

January 3rd, 2021

Epiphany of the Lord

St. Stephen's Parish Schedule

Starting the first week of January, Masses will be held once again in the main part of our Church. The weekday Mass schedule is as follows:

Monday and Wednesday at 7:00 p.m.
Tuesday, Thursday, and Friday at 9:30 a.m.

We ask that you please respect social distancing and health measures to ensure the safety of those around you and yourself.

Prior to entering the Church, Parishioners will be required to answer the usual COVID-19 assessment questions and sign in with their names and numbers for contact tracing purposes.

During the weekday Masses, only the centre aisle will be used for seating. Parishioners will be responsible for sanitizing their seating area before leaving after Mass.

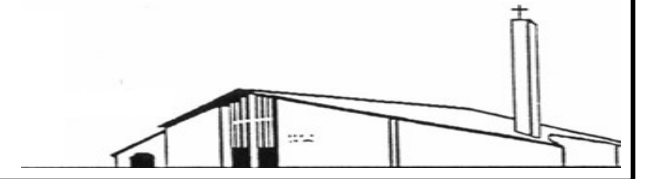
There will be no ushers or greeters during weekday Masses.

Masks will be mandatory when moving around the Church.

We would like to thank our Parishioners for all their support during these challenging times. Your contributions to our Church have been a great help and we are so blessed to have a Church community whose people are truly wonderful. We look forward to seeing you in Church.

St. Stephen's Parish

78 West Street, Stephenville, NL, A2N 1E4
Tel (709) 643-2523 - Fax (709) 643-9745
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Web: www.ststephensparish.com



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BISHOP OF CORNER BROOK & LABRADOR: Most Rev. Bart Van Roijen

Administrator: Fr. Krishnarao Mekala (Kris)

Associate Priest: Fr. Vanathuraj Rayappan (Ray)

PARISH COUNCIL CHAIR

FINANCE COMMITTEE CHAIR

Debbie Wilton

Rosa Dollard

St. Anne's Guild

SECRETARY

President, Millicent Penton

Carolyn O'Quinn

RESPONSIBLE MINISTRY COORDINATOR: Theresa Dollimont

LITURGY COORDINATOR: Bernice Maddock

Knights of Columbus - Grand Knight Clyde Russell

4th Degree Assembly - Faithful Navigator Bob Miller

MARRIAGES. Six months notice is required; a year's notice is recommended.

BAPTISM PREPARATION- *Please call to register.*

ST. STEPHEN'S PARISH SCHEDULE

<p>SUNDAY MASSES Saturday Evening - 6:00 P.M. Sunday Morning - 10:30 A.M.</p>	<p>REGULAR WEEKDAY MASSES Monday and Wednesday at 7:00 p.m. Tuesday, Thursday, and Friday at 9:30 a.m.</p>
<p>MARIA REGINA PARISH SCHEDULE</p> <p>SUNDAY MASSES Saturday - 4:30 P.M. Sunday - 9:00 A.M.</p>	<p>ROSARY Saturdays at 11:00 am RECONCILIATION By Appointment</p>

PRAYER MEETINGS:

St. Stephen's Prayer Group and Word & Spirit Prayer Group Meetings have been cancelled until further notice due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

OFFICE HOURS: MONDAY - 1:00 pm - 4:30 pm,

TUESDAY, WEDNESDAY and THURSDAY 8:30 am - 4:30 pm, FRIDAY - 8:30 AM - 4:00 PM

CLOSED DAILY 12:00 - 1:00 PM

RECEIVED WITH THANKS

December 27th - \$2582.75

Christmas Offering - \$5681.50



SCENT-FREE

Please be aware that some people have allergic reactions to perfumes and other scents. Your cooperation in this matter is greatly appreciated.

MASS INTENTIONS

Monday, January 4th

For the late Mary Cormier

Intentions for Mercedes Young

For the late deceased members of the Hawco family

Tuesday, January 5th

For the late Stan White

For the late Mr. and Mrs. Stan & Margaret White

For the late Frank & Theresa Crocker

Wednesday, January 6th

For the late Paul McComiskey

For the late Rene White

Thursday, January 7th

For the deceased members of the J.V. & Mary Ellen O'Quinn Family

Friday, January 8th

For the late Blanche & Jack Hynes

For the late Pearl & Jack Dover

BAPTISMAL PREPARATION

If you wish to have your child Baptized, please call the office at 643-2523 to register. Baptisms will be done **by appointment only** due to COVID-19. This preparation is for parents and Godparents. We offer an update on the meaning of this Sacrament together with a practical walk-through of the liturgy.

HOLY FATHER'S INTENTIONS FOR JANUARY

Evangelization: Human fraternity- May the Lord give us the grace to live in full fellowship with our

brothers and sisters of other religions, praying for one another, open to all.

A NEW YEARS PRAYER

Lord, You make all things new, You bring hope alive in our hearts and cause our spirits to be born again. Thank You for this new year for all the potential it holds. Come and kindle in us a mighty flame so that in our time, many will see the wonders of God and live forever to praise Your glorious name. Amen.

NOTE OF THANKS

St. Stephen's Parish would like to extend thanks to the volunteers who helped with our Christmas Masses this year in spite of all the challenges. Your assistance has been greatly appreciated and you will be remembered in our prayers.

CONGRATULATIONS TO FATHER RAY

We would like to also congratulate Father Ray on the anniversary of his ordination, which occurred on December 28th. Father Ray has been an ordained priest for 17 years and counting. We praise God for his faithful service to the Church. We assure you of God's blessings!

4 YOUTH

On the Feast of the Epiphany, which the Church celebrates today, we commemorate the visitation of the Magi to the Baby Jesus. These men traveled a great distance guided only by a star and brought with them gifts of gold, frankincense and myrrh to honour Jesus. This is a good time to think about our own journey of faith. How are we called to grow closer to Christ?

What gifts do we have that we can bring to the Lord today to share with Him? Remember the best gifts come from the heart.



WHAT IS AN EPIPHANY

The word 'epiphany' comes from the Greek word epiphaneia or theophaneia, meaning 'appearance' or 'manifestation'. After the festivities of Christmas, it is the time of the Christian year when we wonder at revelation of God to the world in Jesus Christ. The feast of the Epiphany symbolizes the fact that the man born to be king will rule not by

force but by love, reigning not from a throne but from a cross. God for a king, frankincense for a priest, an myrrh for the one who was to die: the gifts of the wise men foretell that (Jesus) will be the true king, perfect high priest and supreme savior. The unfolding season honours the public life and witness of Christ, including His baptism in the Jordan, the miracles He performs and His unfailing compassion for others. *(Taken from: Michael Ford, Eternal Seasons: A Liturgical Journey with Henri J. Nouwen, Sorin Books, Notre Dame (Indiana USA), 2004, p61)*



REFLECTION

The Star of Bethlehem: Gordon Wilson's daughter was killed by a bomb in Enniskillen on Remembrance Day 1987. Instead of calling for revenge, he forgave her killers and began a campaign for peace and reconciliation. He said, "I am a very ordinary man. I have few personal ambitions and no political aspirations. I just want to live and let live. Life has been kind to me in the main, and I have tried to live by the Good Book. I do not profess to be a good man, but I aim to be. I would like to leave the world a better place than I found it, but I have no exaggerated ideas of my ability to do so. I have hitched my wagon to a star, a star of hope, the star of Bethlehem". *(Taken from: Flor McCarthy, New Sunday & Holy Day Liturgies: Year B, Dominican Publications, Dublin (Ireland), 1999, pp 58-59)*

HOW CAN WE HELP YOU IN PRAYER THIS WEEK?

Let us pray: May the splendour of your majesty, O Lord, we pray, shed its light upon our hearts, that we may pass through the shadows of this world, and reach the brightness of our eternal home. Through Christ our Lord. Amen. *(Taken from: Resurrection Ministries of the Congregation of the Resurrection, Celebrating the Word, Ontario-Kentucky Province, Waterloo (Ontario), 2020, p6)*

MESSAGE FROM FATHER POPE FRANCIS

Rivers do not drink their own water; trees do not eat their own fruit; the sun does not shine on itself and flowers do not spread their fragrance for themselves. Living for others is a rule of nature. We are all born to help each other. No matter how difficult it is...Life is good when you are happy; but much better when others are happy because of you." Let us all remember then that every changing colour of a leaf is beautiful and every changing situation of life is meaningful, both need very clear vision. So do not grumble or complain, let us instead remember that Pain is a sign that we are alive, Problems are a sign that we are strong and Prayer is a sign we are not alone!! If we can acknowledge these truths and condition our hearts and minds, our lives will be more meaningful, different and worthwhile!!

ANNOUNCEMENTS

CHURCH ENVELOPES

Please note that your Church envelopes are now available. They can be picked up at our Parish office during office hours.

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS

Our next café will be held on January 21st and every third Thursday thereafter.

