



ST. STEPHEN CATHOLIC CHURCH



1300 NE J Street, Bentonville, AR 72712

December 13, 2020

THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT

Pastor

Rev. Msgr. Scott L. Marczuk, J.C.L.

Associate Pastor - Administrator of Blessed Stanley Rother Church in Decatur

Fr. Balaraju (Bala) Akkala

Parish Secretary - Bethany Hill

ststephen@ststephenbentonville.com

Parish Accounting - Melanie Ray

accounting@ststephenbentonville.com

Receptionist/Bulletin Editor Crisselda Espinosa

(Habla Español) receptionist@ststephenbentonville.com

Social Media Coordinator Elizabeth Ganey

marketing@ststephenbentonville.com

Liturgical Environment - Sandy Baumhover

Parish Communications

Office Hours: Monday - Thursday 9:00am-3:00pm

Friday 9:00am-12:00pm

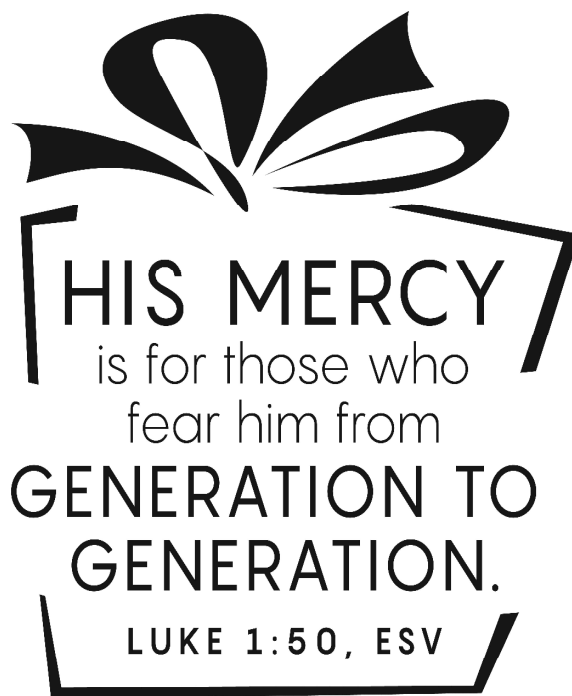
Phone: 479-273-1240 Fax: 479-464-0969

E-mail: ststephen@ststephenbentonville.com

Website: ststephenbentonville.com

Parish access code: KFNNGY @ [Formed.org](https://www.formed.org)

facebook.com/ststephen.church



Weekday MASS

Monday - Friday 12:00 PM - English

Saturday Vigil & Sunday MASSES

Saturday 5:00 PM

Sunday 7:45 AM

Sunday 10:00 AM

Sunday 11:45 AM - Spanish

Sunday 5:00 PM

Reconciliation / Reconciliación

Saturday / sábado - Bilingual/Bilingüe
3:00 - 4:00 PM

Monday / lunes - Friday / viernes
11:30 - 11:55am

Adoration Times / Horario de Adoración

Monday - Thursday / lunes - jueves
9:00am - 11:30am & 1:00pm - 3:00pm

Friday / viernes 9:00am - 11:30am

Bulletin Deadline

Tuesday by 12:00 PM (5 days prior to the publication date). Email articles to receptionist@ststephenbentonville.com.

Membership

We extend our hands and hearts in Christian Fellowship. Longtime residents or newly arrived, contact the parish office to register.

Infant Baptism

Offered once a month in English and Spanish. Baptism preparation required. Parents must be registered members of St. Stephen. **No baptisms in December.**

Catholic Marriage

Marriage preparation required. Contact the parish at least 9 months in advance. Two additional months' notice needed for wedding in another country. If you plan on getting married, always contact the church before booking a reception site or setting a date.

RCIA

Sessions open to those interested in learning about or renewing their connection to the Catholic Faith.

Pre-School Director

Cathy Townzen

preschool@ststephenbentonville.com

Office Hours: Monday-Thursday
8:30 AM - 12:30 PM September - May

St. Stephen also attends to Blessed Stanley Rother Church in Decatur:

Mass Time (Spanish Only)

Saturday Mass 6:00 PM

Kids/Youth Faith Formation:

Catholic Kids & IMPACT Director

Suzanne Sutton

ssutton@ststephenbentonville.com

Pre-K - 6th Grade

Catholic Kids Youth Minister

Monica Shoemaker

youthoffice@ststephenbentonville.com

Pre-K - 4th Grade

EDGE/Confirmation Director

Chris Teague

edge@ststephenbentonville.com

Edge: 7th & 8th Grade

confirmation@ststephenbentonville.com

Confirmation: 8th & 9th Grade

Life Teen Youth

Jessica Petter

lifeteen@ststephenbentonville.com

9th Grade - 12th Grade

Instagram: Lifeteenststephen

RCIA Calendar – The next session will be Wednesday, December 16, on Jesus Christ led by Bruce Peterson. RCIA meets in the Church. We meet every Wednesday at 7:00pm. All are welcome.

Christmas Masses – Due to restrictions on capacity, we can only seat about 400 people in the building per Mass time. Therefore, we will be using a reservation system for our six Christmas Masses. Our Mass times are: Christmas Eve, 4:00pm*, 6:00pm*, and 8:00pm*, all in English; Christmas Day, 8:00am and 10:00am both in English followed by 11:45am in Spanish. **You will need a reservation for a seat in the building, it is not a guarantee for a seat in the main worship space in the Church.** Seating will begin 45 minutes prior to Mass and will be done on a “first-come-first-choice” basis, like any normal Mass. Reservations will become invalid 15 minutes before the start of Mass. Reservations are limited to 10 seats per family; if you need more than 10 seats, please email Elizabeth. To reserve your seats now, visit our website at www.ststephenbentonville.com or our Facebook page www.facebook.com/ststephen.church. Reservations will be available until December 15th unless we reach our Mass capacity sooner. If you have any issues finding the link or have additional questions email Elizabeth at marketing@ststephenbentonville.com.

- ❖ 4:00 PM Christmas Mass is FULL
- ❖ 6:00 PM Christmas Mass is FULL
- ❖ 8:00 PM Christmas Mass is FULL

****Last Chance: Ministry Scheduling** – Work will be starting soon on the ministry schedule for the months of January, February and March. Please note that January 1 was included in last quarter’s schedule. This schedule will include special Masses for Ash Wednesday (February 17). Please let us know of any conflicts you might have for the next quarter **by Monday, December 14** by calling 273-1240 or emailing Bethany at ststephen@ststephenbentonville.com. No response indicates that you do not have any conflicts for your preferred Mass time. If you do not indicate a preferred Mass time for Holy Days, please note that you may be scheduled at a time you do not normally attend Mass on those special days. A friendly reminder that the parish office does not find subs.

Advent Series (Zoom Meets) – Ready to put Christ back in Christmas? As we bring the crazy year of 2020 to a close, let’s take the opportunity to re-center ourselves on what really matters. Join us as we discuss weekly devotions this Advent, embracing the joy and love of the Christmas season. Every Tuesday evening at 7pm during Advent, we’ll have a short devotional with prayer, scripture and reflection. We’ll conduct it over Zoom from the comfort and safety of your own home. If you want to make sure Christ is the center of your Christmas, send an email to StStephenAdvent@arhunters.us and you will receive an email with instructions on how to join the meeting.

Hard Hat Collection – There will be a Hard Hat collection this weekend, December 12/13 to go toward paying the loan we received from the Diocese for church repairs. As the hard hats will not be passed around, please place your donation in the regular collection basket. Our goal is to collect \$19,440 each month to cover the loan payment. Thank you for your prayerful consideration.

Colecta Casco – Este fin de semana, el 12 y 13 de diciembre habrá una Colecta de Casco para pagar el préstamo que recibimos de la Diócesis para las reparaciones de la iglesia. Como no se pasarán los cascos, coloque su donación en la canasta de colecta regular. Nuestro objetivo es recaudar \$19,440 cada mes para cubrir el pago del préstamo. Gracias por su consideración en oración.

Christmas Flowers – If you would like to help with the purchase of Christmas Flowers, please use the envelope in your packet or place your donation in an envelope and drop in the collection basket. You can donate in Honor of or Memory of someone and those names will be published in the bulletin the weekend prior to Christmas.



Altar Server Needed – With the approval of Bishop Taylor, we will be resuming the use of one Altar Server at the 10:00 AM Sunday Mass. If you are interested in serving please contact Chris Teague at edge@ststephenbentonville.com.

We need Your Help – Ushers are needed for the 6:00 and 8:00 PM Christmas Eve Masses and 8:00 and 10:00 AM English Christmas Masses. If you are a trained usher or would like to get trained, please contact the parish at ststephen@ststephenbentonville.com or 479-273-1240.

Usher Training – We have an Usher Training scheduled for Thursday, December 17 at 5:30 PM. We are still in need of ushers to help with our Christmas Masses. If you are interested in being part of our ushers you are invited to join the training session. This training will also help you to assist in any of the other Masses throughout the year.

The Society of St. Vincent de Paul (SSBC) has had 86% increases in Assistance needed this year due to the pandemic! Your SSBC volunteers work every day with families to provide emergency food, help keep electricity on, and avoid eviction. COVID-19 has impacted many families. This year, in lieu of their Cookie Exchange, the SSBC is asking for monetary donations. There is a new QR code that can be scanned with a smart phone or a basket with blue envelopes that were handed out last week before Mass. If you missed the envelopes, they are on a table in the Narthex. Thank you for your generous help and have a Blessed Christmas!

How to Donate to SSBC

- Return your envelope to the collection basket
- Drop your donation in the SVdP Donation Box in the Narthex (Poor Box)
- Scan the QR Code
- In PayPal, send a donation to SSBCfundraiser@gmail.com
- Please consider making a monthly donation.



Como Donar

- Devuelva su sobre en la canasta de la colecta
- Deje su donación en la caja de donación de SVdP en nártex (caja pobre)
- Escanea el código QR
- En PayPal, envíe una donación a SSBCfundraiser@gmail.com
- Por favor, considere hacer una donación mensual

St. Stephen Christmas Pageant and Plays Canceled

This year, all our Christmas festivities have been **CANCELED**: Our Annual Christmas Children's pageant, Our Lady of Guadalupe play, the children's pastorela and the annual Posadas will not take place this year.

Spiritual Work of Mercy – It is a Spiritual Work of Mercy to pray for the deceased. The death toll now in the United States is 282,000+ and world-wide death toll is now at 1,540,000+ due to Covid-19. Many of these persons have been buried without the customary religious services, & some have no one to pray for the repose of their souls. While we continue to pray for an end to the pandemic & all those who have been affected, in charity, let us not forget to assist the faithful departed with our prayers & Masses.

St. Stephen MASS Attendance – We are delighted to have you here for Mass. With increasing attendance numbers comes unique challenges! Our allowed capacity is a total of 400 in the building according to COVID regulations. Last week's attendance:

5:00pm – 198 7:45am – 206 10:00am – 300
11:45am (Spanish) – 191 5:00pm Life Teen – 229

We continue to thank you for your patience and support during this time. Please know that you have additional options for Mass should you choose to attend, such as utilizing overflow seating available in the family life center, chapel, and narthex; or, participating via YouTube, or listening over the speakers in the courtyard, and coming inside for Holy Communion only.

Year End Donations – Please consider the Parish's financial needs in your year-end giving plans. Donations have been lower due to COVID-19 limitations, please consider an extra year-end offering to either our stewardship or building fund accounts. You can donate at www.ststephenbentonville.weshareonline.org, or follow the "Donate" link on the St. Stephen website or on the app. We are also prepared to handle donations of stock.

Life Teen News – We are following the local school districts in regard to meeting in person. If local schools switch to a virtual learning environment, Life Teen will do the same with our youth group. It is our hope that our teens will join us via Zoom on Sunday and Wednesday evenings in the event of continued virtual requirements. Thank you again for your trust and commitment to Life Teen! Check back here for more details or email Jessica at lifeteen@ststephenbentonville.com.

Knights of Columbus (K of C) will restart the gift card program during this Christmas season. Gift cards make a great gift, and with the pandemic, many of our parishioners are trying to stay safe during the holiday shopping season. If you recall from 2017-2018, when you buy a gift card, the Knights received 1-8% of the card value that goes back into the church and community. There are different cards to order from many area restaurants, retailers & online companies. The order forms are located next to the bulletins and the church website. Instructions on submitting your order is attached to the form. Cards will be available for pick up outside the church after all Masses on December 19/20 or 22nd.



St. Vincent de Paul Catholic School grade K through 8th has open registration for 2021-2022 school year. For information, contact Sandra Stephens at (479)685-3576 or email admissions@svdpschool.net.

The Caregiver/Bereavement Ministry has resumed its meetings during Covid-19. You can join either by phone or physically meeting in the St. Vincent de Paul Parish Hall from 9:30 AM to 11:15 AM, located at 1301 W. Cypress Street in Rogers (corner of Cypress Street and 13th St.) next to St. Vincent de Paul school. When attending in-person you must wear a mask. Hand sanitizers will be provided at the entrance of the Parish Hall. Our hearts are always open to include others in our group. We hope that you will join us as we support, listen, encourage, pray, grow spiritually, and yes...laugh with each other! If you are interested please contact either Jill Hopper, 479-381-6434, Maureen Notz 479 -659-1164, or Nina Tancredi 479-640-3750 and/or just come and join us!

Ozark Catholic Academy is accepting applications for the new 2021-2022 school year. To start your process visit www.ozarkcatholic.org/admissions or contact the AdmissionsOCA@ozarkcatholic.org for more information or to schedule a campus visit and family interview. If applying for financial aid, applications will start being accepted on January 6th. A copy of 2019 tax return and 2020 W-2(s) must be provided at www.ozarkcatholic.org/affording-oca. Families must apply in FACTS. February 5th is the deadline to apply for financial aid. Remote workshops will be available on Monday, January 11, from 10-11 AM, and Thursday, January 14, 6-7 PM to assist with questions and Spanish translators to help upon request. To register for either workshop, email Robbie.Estes@OzarkCatholic.org.

Clergy Welfare Fund – Please remember the collections on Christmas Eve and Christmas Day Masses are for the Clergy Welfare Fund. This is a very important collection but these funds do not stay in our Parish. Your prayerful consideration of our Parish's financial situation is appreciated.

The collection at all masses on Christmas Eve and Christmas Day will be for the Clergy Welfare Fund. This fund provides retirement and health care benefits to retired and infirm priests around our diocese. Our priests spend every day of their adult lives as humble and devoted servants, doing God's work & serving until age or infirmity calls them to retirement. Your contributions will make our priests' retirement possible. Please share with them the generosity that they continue to share with us.

Fondo del Clero Diocesano – Recuerde que la colecta en la Misa de Nochebuena y el día de Navidad son para el Fondo del Clero Diocesano. Estas colectas son muy importantes, pero estos fondos no se quedan en nuestra parroquia. Su apoyo para la situación financiera de nuestra parroquia es muy apreciado.

La colecta en todas las misas en Nochebuena y Navidad será para el Fondo para el Bienestar del Clero. Este fondo provee beneficios de jubilación y cuidado de salud a los sacerdotes jubilados y enfermos en nuestra diócesis. Nuestros sacerdotes pasan cada día de su vida adulta como siervos humildes y devotos, haciendo trabajo de Dios y sirviéndonos hasta que la edad o la enfermedad los llame. Sus contribuciones hacen la jubilación de nuestros sacerdotes posible. Por favor compartan con ellos la generosidad que ellos continúan compartiendo con nosotros.

Matthew 25:31-32: "When the Son of Man comes in his glory, and all the angels with him, then he will sit on his glorious throne. Before him will be gathered all the nations, and he will separate people one from another as a shepherd separates the sheep from the goats."

Church Operations for December

Expenses Month-to-Date - \$ 37,201.38

Loan Balance - \$ 1,294,542.80

Following the example of John the Baptizer, may we testify to Jesus the Messiah as The Light to all nations, by our faith and generous outreach to the poor and brokenhearted, through stewardship and service in the various ministries of our parish.

Revenue	Month-to-Date	Monthly Goal
Stewardship and Other	\$ 31,957.96	\$ 117,000
Building Fund	\$ 4,698.16	\$ 23,000

MASS INTENTIONS FOR THE WEEK**Saturday, December 12**

5:00pm Michael Joseph †

Sunday, December 13

7:45am Maria Nhu Bui & Peter Thong Le †

10:00am Scripture Sisters

11:45am Parishioners / Feligreses

5:00pm Joanna Lloyd †

Monday, December 14

12:00pm Allen Crow †

Tuesday, December 15

12:00pm Francis Harmer †

Wednesday, December 16

12:00pm Sally Crenshaw †

Thursday, December 17

12:00pm Intention of Celebrant

Friday, December 18

12:00pm Allen Crow †

Saturday, December 19

5:00pm Andrew Lac Tran †

Sunday, December 20

7:45am Parishioners / Feligreses

10:00am Richard Nauert †

11:45am Angela y Martin Heredia †

5:00pm Frank J. Verucchi Jr.

For surely
I KNOW THE
plans
I have for
YOU,
says the
Lord...
TO GIVE YOU A
future
WITH
Hope.
 Jeremiah 29:11, NRSV

Scripture Readings for 12/20/20

2 Samuel 7:1-5, 8B-12, 14A, 16

Psalm 89:2-3, 4-5, 27, 29

Romans 16:25-27

Luke 1:26-38

Church News – Monsignor will continue to bless salt, candles, olive oil, water, and religious sacramentals during this time of need. When bringing in the items please place those on the cart outside the office, write your name and phone number on the paper provided. We will call you when the items have been blessed.

Noticias de la Iglesia – El Monseñor continuará bendecir sal, velas, aceite de oliva, agua y sacramentales religiosos durante este tiempo de necesidad. Cuando traiga los artículos, colóquelos en el carrito fuera de la oficina, escriba su nombre y número de teléfono en el papel provisto. Nosotros le llamaremos cuando los artículos hayan sido bendecidos.

I pray that ... (Christ may dwell in
 your hearts through faith.



as you are being
 rooted and grounded in love.

Ephesians 3:16-17, NRSV

December 19-20	Lector	Eucharist Minister HEM & Vessels	Eucharist Minister - Host	Usher	Lock-Up	Sacristan & Vessels	Projector Operator
Saturday, 5:00 PM	Jon Terlouw	Bryan Bacon	Sherolyn Johnson Jill Saulsbery	Steve Saulsbery NOT FILLED (B - G)	Bryan Bacon	Bryan Bacon	Tracy Sullivan
Sunday, 7:45 AM	Brent Gautier	Chris O'Shaughnessy	Christy Yuska Chris O'Shaughnessy	Greg Woodell Karen Howard NOT FILLED (C - G)		Barb Hamernik	Dan Reiff
Sunday, 10:00 AM	Greg Brandenburg	Joe Hartnett	Steve Harrington Diedra Dourth	Daniel Cruz Charlotte Champagne Brian Rabal NOT FILLED (D - G)		Joe Hartnett	NOT FILLED
Sunday, 11:45 AM (Spanish MASS)	Fernando Barbosa	Crimilda Viera	Noel Perez Brenda Cruz	J. Concepción Serrano Maria Rocio Cervantes Maria Salcedo Victor Lopez Maria Dalia Lopez Bertha Váldez Fernando Perez		Crimilda Viera	
Sunday, 5:00 PM	Eric Belin	Cary Richard	Ken Hunter Catherine Garner	NOT FILLED (A - G)		Cary Richard	Jennifer Haddinger