

*Until further notice the diocese has asked that we suspend the distribution of the Precious Blood and refrain from the Sign of Peace handshake during Mass to help prevent the spread of the flu. Refer to our web-site for more details.*

1802 Bethel Rd.

**SATURDAY, FEB. 17**

Mass (English) ..... 5:30pm  
 Debra Yaniko Rogers, RIP  
 Grandpa Ed, RIP  
 Andy Blanchard, RIP

Mass (Spanish) ..... 7:00pm  
 Private Intentions

**SUNDAY, FEB. 18**

Mass (English) .....8:00am  
 Lee Perkins, RIP

Mass (English) .....10:45am

Mass for the People

Mass (Spanish) ..... 12:30pm  
 Private Intentions

**DAILY MASS SCHEDULE (ENGLISH)**

211 South Main Street (Chapel)

**MONDAY, FEB. 19**

(No Mass on Monday)

**TUESDAY, FEB. 20**

Mass .....8:45am  
 Volunteers who served in East Africa with  
 Pallottine Fathers

**WEDNESDAY, FEB. 21**

Mass .....8:45am  
 Diocese of Fort Worth

**THURSDAY, FEB. 22**

Mass .....8:45am  
 Alan Caldwell, RIP

**FRIDAY, FEB. 23**

Mass .....8:45am  
 Anne Neville & Family

**SATURDAY, FEB. 24**

Mass (English) ..... 5:30pm  
 Missa Pro Populo

Mass for The People of Our Parish

Mass (Spanish) ..... 7:00pm  
 Private Intentions

**SUNDAY, FEB. 25**

Mass (English) .....8:00am  
 Thomas & Mary Rutko, RIP

Mass (English) .....10:45am  
 Pallottine Fathers, Private Invention

Mass (Spanish) ..... 12:30pm  
 Private Intentions



**On the Subject of Temptation**

*Question:* At times, temptation seems so powerful that is almost impossible to resist. How can I be stronger in my resolve to avoid sin and temptation?

*Answer:* Temptation is powerful because it appeals to our human weakness and our desire for power, wealth, control, or personal satisfaction. Evil disguises itself as something good and we are enticed to make a choice. Our will is weakened each time we give in to something for selfish reasons, especially things we do not wish to choose. It is not something we can totally avoid, because temptation is not something we create or sometimes recognize, but rather it comes from evil. But it would be a mistake to think of temptation only in terms of things that are really sinful. Temptation gains its strength by wearing down our will to choose good. If we fail in the small choices, we are all the more likely to fail in the bigger ones.

Herein lies the wisdom of the Church in encouraging us to make small sacrifices and to do Lenten penance. In these practices of self-denial, we strengthen our will to choose, our ability to recognize good, and our desire to avoid evil. The balance of power shifts from evil to good, from temptation to resistance. We then overcome evil in the small struggles of daily life and are more attuned to the prompting our conscience to choose good.

**READINGS FOR THE WEEK**

- Sun: Gn 9:8-15/Ps 25:4-5, 6-7, 8-9 [cf. 10]/  
1 Pt 3:18-22/ Mk 1:12-15
- Mon: Lv 19:1-2, 11-18/Ps 19:8, 9, 10, 15 [Jn 6:63b]/  
Mt 25:31-46
- Tues: Is 55:10-11/Ps 34:4-5, 6-7, 16-17, 18-19 [18b]/  
Mt 6:7-15
- Wed: Jon 3:1-10/Ps 51:3-4, 12-13, 18-19 [19b]/  
Lk 11:29-32
- Thurs: 1 Pt 5:1-4/Ps 23:1-3a, 4, 5, 6 [1]/ Mt 16:13-19
- Fri: Ez 18:21-28/Ps 130:1-2, 3-4, 5-7a, 7bc-8 [3]/  
Mt 5:20-26
- Sat: Dt 26:16-19/Ps 119:1-2, 4-5, 7-8 [1b]/  
Mt 5:43-48
- Next Su: Gn 22:1-2, 9a, 10-13, 15-18/Ps 116:10, 15,  
16-17,18-19 [9]/ Rom 8:31b-34/Mk 9:2-10

**SAINTS AND SPECIAL OBSERVANCES**

- Sunday: 1st Sunday of Lent
- Monday: Presidents Day
- Wednesday: St. Peter Damian, Bishop &  
Doctor of the Church
- Thursday: The Chair of St. Peter the Apostle
- Friday: St. Polycarp, Bishop & Martyr;  
Day of abstinence
- Next Sunday: 2nd Sunday of Lent



**Patriotic Rosary, Feb 20, 7pm St. Stephen Chapel,** 211 S. Main Street. Come, let us pray to our Blessed Mother that she will guard and protect our country from those who wish to destroy it, bring God's influence to our leaders that they lead us based on his will and not our own, restore love and peace in our hearts, and heal us so that we may truly be one nation under god indivisible with liberty and justice for all

Support our bulletin sponsors

**Realty World**

**Our Catholic schools extend their thanks.**

Educators, students and parents across the Diocese send heartfelt thanks and prayers for your donations to **Catholic School Tuition Assistance Fund**. If you were unable to support the collection last week, you may drop a clearly marked contribution into the collection at your parish, or Text SCHOOLS to 91999.



**St. Stephen Annual Irish Pallottine Fund Drive**

Sponsored by the Knights of Columbus

The tradition of supporting the Irish Pallottine Missions during Lent will continue this year at St. Stephen. Please take a can home and place it in a prominent place so that everyone in your household has an opportunity to contribute to this wonderful organization.



**What image do you want others to have about you? Does what you wear portray that image? Join us in the clubhouse on Wed. Feb 21 to discuss. Doors open at 6pm.**

**All are welcome!** If you are a visitor, we hope that you will found our parish to be vibrant and spirit filled! Please consider becoming part of our parish family. If you would like to know more, go online at <http://saintstephenc.org/new-to-st-stephen>. Fill out our contact form and we will contact you and discuss what the St. Stephen church community has to offer you and your family. The Hispanic Committee will be providing breakfast in the parish hall between the Sunday Masses this weekend. Please join us and get to know our faith community even better!



WELCOME



**STEWARDSHIP NEWS UPDATE**

6th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Feb. 10-11 ..... \$11,733.00  
 Spanish Dinners to date .....\$222,803.14

## WEEKLY CALENDAR OF EVENTS

### SUNDAY FEB. 18

- 7:30 am Sunday Morning Rosary (Church)  
 9:30 am Religious Education Classes - English (HSC)  
 9:30 am Post Confirmation Classes for Teens (Rm 7)  
 9:30 am RCIA Adapted for Children (Rm 12, 2-6, Rm 4, 7-12)  
 9:30 am Young Adult Class (Rm 4)  
 9:30 am Gospel of Matthew (Rm 14)  
 9:30 am Adult Bible Study (Rm 1-2)  
 11:15 am Religious Education Classes - Spanish (HSC)  
 1:30 pm Young Adult Group (Rm 1)  
 2:00 pm Baby Shower (Clubhouse)

### MONDAY FEB. 19

- 6:00 pm Adoration of Blessed Sacrament (Church)  
 7:00 pm Cursillistas Ultreya (Parish Hall)  
 7:00 pm Citizenship Classes (Rm 11)

### TUESDAY FEB. 20

- 8:45am Daily Mass  
 9:30 am Ladies Bible Study (Rm 1-2)  
 7:00 pm Grupo de Oracion (Church)

### WEDNESDAY FEB. 21

- 10:15 am Yoga Classes (Clubhouse)  
 5:00 pm Youth Choir (Church)  
 5:30 pm Salud Menta..Como Fortalecer Nuestro Cerebro (Rm 14)  
 6:00 pm Youth Group (Clubhouse)  
 6:30 pm RCIA (Parish Hall)  
 6:30 pm Catholic Daughters (Rm 1-2)  
 7:00 pm Adult Choir Practice (Church)  
 7:00 pm Hispanic Council (Holy Spirit Center)  
 7:00 pm ESL Classes (Holy Spirit Center)

### THURSDAY FEB. 22

- 8:45am Daily Mass  
 9:30 am Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament (Chapel)  
 10:00 am Quilting Group (Pro Shop)  
 6:00 pm Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament (Church)  
 7:00 pm Saturday Mass Spanish Choir Practice (Rm 1-2)  
 7:00 pm Sunday Mass Spanish Choir Practice (Church)

### FRIDAY, FEB. 23

- 8:45am Daily Mass  
 5:30 pm Soup & Sandwich (Knights of Columbus)  
 7:00 pm Stations of the Cross (English)  
 7:30 pm Stations of the Cross (Spanish)

### SATURDAY, FEB. 24

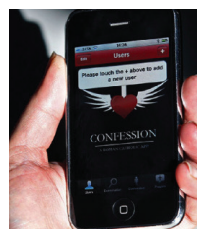
- 4:00 pm Individual Confessions (Church)  
 5:00 pm Saturday Evening Rosary (Church)

## BEST LENT EVER

### What Is BEST LENT EVER?

It's a free email program that will guide you on an incredible 40-day journey to become the best-version-of-yourself, making this a truly life-changing Lent.

### 10 apps and a few ideas on how to use them to strengthen your Lenten journey. By Jennifer Rey, OSV Daily Take



- 1. Laudate.** This is a given. Known as the No. 1 Catholic app, it offers a wide variety of resources, from the daily readings to Vatican documents. Great resources for Lent include the Stations of the Cross, the Rosary, Liturgy of the Hours and a daily examination of conscience.
- 2. Truth & Life.** This app is a dramatized audio rendition of the New Testament. For Lent, you can download the free version and study the book of Mark (the full version is \$19.99). It still has study questions and other resources.
- 3. Rosary of the Hours.** You can try a new way of praying the Rosary this Lent. It's designed for using one decade for each hour of the day (from the Joyful, Luminous, Sorrowful and Glorious mysteries), but you can simply use the Sorrowful. The app has Psalms, meditations and Scripture passages for each mystery. You could then transition to the full Rosary after Easter. It's a great way to start a new spiritual habit.
- 4. Confession.** Suggested by Bishop Conry, this app develops an examination of conscience based on age, sex and vocation and then walks you through the sacrament. With this tool, you can commit to more frequent confession throughout Lent.
- 5. Mary.** Made by the creators of the popular Divine Mercy app, "Mary" is a great way to get to know the Blessed Mother. Journeying with her thought Lent is a beautiful way to approach her Son. The app includes information about dogma, doctrine, titles, apparitions and more, as well as prayers and devotions.
- 6. Ignio.** This is a more social option for spirituality. The app tracks your spiritual activities, and you can share your prayers and thoughts with your friends. I recommend identifying a group of friends to try this with, since you have to get started by "bumping" your device with someone else's to have full access to features. This could be a great way to start a Lenten group.
- 7. Mass Explained.** While this is only available on the iPad, it looks like an incredible experience made for that platform. Lent is a great time to learn more about the Mass and fall deeper in love with Christ.
- 8. The Pope App.** News, speeches, images, live feeds ... you can follow Pope Francis every day. A good place to start could be to read (or watch) his general audiences or Sunday Angelus addresses throughout Lent.
- 9. CRS Rice Bowl.** This app from Catholic Relief Services is a great way to tap into almsgiving during Lent. You can set specific goals and track your progress. It also offers reflections, meatless recipes and personal stories.

**10. UNICEF Tap Project.** You may have heard of this one. It's not Catholic, but it is a great way to give. By leaving your phone alone for 10 minutes, their sponsor will provide one day of clean water for a child in need. It is a great way to practice detachment without sacrificing the ability to evangelize throughout this great season.

One final tip? Keep it manageable. Try picking one or two apps with a specific purpose in mind. Have an "appy" Lent! Jennifer Rey is the web editor of Our Sunday Visitor Publishing.

### To get signed up for this inspirational program go to:

<https://dynamiccatholic.com/bestlentever>

You will receive daily emails with short inspirational videos from Matthew Kelly, practical tips to incorporate into your everyday life, and personal stories from Dynamic Catholic team members. What a great way to start each day during Lent! Our lives change when our habits change. Your 40 days of Lent will be an incredibly transformative experience because you've learned simple yet powerful ways to become the person God created you to be.

## STAFF

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## SACRAMENTS

**Marriage** - one-year notice required;  
 Contact Fr. Mike

**Aviso para el Matrimonio** - se requiere un año  
 Por favor contacte al Padre Mike.

**Baptism Instruction** - Please contact the Church Office to register. Check web-page calendar [www.saintstephenc.org](http://www.saintstephenc.org) for class schedules. Las personas que quieran tomar platicas pre-bautismales, deben llenar y entregar la forma las platicas son los 2º lunes de cada mes a la 7:00 pm, al diacono.

**RCIA** - "Rite of Christian Initiation for Adults". Call Elaine Hall 682-229-3628

**Prayer Chain Coordinators** - Ann Allen (817-594-8637) Martha Nowak (817-441-9223) Bonnie Kunath (817-599-3865).

**Visitation of the Sick & Shut-Ins.** Contact the church office 817-596-9585 to schedule.

**Marriage Cases** - Need help with a marriage case, please call the church office 817-596-9585.

**Casos Matrimoniales** - Si necesita ayuda en un caso matrimonial, favor de llamar a la oficina de la parroquia para mayorinformación.

**Quinceañera** - Six-month notice required - girl must be attending Religious Education

**Classes and Mass regularly.** Contact Deacon Carlos Frias 817-757-8985.

**Clubhouse Facility** - available for rent for small events such as: birthdays, showers, family dinners. Please contact Parish Office for information.

**Census Information** - Please contact the church office if you are new to our Parish, change address or phone number, or relocate.

**Bulletin Notices** - Submit one week in advance. **Wednesday, 12 Noon deadlines.** Call the church office or email dorothy@saintstephenc.org

### PRAYER AROUND THE CROSS



The G.P.S Young Adult Group is sponsoring a candle light, quiet, reflective time of prayer centered around the Cross of Christ. Please join us Friday evenings during Lent in Rm 1-2 from 7:30-8:30pm.