



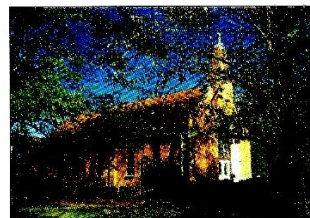
St. John Baptiste de LaSalle Catholic Church

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336-838-5562

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St. Stephen Catholic Church

***101 Hawthorne Road
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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. Cuauhdemec (Temoc) Herrejon

828-773-2353

St. John

Sabrina Caudill 336-957-1295 Bookkeeper

Mary Buran, Karen Huffman Music Ministry

Peggy Mill, Anne Stone RCIA

Garcia Ocompo Youth Ministry

Mary Sorel Faith Formation

St. Stephen

Julie Colglazier 336-353-8222 Bookkeeper

Theresa Martin Music Ministry

Patrick Colglazier Youth Ministry

Peggy Reikowsky Youth Ministry

Phillip Parrish RCIA

Worship Times

Saturday Vigil Mass, 4:00p

Sunday Mass, 11:15a, En español, 1:30p

Daily Mass, Holy Days Consult Bulletin

Sacrament of Reconciliation Saturdays, 3:00-4:00p

Sunday Mass, 9:00a

Holy Days 7:00p

Communion Service Consult bulletin

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)

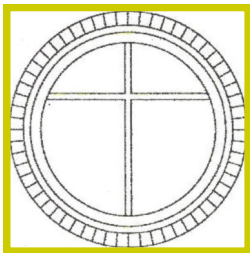
For those who desire to explore the Catholic Faith, spirituality, customs, and practices.

Anointing of the Sick

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

22nd Sunday in Ordinary Time

August 30, 2020



*Do not conform yourselves to this age...
...be transformed by the renewal of your minds...
...discern what is the will of God,
what is good and pleasing and perfect.*

Morning, Church!

Temptations abound. Some are blatant confrontations why others are insidiously covert urgings. Temptations abound, they confront, and they dare you to give into what is merely temporary, what will give you a brief respite or sense of comfort in this time that challenges your deepest beliefs.

It may strike you, as it does me, the timelessness of God's Word in today's liturgy. God's Word has power, power to transform your heart and mind, your life and your choices. The temptation that stands between you and God's Word and Truth is to conform to this age and its vitriolic voices and violence; to condone by your silence, all that is division and destructive in our country now. The temptation is ongoing as it seeps into the heart almost undetected. Once it takes us residence, it effects and infects every thought, word and action.

Jeremiah, a most reluctant prophet, tried everything he could to urge the Israelites not to conform to the pagan lifestyle of their adductors, the Babylonians and their idolatrous ways. For his efforts, he was arrested, imprisoned, and publicly disgraced. He paid for his nation's impenitence and the sealing of its doom. King Nebuchadnezzar would capture and destroy Jerusalem, and take its leading citizens into exile. Jeremiah remained among the ruins of Jerusalem until he, too, got forced into Egyptian exile.

Like Jeremiah, Paul urged the First Followers not to be conformed to their age and culture. Wonder what they'd say about the pandemic's 200K preventable death...about our public health being politicized... ..about our systemic racism and white nationalism...about our environment that cries out for restoration and healing...this is our world that we're tempted to air bush instead of address with love and understanding.

Conforming to this age fortifies the "isms." Conforming to this age is counter to The Way of the gospel. To resist conforming to this age means taking up our cross, praying honestly to see our true self with all our gifts, leanings, biases (hidden and obvious), and all those assumptions we have about the prophets in our midst.

Openness to God's specific graces at this time is critical for "the transformation of your mind." Unless you live a counter-culture lifestyle, you will easily be drown in the vortex of silence and complacency. Like the Israelites who were abducted and enslaved by the Egyptians, you will be abducted and enslaved by the culture and its violence-based values.

Jesus commands his followers to banish the evil values of the culture and take up his cross. Only if you are willing to lose our life for the sake of the gospel will be gain eternal life. Conformity to culture condemn its followers. Be God's prophet: speak up for what is good, right, and just. Resist compromising your integrity.

This struggle is a daily struggle. Like Jeremiah, Paul, and Jesus, you'll get a lot of push back when you stand in your faith. You'll make mistakes and you may even suffer for the gospel. You're in good company. The One who calls you to be prophet will sustain you to the end.

*Do not conform yourself to this age,
but be transformed by the renewal of your minds
that you might know what is the will of God,
what is good and pleasing and perfect.*

LIFE. FAMILY. PARISH. MAKE THEM BETTER.

God's blessings,

spanis

Sunday Scriptures	
Jer. 20:7-9	Romans 12:1-2
Ps 63:2-6, 8-9	Matthew 16:21-27

☪ Reflecting on the Word _____

In what ways are you tempted to conform to this age? How do you "discern what is good and pleasing and perfect?"

AUGUST	
30	22nd Sun OT
SEPTEMBER	
01	Communion Service, 12:15p
06	23rd Sun OT



Blessings on our new SSJ Associates in Mission who celebrated their Welcoming Ritual this week, Kathy Jenkins, Carmen & Brad Kitts, and Ronnie Krakovsky

*Sisters of St. Joseph ~ Maxim 87
Don't get caught up in your gifts and talents.
You are both frail and glorious.*

- ☪ *My gifts are just that ~ gifts to be held lightly..*
- ☪ *I trust God to use both my frailties and my strengths*
- ☪ *Living simply helps me to humbly recognize my true self.*



Thanks
a
Bunch!
God
bless
you,
real
good!

...thank you for your ongoing support for our church and Tri-C ministries...to our church cleaners, *thanks!*

Reminder: please mail your church donations to:

Janis McQuade, S.S.J.
765-J Oakland Drive
Elkin NC 28621-2955

ONE check, ONCE a month
with a note how you want to break
out your contribution

Thank you!!

Tri-C Christian Ministries



☪ August Intentions	
30	+Denis DeCarlo r/b S. Janis +Fr. Michael Labadie r/b Carmen & Brad
☪ September Intentions	
06	Fr. Ed Sheridan
13	+Joshua Flockhart r/b Carmen & Brad +Letty & Myron Kitts r/b Carmen & Brad
20	Celeste & Larry Liss (Anniversary)
27	+Alice Gwyn Heusel r/b Becky

Your best source for parish info is:
ST. STEPHEN PARISH WEBSITE

Birthdays & Anniversaries

30 Nancy Espino

31 Judy & Ron Berrryman

03 Solomon Mata
Rosa Islas
06 Carlos Trejo
10 Sonia DeJesus
13 Abril Hernandez
Erika Ramirez



15 Peggy Reikowsky
24 Millie Mounce
25 Theresa Martin
28 Britney Crispin
29 Minnie Espino



11 Cecelia & Richie Jones
22 Maria & Jose Ledesma
30 Raquel & Pedro Barrientos

☪ Prayer Request

...for our sisters and brothers recovering from Hurricane Laura...for Iowan's (Jerry S's family members) and others who lost their farms and home due to the tornados...those in the path of the wildfires out West; and all who are struggling with COVID, and our brave, wearied First Responders in all these areas and elsewhere; for and end to the violence in our hearts and in our streets...
...and all who have gone before us in faith this week and now rest in the heart of God.