

Acts 7:55-56

Stephen, full of the Holy Spirit, looked up to heaven and saw the glory of God, and Jesus standing at the right hand of God. "Look," he said, "I see heaven open & the Son of Man standing at the right hand of God."

St. Stephen

Catholic Church



Iglesia Católica San Esteban

1300 NE J St, Bentonville, AR 72712

December 31, 2023

The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph

Sagrada Familia de Jesús, María y José

Pastor

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

Associate Pastor

Pastor Asociado

Fr. Divya Nathan Paulin Raj Vatakali

Deacon - Diácono

Ken Hunter

KHunter@ststephenbentonville.com

Parish Business Manager

Gerente de Negocios Parroquiales

Chris Teague

cteague@ststephenbentonville.com

Parish Secretary

Secretaria de la Parroquia

Crisselda Espinosa (*Habla español*)

cespinosa@ststephenbentonville.com

Finance Manager

Finanzas

Tracy Sullivan

accounting@ststephenbentonville.com

Office Assistant

Asistente de Oficina

Evelyn Blevins (*Habla español*)

eblevins@ststephenbentonville.com

Marketing/Event Coordinator

Coordinadora de Mercado y Eventos

Elizabeth Ganey

marketing@ststephenbentonville.com

Pre-School Director

Cathy Townzen

preschool@ststephenbentonville.com

Office Hours: M-Th 8:00AM-1:00PM

Aug-May

Faith Formation Director (K-6th Grade)

Marta Hernández

mhernandez@ststephenbentonville.com

Faith Formation Director (Sacraments)

Monica Shoemaker

youthoffice@ststephenbentonville.com

Faith Formation Director

(7th - 12th Grade)

Jessica Petter

jpetter@ststephenbentonville.com

Weekday Mass *Misa Entre Semana (Inglés)*

Tue-Thu / Mar-Jue 12:00PM

The Holy Family (Dec. 31st)

Sunday 7:45AM

Sunday 10:00AM

Sunday - *Español* 11:45AM

Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God and

New Year's Eve Vigil (Dec. 31st)

Misas de Domingo y Misa de Vigilia

Sunday 5:00PM

Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God and

New Year's Day (Jan. 1st)

Monday 10:00AM

Monday - *Español* 11:45AM

Reconciliation /Reconciliación

Mon - Fri / Lun - Vie 11:30-11:55AM

Sat (Bilingual) / Sáb (Bilingüe) 3:00-4:00PM

Adoration Hours / Horario de Adoración

Tue- Thu / Mar-Jue 9:00-11:30AM

& 12:45-3:00PM

Fri / Vie 9:00-11:30AM

Office Hours

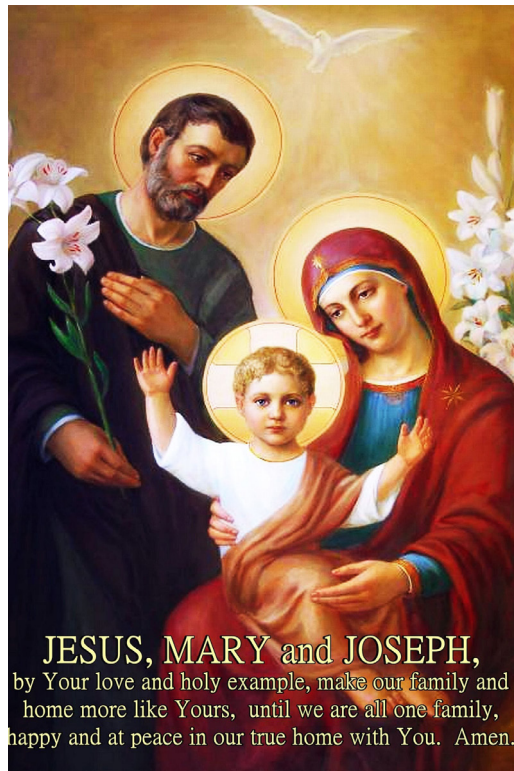
Horario de Oficina

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

Membresía: Extendemos nuestras manos y corazones en Cofradía Cristiana. Los residentes o recién llegados, póngase en contacto con la oficina de la parroquia para registrarse.

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.

Bautismo Infantil: Se ofrece una vez al mes en inglés y español. Se requiere preparación para Bautismo. Los padres deben ser miembros registrados de San Esteban. No habrá bautismos en diciembre.



JESUS, MARY and JOSEPH,

by Your love and holy example, make our family and home more like Yours, until we are all one family, happy and at peace in our true home with You. Amen.

Mon-Thu / Lun-Jue 9:00AM-3:00PM

Friday / Viernes 9:00AM-12:00PM

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

Matrimonio Católico: Preparación Matrimonial requerido. Comuníquese con la parroquia por lo menos con 9 meses de anticipación. Dos meses de antelación adicionales para la boda en otro país. Si planea casarse, póngase siempre en contacto con la iglesia antes de reservar un lugar de recepción o fijar una fecha.

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

RICA: Sesiones abiertas a aquellos interesados en aprendizaje o renovación de su conexión con la Fe Católica.

RCIA: We will not meet during the Holiday Season. Our next class will be **Wednesday, Jan. 10th at 7:00pm.** All are welcome!



Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God

Sunday, December 31
5:00 pm Vigil (English)

Monday, January 1
10:00 am (English)
11:45 am (Spanish)
Parish Office Closed



SSBC Catholic Trivia Night II: We are all geared up and ready to go for our second Catholic Trivia Night here at St. Stephen.

Please join your parish family in what is sure to be an evening of first-rate Catholic quiz entertainment! Register in advance using our QR Code below. The cost is \$25 per person and includes dinner and drinks. Make your own team of up to 8 or be placed on a team and make new friends. Example: **Who translated the bible into Latin?** Answer: **St. Jerome**



New Year's Evening of Recollection: Father Jerome Kodell, OSB, will be the speaker at the New Year's Evening of Recollection at Courty House in Subiaco **Dec. 31-Jan. 1.** His topic will be **"Responding to the Timeless Within: Becoming a Saint."** The retreat begins with registration between 10am and noon; lunch; conference, reconciliation, dinner, Vespers followed by a celebration of the New Year with the monks, eucharistic adoration 11:30 to midnight; breakfast on New Year's Day, conference, Mass, lunch and departure.

Cost is \$260 for a couple (or \$130 per person in a shared room); \$150 for a private room and \$85 for commuters. Call 479-934-1290 or email courthouse@subi.org for more information or to make reservations.

Fr. Jerome is a popular retreat director, author and respected Biblical scholar. He was abbot of Subiaco Abbey for 25 years before resigning the position.



Year End Donations: Please consider the Parish's financial needs in your year-end giving plans. You can donate online at: <https://ststephenbentonville.com/4125-2/> We are also prepared to handle donations of stock. Or you can scan the QR Code below:



Donaciones de fin de año: Considere las necesidades financieras de la parroquia en sus planes de donaciones de fin de año. Puede donar en línea en: <https://ststephenbentonville.com/4125-2/> También estamos preparados para manejar donaciones de acciones. O puede escanear el código QR arriba indicado.

Woman of Hope, A Day of Retreat: will be held on **February 3rd, 2024**, at **Christ the King Church** in Little Rock. This retreat is an opportunity for women to set aside the outside world for a day and commit to a deep personal experience with Christ.

The retreat begins with Mass and includes reconciliation, and inspiring talks from national speaker Melissa Foley, and praise and worship with national recording artist Sarah Kroger. Lunch is provided.

There is a BONUS event on Friday evening to allow all registrants to prepare their hearts for the Day of Retreat. This bonus event includes reconciliation, a guided reflection and personal reflection and a personal testimony from Melissa Foley.

For more information about Women of Hope, A Day of Retreat, visit the website at WomenofhopeAR.org

Join us for our next St. Stephen Speaker Series **Wed. January 10th 2024.** Guest speaker: Dcn. Byron Newton (St. Vincent de Paul). Topic: **"Eucharist in Family Life."**

Arkansas Catholic Men's Conference: Will be held at **Christ the King Catholic Church** in Little Rock on Super Bowl Saturday, **February 10th, 2024.**

This year's speakers include Jim Towey, author and former advisor to Mother Teresa, Fr. Matthew Spencer, who previously hosted St. Joseph's workshop on Relevant Radio and from our own diocese, Fr. Norm McFall. This conference has become the premier event for Catholic men in our Diocese and this year's conference is sure to continue that great tradition.

For more information about the Arkansas Catholic Men's Conference, visit the website at arcatholicmen.com

Project Rachel Ministry's Virtual Healing Resource Gathering: Will take place on **Monday, January 8, 2024 at 6:30p.m.** via Zoom. These monthly gatherings offer a safe, confidential space for healing from the trauma of abortion.

The unique format allows participants to remain anonymous if they choose. January's gathering will feature a presentation on the importance of self-honesty and the opportunity for discussion. To receive a confidential Zoom link, call or text 501-663-0996.



Taking Your
Children to
**Eucharistic
Adoration**

Children's Eucharistic Adoration: Join us to spend time with Jesus **Thursday, January 4, 2024 at 11:30am** in **St. Francis de Assisi Chapel.**

Adoración Eucarística para la Niños: Acompañemos para pasar tiempo con Jesús el **jueves 4 de enero de 2024 a las 11:30 a.m.** en la **Capilla de San Francisco de Asís.**



Join us for our next St. Stephen Speaker Series **Wed. January 10th 2024.** Guest speaker: Dcn. Byron Newton (St. Vincent de Paul). Topic: **"Eucharist in Family Life."**

DIocese of Little Rock
RESPECT LIFE OFFICE



2024 Diocesan Mass: Everyone is invited to the **2024 Diocesan Mass For Life** on **Sunday, January 21, 2024, at noon** at the Cathedral of St. Andrew, 617 Louisiana St., Little Rock.

Bishop Anthony Taylor will preside at this Mass at which we will pray especially for the legal protection of unborn children and for an end to abortion.

Retreat at Coury House in Subiaco: Br. Ambrose of Subiaco Abbey will lead a retreat **Monday, Jan. 15 through Friday, Jan. 18**, on *"New Year: What Has Changed? Faith and Hope in Chaotic Times"* at Coury House in Subiaco.

Cost for the three-night retreat is: \$310 for a private room and \$250 per person in a shared room. Commuter cost is \$140 for conferences and meals. Call 479-934-1290 or e-mail couryhouse@subi.org to register or for more information.

Fr. Patrick of Subiaco Abbey will lead an overnight retreat on *"A New Walk on an Old Path: C.S. Lewis' The Screwtape Letters"* Friday, **Jan. 19, through Sunday, Jan. 21**. The retreat begins with dinner at 6pm Friday and ends after lunch on Sunday.

Cost of the retreat is \$220 for a private room and \$180 per person in a shared room. Commuter cost is \$90. Cost covers conferences, six meals and two nights' accommodations. Please call 479-934-1290 or e-mail couryhouse@subi.org to register or for more information.

When is the Feast of the Holy Family celebrated? The Church celebrates this Feast on the Sunday occurring between the Nativity of the Lord (December 25th) and Mary, Mother of God (January 1st). However, in some years these feasts occur on Sundays themselves, in which case the Feast of the Holy Family is celebrated on December 30th.

This year (2023) the Feast of the Holy Family is Sunday, December 31.

Who are the members of the Holy Family? Jesus, the Virgin Mary, and St. Joseph are the members of the Holy Family. The central figure is the Word-made-Flesh, the Son of God made man for the salvation of the world.

He was conceived in the Blessed Virgin Mary by the power of the Holy Spirit, so that Mary is His Mother according to His human nature. She is titled Mother of God because Her Son is a Divine Person.

St. Joseph, husband of Mary, while not the biological father of Jesus, was guided by an angel to assume the responsibilities of fatherhood and as the "Custodian of the Redeemer" (Pope St. John Paul II).

Where do we find accounts of the Holy Family in Scripture? The history of the Holy Family is found in only two accounts, what are called the Infancy Narratives—the first two chapters of the Gospels of Matthew and Luke.

Writing to a Jewish audience, St. Matthew provides the Abrahamic and Davidic descent of Jesus, followed by an account of His Birth. In chapter 2 he tells of the visit of the Magi, King Herod's pursuit of the Child and the flight into Egypt. He concludes his narrative with the return from Egypt to Nazareth, remaining silent on Jesus' life in Nazareth. Jesus next appears as 30 years of age at His baptism by St. John (Mt. 3).

St. Luke provides the most detail of Jesus' early life. His precision reflects his profession as a physician (Col. 4:14), his desire for an accurate account (Lk. 1:1-4), and details which could only have been obtained from the Blessed Virgin.

Luke begins with the conception of St. John and the Annunciation of the Lord. He continues with Mary's visit to Elizabeth and the birth of the Baptist. He then provides an account of Nativity, the angels announcement to the shepherds, Jesus' circumcision and presentation in the Temple, and Simeon's and Anna's recognition and prophecies. Luke concludes with the return to Nazareth, adding only one further detail, Jesus remaining in the Temple when He was 12 years old.

Source: ewtn.com

Prayer to the Holy Family

Jesus, Mary and Joseph,
in you we contemplate
the splendour of true love; to you we turn
with trust.

Holy Family of Nazareth,
grant that our families too
may be places of communion and prayer,
authentic schools of the Gospel
and small domestic churches.

Holy Family of Nazareth,
may families never again experience
violence, rejection and division;
may all who have been hurt or scandalized
find ready comfort and healing.

Holy Family of Nazareth,
make us once more mindful
of the sacredness and inviolability of the
family, and its beauty in God's plan.

Jesus, Mary and Joseph, Graciously
hear our prayer.
Amen.



CORRECTION

Please be advised that the correct Mass and Reconciliation Schedule in the 2024 Feasts & Saints Calendar are as follow. The publishing company apologizes for any inconvenience. Calendars with corrected schedule will be available soon. Thank you!

Mass Schedule:

Monday – Friday: 12:00 Noon -English

Saturday: 5:00pm – English

Sunday: 7:45am - 10:00am – 5:00pm English

Sunday: 11:45am – Spanish

Reconciliation: Mon.- Fri. 11:30am-11:55am

Sat. 3:00pm-4:00pm



Parish Communications

Comunicación Parroquial

Phone 479-273-1240

Fax 479-464-0969

E-mail ststephen@ststephenbentonville.com

Website ststephenbentonville.com

Social facebook.com/ststephen.church

Formed <https://formed.org/signup>

Bulletin Deadline: Tue. 12:00 PM

(5 days prior to publication date.)

Email articles to:

bulletin@ststephenbentonville.com

Fecha límite del Boletín: Martes a las

12:00 PM (5 días antes de la fecha de

publicación). Envíe artículos a:

bulletin@ststephenbentonville.com

Church Operations for December

Operating Expenses\$80,686

Joseph and Mary offered two pigeons to the Temple at the Presentation of the Christ Child. May we imitate the Holy Family of Nazareth, by offering our financial gifts, supporting the efforts to make this community more closely resemble the unity of the Holy Family.

| Revenue | Month-to-Date | Monthly Goal |
|---------------------|---------------|--------------|
| Stewardship & Other | \$107,240 | \$135,000 |
| Growth Fund | \$11,771 | \$ 21,000 |

Scripture Readings for 1/07/2024

Is 60: 1-6
Ps 72 (71): 1-2, 7-8, 10-11, 12-13
Eph 3: 2-3a, 5-6
Mt 2: 1-12

Annulment Advocates:

Joe & Rose Hartnett 479-855-2344

Natural Family Planning:

Emily Appeldorn 479-466-5321

Columbarium Chairperson:

Charlotte Champagne 479-531-9345

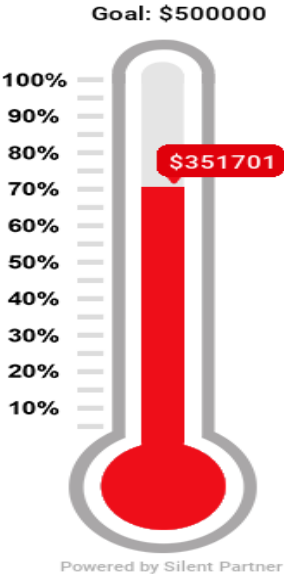
Parish Council:

pcouncil@ststephenbentonville.com

St. Stephen Benevolent Conference:

479-696-9361

Growth Fund Progress



Powered by Silent Partner

Scan QR Code to create a profile and give online today!



Mass Intentions for the Week

- Saturday, Dec. 30

5:00PM Josephine García †

The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph

Sunday, Dec. 31

7:45AM Robert Swaim †

10:00AM Parishioners/Feligreses

11:45AM Msgr. Scott Marczuk

Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God and New Year's Eve Vigil

Sunday, Dec. 31

5:00PM Eileen Heaney †

Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God and New Year Monday, Jan. 1

10:00AM Nancy Lee Woodell †

11:45AM Parishioners/Feligreses

Tuesday, Jan. 2

12:00PM Demetrio & Guadalupe Trujillo †

Wednesday, Jan. 3

12:00PM J. Refugio Trujillo †

Thursday, Jan. 4

12:00PM Mary Louise Woodell †

Friday, Jan. 5

12:00PM Lichti Family

Saturday, Jan. 6

9:00AM Ernest Marlow †

5:00PM Dorothy Hesse †

Sunday, Jan. 7

7:45AM Parishioners/Feligreses

10:00AM John Doyle Teague †

11:45AM J. Refugio Trujillo †

5:00PM Emily Shann †

| | Lector | Eucharistic Minister HEM & Vessels | Eucharistic Minister Host | Eucharistic Minister Cup | Usher | Lock Up | Altar Server | Sacristan & Vessels |
|--------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------|
| Saturday, Jan. 6 5:00 PM | Diana Goodwin (Both Readings, Petitions, and Announcements) | Kim Alexander | Pam Gander - EMC - HOST (1) Jill Saulsbery - EMC - HOST (2) | Margie O'Grady (C1) James Sutton (C2) | Clayton Akehurst (A-B) Steve Saulsbery (C) NOT FILLED (D-E) NOT FILLED (F) | Steve Saulsbery | Jackson Coco Emma Coco Conner FitzPatrick | Kim Alexander |
| Sunday, Jan. 7 7:45 AM | Mark Jechura (Both Readings, Petitions, and Announcements) | Christina Baker | Kira O'Shaughnessy - EMC - HOST (1) Chris O'Shaughnessy - EMC - HOST (2) | Tony Baker (C1) NOT FILLED (C2) | Amanda Cantu (A-B) Gerard Davenport Karen Howard (D-E) Greg Woodell (F) | | NOT FILLED Fiona Koll NOT FILLED | Mark Jechura |
| Sunday, Jan. 7 10:00 AM | Rose Hartnett (Both Readings, Petitions, and Announcements) | Joe Hartnett | Dcn. Ken Hunter - EMC - HOST (1) Gina Koch - EMC - HOST (2) | Ted Brauburger (C1) TJ LaPlant (C2) | Tim Koch (A-B) Ed Brown (C) Charlotte Champagne (D-E) Steve Harrington (F) | | Caleb Medders Lucy Pesek Ben Seiler Haddie Seiler | Joe Hartnett |
| Sunday, Jan. 7 11:45PM | Dulce Ortiz (Todas Lecturas y Peticiones y Anuncios) | Walter Hernández | Ricardo Almaraz - Comunion (A) Maria Nino - Comunion (B) | Hector Rangel (C1) Eva Miramn (C3) Julian Serrano (C4) Mirna Serrano (C6) | Juan Manuel Duran Martinez (A-B) Juan Diego Hernandez (C) Jose Ortiz (D-E) Maria Barajas (F) | | Aldo Trujillo Alondra Nino- Perez NOT FILLED Rick Almaras | Walter Hernandez |
| Sunday, Jan. 7 5:00PM | Beatriz Segura (Both Readings, Petitions, and Announcements) | Bryan Bacon | Chris Davis - EMC - HOST (1) Susan Davis - EMC - HOST (2) | Terry Shepard (C1) Nicholas Tyburski (C2) | Annabella Tyburski (A-B) David Power (C) Rob Brothers (D-E) NOT FILLED (F) | Bryan Bacon | Agustin Rosso Brennan Ganey | Sherri MacLean |