



ST. STEPHEN CATHOLIC CHURCH



1300 NE J Street, Bentonville, AR 72712

December 20, 2020

FOURTH 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 Business Manager – Chris Teague

cteague@ststephenbentonville.com

Parish Secretary – Bethany Hill

ststephen@ststephenbentonville.com

Finance / Human Resource Manager – 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: KFNGY @ Formed.org

facebook.com/ststephen.church



2 Samuel 7:8, NRSV

Weekday MASS

Monday – Wednesday 12:00 PM – Eng.

Holy Days

Thursday – Christmas Eve – Eng.

4:00 PM, 6:00 PM, and 8:00 PM

Friday – Christmas Day

8:00 AM and 10:00 AM – Eng.

11:45 AM – Spanish

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 – Wednesday / miércoles

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

Parish Office Closed – The parish office will be closed Thursday, December 24, Friday, December 25 and Monday, December 28 and will reopen Tuesday, December 29. The St. Stephen Staff wishes all our parishioners a very blessed and Merry Christmas!

RCIA Calendar – Due to Christmas / New Year break, our next session will be on Wednesday, January 6, an Introduction to the Sacraments led by Msgr. Marczuk. We will meet in the church. RCIA meets every Wednesday night starting at 7:00pm. All are welcome.

Solemnity of Mary – This year Holy Mary, Mother of God is on a Friday. Even though, it falls on a Friday, it is a Holy Day of Obligation this year. It retains the status of a Solemnity. The precept to attend Mass is abrogated. Our New Year's Mass Schedule:

- Thursday, December 31 – Mass, 5:00pm – Vigil - English
- Friday, January 1 – Mass, 10:00am - English
- Friday, January 1 – Mass, 11:45am – Spanish

Ministers – We Need Your Help! – There are many ministers needed for the Christmas Masses. If you are a trained minister and can serve any of these dates, please call Bethany in the parish office:

- 4:00pm Christmas Eve Mass – 1 usher
- 6:00pm Christmas Eve Mass – 6 ushers
- 8:00pm Christmas Eve Mass – 5 ushers
- 8:00am Christmas Day Mass– 1 Lector, 1 HEM, 2 Eucharistic Ministers, 6 ushers, 1 Sacristan
- 10:00am Christmas Day Mass – 1 HEM, 6 ushers, 1 Sacristan

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.

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 – 301
- 7:45am – 157 (snow)
- 10:00am – 195 (snow)
- 11:45am (Spanish) – 140 (snow)
- 5:00pm Life Teen – 55 (snow)

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.

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.

The Benevolent 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, 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. 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

- 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

Knights of Columbus (K of C) – Congratulations to the St. Stephen Knights of Columbus Council who was awarded the "Columbian Award" for 2019-2020. The award is for councils that exemplify Faith in Action programs across faith, community, family and life. Thank you to all of our parishioners for your great support. If you are interested in more information about the Knights, please contact Josh Tinker, John Brunner or Dan Reiff at BentonvilleKofC@gmail.com.

If you ordered gift cards from the Knights, the cards will be available for pick up outside the church after all Masses on December 19/20 or 22nd.

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.

Donaciones del Fin De Año – Por favor considere las necesidades financieras de la parroquia en sus planes de fin del año. Donaciones han sido menores debido a limitaciones de COVID-19, por favor considere una oferta adicional al fin del año a nuestra cuentas de fondos de construcción o administración. Puede donar en www.ststephenbentonville.weshareonline.org, o siga el enlace "Donar" en el sitio web de St. Stephen o en la aplicación. También estamos preparados para manejar donaciones de acciones.

John 14:3 – *And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again and will take you to myself, that where I am you may be also.*

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 Misas 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 sirviéndolo hasta que la edad o la enfermedad los llame. Sus contribuciones hacen la jubilación de nuestros sacerdotes posible. Por favor compartan la generosidad que ellos continúan compartiendo con nosotros.

Ozark Catholic Academy (OCA) 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 visit and family interview. If applying for financial aid, applications will start being accepted on January 6th and the deadline to apply is February 5th. A copy of 2019 tax return & 2020 W-2(s) must be provided at www.ozarkcatholic.org/affording-oca. Families must apply in FACTS. They will provide remote workshops on Monday, January 11th, from 10:00-11:00 AM, and Thursday, January 14, 6:00-7:00 PM to assist with questions and Spanish translators to help upon request. To register, email Robbie.Estes@OzarkCatholic.org.

Arkansas Catholic gift subscriptions is buy two, get one free. Give a print subscription of Arkansas Catholic, mailed with faith and love all year long. We will send a card to the recipient telling them of your gift starting in December. They will get their first issue soon after. For more information or free digital subscriptions, call (501) 664-0125 or visit www.arkansas-catholic.org/subscriptions. Offer expires Dec. 31st. You can even start or renew your subscription. Send your order to: Arkansas Catholic Gift Subscriptions, P. O. Box 7869, Little Rock AR 72217.

NWA Respect Life "Procession of Roses" will take place at the First Church of the Nazarene 4911 W. Pleasant Grove Rd., Rogers. The church is blessed with beautiful accommodations & lots of space to spread out for adequate social distancing. Mark your calendars for Saturday, January 16 at 7:00 PM. for this extremely moving ceremony. We are about half-way there, for sign-ups in securing people born between 1973-2021 visit www.signupgenius.com/go/409044ea5af22a6fc1-procession.

The Annual Come and See Discernment Retreat for men ages 16 and older interested in learning more about answering God's call to seminary will be held in Little Rock at St. John Catholic Center on January 2-3. The retreat is sponsored by the Vocations Office and the seminarians of the Diocese of Little Rock. Rooted in prayer, it consists of talks, group discussions, vocational videos, and personal testimonies given by priests and seminarians. For more information, contact Maria Izquierdo (501)664-0340, ext. 378 or email mizquierdo@dolr.org. Registration forms can be found on the Diocesan website.

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!

Mass for Life – On Sunday January 17, Bishop Taylor will preside our annual diocesan Mass for Life. The Mass will be celebrated at the Cathedral of St. Andrew in Little Rock at 12:05 PM. This Mass will also be live streamed on the Diocese of Little Rock YouTube channel to allow anyone to watch. Unfortunately, because of COVID-19, there will not be Eucharistic Procession for Life or a Hearts for Life Conference in 2021. Arkansas Right to Life still plans to host the March for Life on January 17 at 2:00 PM behind the Capitol. Please contact the Respect Life Office (501)664-0340 ext. 326 or email cphillips@dolr.org for more information.

Misa por La Vida – El domingo 17 de enero, el obispo Taylor presidirá nuestra misa diocesana anual por la vida. La Misa se celebrará en la Catedral de San Andrés en Little Rock a las 12:05 PM. Esta misa también se transmitirá en vivo en el canal de YouTube de la Diócesis de Little Rock para que cualquiera pueda verla. Desafortunadamente, debido a COVID-19, no habrá Procesión Eucarística por la Vida o una Conferencia Corazones por la Vida en 2021. Arkansas Derecho a la vida todavía planea haber la Marcha por la Vida el 17 de enero a las 2:00 PM detrás del Capitolio. Comuníquese con la Oficina de Respeto a la Vida (501)664-0340 ext. 326 o envíe un correo electrónico a cphillips@dolr.org para obtener más información.

To Build a Domestic Church – On its website, the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops provides suggestions on how families can build their domestic church through a life of prayer that can help all the members of the family. The following are a several ideas:

- Begin praying as a family and reading scripture daily, before meals, and in the morning or before bed.
- Have a crucifix in a prominent place in the home and bedrooms.
- Make worshiping God a priority. Never miss Mass, even while traveling.
- Make the sacraments a regular celebration – take the whole family to confession and Mass!

Church Operations for December

Expenses Month-to-Date - \$ 63,571.27

Loan Balance - \$ 1,279,241.29

As King David desired to build a suitable House for the Lord God, and Blessed Mary said "YES" to becoming a tabernacle for Jesus, the Son of God, so may we continue to respond with generosity in our Christmas stewardship to build up the House of God and participate in serving our various ministries.

Revenue	Month-to-Date	Monthly Goal
Stewardship and Other	\$ 57,348.39	\$ 117,000
Building Fund	\$ 6,880.48	\$ 23,000

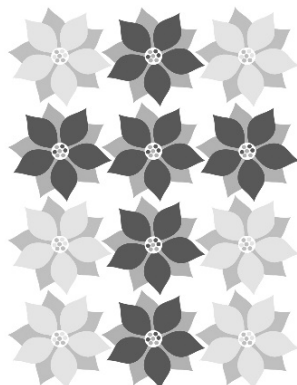
Scripture Readings for 12/27/20

Genesis 15:1-6; 21:1-3

Psalms 105:1-2, 3-4, 5-6, 8-9

Hebrews 11:8, 11-12, 17-19

Luke 2:22-40 or 2:22, 39-40



It is by God's will that we have been sanctified through the offering of the body of Jesus Christ...

Hebrews 10:10, NRSV



**A SEASON
of JOY**

MASS INTENTIONS FOR THE WEEK

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.

Monday, December 21

12:00pm Louise Smith †

Tuesday, December 22

12:00pm Dwayne Glory Family

Wednesday, December 23

12:00pm Richard Hurtig †

Thursday, Christmas Eve, December 24

4:00pm Maria Nhu Bui †

6:00pm Parishioners / Feligreses

8:00pm Deceased Members of

Legion of Mary

Friday, Christmas Day, December 25

8:00am Frank Butler †

10:00am Madge Spiller †

11:45am Las Benditas Almas del Purgatorio de las familias López-Rodríguez

Saturday, December 26

5:00pm Allen Crow †

Sunday, December 27

7:45am Maria Nhu Bui †

10:00am Parishioners / Feligreses

11:45am En Acción de Gracias de Familia

Garcia-Lizardi

5:00pm Mary Franke †



December 26 - 27	Lector	Eucharist Minister HEM & Vessels	Eucharist Minister - Host	Usher	Lock-Up	Sacristan & Vessels	Projector Operator
Saturday, 5:00 PM	Amylynn Smith	Bryan Bacon	Margie O'Grady Margie Story	Joseph Giovannucci NOT FILLED (B - G)	Bryan Bacon	Bryan Bacon	NOT FILLED
Sunday, 7:45 AM	Irma Holasek	Bruce Peterson	Amanda Cantu Susan Eagleson	Greg Woodell Gerard Davenport NOT FILLED (C - G)		Bruce Peterson	Tracy Sullivan
Sunday, 10:00 AM	Mary Pablo	Mary Kate Beckham	Diedra Dourth Steven Dourth	NOT FILLED (A - G)		Kathryn Gough	Charlotte Champagne
Sunday, 11:45 AM (Spanish MASS)	Fernando Barbosa	Fernando Perez	Fernando Perez Beatriz Aguirre	Martha Mendoza Maria Rocio Cervantes Maria Salcedo Victor Lopez Maria Dalia Lopez Bertha Valdez J. Concepcion Serrano		Ivan Sanabria	
Sunday, 5:00 PM	Eric Belin	NOT FILLED	Ken Hunter NOT FILLED	Rob Brothers NOT FILLED (B - G)		NOT FILLED	Jennifer Haddinger