



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 15, 2024

Third Sunday of Advent

Tercer Domingo de Adviento

Weekday Mass

Misa Entre Semana (Inglés)

Mon-Fri / Lun-Vie 12:00PM

Sunday Mass & Saturday Vigil

Misas de Domingo y Misa de Vigilia

Saturday 5:00PM

Sunday 7:45AM

Sunday 10:00AM

Sunday - Español 11:45AM

Sunday 5:00PM

Reconciliation / Reconciliación

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

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

Adoration Hours / Horario de Adoración

Mon - Thu / Lun - Jue 9:00-11:30AM

& 12:45-3:00PM

Fri / Vie 9:00-11:30AM

Office Hours / Horario de Oficina

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

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

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.*

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

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

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.

Pastor

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

Associate Pastor

Fr. Divya Nathan Paulin Raj Vatakali

Deacon

Ken Hunter

KHunter@ststephenbentonville.com

Parish Business Manager

Tracy Richmond

trichmond@ststephenbentonville.com

Parish Secretary

Crisselda Espinosa (*Habla español*)

cespinosa@ststephenbentonville.com

Finance Director

Jing Biondo

accounting@ststephenbentonville.com

Office Assistant

Evelyn Blevins (*Habla español*)

eblevins@ststephenbentonville.com

Marketing/Event Coordinator

Elizabeth Ganey

marketing@ststephenbentonville.com

Pre-School Director

Cathy Townzen

preschool@ststephenbentonville.com

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

Aug-May

Director of Religious Education

Marta Hernandez

mhernandez@ststephenbentonville.com

Sacrament Director

Monica Shoemaker

youthoffice@ststephenbentonville.com

Life Teen Director

Josh Coppick

jcoppick@ststephenbentonville.com

Edge Director

Annyssa Espinosa

aespinosa@ststephenbentonville.com

Facilities Director

Bruce Peterson

bpeterson@ststephenbentonville.com



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.*

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.*



Scan the QR code to create a profile and give online today!

OCIA: Our next class will be Wednesday, January 8th at 6:45pm. Join us in the Main Church as we learn about the explanation and demonstration of the Mass. All are welcome!

2025 Calendars are here! Grab yours today from the bookshelf outside the Parish Office.

“Las Posadas”: Join us as we bring to life the story of Mary and Joseph searching for a place to give birth. This event will run from December 15 – 23. On Dec. 15th, the Posadas will be in English. (The rest of the days will be in Spanish.) We will begin in the church at 7:00 pm to pray the rosary then begin the procession through the church at 7:25. At 7:40 we will have a potluck in the Parish Life Center. Reach out to marketing@ststephenbentonville.com or call the parish office if you have any questions.

“Las Posadas”: Únase a nosotros mientras damos vida a la historia de María y José en busca de un lugar para dar a luz. Este evento se llevará a cabo del 15 al 23 de diciembre con una noche especial el día 20 en inglés. Comenzaremos en la iglesia a las 7:00 pm para rezar el rosario y luego comenzaremos la procesión por la iglesia a las 7:25pm. A las 7:40pm tendremos una comida compartida en el Centro de Vida Parroquial. Comuníquese con marketing@ststephenbentonville.com o llame a la oficina parroquial si tiene alguna pregunta.

SSBC Cookie Exchange: The St. Stephen Benevolent Conference’s Cookie Exchange is happening in the narthex after each Mass this weekend. Please stop by and purchase a box of Christmas cookies. All proceeds benefit our neighbors in need. Thank you so much for your support!

Nativity of the Lord

Tuesday, December 24
(Christmas Eve)

- Parish Office Closed
- No Adoration, Confession, or noon Mass
- 3:15pm Children’s Pageant
- 4:00pm Children’s Mass
- 6:00pm & 8:00pm English Mass

Wednesday, December 25
(Christmas Day)

- Parish Office Closed
- No Adoration, Confession, or noon Mass
- 10:00am English Mass
- 11:45am Spanish Mass

Thursday, December 26 &
Friday, December 27

- Parish Office Closed
- No Adoration
- 11:30am Confession & 12:00pm Mass as usual

St. Stephen
Catholic Church

The Catholic Diocese of Little Rock is committed to protecting children and young people. If you are aware of abuse or have been abused by Clerics, Church volunteers, or Church workers, please contact the State of Arkansas Hotline for Crimes against Children at 1-800-482-5964 and the Chancellor for Canonical Affairs, Den. Matthew A. Glover, (501) 664-0340 ext. 361. For pastoral assistance please contact the Victim Assistance Coordinator for the Diocese of Little Rock: Laura Gottsponer at (501) 664-0340, ext. 425. Diocese of Little Rock, 2500 N. Tyler Street, Little Rock, AR 72207.

La Diócesis Católica de Little Rock está comprometida a proteger a los niños y jóvenes. Si usted está enterado de algún abuso o ha sido abusado por Clérigos, voluntarios o funcionarios de la Iglesia, por favor comuníquese a la Línea de Ayuda del Estado de Arkansas para Crímenes contra Niños al (800) 482-5964 y con el Canciller para Asuntos Canónicos, Diác. Matthew A. Glover (501) 664-0340, ext. 361. Para asistencia pastoral, por favor comuníquese con la Coordinadora de Asistencia para Víctimas de la Diócesis de Little Rock Laura Gottsponer (501) 664-0340, ext. 425. Diócesis de Little Rock, 2500 N. Tyler Street, Little Rock, AR 72207.

Year End Donations: Please consider the Parish’s financial needs in your year-end giving plans. We are prepared to handle donations of stock or you might consider making a tax-free charitable donation from your IRA. Speak with your CPA or financial institution about your options. If you are a Walmart employee, Walmart now provides a triple match donation through their Executive Giving Program. Ask your employer if they offer a matching grant program for charitable giving. You can also donate online at: <https://ststephenbentonville.com/4125-2/>

Donaciones de fin de año: Tenga en cuenta las necesidades financieras de la parroquia en sus planes de donaciones de fin de año. Estamos preparados para manejar donaciones de acciones o puede considerar hacer una donación caritativa libre de impuestos desde su IRA. Hable con su contador público o institución financiera sobre sus opciones. Si es empleado de Walmart, Walmart ahora ofrece una donación de triple contrapartida para ejecutivos a través de su Programa de donaciones ejecutivas. Pregúntele a su empleador si ofrece un programa de subvenciones de contrapartida para donaciones caritativas. También puede donar en línea en: <https://ststephenbentonville.com/4125-2/>

Parish Council Elections – It’s that time of year when we think about parish council elections. If you are a registered parishioner in good standing in the Catholic Church, are over the age of 18 and interested in running for parish council or know of someone who is, please fill out one of the nomination forms in the Narthex and drop it in the nomination box. Out of courtesy, please ask the person first before you submit their name. All names must be submitted by Sunday, December 15.

Elecciones del Consejo Parroquial – Esta temporada del año es cuando pensamos en las elecciones del consejo parroquial. Si usted es un feligrés registrado en buen estado con la Iglesia Católica, mayor de 18 años y está interesado en el consejo parroquial o sabe de alguien que lo esté, por favor llene una de las formas de nominación en el Nártex y deposítelo en la caja de nominación. Por cortesía, por favor, primero pregúntele a la persona antes de enviar su nombre. Todos los nombres deben ser enviados antes del día domingo, 15 de diciembre.

Christmas Mass Collection: The collection at all Masses on Christmas Eve and Christmas Day go towards 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 and serving us until age or infirmity calls them to retirement. Your contributions to the Clergy Welfare Fund make our priests’ retirement possible. Please share with them the generosity that they continue to share with us.

Mass for Life

JANUARY 19, 2025 NOON
CATHEDRAL OF ST. ANDREW
617 LOUISIANA ST., LITTLE ROCK
BISHOP ANTHONY B. TAYLOR, PRESIDEN

The Respect Life Office invites you to join us as we pray for an end to abortion and for the legal protection of unborn children.

FREE grab-n-go lunch
TACOS GODOY
Donations welcomed.
Any proceeds will benefit the Respect Life Office.

ARKANSAS RIGHT TO LIFE

Please join Arkansas Right to Life at 2pm for the 47th annual **MARCH FOR LIFE** along Capitol Ave. to the steps of the Arkansas State Capitol.

FOR MORE INFORMATION, CONTACT THE RESPECT LIFE OFFICE OF THE DIOCESE OF LITTLE ROCK
501-664-0340 EXT 393
RESPECTLIFE@DOLR.ORG

ROSARY FOR LIFE WITH EXPOSITION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT FROM 11:20 - 11:50 AM

Job opening for a Director of Human Resources at the Diocese of Little Rock: The Diocese is seeking to hire a Catholic individual with HR management experience, including a working knowledge of state and federal employment laws, and a minimum of 5 years as a supervisor. This is a new position that offers competitive pay and benefits. A job description is available with the essential functions and qualifications. For more information or to apply by e-mailing a cover letter and resume, contact Dennis Lee, Chancellor for Administrative Affairs, at dlee@dolr.org or call (501) 664-0340.



Special Note: There are no blessing of religious items during the month of December.

Nota especial: No hay bendición de artículos religiosos durante el mes de diciembre.

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 it in the collection basket. You can donate in Honor of or Memory of someone and those names will be published in the Christmas bulletin.

Symposium on the Dangers of Human Trafficking and Pornography in Arkansas

(What you need to hear! What you need to know!)

Saturday, January 25, 2025 from 7:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. at Christ the King Catholic Church in Little Rock

Attendees will hear from some experts and local speakers including:

- Father Jeffrey Bayhi
- Father Chuck Swanson
- Bishop Marcelo Sanchez Sorondo, Emeritus Chancellor of the Pontifical Academies of the Sciences and Social Sciences
- Former Scotland Yard Inspector Kevin Hylsand
- Cyber Specialist Kevin Medcalf
- Arkansas victim/survivor Lorie Stewart

Associate Editor of Arkansas Catholic Katie Zakrzewski

Hear presentations on

- How to spot victims of human trafficking and what actions to take
- How to inform your child about human trafficking and pornography
- How to overcome a pornography addiction
- Testimonials from individuals who have been affected by pornography addictions and human trafficking survivors
- And much more!

Free breakfast will be served from 7:30 a.m. to 8 a.m. A free lunch, sponsored by the Knights of Columbus, will also be served. The Symposium will be followed by a 5 p.m. Mass. A brochure with the agenda will be given to attendees at check-in. You must register for this free Symposium, go to <https://dolrtaskforce.org/>



Scan the QR code to register or for more information.

Twelve Biblical Reasons For Wanting To Spend One Hour With Jesus In The Blessed Sacrament

1. He is really there! "I myself am the living bread come down from heaven." (Jn 6:35)

2. Day and night Jesus dwells in the Blessed Sacrament because of his Infinite love for you! "Behold I will be with you always even to the end of the world," because "I have loved you with an everlasting love, and constant is my affection for you." (Mt 28:20; Jer 31:3)

3. The specific way that Jesus asks you to love Him in return is to spend one quiet hour with Him in the Blessed Sacrament. "Where your treasure is, there is your heart...." "Could you not watch one hour with me?" (Mt 6:21; 26:40)

4. When you look upon the Sacred Host, you look upon Jesus, the Son of God. "Indeed, this is the will of my Father, that everyone who looks upon the Son and believes in him shall have eternal life. Him I will raise up on the last day." (Jn 6:40)

5. Each moment that you spend in His Eucharistic Presence will increase His divine life within you and deepen your personal relationship and friendship with Him. "I have come that you may have life, and have it more abundantly." "I am the vine and you are the branches. Whoever remains in me and I in him shall bear much fruit because without me, you can do nothing." (Jn 15:5)

6. Each hour you spend with Jesus will deepen his divine peace in your heart. "Come to me all of you who are weary and find life burdensome and I will refresh you..." "Cast all of you anxieties upon the one who cares for you..." "My Peace is My Gift to you." (Mt 11:28; Pt 5:7; Jn 14:17)

7. Jesus will give you all the graces you need to be happy! "The Lamb on the throne will shepherd them. He will lead them to the springs of life-giving water." (Rev 7:17)

8. Jesus is infinitely deserving of our unceasing thanksgiving and adoration for all He has done for our salvation. "Worthy is the Lamb that was slain to receive honor, glory and praise." (Rev. 5:12)

9. For peace in our country! "When my people humble themselves and seek my presence... I will revive their land." (2Chr 7:14)

10. Each hour you spend with Jesus on earth will leave your soul everlastingly more beautiful and glorious in heaven! "They who humble themselves shall be exalted...." "All of us, gazing on the Lord's glory with unveiled faces, are being transformed from glory to glory into His very image." (Lk 18:14; 2Cor 3:18)

11. Jesus will bless you, your family and the whole world for this hour of faith you spend with Him in the Blessed Sacrament. "Blessed are they who do not see and yet believe..." "Faith can move mountains..." "What is needed is trust..." "Behold I come to make all things new." (Jn 20:29; Mk 11:23; Mk 5:36; Rev 21:5)

12. Each moment you spend with Jesus in the Blessed Sacrament brings joy, pleasure, and delight to His Sacred Heart! "My joy, My pleasure, My delight is to be with you." (Prov 8:31)

Save the Dates:

- Sunday, December 15 - Monday, December 23 Las Posadas 7:00PM
- Advent Penance Services
 - Tuesday, December 17 - St. Joseph (Fayetteville) - 6:30pm
 - Wednesday, December 18 - St. Anne (Berryville) - 5:00pm
 - Thursday, December 19 - St. Vincent de Paul - 6:30pm

Parish Communications

Comunicación Parroquial

Phone479-273-1240
Fax479-464-0969
E-mail ...ststephen@ststephenbentonville.com
Websiteststephenbentonville.com
Social.....facebook.com/ststephen.church

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

To book rooms for meetings please email events@ststephenbentonville.com at least 2 weeks before your date.

Para reservar salas para reuniones, envíe un correo electrónico a events@ststephenbentonville.com al menos 2 semanas antes de la fecha.

Church Operations for December

Operating Expenses\$85,025

As we make ready for the Lord's coming, St. Paul urges us not to have any anxiety. Jesus tells us to share our resources with persons who are lacking.

| Revenue | Month-to-Date | Monthly Goal |
|---------------------|---------------|--------------|
| Stewardship & Other | \$72,986 | \$135,000 |
| Growth Fund | \$9,996 | \$21,000 |

Let a sense of joy and thankfulness drive your generosity.

Scripture Readings for 12/22/2024

Mic 5: 1-4a
Ps 80(79): 2-3, 15-16, 18-19
Heb 10: 5-10
Lk 1: 39-45

Scripture Readings for Christmas

Is 9: 1-6
Ps 96(95): 1-2, 2-3, 11-12, 13
Ti 2: 11-14 or Ti 3: 4-7
Lk 2: 1-14 or Lk 2: 15-20

Mass Intentions for the Week

Saturday, December 14

5:00PM Santiago Martínez †

Sunday, December 15

7:45AM Hannibal Family
10:00AM Parishioners/Feligreses
11:45AM Roberto y Francisca
5:00PM All Souls

Monday, December 16

12:00PM Almaras-Trujillo Familia

Tuesday, December 17

12:00PM Ricardo Almaras y Familia

Wednesday, December 18

12:00PM Juan González †

Thursday, December 19

12:00PM Francisco Almaras y Familia

Friday, December 20

12:00PM Familia Trujillo Regalado

Saturday, December 21

5:00PM Bud Struli † & Family

Sunday, December 22

7:45AM Parishioners/Feligreses
10:00AM Wayne Bene Sr. †
11:45AM Roberto y Francisca
5:00PM Edward Sidwell †

Annulment Advocates:

Joe & Rose Hartnett 479-855-2344
Amanda Cantu amanda.cantu2@gmail.com

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

Adoration:

adoration@ststephenbentonville.com

Red Bird (Child Loss) Ministry:

redbird@ststephenbentonville.com

I Pray and I Create:

mlane5280@gmail.com

Encounter (Adult Small Groups):

encounter@ststephenbentonville.com

Our Lady's Rosary Makers:

olrm.sponsor551@passmail.com

Martha's Meal Ministry:

stirtonkatie@gmail.com

| | Lector | Eucharistic Minister HEM & Vessels | Eucharistic Minister Host | Eucharistic Minister Cup | Usher | Lock Up | Altar Server | Sacristan & Vessels |
|--|---|---------------------------------------|--|--|---|-----------------|---|---------------------|
| Saturday, Dec. 21 5:00 PM | Diana Goodwin (Both Readings, Petitions, and Announcements) | Bruce Peterson | James Sutton - (H1 & Vessels) Jill Saulsbery - EMC - HOST (2) | Davina Collins (C1) Pam Gander (C2) | Steve Saulsbery (A-B) NOT FILLED (C) NOT FILLED (D-E) NOT FILLED (F) | Steve Saulsbery | Brian Ganey John Harrington NOT FILLED Brennan Ganey | Bruce Peterson |
| Sunday, Dec. 22 7:45 AM | Sylvester Fernandes (Both Readings, Petitions, and Announcements) | Christina Baker | April Appleby - (H1 & Vessels) Mark Jechura - EMC - HOST (2) | Tony Baker (C1) Robbie Estes (C2) | Peggy Estes (A-B) Gerard Davenport (C) NOT FILLED (D-E) Amanda Cantu (F) | | Dominic Skidd Damian Skidd NOT FILLED Gus Skidd | Amanda Cantu |
| Sunday, Dec. 22 10:00 AM | Rose Hartnett (Both Readings, Petitions, and Announcements) | Joe Hartnett | Dcn. Ken Hunter - EMC - HOST (1) Paul Krapf - (H2 & Vessels) | Greg Brandenburg (C1) Pam Willis (C2) | Brian Rabal (A-B) Ed Brown (C) Steve Harrington (D-E) Mark Kreuter (F) | | Lucy Pesek Rosalina Cox Alex Shoemaker Steven Zink | Joe Hartnett |
| Sunday, Dec. 22 11:45 AM | Dulce Ortiz (Todas Lecturas y Peticiones y Anuncios) | Mirna Serrano | Eva Miramón - Comunión (A) Marcela Esquivel - Comunión (B) | Ricardo Almaras (C1) Olga Serrano (C3) Julián Serrano (C4) NOT FILLED (C6) | Bertha Váldez (A-B) María Salcedo (C) María Barajas (D-E) J. Concepción Serrano (F) | | Eduardo Mata Allison Mata Fatima Mata Rick Almaras | Mirna Serrano |
| Sunday, Dec. 22 5:00PM | Libby Harris (Both Readings, Petitions, and Announcements) | Cary Richard | Lisa Richard - (H1 & Vessels) Katie Morris - EMC - HOST (2) | Chris Davis (C1) Lisa Juan (C2) | Annabella Tyburski (A-B) David Power (C) Rob Brothers (D-E) NOT FILLED (F) | Cary Richard | Caleb Medders Gwyneth Medders | Cary Richard |