and casting out demons. But early the next morning before the sun came up He went away into the wilderness to pray.

At first we wonder why Jesus would have to pray- He is God, after all! But He was also human so He needed to take some time to be with His Heavenly Father. And that is what real praying is- it's being with God and talking to Him and listening to Him.



Jesus knew the importance of staying close to God by praying every day. Prayer and reading the Bible give you the inner strength to serve others in Jesus' Name with joy and generosity.

Take time to speak with Jesus every day.
Listen to Jesus speak to you.

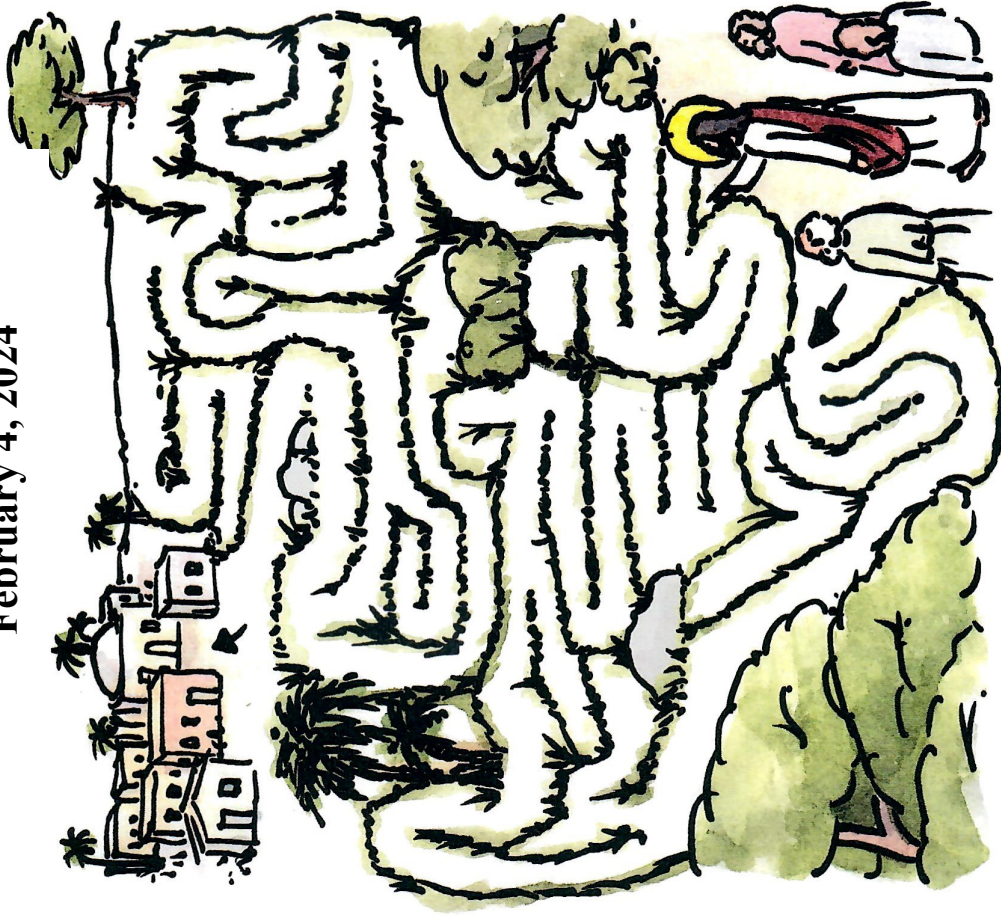


Create a prayer corner, a quiet space inside or outside your house for prayer.

3. bottom:1, 3. middle: 4, 6. top:5; 2. picture and puzzle to answers

The Kids' Bulletin

5th Sunday in Ordinary Time
February 4, 2024



At the end of today's Gospel reading, Jesus tells Simon that they will go to the nearby villages to preach. Can you find your way through the maze to the nearby village?

Saint Jerome Emiliani

February 8



JEROME EMILIANI WAS BORN TO A FAIRLY WEALTHY ITALIAN FAMILY IN 1481. HE BECAME A SOLDIER AND DIDN'T THINK MUCH ABOUT GOD AT ALL.

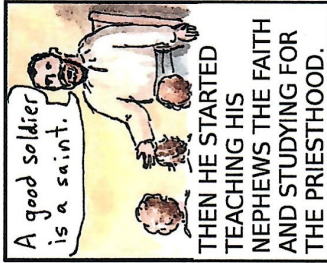


BUT WHEN HE WAS CAPTURED AND THROWN IN A DUNGEON HE TURNED TO GOD.

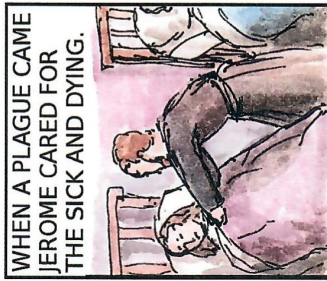
Why am I here?



HE ESCAPED AND PUT HIS CHAINS IN A CHURCH TO SHOW HIS THANKS FOR BEING FREED.



A good soldier is a saint. THEN HE STARTED TEACHING HIS NEPHEWS THE FAITH AND STUDYING FOR THE PRIESTHOOD.

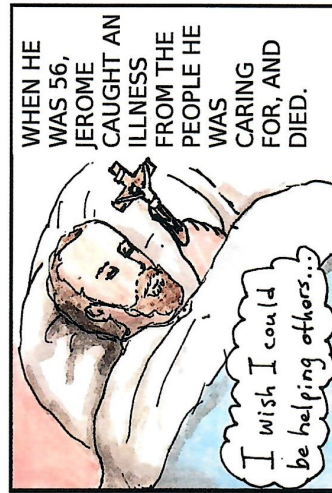


WHEN A PLAGUE CAME JEROME CARED FOR THE SICK AND DYING.



HE BEGAN A RELIGIOUS ORDER THAT HELPED THE ORPHANS, AND HE STARTED HOSPITALS AS WELL.

We can use this house for a new hospital.



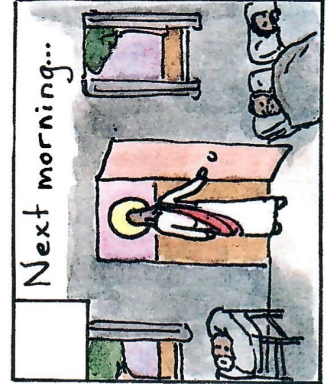
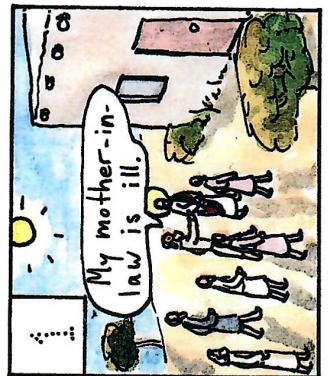
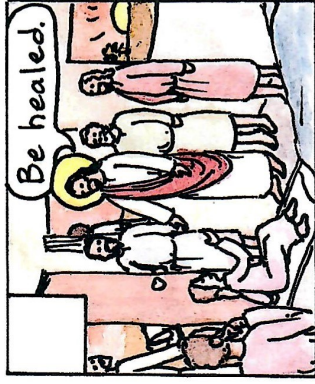
WHEN HE WAS 56, JEROME CAUGHT AN ILLNESS FROM THE PEOPLE HE WAS CARING FOR, AND DIED.

I wish I could be helping others...

Sort-out-the-Pictures:

An Evening and Morning with Jesus

What happened in today's Gospel reading? See if you can sort out the order of these pictures by putting the numbers 1 to 6 in the boxes.



AT FIRST SAINT JEROME ONLY FOUGHT FOR HIS OWN GLORY. THEN HE CAME TO SEE THAT THERE WAS ANOTHER, BIGGER FIGHT: TO CONQUER HIS OWN WILL AND TO LOVE OTHERS. WE CAN LEARN FROM HIS EXAMPLE TO OVERCOME OUR SELFISHNESS AND CARE FOR THE PEOPLE AROUND US WHO ARE SUFFERING.

We pray for our sisters and brothers in Gaza, Maui, Morocco, Middle East, and Libya... and the 32 places where war is being raged now.



Our Lady of Protection, pray for us!

Ukrainian Catholics dedicate their country to *Our Lady of Protection*, interceding to Mary to wrap their country with her mantle of loving protection.

Tri-C Almsgiving
Thank you so much !!

JAN	Canned tomatoes, Spaghetti sauce
FEB	Corn meal
MAR	Small laundry soap



Winter Weather Broadcasts
WXII Ch. 11 or 1203
Fox 8 Ch. 10 or 1206



CARE for CREATION
RECYCLE INK CARTRIDGES
LOBBY CONTAINERS
Thank you!

Do you know the number of U.S. Mass shootings and gun-related deaths so far in 2024?



WHEN IS ENOUGH, ENOUGH?