

Dear friends,

What a great festival we had this past Sunday! It was fun for the whole family of St. Stephen. The layout of the grounds was just amazing, the weather was perfect, the turnout was huge, and everyone did what needed to be done to make it a success. It was truly a team and community effort. I had an amazing experience visiting the different booths. St. Stephen is a blessed community and I am proud to be one of you. The food was delicious, the games were interesting, and it was great meeting people from different parishes who honored our invitation. There was indeed something for everyone to eat and drink. THANK YOU all for making the festival a huge success and we are most grateful to God for being so good to us.

We are still in the Jubilee Year of Mercy and the readings remind us of the Mercy of God. The first reading today is from the book of Sirach, one of the Wisdom books. This book teaches us about many things: God has no favorites, the prayer of the lowly pierces the clouds and will reach its goal. We can compare this to the Gospel today, from Saint Luke, which presents us with two people, both praying. The first person tells God all that he has done that is good. The other simply tells God that he is a sinner. The sinner is heard.

In the Second reading, the second Letter to Timothy gives us the perspective of Saint Paul: I have kept in the race, I have persevered, I trust in the Lord. The race is simply to live our life here on earth with this total trust in God, no matter how often we fail or turn aside. We know the truth of this life: God loves us unconditionally. We know the path of this life: love of God and love of our neighbor, especially our enemy. We also know that God will always give us the strength to believe if we only ask Him in Prayer.

The Gospel today is teaching us that God calls us not to look down on others, as the Pharisee looked down on the Tax Collector. God is inviting us to a sincere meditative prayer, where we see ourselves as we are. The more humbly we live, the more confidence we are in His love and compassion. During this Jubilee Year of Mercy, let us be humble in taking time out to pray as the Tax Collector, saying: Lord, be merciful to me, a sinner.

Have a blessed weekend.

Fr. Jude Uche, MSP.

30th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Today's Gospel is the famous parable of the Pharisee and Publican. What the Pharisee could not see and the Publican could was that all goodness and all grace come from God! The Publican in humility called out for God's mercy while the Pharisee thought that his good actions justified him before God. The good we do is God's grace working in us and we do it with humility and gratitude for God's love. What good works can you do this week that will give witness to God's grace and love and mercy in your life?

30to Domingo del Tiempo Ordinario

El Evangelio de hoy es la famosa parábola del Fariseo y el Publicano o recaudador de impuestos. Lo que el Fariseo no podía ver y el Publicano sí podía, fue que toda la bondad y toda la gracia vienen de Dios! El Publicano con humildad pedía la misericordia de Dios mientras que el Fariseo pensaba que sus buenas acciones lo justificaban ante Él. El bien que hacemos es la gracia de Dios trabajando en nosotros y lo hacemos con humildad y gratitud por el amor de Dios. ¿Qué buenas obras puede usted hacer esta semana que darán testimonio del amor, la gracia y la misericordia de Dios en su vida?

CHURCH CALENDAR

SUNDAY OCTOBER 23
2 pm First Reconciliation parent meeting
2nd Collection World Mission Sunday

MONDAY OCTOBER 24

TUESDAY OCTOBER 25
8 am Men's Bible Study - OLG Rm
6 pm TNMC - Parish Hall

WEDNESDAY OCTOBER 26
9 am Women's Bible Study
5:30-8 pm Faith Formation Classes
6:45 pm Spanish Women's Group

THURSDAY OCTOBER 27
6 pm RCIA—St. Stephen Rm
7 pm Pastoral Council

FRIDAY OCTOBER 28
7 pm Grupo de Oración

SATURDAY OCTOBER 29
10 pm Olvera Baptism
12 pm Fatima Quinceanera

Monetary Stewardship

Collection Last Week:

Regular: \$ 3465.00
Online: \$ 478.36
Total \$ 3943.36

Second Collection—October 22-23
World Mission Sunday

... remembering the words of the Lord who said, It is more blessed to give than to receive (Acts 20:35).

Building for Our Lord Campaign
Construyendo Para Nuestro Señor

Total Pledge To Date:
\$1,421,876.00

Amount Collected To Date:
\$781,084.05

Pledges to be Redeemed:
\$644,174.95

Paid Diocese Month of September
\$15,000.00

Loan Balance to Date:
\$618,000.00

Original Loan Total
\$800,000.00

CONFIRMATION MEETING

Sunday, November 6
1-3 PM

There will be a Confirmation Meeting for ALL parents and students preparing for the sacrament of Confirmation this year on Sunday, November 6 from 1-3 PM in the Parish Hall.

Confirmation will be on Sunday, February 12, 2017 9:00 AM Mass

Grupo de Mujeres Hispanas

Seguira reuniéndose todos los Miércoles a las 6:30 de la tarde. Para mas información hablen con la señora Elsa Olalde.

Mass Intentions

Sat.	Oct 22	5:30 pm	Romayne Tyrrell +
Sun.	Oct 23	9:00 am	Maria Murray +
		11:00 am	World Mission Sunday
Mon.	Oct 24		No Mass
Tues.	Oct 25	6:00 pm	Virgil Lucas
Wed.	Oct 26	8:30 am	Brent Romero +
Thurs	Oct 27	8:30 am	Stewart Smith
Fri	Oct 28	12:00 pm	Virgil Lucas
Sat	Oct 29	5:30 pm	Ken Mueller +
Sun	Oct 30	9:00 am	For the People
		11:00 am	Cristian Ortiz (16th Birthday)

Ministry Schedule for October 29-30, 2016

Mass	Lector	Altar Servers	Ushers / Greeters	Ministers of Eucharist
5:30 PM	P Watson W Faulkner	M Markham E Markham	D Broecker P Broecker M Dorskocil	T Schatte R Schatte B Wald
9:00 AM	A Rodriguez G Petter	M Cross A Patton	G Pritchett D Lumpkin T Buckley	Deacon Ernie D Roberts J Rodriguez M Riley K Cross
11:00 AM	C Ortiz E Olalde	M Sanchez K Lopez D Lopez D Villasana K de Jesus	C Cortez Bertha R. J Rocha	B Martinez J Villarreal M de la Hoya L Perez P Esteves

FALLFEST RAFFLE WINNERS

1 Oz Gold coin

Alondra Hernandez

King Quilt

Gaby Olalde

Green Egg & Nest

María Valdez

Yeti 75" Cooler

Kathy Michna

48" TV

John Danek

GoPro 4 Camera

Helen Simonette

Wooden Glass Cross

Rogelio Martinez

\$250 Visa Card

Dennis Lumpkin

\$200 HEB Card

Mary Ramirez

29" Bike

Gary Chalupa

\$100 Lottery Tickets

Phil Kunz

Wreath

Blake Moore

Pray and give generously
World Mission Sunday
October 23, 2016
The Society for the Propagation of the Faith
a Pontifical Mission Society

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION & HOLY COMMUNION MEETING
Sunday, October 23 2:00 PM
Please join us for a parent & student meeting for all those preparing for the sacrament of Reconciliation & Holy Communion on Sunday, October 23 at 2:00 PM

SALADO COMMUNITY HALLOWEEN/FALL FESTIVAL

Monday, Oct. 31, 5-7pm Wildfire Arena

FREE candy, food, games, inflatables.
Bring the whole family.
Come in costume. Canned food donations for the area food bank will be accepted at the entrance, but by no means a requirement for entry.